

DAILY NARRATIVES

1st JANUARY 1944

TO

30TH JUNE 1944

To 0900K/Friday, 30th June, 1944.

"TOKEN" (U.S. Minesweeper) E.T.D. Pt. Purvis - Solomons - 29/6
escorting "PROMETHEUS" (U.S. Repair Ship) bound for Sydney.

"CLYDE" (U.S. Tanker) departed Langemak at 0710K/27, E.T.A. Milne Bay
1001K/29.

S.C. 746 and 742 departed Seeadler at 0800K/28 escorting "SPARROWS POINT"
to Langemak E.T.A. 1600K/29.

S.C. 981 arrived Langemak at 1745K/28 escorting B.N. 31 from Cape
Gloucester, departed Langemak at 0801K/29 for Cape Gloucester
E.T.A. 1500K/29.

"COLAC" arrived Langemak at 1210K/28 escorting 2 M.V.'s from Seeadler.

"WHYALLA" arrived Langemak at 0901K/29 from Madang.

"COLAC") at 1541K/29 P.D. Langemak reported "Departure COLAC and
"WHYALLA") WHYALLA for Waria Patches (vicinity Morobe) to assist
CHAPULTETEC (10195 tons gross - tanker - en route Balboa
to Morobe).

"STRAHAN") departed Langemak at 0830K/28 escorting convoy N.A. 28
S.C. 738 and 749) to Seeadler E.T.A. 1630K/29.

"YUMA" (U.S. Tug) arrived Langemak at 1130K/28 from Milne Bay.

S.C. 698 departed Langemak at 1230K/28 escorting "ARAYAT" (U.S. Tanker)
and "YUMA" to Madang E.T.A. 1130K/29.

"WYMPIE" arrived Langemak at 1301K/28 from Solomon Sea Patrol. Departed
Langemak 1121K/29 to rendezvous with "ROCKHAMPTON" on
patrol off Langemak.

"OLALA" (U.S. Minesweeper) with AFD.10 in tow departs Milne Bay at
0500K/1 for Hollandia. Escorts to rendezvous off Langemak

"WHITNEY" (U.S. Destroyer Tender) arrived Milne Bay at 1015K/29 from
Sydney E.T.A. 1400K/30 for Langemak.

"TRIANGULUM" (U.S. Store Carrier) departed Milne Bay at 1250K/28 E.T.A.
Brisbane 1900K/29.

"ELKHORN" (U.S. Tanker) departed Milne Bay at 0920K/28 for Langemak E.T.A.
0600K/30.

"CAPE LEEUWIN" departs Milne Bay 29/6 to land working party on Bruner Is.

S.C. 731 arrived Merauke at 0830K/29 from Thursday Island E.T.D. 2130K/29
escorting HMNS "RINDJANI" to Cooks Bay and Eilanden River.

"HISBEE") U.S. Frigates arrived Cairns at 1126K/28 from Noumea.
"GILLUP")
"CORPUS CHRISTI")

"MARTINDALE" arrived Cairns at 0846K/29 from Townsville.

"MILGOORLIE" departed Cairns at 1618K/29 for Thursday Island, towing
M.L. 807, E.T.A. 1800K/1.

"COOLEBAR" E.T.D. Townsville 0730K/30 E.T.A. Thursday Island A.M./4.

"BIRCHGROVE PARK" arrived Cairns at 1436K/29 from Pt. Moresby.

"COWRA" with M.L. 427 in tow arrived Brisbane at 0426K/29 from Townsville. E.T.D. for Sydney 1400K/30. E.T.A. 0600K/2 for onward passage to Melbourne.

M.L. 823 arrived Coff's Harbour at 0851K/29 from Newcastle.

"TULSA" (Gunboat) arrived Sydney at 0425K/29 from Milne Bay.

"ARARAT" departed Port Phillip 1722K/29 for Brisbane and Milne Bay E.T.A. Caloundra 1400K/3.

H.M.L. 1329 arrived Melbourne at 1616K/28 from Hobart.

"MARYCAM" arrived Fremantle 1215K/29 from Albany.

Y.P. 286 departed Fremantle at 1125K/29 for Exmouth Gulf.

"BOWEN" arrived Darwin at 1542K/28 escorting "EMPIRE SILVER" from Thursday Island.

SIGHTING of possible enemy submarine reported by P.T. boats in position 10 miles W. of WEWAK at 0825K/29.

Y.15 (Small Tanker) H.M.A.S. "LATROBE" refloated Y.15 at 0305K/28 after jettisoning all cargo. Y.15 arrived Pt. Moresby at 0720K/29 Y.15 has been aground off Hood Bay (60 miles S.E. Port Moresby) since 17/6.

FURTHER TO SEARCH FOR MATAFELE:

"LATROBE" departed Port Moresby at 0735K/29 in search of MATAFELE to position 11° 05' S. 145° 30' E (130 miles S.W. of Port Moresby). thence direct to Milne Bay.

At 1120K/29 N.O.I.C. Townsville reported that Bougainville Reef was searched with negative results on 28/6. A search will be made of Osprey Reef 29/6. Search is being continued by two Catalinas from Cairns at first light 30/6. Catalinas from Milne Bay and Port Moresby will co-operate 30/6.

.....

"ARARAT" arrived Sydney 0900K/28 from Milne Bay.
"ARARAT" arrived Sydney 0900K/28 from Sharky Cape Patrol.
"ARARAT" departed Sydney 0900K/28 from A/S Patrol to Sharky Cape.
"ARARAT" arrived Sydney 1700K/28 from Newcastle.
"ARARAT" departed Newcastle 1700K/28 E.T.A. Coff's Harbour 2300K/28.
"ARARAT" departed Pt. Stephens 0900K/28 E.T.A. Coff's Harbour 2300K/28.
"ARARAT" E.T.A. Port Phillip Trade 1000K/28 from Eastport Bay.
"ARARAT" E.T.A. Port Adelaide 7.4. 29th via Fremantle.
"ARARAT" (escorting H.T. 20) departed Darwin 0700K/28 E.T.A. Thursday Island 0900K/28.
"ARARAT" departed Thursday Island 0700K/28 E.T.A. Sydney 1000K/29

REMARKS

Master of ship reports sighting object resembling submarine on the surface in position 08° 21' S. 147° 12' E approximately 10 miles South West of Wejbang in Milne Bay at 0800K/29. Subject

To 0900K/Thursday, 29th June, 1944.

H.M.S. "CHALLENGER" (Cruiser) E.T.D. Colombo 30th June, E.T.A. Sydney (for refit) 30th July. (via Exmouth Gulf and Fremantle).

"GOULBURN" departed Langemak 0400K/27 E.T.A. Cairns 1000K/30 (E.T.A. North Foreland 1100K/28).

U.S.S. "BLACKWOOD") (Destroyers) proceeding to Espiritu Santo arriving
U.S.S. "LOESER") A.M. 30th (from A/S operations in area
between 267-00 true and 293-00 true from
Cape Lisburne (See - Daily Narrative
25/6/44).

U.S. Submarine "BLUEGILL" approximately position at 0600K/29, 25°09'S. 154°35'E northbound.

S.C. 745) (escorting 1 M.V.) arrived Madang 0700K/26 from Langemak.
S.C. 738)

S.C. 748 (escorting 1 M.V.) arrived Langemak 2330K/26 from Manus Island.

APC. 20 departed Langemak 1530K/27 E.T.A. Madang 0701K/28.

APC. 3 arrived Langemak 1515K/27 from Manus Island.

"KALGOORLIE" departed Townsville 0905K/28 E.T.A. Cairns 2330K/28.

"ECHUCA" with N.A.P.'s "TOPSY A" and "ALLURA" in tow departed Townsville 1736K/27 E.T.A. Brisbane 1800K/30 (calling at Gladstone en route. E.T.A. Gladstone 1430K/30 departing at 1400K/1).

"MARTINDALE" (C.P.B.) departed Townsville 1215K/28 E.T.A. Cairns 0900K/29 thence Milne Bay departing Cairns at 0900K/30. E.T.A. North Foreland A.M. 3rd July.

"COWRA" (towing M.L. 427) amended E.T.A. Brisbane from Townsville 0600K/29.

U.S.S. "MIZAR" (Store Ship) arrived Brisbane 0655K/28 from Milne Bay.

H.M.S. "ARIADNE" (Minelayer) E.T.D. Caloundra 1200K/28 E.T.A. Pt. Melbourne 1600K/1st July.

"MANOCHA" arrived Sydney 0745K/28 from Milne Bay.

"WARRENAMBOOL" arrived Sydney 0900K/28 from Smoky Cape Patrol.

"YANDRA" departed Sydney 0905K/28 from A/S Patrol to Smoky Cape.

HMML. 1326 arrived Sydney 1720K/28 from Newcastle.

M.L. 823 departed Newcastle 1330K/28 E.T.A. Coff's Harbour 0300K/29.

"GUMLEAF" departed Pt. Stephens 0820K/28 E.T.A. Coff's Harbour 1300K/29.

"ALLENWOOD" E.T.A. Port Phillip Heads 2030K/28 from Westernport Bay.

"CAIRNS" E.T.D. Port Adelaide P.M. 29th for Fremantle.

"COOTAMUNDRA" (escorting D.T. 66) departed Darwin 0936K/28 E.T.A. Thursday Island 0500K/1st.

"WILCANNIA" departed Thursday Island 0730K/28 E.T.A. Sydney 1030K/7th July.

SUBMARINE SIGHTING:

Master of small ship reports sighting object resembling a submarine on the surface in position 05°51'S. 147°13'E (approximately 90 miles South East of Madang in Vitiaz Strait) at 0210K/28. Object

approached ship on a course of 120° until 500 yards off when course altered to come on parallel course to ships 090° for several minutes then disappeared. Sea calm, weather cloudy, visibility good. This report graded C.3. (P.D. Langenak's 280616Z). (Admiralty A.F. Message originated by N.O.I.C. New Guinea at 280614Z).

AIR SEARCH FOR H.M.A.S. "MATAFELE".

"BOSTON" from South will search for "MATAFELE" covering 80 miles either side of track to a depth of 200 miles from Brumer Island. U.S. Authorities have been requested to provide a Catalina to search in N.W. and S.E. directions. (N.O.I.C. New Guinea's 271057Z).

N.O.I.C. New Guinea reports on the 28th - Negative results from air search for the "MATAFELE" today. Search partially hampered by low visibility. A similar search has been requested for Thursday 29th. (T.O.O. 280637Z).

ENEMY SURFACE CRAFT:

Report from R.A.A.F. Intelligence - At 1215K/28 bombed and missed one F.T.D. in position - 02° 16' S. 126° 13' E (110 miles N.W. of CERAM - Course Northerly S.O.A. 10K. (N.O.I.C. Darwin's 281321Z).

MINES:

One American Mk.12 Mod.1. mine jettisoned within circle of radius one half mile from position 12° 06' S. 131° 00' 30" E (Southern tip of Melville Island in Clarence Strait) Depth of water 6 to 10 fathoms (Com.VII. Fleet's 280521Z).

- "VENDETTA") (escorting 19 M.V.'s.) E.T.D. Langemak 1730K/25 E.T.A.
 "BHOOME") Hollandia 0700K/29.
 "STAWELL") P.C. 1121 and 2 M.V.'s join from Saidor
 "KIAMA") at 0100K/27 in position 05°33'S.
 "BUNBURY") 147°25'E.
 "GLADSTONE") P.C. 1121, P.C. 1131 and S.C. 749
 P.C. 1131) together with 3 M.V.'s will detach in
 S.C. 749) position Nan for Aitape ETA.1830K/28.
- "BENALLA" E.T.D. Seadler Harbour 0730K/28 E.T.A. Hollandia 0830K/30
 (thence Mios Woendi).
- "WAGGA" (escorting 1 M.V.) departed Manus Island 0700K/27. E.T.A. Russell
 Island 1st July.
- U.S.S. "PANDA" (Liberty Tanker) departed Buna 1115K/24 E.T.A. Hollandia
 YMS's 314 and 316) 1830K/29.
- "WHYALLA" departed Buna 1716K/26 arrived Madang 0902K/27.
- U.S.S. "BOOTES" (Store Ship) arrived Buna 0958K/27 from Finschhafen.
- U.S.S. "ARAYAT" (Tanker) departed Milne Bay 0650K/26 E.T.A. Langemak
 0600K/27 (for onward convoy to Madang).
- U.S.S. "CRUX"(?) arrived Langemak 0650K/25 from Espiritu Santo.
- P.C. 1121 arrived Saidor 1431K/26 from Langemak.
- "FALIE" arrived Milne Bay 1200K/27 from Buna.
- U.S.S. "YUMA" (Tug) departed Milne Bay 1345K/26 E.T.A. Buna 0900K/27
 (thence Langemak for onward convoy to Alexishaven).
- APC.2 departed Milne Bay 1600K/25 arrived Cairns 2327K/27.
- U.S.S. "TEA BERRY" (Net Tender) departed Bora Bora 0500K/25 E.T.A.
 Noumea 4th July, thence Milne Bay E.T.A. 11th July.
- S.C. 698 (escorting 1 M.V.) departed Cape Gloucester 1730K/25 E.T.A.
 Langemak 0730K/26.
- S.C. 748 (escorting 1 M.V.) departed Manus Island 1400K/25 E.T.A. Lange-
 mak 1200K/26.
- P.C. 479) arrived Buna 1131K/27 from Milne Bay.
 YMS.70)
- U.S.S. "MESQUITE" (Coastguard Vessel) arrived Langemak 0700K/26 from
 Milne Bay. Departed Langemak at 1800K/26 for Madang.
- S.C. 981 (escorting N.B. 31) departed Buna 1720K/26 E.T.A. Cape
 Gloucester 0730K/27.
- M.L. 807 arrived Cairns 0601K/27 from Townsville.
- APC.18 departed Cairns 0620K/27 E.T.D. Milne Bay 1200K/29.
- "ECHUCA" towing N.A.P. Launches) departed Townsville 1736K/27 for
 "TOPSY A". and "ALLURA") Gladstone and Brisbane.
- "COOLEBAR" arrived Townsville 1241K/27 from Sydney.
- "MILDURA" returned to Brisbane at 1435K/27 from exercises with "BURDEKIN"
 at Hervey Bay.
- U.S.S. "GOLD STAR" arrived Brisbane 2343K/26 from Milne Bay.
- U.S.S. Y.10 (Tanker) E.T.D. Brisbane 1930K/27 E.T.A. Palm Island 1500K/2nd
 July, thence Townsville E.T.A. A.M. 3rd July for onward
 routing to Fremantle).

U.S. Submarine "BLUEGILL" and escort will depart Caloundra about dusk 28th for New Guinea area.

M.L. 823 departed Sydney 0844K/27 arrived Newcastle 1825K/27. E.T.D. 0045K/28th for Coff's Harbour E.T.A. 1700K/28.

H.M.L. 1326 E.T.A. Sydney 1430K/28 from Cape Hawker.

"GUMLEAF" E.T.D. Pt. Stephens 0800K/28 E.T.A. Coff's Harbour 1300K/29.

H.D.M.L. 1329 departed Launceston 1710K/28 E.T.A. Pt. Melbourne 1600K/28

"CASTLEMAINE" arrived Port Adelaide 0101K/27 from Sydney.

"MARY CAM" departed Albany 1400K/27 E.T.A. Fremantle 1800K/29.

"FREMANTLE" (escorting D.T. 65) departed Darwin 0837K/27 E.T.A. Thursday Island 0300K/30.

S.C. 731 arrived Thursday Island from Merauke at 1554K/27 E.T.D. 1400K/28 E.T.A. Merauke dawn 29th (For Special Duties).

APC.1. arrived Thursday Island 1355K/26 from Darwin.

"BURDEKIN" - Trials -

"BURDEKIN" returning to anchorage off Urangan Jetty Hervy Bay with leaking condenser, ship can only proceed at 5 knots. N.O.I.C. Brisbane to notify Messrs. Walker Ltd., in order that necessary equipment may be sent to Jetty. (See Burdekin's 270946Z).

AIRCRAFT SIGHTING:

Aircraft sighted one unidentified vessel at 2141K/26 in position 07 17'S. 126 50'E (See N.O.I.C. Darwin) 270303Z.

H.M.A.S. "MATAFELE" OVERDUE -

"MATAFELE" 6 days' overdue at Milne Bay (E.T.A. was 0600K/22). from Townsville. Last sighted by aircraft by aircraft West of China Strait at 1515K/24 making slow speed against heavy weather (N.O.I.C. New Guinea's 240927Z/6). An air search within a radius of 60 miles from China Strait was carried out on 27th with negative results. Further air and surface searches are being arranged en route towards Townsville on 28th June. N.O.I.C. New Guinea has requested an air search by Catalina from Cairns along route. (See N.O.I.C. New Guinea's 270350Z/6). "LATROBE", "GEELONG", "TOWNSVILLE" and "GOULBURN" are proceeding first light on 28th to conduct search N.O.I.C. (N.G.) 271125Z, 271427Z).

H.D.M.L. 1338 taking H.D.M.L. 1339 under orders is to proceed from Milne Bay so as to arrive at China Strait at first light on 28th June thence to search reefs and harbours to westward as far as Baxter Bay. On completion proceeding Eastward along reefs. Any evidence of "MATAFELE" together with position to be reported at sunset daily. (N.O.I.C. New Guinea's - 271357Z/6).

M.L. 819 at present at Hood Bay (55 miles S.E. of Pt. Moresby) to search harbours and reefs to Milne Bay (N.O.I.C. New Guinea's 271345Z/6).

To 0900K/Tuesday, 27th June, 1944.

"SHROPSHIRE" departs Sydney at 1430K/30 for Seeadler E.T.A. 1730K/5/7. Day and night surface and A.A. firing will be carried out in the vicinity of Cape Moreton between 1400K/ and 2000K/1.

S.C. 698 arrived Langemak at 1001K/26 escorting "ROBERT S. BEAN" from Cape Gloucester.

"GOULBURN" E.T.D. Langemak 0400K/27 for Cairns E.T.A. 1000K/30.

YMS. 316 arrived Langemak at 1700K/25 from Milne Bay.

"WYALLA" arrived Langemak at 1251K/25 from Lae.

P.C. 1121 departed Langemak at 0715K/26 E.T.A. Saidor 1400K/26.

"SHIKELLAMY" (U.S. Tanker) arrived Oro Bay at 0105K/26 from Milne Bay.

"TANCRED" (Tug) departed Milne Bay at 1016K/25, towing "ANSHUN" to Sydney E.T.A. 2000K/1/7.

"GLENELG" arrived Milne Bay at 1000K/26 from Langemak.

P.C. 479 } departed Milne Bay at 0800K/26 for Langemak E.T.A. 1500K/27.
YMS. 70 }

"MIZAR" (U.S. Stores Ship) departed Milne Bay at 1645K/25 for Brisbane E.T.A. 1100K/28.

"MEDUSA" (U.S. Repair Ship) arrived Milne Bay at 2147K/25 from Sydney en route to Seeadler. Departed Milne Bay at 1420K/26 E.T.A. Langemak 0600K/28.

"RIO GRANDS" (U.S. Tanker) arrived Seeadler at 1045K/25 from Tulagi.

"CAPE LEEUWIN" arrived Milne Bay at 1730K/25 from Grafton Passage area.

S.C. 731 departed Merauke at 1730K/26 escorting "ISLANDER" to Thursday Island E.T.A. 1330K/27.

"BIRCHGROVE PARK" departed Pt. Moresby at 0651K/26 for Cairns E.T.A. 0300K/29. Ordered by N.O.I.C. Townsville at 1720K/26 to proceed Townsville for bunkers.

"WILCANNIA" E.T.D. Thursday Island A.M./28 for Sydney for conversion to VSIS.

"PARKES" arrived Thursday Island at 1650K/26 from Pt. Moresby.

"ECHUCA" with M.L. 807 in tow arrived Townsville at 0410K/26 from Brisbane At 1653K/26 M.L. 807 proceeded to Cairns E.T.A. 0800K/27.

"MARTINDALE" arrived Townsville at 0508K/26 from Brisbane.

YP. 415 arrived Brisbane at 1100K/26 from Noumea.

"DOOMBA" arrived Brisbane at 0659K/26 from Sydney.

"KYBRA" arrived Sydney at 0638K/26 from Pt. Kembla.

H.D.M.L. 1329 E.T.D. Hobart 27/6 for Melbourne.

"TUMULT" (U.S. Minesweeper) arrived Sydney at 0650K/26 from Pt. Purvis.

"RESERVE" (Tug) arrived Sydney at 1212K/26 from Cairns.

"WARRNAMEOOL" departed Sydney at 0904K/26 on A/S patrol to Smoky Cape and return.

To 0900K/Monday, 26th June, 1944.

H.M.S. "LONDON" wearing the flag of F.O. 5th Cruiser Squad departed Ceylon at 2130K/21 for Fremantle.

"GENERAL HARRY TAYLOR" (U.S.N.T.) departed San Francisco at 1100K/24 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 12/7.

"HERBERT" (U.S. Destroyer) E.T.A. Langemak 0600K/24 escorting 2 M.V.'s from Aitape.

YMS. 393 departed Madang at 1845K/23 E.T.A. Langemak 1300K/24.

"WAGGA" departed Langemak at 1015K/24 escorting convoy N.A. 26 to Seeadler E.T.A. 1100K/25.

"GLENELG" arrived Langemak at 1630K/24 escorting convoy A.N. 26 from Seeadler. Departed 25/6 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 1000K/26.

"TEABERRY" (U.S. Net Tender) departed Bora Bora 24/6 for Milne Bay via Noumea.

"ROCHAMBEAU" (U.S.N.T.) departed Langemak at 0800K/25 for Espiritu Santo E.T.A. 1200K/29.

"COLAC") departed Langemak at 0800K/25 escorting convoy N.A. 27 to
S.C. 746) Seeadler E.T.A. 1800K/26.
S.C. 735)

S.C. 981 arrived Buna at 1530K/24 from Milne Bay.

"FALIE" departed Buna at 0626K/25 E.T.A. Milne Bay 1400K/27.

"GLADSTONE" departed Madang at 0800K/24 escorting "POLLUX" to Langemak E.T.A. 0700K/25.

"WHYALLA" departed Lae at 0805K/25 for Langemak E.T.A. 1400K/25.

"WOOD ISLAND" (U.S. Tug) departed Milne Bay at 1112K/24 towing "MANNING" (U.S. Destroyer escort) to Espiritu Santo, E.T.A. 1001K/27.

M.L. 425 arrived Milne Bay at 1730K/23 for Madang.

"GOULBURN") arrived Langemak 1130K/24 escorting convoy from Hollandia.
"STAWELL")
"KIAMA")
"BUNBURY")

"SHIKELLAMY" (U.S. Tanker) departed Milne Bay at 0650K/25 for Oro Bay E.T.A. 0600K/26.

"PORCUPINE" (U.S. Tanker) arrived Humboldt Bay at 0930K/19 from Langemak.

"BROOME") arrived Langemak at 1300K/25 escorting "TRIANGULUM" from
"STRAHAN") Seeadler Harbour.

S.C. 738) departed Langemak at 1902K/25 escorting "DAVID E. HUGHES" to
S.C. 745) Madang E.T.A. 0915K/26.

"WIZAR" E.T.D. Milne Bay 1630K/25 from Brisbane E.T.A. 0700K/28.

"PARKES" departed Pt. Moresby at 1130K/25 for Thursday Island E.T.A. 1816K/

"BOWEN" E.T.D. Thursday Island 1600K/25 escorting "EMPIRE SILVER" to Darwin.

"WILCANNIA" arrived Thursday Island at 1358K/25 escorting convoy D.T. 63 from Darwin.

S.C. 731 departs Merauke at 1700K/26 escorting "ISLANDER" to Thursday Island.

SECRET

"COWRA" towing M.L. 427 departed Townsville at 1858K/25 for Brisbane E.T.A. 1400K/29.

"CARONDELET" (U.S. Tanker) arrived Brisbane at 1412K/25 from Townsville.

"SAVORGNAN" "DE BRAZZA" (French Sloop) arrived Sydney at 1332K/25 from Noumea.

"ALFIE CAM" arrived Sydney at 1232K/25 from Adelaide.

"GUMLEAF" departed Sydney at 0432K/25 for Townsville for onward routeing to Milne Bay - calling at Pt. Stephens en route.

"MARY CAM" arrived Albany at 2000K/25 from Adelaide.

H.M.S. "SPRINGDALE" departed Fremantle at 0730K/24 for Trincomalee E.T.A. 10/7.

"PIRIE" departed Darwin at 0345K/25 escorting convoy D.T. 64 for Thursday Island E.T.A. 1700K/28.

"INVERELL" arrived Darwin at 1556K/25 escorting "ALLARA" from Thursday Island.

FLOATING MINE SIGHTED IN position 10°04'S. 150°50'E (Ward Hunt Strait) (30 miles N. MILNE BAY) at 1700K/25. N.O.I.C. New Guinea advised A.I.G. 366.

.....

..... departed Milne Bay 1000K/25, E.T.A. Lab 1500K/25 (thence Madang, on arrival to come under Operational Control of Joint Director Madang).

..... (departure from Madang for Kallindia and Misk) delayed indefinitely owing to engine trouble (see Narrative 24th June).

..... departed Milne Bay 0700K/25, E.T.A. Longman 0700K/25 (on arrival to come under Operational Control, Port Director Longman).

..... E.T.A. Milne Bay 1000K/25 from Tutuila.

..... arrived Port Moresby 1700K/24 from Milne Bay.

..... arrived Cairns for boiler cleaning 1700K/24 from Milne Bay.

..... (P.F. 42, Frigate) arrived Cairns 1800K/25 from Tutuila.

..... arrived Sydney 0800K/24 from Sandy Cape Patrol.

..... arrived Townsville 1100K/24 from Milne Bay (for boiler clean).

..... E.T.A. Caloundra 1800K/25 for exercises at Harvey Bay. E.T.A. 1800K/25. On completion "WILSON" return to Brisbane, E.T.A. 1800K/27.

..... arrived Brisbane 1500K/24 from New Hope.

..... E.T.A. Caloundra 1100K/25 to carry out diving trials in approximate position 0800 Caloundra Head 25 miles. On completion to return Brisbane during daylight 24th June.

..... E.T.A. Sydney 2nd July. E.T.A. Townsville 0800K/25 July.

..... departed Sydney 0800K/24 for Brisbane, E.T.A. Caloundra 0800K/25.

..... arrived Sydney 0800K/24 from New Hope Bay.

SECRET

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900K/25th June, 1944.

- H.M.S. "LONDON" (Cr.) E.T.D. Trincomalee 24th June for Fremantle.
- U.S.S. "SAN CARLOS" (AVP 51) } departed Tulagi 1200K/22, E.T.A. Green
escorted by S.C. 701 } Island 1530K/24.
- U.S.S. "ROCHAMBEAU" (U.S.N.T.) arrived Langemak 1145K/22 from Morobe.
- "SWAN" }
"GEELONG" } arrived Milne Bay 1100K/23 from Langemak (for boiler
"TOWNSVILLE" } cleaning).
"LITHCOW" }
"DELOIRINE" }
- "MANOORA" E.T.D. Milne Bay 0100K/23. E.T.A. Sydney 1100K/27.
- U.S.S. "TULSA" (Gunboat) departed Milne Bay 1311K/23, E.T.A. Brisbane
2300K/27.
- U.S.S. "MIZAR" (Store Carrier) arrived Langemak 0740K/24 from Hollandia.
- "VENDETTA" arrived Langemak 2001K/24 from Waterfall Bay.
- U.S.S. "HIDATSA" (Fleet Tug) towing YRD's (small floating docks) and
Y.M.S. 85, departed Balboa 0800K/23. E.T.A. Manus 19th
July (via Bora Bora).
- "WHYALLA" departed Milne Bay 1000K/23, E.T.A. Lae 1500K/24
(thence Madang, on arrival to come under Operational
Control of Port Director Madang).
- P.C. 1133 escorting) departure from Madang for Hollandia and Biak
"SPRIGHTLY" and tow) delayed indefinitely owing to engine trouble
(see Narrative 24th June).
- Y.M.S. 316 departed Milne Bay 0930K/24, E.T.A. Langemak 0700K/26
(on arrival to come under Operational Control, Port
Director Langemak).
- L.C.I. 578 E.T.A. Milne Bay 1000K/26 from Tutuila.
- BIRCHGROVE PARK arrived Port Moresby 1736K/24 from Milne Bay.
- "KAPUNDA" arrived Cairns for boiler cleaning 1702K/24 from Milne
Bay.
- U.S.S. "EUGENE" (P.F. 40, Frigate) arrived Cairns 1631K/23 from Tutuila.
- "YANDRA" arrived Sydney 0856K/24 from Sandy Cape Patrol.
- "KALGOORLIE" arrived Townsville 2219K/24 from Milne Bay (for boiler
clean).
- "EURDEKIN") E.T.D. Caloundra 1200K/25 for exercises at Harvey Bay
"MILDURA") E.T.A. 0900K/26. On completion "MILDURA" return to
Brisbane, E.T.A. 1200K/27.
- P.C. (E) 850 arrived Brisbane 1640K/24 from Bora Bora.
- U.S. Submarine "BLUEGILL") E.T.D. Caloundra 1100K/25 to carry out
M.L. 808 and M.L. 821 in) diving trials in approximate position 090°
company) Caloundra Head 25 miles. On completion to
return Brisbane during daylight 25th June.
- "WESTRALIA" E.T.D. Sydney 3rd July. E.T.A. Townsville 0600K/7th July.
- "DOOMBA" departed Sydney 0926K/24 for Brisbane. E.T.A.
Caloundra 0600K/26.
- M.L. 810 arrived Sydney 0302K/24 from Two Fold Bay.

U.S.S. "OCTANS" (Store Carrier) arrived Sydney 2000K/24 from Brisbane.

H.M.S. "CUMBERLAND" (Cr.) departed Fremantle 1100K/24, E.T.A. Trincomalee escorting U.S.S. "GENERAL G.M. RANDALL" Destroyers "RACEHORSE" and "RAIDER" at 0800K/ (U.S.N.T.) in position 05°32'S. 083°48'E). 2000K/1st July. (To rendezvous with H.M.

"JUNEE" (escorting 1 M.V.) arrived West Bay 1120K/23 from Darwin.

"URALBA" (en route Cairns to Port Moresby via Great North East Channel) arrived Thursday Island 1216K/24 and entered harbour for shelter.

"INVERELL" (escorting "ALLARA") en route Thursday Island to Darwin, anchoring for night 24th in vicinity Cape Hotham, to continue passage dawn 25th. E.T.A. Darwin 1200K/25.

H.D.M.L. 1323 en route Cairns to Thursday Island delayed owing to weather. E.T.A. now 1500K/26th.

S.C. 731 (escorting "ISLANDER") arrived Merauke 1545K/23 from Thursday I

"WYBIA" (Army Tug) departed Merauke 1830K/23 for Tanahmerah and return (14 days) towing barge A.B.12.

SUBMARINE SIGHTING

Submarine sighted at 0025K/24th June on surface in position 15°03' South, 161°00' East. Espiritu based aircraft conducting day and night search and night submarine sweeps to distance of 400 mile in area between 267-00 true and 293-00 true from Cape Lisburne. U.S.S. "ELACKWOOD" and U.S.S. "LOESER" (D.E's) departed Port Purvis to conduct operations in area in conjunction with land based aircraft. (See ComSoPac's 232319Z June).

Merchant Ship "CAPE MATEPAN" en route San Pedro to Morobe reported flares having been observed near the ship when in position 14°20' S. 160°50' E. at 0200K/25. (T.O.O. 241600Z June).

H.M.A.S. "MATAFELE" (Overdue).

"MATAFELE" en route Townsville to Milne Bay (E.T.A. 0800K/22nd) overdue 53 hours. Ship did not reply to N.O.I.C. New Guinea's 230825Z/6 requesting position and E.T.A. Air search being arranged. (See N.O.I.C. New Guinea's 240259Z/June).

Further report from N.O.I.C. New Guinea - "MATAFELE" sighted west of China Strait at 1515K/24th making slow speed against heavy weather. (See N.O.I.C. New Guinea's 240927Z/June).

"OCTANS" (Store Carrier) arrived Brisbane 2nd June from Milne Bay and departed for Sydney same day E.T.A. 24th June.

"RACEHORSE" (Destroyer Tender) departed Sydney 1000K/23 E.T.A. China Strait dawn 25th thence for Alor Harbour.

"RAIDER" departed Sydney 0800K/23 on training cruise to Jarvis Bay E.T.A. 2100K/24.

"URUBA" departed Sydney 1600K/23 E.T.A. Pt. Moresby 1200K/24.

"WYBIA" arrived Eden 1600K/23 from Sydney.

"ZEPHYRUS" E.T.A. Sydney 0900K/24 for Brisbane.

"JUNEE" arrived Fremantle 1140K/23 from Sydney.

S E C R E T.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900K/Saturday, 24th June, 1944.

U.S.S. "BISBEE") (Frigates) E.T.D. Noumea 24th June for
U.S.S. "GALLUP") Cairns (Comcortdiv 43 in BISBEE).
U.S.S. "CORPUS CHRISTI")

λ "VENDETTA" departed Milne Bay 0901K/23 E.T.A. Waterfall Bay 0600K/24,
thence Langemak E.T.A. 1100K/24.

λ "PARKES" departed Milne Bay 1400K/22 arrived Port Moresby 1556K/23rd
(thence Thursday Island).

"SAVORGNAN DE BRAZZA" (French Sloop) departed Noumea 1345K/21 E.T.A.
Sydney 1300K/25.

λ "KALGOORLIE") departed Milne Bay 1400K/22 E.T.A. Gafton Passage 1100K,
λ "KAPUNDA") 24 ("KAPUNDA" E.T.A. Cairns 1330K/24 "KALGOORLIE"
E.T.A. Townsville 0001K/25.

U.S.S. "YUMA" (Tug) arrived Milne Bay 1126K/22 from Cairns.

P.C. 1133) E.T.D. Madang 0700K/23 E.T.A. Hollandia
"SPRIGHTLY" (Tug) and tow) 0700K/25 (for onward routeing to Biak).

P.C. 1121) arrived Madang 0630K/21 from Seeadler
U.S.S. "POLLUX" (Store Ship)) Harbour.

"BIRCHGROVE PARK" E.T.D. Milne Bay 0730K/23 E.T.A. Pt. Moresby 1700K/24
(thence Cairns).

λ "A.S.I.S. "YUNNAN" departed Milne Bay 1200K/22 E.T.A. Sydney 1200K/29.

S.C. 981 departed Milne Bay 1700K/23 E.T.A. Langemak 1600K/24
(operational control P.D. Langemak.).

λ P.C. 1133 and 1134 (escorting) departed Madang 2300K/22 E.T.A.
V.S.I.S. "MERKUR") Humboldt Bay 1500K/24.

λ "WAGGA" (Escorting 3 M.V's) departed Seeadler Harbour 0700K/21.
E.T.A. Langemak 1500K/22.

U.S.S. "ROCHAMBEAU" (U.S.N.T.) departed Morobe 0600K/22 E.T.A. Langemak
1100K/22 (E.T.D. Finshhafen 24th June for San Francisco
via Guadalcanal.).

L.S.T. 549 departed Bora Bora 1300K/21 E.T.A. Milne Bay 7th July.

Y.P. 415 E.T.D. Noumea 1600K/22 E.T.A. Brisbane 1200K/26.

λ "FALIE" arrived Finshhafen from Manus at 1236K/22nd.

U.S. "OCTANS" (Store Carrier) arrived Brisbane 22nd June from Milne
Bay and departed for Sydney same day E.T.A. 24th June.

U.S.S. "WHITNEY" (Destroyer Tender) departed Sydney 1001K/23 E.T.A.
China Strait dawn 29th thence Seeadler Harbour.

λ "KYBRA" departed Sydney 0938K/23 on training cruise to Jervis Bay
E.T.A. 2359K/23.

λ "CASTLEMAINE" departed Sydney 1443K/23 E.T.A. Pt. Adelaide 1200K/27.

λ M.L. 822 arrived Eden 1830K/22 from Sydney.

"DOOMBA" E.T.D. Sydney 0900K/24 for Brisbane.

λ H.M.A.S. "NORMAN" arrived Fremantle 1145K/23 from Sydney.

S.C. 731 (escorting 1 M.V.) passed Goode Island 1700K/22 (en route Thursday Island to Merauke) E.T.A. Merauke 1530K/23.

✓ "TOOMEREE" (A.S.R.) arrived Merauke 0300K/23 from Eilanden River.

R.A.A.F. report S.C.'s and one F.T.D. attacked in position 04°47'S. 131°43'E at 1852K/23. S.C.'s left smoking and flames were coming from the F.T.D. (N.O.I.C. Darwin's 231415Z/6).

"STEPHEN HOPKINS" (LIBERTY SHIP) reported submarine on surface in position 15°30'S. 160°E at 0025K/24.

✓ M.L. 815 returned to Darwin at 1131K/23 from operation "PIAT" which was successfully completed.

FP.143 (small U.S. Cargo Ship) en route Pt. Moresby to Milne Bay ashore in Beagle Bay. "LATROBE" will assist after refl oating Y.15. (Y.15 aground off Hood Bay 60 miles S.E. of Pt. Moresby (See Narrative 18/6/1944).

.....

S.S. 713 departed Langsam at 1700K/21 escorting "FRANCIS A. WATKINS" to Sidor E.T.A. 0600K/22.

"GIPSLAND" departed Langsam at 1000K/22 on Solomon Sea Patrol.

"ROCKWELL" departed Langsam at 0600K/22 on Solomon Sea Patrol.

"KANGAROO" A.T.S. Langsam 0700K/23 to S.V. with "ROCKWELL" at 1400K/23 for escort duties.

"KAPITI" A.T.S. Milne Bay 1400K/23 for Cairns to boiler clean and recreational leave.

S.S. 745 departed Cape Gloucester at 1815K/21 for Langsam E.T.A. 0100K/22.

S.S. 741 A.T.S. Cape Gloucester 1600K/21 for Malaka (Strongman Harbour - 50 miles N.W. Madang) E.T.A. 1200K/22.

S.S. 738 arrived Langsam at 0840K/21 escorting "SILVSTER INCALANTE" from Morobe area.

"KANGAROO" A.T.S. Milne Bay 1400K/22 for Townsville.

"GERARD" arrived Milne Bay at 1830K/21 from Langsam.

S.S. 731 arrived Langsam at 0700K/22 escorting "GIRGO" and "PANDA" from Svalbard Bay.

"KANGAROO" arrived Thursday Island at 2300K/21 escorting "MABELIA" from Merauke.

"KANGAROO" arrived Thursday Island at 1400K/22 for Pt. Moresby.

"KANGAROO" on completion duties Grafton Passage departed at 0040K/22 for Milne Bay.

"KANGAROO" departed Cairns at 0645K/22 for Thursday Island E.T.A. 1800K/22.

"KANGAROO" A.T.S. Gladstone 1800K/22 E.T.A. Townsville A.M. 27th.

"KANGAROO" arrived Brisbane at 1030K/22 from Gladstone.

"KANGAROO" (U.S. Stores Ship) arrived Brisbane at 1800K/22 from Milne Bay A.T.S. Caloundra 0400K/22 for Sydney E.T.A. 1800K/24.

"KANGAROO" arrived Sydney at 0810K/22 from Newcastle.

"KANGAROO" arrived Sydney at 0900K/22 from Socky Cape A/S patrol.

To 0900K/Friday, 23rd June, 1944.

"VENDETTA" E.T.D. Langemak 0900K/23 for Waterfall Bay 85 miles N.E. Gasmata to embark A.I.B. Party E.T.A. 0600K/24 then return Langemak.

> "BROOME" } departed Langemak at 0920K/21 escorting convoy N.A. 26
> "STRAHAN" } to Seeadler E.T.A. 22/6.
> "GLENELG" }

> "SWAN" } departed Langemak 1801K/21 for Ginam Anchorage E.T.A. 1100K/
> "GEELONG" } 22.
> "TOWNSVILLE" }
> "LITHGOW" }
> "DELORAINÉ" }

"GOULBURN" } E.T.D. Hollandia 1700K/22 escorting convoy to Langemak.
"STAWELL" }
"KIAMA" }
"BUNBURY" }
"GLADSTONE" }
YMS. 47 }

S.C. 738 departed Langemak at 1705K/21 escorting "FRANCIS A. WARDWELL" to Saidor E.T.A. 0600K/22.

> "GYMPIE" departed Langemak at 1026K/22 on Solomon Sea Patrol.

> "ROCKHAMPTON" departed Langemak at 0820K/22 on Solomon Sea Patrol.

"KATOOMBA" E.T.D. Langemak 0700K/23 to R.V. with "ROCKHAMPTON" at 1400K/23 for escort duties.

"KAPUNDA" E.T.D. Milne Bay 1400K/22 for Cairns to boiler clean and recreational leave.

S.C. 745 departed Cape Gloucester at 1315K/21 for Langemak E.T.A. 2100K/21

S.C. 741 E.T.D. Cape Gloucester 1600K/21 for Malala (Kronprinz Harbour - 50 miles N.W. Madang) E.T.A. 1200K/22.

S.C. 749 arrived Langemak at 0640K/21 escorting "SILVESTER ESCALANTE" from Morobe area.

"KALGOORLIE" E.T.D. Milne Bay 1400K/22 for Townsville.

> "GERARD" arrived Milne Bay at 1630K/21 from Langemak.

S.C. 735 } arrived Langemak at 0700K/22 escorting "SIBIGO" and "PANDA"
S.C. 746 } from Humboldt Bay.

> "BALLARAT" arrived Thursday Island at 2305K/21 escorting "BIDELIA" from Merauke.

> HDML.1322 arrived Thursday Island at 1405K/22 for Pt. Moresby.

"CAPE LEEUWIN" on completion duties Grafton Passage departed at 0945K/22 for Milne Bay.

> HDML.1323 departed Cairns at 0645K/22 for Thursday Island E.T.A. 1600K/25.

"MARTINDALE" E.T.D. Gladstone 1200K/22 E.T.A. Townsville A.M. 27th.

> "MILDURA" arrived Brisbane at 1030K/22 from Gladstone.

"OCTANS" (U.S. Stores Ship) arrived Brisbane at 1509K/22 from Milne Bay E.T.D. Caloundra 0430K/23 for Sydney E.T.A. 1600K/24.

> "KYBRA" arrived Sydney at 0810K/22 from Newcastle.

> "WARRNAMBOOL" arrived Sydney at 0904K/22 from Smoky Cape A/S patrol.

"YANDRA" departed Sydney at 0854K/22 on A/S patrol to Smoky Cape and return.

"WHITNEY" (U.S. Destroyer Tender) E.T.D. Sydney 0900K/23 for Seeadler.

"CASTLEMAINE" E.T.D. Sydney 1400K/23 for Adelaide

"BINGERA" arrived Pt. Phillip at 1731K/21 from F.N.D.

HDML.1324 arrived Melbourne at 1301K/22 for Adelaide.

"ARARAT" when ready about 28/6 to depart Melbourne for Milne Bay via Brisbane.

YP.286 arrived Fremantle at 1358K/22 from Adelaide.

"JUNEE" departed Darwin at 0650K/22 escorting "JOHN OWEN" to West Bay E.T.A. 1200K/23.

POSSIBLE PERISCOPE OF SUBMARINE sighted by "WILLIAM WHIPPLE" at 1200K/22 when in position 030°17'S. 101°52'E. At 1621K/22 N.O.I.C. Fremantle issued an A.F. message to shipping.

KATHERINE L. BATES (7244 gross tons). Reported by N.O.I.C. Oro Bay at 2223K/21 to be aground on reef 3 1/2 miles north of Oro Bay.

.....

19 0900K/Thursday, 22nd June, 1944.

- > "REID" (U.S. Destroyer) departed Seeadler at 1330K/20 escorting "MIZAR" to Humboldt Bay.
- > "SWAN" } arrived Seeadler at 1945K/19 escorting convoy N.A. 25
 > "TOWNSVILLE" } from Langemak.
 > P.C. 1121 }
- > "SWAN" } departed Seeadler at 2200K/20 escorting convoy A.N.25
 > "TOWNSVILLE" } to Langemak E.T.A. 1500K/21.
- "WINTLE" (U.S. Destroyer Escort) E.T.D. TULAGI 21/6 escorting "RIO GRANDE" to Seeadler E.T.A. 0800K/24.
- P.C. 606 E.T.D. Treasury 21/6 escorting "PASQUOQANK" to Seeadler E.T.A. 1500K/24.
- P.C. 1121 departed Seeadler at 1330K/20 escorting "POLLUX" to Madang.
- S.C. 737 arrived Langemak at 2107K/20 from Morobe.
- > "GYMPIE" arrived Langemak at 0946K/21 from Solomon Sea patrol.
- "YUNNAN" E.T.D. Milne Bay 21/6 for Sydney.
- P.C. 1123 arrived Seeadler 0945K/20 escorting "TRIANGULUM" from Langemak.
- > "COLAC" } arrived Langemak at 1145K/21 escorting convoy from Hum-
 > "DELORAINE" } boldt Bay - including U.S.S. "RAIL" (Fleet Tug) and YP.504.
 > "LITHCOW" }
 > S.C. 648 }
 > S.C. 742 }
 > YMS. 71 }
 > YMS. 314 }
- "GOLD STAR" (U.S. Stores Ship) E.T.D. Milne Bay 0700K/21 for Brisbane E.T.A. 2100K/25.
- > H.D.M.L. 1323 arrived Cairns at 0816K/23 from Townsville.
- "CARONDELET" (U.S. Tanker) departed Townsville at 1146K/21, for Brisbane.
- "GENERAL GEORGE M. RANDALL" (U.S.N.T.) arrived Fremantle at 1054K/21 from Balboa.
- "MILDURA" departed Gladstone at 1200K/21 E.T.A. Brisbane 1000K/22.
- > "MARTINDALE" en route Sydney to Townsville arrived Gladstone at 0942K/21 E.T.D. 1200K/22.
- YP.291 E.T.D. Caloundra 2000K/21 from Milne Bay E.T.A. 1000K/28.
- "ECHUCA" with M.L. 807 in tow E.T.D. Caloundra 1400K/22 from Townsville E.T.A. 0600K/26.
- > "SAMUEL BENBOW" } arrived Sydney at 0908K/21 from Newcastle.
 > "PATERSON" }
- > M.L. 822 departed Sydney at 1010K/21 for Jervis Bay and Eden E.T.A. Jervis Bay 1630K/21.
- "BENDIGO" E.T.D. Sydney P.M./22 for Brisbane thence to Milne Bay.
- > "COOLEBAR" departed Sydney at 0728K/21 for Townsville E.T.A. 29/6.
- "BINGERA" departed F.N.D. at 1310K/21 for exercises in Pt. Phillip.
- > HDL. 1327 arrived Melbourne at 1431K/21 from Hobart.
- > "INVERELL" departed Thursday Island at 0900K/21 escorting "ALLARA" to Darwin E.T.A. 1930K/24.

λ "WILCANNIA" departed Darwin at 0430K/21 escorting D.T. 63 E.T.A. Thursday Island 0030K/25.

λ "COOTAMUNDRA" arrived Darwin at 1735K/21 escorting "ADMIRAL CHASE" from Thursday Island.

λ M.L. 815 departed Darwin at 1209K/21 on operation "PIAT".

arrived Milne Bay 1030K/21 from Pt. Moresby.

arrived Spirit of Queensland 0800K/21 E.T.A. Pilsbaken 24th June.

arrived Milne Bay 1800K/21 E.T.A. Milne Bay 7th July.

arrived Milne Bay 2100K/21 from Cape Gloucester.

departed Milne Bay 1130K/21 E.T.A. Milne Bay 1800K/21.

arrived Milne Bay 1130K/21 from Milne Bay.

departed Milne Bay 0700K/21 for Europe.

departed Milne Bay 0800K/21 to rendezvous with and provide escort to U.S.S. "DHEP" (Submarine tender) one mile east of Milne Bay 0800K/21 proceeding to Madang.

(Tug) departed Port Moresby 0800K/21 to rendezvous with "PING HO" at Pt. Moresby. E.T.A. 0800K/21. "PING HO" returning to Pt. Moresby from Baru approximately 24.3.21 JULY.

(Tug) departed Cairns 1800K/20 E.T.A. Milne Bay 1000K/21.

departed Townsville 1050K/20 for Thursday Island (anchoring at night if necessary) calling Cairns for water. E.T.A. Cairns 1800K/21.

(Cargo ship) departed Brisbane 1800K/20 E.T.A. China St. 0800K/21 E.T.A. Pilsbaken 0800K/21.

arrived Brisbane 0430K/20 from Sandy Cape Patrol (Saving provided navigational escort for "T.L. WING", "WCHIN" returned to Brisbane via liberty ship "EUREKA" in company.

arrived Brisbane 0800K/20 from Sydney.

departed Sydney 0800K/20 on A/S patrol to Socky Cape.

arrived Sydney 0700K/21 for Townsville - Thursday Island and Barua.

departed Newcastle 1000K/20 for Broken Bay.

departed Newcastle 0800K/20 for Sydney.

E.T.A. Pt. Melbourne 0800K/21 from Sydney.

departed Pt. Melville 1800K/20 for Pt. Melbourne E.T.A. Pt. Phillip Heads 24.3.21 June.

departed Pt. Melville 1800K/20 for Albany and Fremantle E.T.A. Albany daylight of 25th June.

SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900K/Wednesday, 21st June, 1944.

U.S.S. "OCTANS" (Store Carrier) departed Milne Bay 0530K/19 E.T.A. Brisbane 1700K/22.

"BARCOO" (towing Series 60 H.S. Sled Target) E.T.D. Milne Bay 0900K/20 E.T.A. Seeadler Harbour 1000K/22 (on arrival to come under operational control of Com U.S. Base Manus.).

^ "ROCKHAMPTON" arrived Langemak 1509K/19 from Solomon Sea patrol.

^ "LATROBE" arrived Milne Bay 1630K/19 from Pt. Moresby.

U.S.S. "CRUX" (?) arrived Espiritu Santo 0600K/20 E.T.A. Finschhafen 24th June.

L.S.T. 549 E.T.D. Bora Bora 1300K/21 E.T.A. Milne Bay 7th July.

S.C. 738 arrived Langemak 2101K/19 escorting M.B. 27 from Cape Gloucester.

^ "GERARD" departed Langemak 1131K/19 E.T.A. Milne Bay 1200K/21.

S.C. 732 arrived Langemak 1231K/19 from Milne Bay.

S.C. 749 departed Langemak 0701K/20 for Morobe.

S.C. 734) departed Langemak 0101K/20 to rendezvous with and provide escort
S.C. 744) for U.S.S. "OTUS" (Submarine Tender) one mile east of Langemak 0100K/20 proceeding to Madang.

^ "WAREE" (Tug) departed Port Moresby 0927K/20 to rendezvous with "PING WO" off Pt. Romilly. E.T.A. 0800K/21. "PING WO" returning to Pt. Moresby from Daru approximately E.T.A. 1st JULY.

U.S.S. "YUMA" (Tug) departed Cairns 1531K/20 E.T.A. Milne Bay 1000K/22.

^ HDML.1323 departed Townsville 1052K/20 for Thursday Island (anchoring at night if necessary) Calling Cairns for water. E.T.A. Cairns 0800K/21.

U.S.S. "BOOTES" (Cargo ship) departed Brisbane 1241K/20 E.T.A. China St. 0800K/25 E.T.A. Finschhafen 0800K/27.

^ "ECHUCA" arrived Brisbane 0455K/20 from Sandy Cape Patrol (Having provided navigational escort for "J.E. WING", "ECHUCA" returned to Brisbane with liberty ship ~~XXXXXX~~ in company.

^ M.L. 807 arrived Brisbane 0430K/20 from Sydney.

^ "WARRNAMEOOL" departed Sydney 0904K/20 on A/S patrol to Smoky Cape.

"COOLEBAR" E.T.D. Sydney 0700K/21 for Townsville - Thursday Island and Darwin.

^ "KYBRA" departed Newcastle 1002K/20 for Broken Bay.

^ "PATERSON") departed Newcastle 0005K/21 for Sydney.

^ "SAMUEL BENBOW")

HDML.1327 E.T.A. Pt. Melbourne 0800K/21 from Hobart.

^ HDML.1324 departed Pt. Adelaide 1042K/20 for Pt. Melbourne E.T.A. Pt. Phillip Heads A.M. 22nd June.

^ "MARY CAM" departed Pt. Adelaide 1230K/20 for Albany and Fremantle E.T.A. Albany daylight of 26th June.

- > "WILCANNIA" (escorting 1 M.V.) arrived Darwin 2203K/19 from Thursday Is.
 > "FREMANTLE" (escorting 1 M.V.) arrived Darwin 1727K/19 from Thursday Is.
 "INVERELL" (escorting 1 M.V.) E.T.D. Thursday Island 0900K/21 for Darwin.
 HDML.1322 en route Thursday Island - Pt. Moresby sheltering at Sue Is.
 > "BALLARAT" (escorting 1 M.V.) departed Merauke 1600K/20 E.T.A. Thursday Island 1500K/21.

K.14 (Netherlands Submarine) in vicinity Salawait (approximately 01°58'S. 131°30'E) at dusk on 20th June.

ENEMY SURFACE FORCE:

Delayed report from R.A.A.F. (See N.O.I.C. (D) 200043Z/6 Balikpapan night of 18th and 19th June 5 ships South West of Cape Junalei. 15 ships including one large warship, one probable aircraft carrier (converted) in Balikpapan Harbour. Indications of 8 ships in channel 4 miles South East of Balikpapan.

AIRCRAFT SIGHTINGS - Submarines.

Surfaced enemy submarine sighted in position 05°36'N, 125°17'E at approximately 0810K/20th June.
 (N.O.I.C. Darwin's 200231Z/6).

At 1200K/20th one large unidentified submarine (submerged) in position 06°12'S. 129°23'E (370 miles N.W. of Darwin).
 (N.O.I.C. (D) 200401Z/6).

-
 "TARA" (Yug.) E.T.A. Cairns 1830K/20 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 1900K/20.
 "TARA" departed Gladstone 1540K/18 E.T.A. Brisbane 1800K/21 (towing Patt VI. target).
 "TARA" arrived Sydney 0630K/19 from Milne Bay.
 "TARA" E.T.D. Sydney P.M. 22nd June for Brisbane (via Milne Bay).
 "TARA" (Repair Ship) departed Sydney 1845K/19 E.T.A. China Strait 0800K/23 (for onward routing to Beaufort Harbour).
 "TARA" (Fast Minelayer - Ex Destroyer) E.T.D. Sydney 1000K/19 E.T.A. Wadsworth 1000K/24.
 "TARA" E.T.D. Sydney P.M. 20th for Townsville then Thursday Island.
 "TARA" arrived Newcastle 1800K/18 from Sydney. E.T.D. 0800K/20 E.T.A. Broken Bay 1500K/20.
 "TARA") departed Sydney 0745K/19 arrived Newcastle for
 "TARA") sweeping operations at 1500K/19.
 "TARA" departed Pt. Adelaide 0830K/19 E.T.A. Sydney A.M. 20th June.
 "TARA" (escorting 1 M.V.) arrived Darwin 1727K/19 from Thursday Is.

One (1) Beaufort conducted search for Army Tug "TARA" and tow from 1800K/18 until 1700K/19 ("TARA" en route Thursday Island to Merauke) overdue 45 hours at 0900K/19.

To 0900K/Tuesday, 20th June, 1944.

U.S.S. "PROMETHEUS" (Repair Ship) departed Port Purvis (Tulagi)
U.S.S. "TUMULT" (Minesweeper)) 0600K/18 E.T.A. Sydney 1500K/22.

^ "COULEURN" (escorting N.A. 24) arrived Seeadler Harbour from Langemak
^ "GLENELG") at 1600K/15.

^ "COWRA" (towing M.L. 427) departed Milne Bay 0400K/19 E.T.A. Brisbane
0600K/29 (thence Melbourne).

^ "WHYALLA" arrived Milne Bay 1030K/19 from Brisbane.

S.C. 735) departed Hollandia 1800K/19 E.T.A.
S.C. 746) Langemak 0800K/22.
U.S.S. "PANDA" (unclassified)

S.C. 738 (escorting N.B. 27) departed Cape Gloucester 1215K/19
E.T.A. Langemak 1900K/19.

S.C. 745 departed Milne Bay 0930K/19 E.T.A. Langemak 1530K/20
(on arrival to come under the operational control of
P.D. Langemak.

^ "GERARD" arrived Langemak 1436K/18 from Madang.

S.C. 741 arrived Langemak 1751K/18 from Morobe.

U.S.S. "ALABASTER" (Coastal Patrol Boat) departed Milne Bay 0700K/19 for
Langemak E.T.A. 1400K/20 (thence Manus).

L.C.I. 662 departed Espiritu Santo 1300K/19 E.T.A. Milne Bay 0400K/25.

^ "RESERVE" departed Cairns 1144K/19 for Sydney.

U.S.S. "YUMA" (Tug) E.T.D. Cairns 1600K/20 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 1000K/22.

^ "MILDURA" departed Gladstone 1545K/19 E.T.A. Brisbane 1600K/21
(towing Patt VI. target).

^ "MORESBY" arrived Sydney 0650K/19 from Milne Bay.

"BENDIGO" E.T.D. Sydney P.M. 22nd June for Brisbane (thence Milne Bay).

U.S.S. "MEDUSA" (Repair Ship) departed Sydney 1544K/19 E.T.A. China
Strait 0900K/25 (for onward routing to Seeadler Harbour).

U.S.S. "GAMBLE" (Fast Minelayer - Ex Destroyer) E.T.D. Sydney 1000K/19
E.T.A. Guadalcanal 1000K/24.

"COOLEBAR" E.T.D. Sydney P.M. 20th for Townsville thence Thursday Island.

^ "KYBRA" arrived Newcastle 1800K/18 from Sydney. E.T.D. 0900K/20 E.T.A.
Broken Bay 1500K/20.

^ "PATERSON") departed Sydney 0743K/19 arrived Newcastle for
^ "SAMUEL BENBOW") sweeping operations at 1503K/19.

^ "ALFIE CAM" departed Pt. Adelaide 0830K/19 E.T.A. Sydney A.M. 25th June.

^ "FREMANTLE" (escorting 1 M.V.) arrived Darwin 1727K/19 from Thursday Is.

One (1) Beaufort conducted search for Army Tug
"WYBIA" and tow from 1200K/19 until 1700K/19 ("Wybia" en route Thursday
Island to Merauke) overdue 48 hours at 0900K/19.

.....

S E C R E T.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900K/Monday, 19th June, 1944.

H.M.S. "LONDON" wearing the flag of F.O. 5th Cruiser Squad will depart Ceylon 24/6 for Fremantle.

"BENALLA" arrived Seeadler at 0851K/18 from Hollandia.

S.C. 747 departed Langemak at 1636K/17 E.T.A. Manus 1500K/18.

S.C. 734) will rendezvous with V.S.S. "OTUS" 1 mile east of Langemak
S.C. 744) at 0100K/20 and provide additional escort to Madang.

"GOLD STAR" (U.S. Stores Ship) arrived Milne Bay at 1050K/18 from Manus

"COWRA") arrived Milne Bay at 1900K/17 from Langemak.
"KAPUNDA")

P.C. 479 arrived Milne Bay at 1030K/18 from Cairns.

"OCTANS" (U.S. Store Carrier) arrived Milne Bay at 1100K/18 from Langemak
E.T.D. 0400K/19 for Brisbane E.T.A. 1700K/22.

"LATROBE" departed Port Moresby at 0830K/18 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 1400K/19.
"LATROBE" has been instructed to give assistance if necessary
to grounded tanker Y.15 in vicinity of Hoods Bay 60 miles S.E.
Pt. Moresby.

At 1533K/18 N.O.I.C. Pt. Moresby reported that tug "WAREE" en route
to assist Y.15 was unable to make "HOOD BAY" owing to heavy weather.

"URALABA" departed Cairns at 1305K/18 for Pt. Moresby E.T.A. 1500K/25 -
thence to Milne Bay.

"RESERVE" E.T.D. Cairns 0630K/19 for Sydney E.T.A. 1500K/26.

"DMML.1323" arrived Townsville at 1020K/18 from Brisbane.

"MATAFELE" departed Townsville at 1745K/18 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 0600K/22.

"DMML.1322" departed Thursday Island at 0745K/18 for Pt. Moresby E.T.A.
1600K/21.

"BALLARAT" arrived Merauke at 1100K/18 escorting "BIDELIA" from Thursday
Island.

"MEDUSA" (U.S. Repair Ship) E.T.D. Sydney 1600K/19 for Seeadler.

M.L. 807 departed Sydney at 0953K/18 for Brisbane E.T.A. 0900K/20 -
thence to Darwin.

M.L. 823 departed Pt. Stephens at 0610K/18 for Sydney, arrived at 1222K/18.

"LARK" (U.S. Minesweeper) when ready about 25/6 departs Brisbane for
Seeadler via Milne Bay - towing steel lighter.

"SPRINGDALE" arrived Fremantle at 1330K/18 from Sydney.

M.L. 439 returned Darwin at 2201K/18 from operations ADDER.

"PING WO" departed Bramble Cay (Great North Eastern Char) for DARU E.T.A.
1800K/19. E.T.D. DARU 0700K/21 for Pt. Moresby via Bramble Cay.

To 0900K/Sunday, 18th June, 1944.

P.C.1124 departed Espiritu Santo at 0600K/17 for Manus, E.T.A. afternoon/22nd.

SAVORGNAN DE BRAZZA (French Sloop) E.T.D. Noumea 21/6 for Sydney.

TUMULT (U.S. Minesweeper) E.T.D. Purvis Bay - Solomons 17/6, escorting PROMETHEUS (U.S. Repair Ship) bound for Sydney E.T.A. daylight/22.

L.C.'s 964 to 969 inclusive, departed Bora Bora at 0600K/16 E.T.A. Milne Bay 28/6.

MARTIN (U.S. Destroyer Escort) departed Manus at 0800K/16 for Emirau E.T.A. 17/6.

> M.L. 426 arrived Langemak at 1531K/16 from Milne Bay.

> M.L. 818 arrived Langemak at 0901K/17 from Lae.

S.C. 738 departed Langemak at 0601K/17 E.T.A. Morobe 1600K/17.

> COWRA) departed Langemak at 1531K/16 for Milne Bay E.T.A.
> KAPUNDA) 2000K/17.

S.C. 744 departed Cape Gloucester at 1700K/15 escorting POINT SAN PEDRO to Langemak.

Y.M.S. 336 E.T.D. Madang 1600K/16 escorting DAVID E. HUGHES E.T.A. Langemak 0800K/17.

> GERARD arrived Madang at 0630K/16 from Finschaven.

P.C. 1131 arrived Langemak at 1426K/17 from Morobe.

DELORAINÉ)
LITHGOW)
COLAC) E.T.D. Hollandia 1800K/18 escorting convoy to Langemak
S.C. 742) E.T.A. 0900K/21.
S.C. 648)

SPRIGHTLY E.T.D. Milne Bay 15/6 - on towing duties to Morobe, Madang and Biak - then to return Milne Bay.

> LATROBE arrived Port Moresby at 1443K/17 from Thursday Island.

> URALBA en route Cairns to Milne Bay - returned to Cairns at 1016K/17 owing to unfavourable weather.

> RESERVE towing S.C. 699 arrived Cairns at 0841K/17 from Milne Bay.

YUMA (tug) E.T.D. Cairns 1600K/19 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 2000K/21.

> MILDURA arrived Gladstone at 1430K/17 from Sandy Cape A/S Patrol.

BOOTES (U.S. Cargo Ship) E.T.D. Caloundra 2100K/17 for Finschaven E.T.A. 0800K/24.

P.C.(E) 848 arrived Brisbane at 0825K/17 from Bora Bora.

Y.P. 237 arrived Brisbane at 1735K/17 from Noumea.

> NORMAN departed Sydney at 1702K/17 for Fremantle E.T.A. 1000H/23.

GAMBLE (U.S. Light Minelayer) E.T.D. Sydney 1200K/19 for Guadalcanal E.T.A. 24/6.

~ CASTLEMAINE arrived Sydney at 1830K/17 from Brisbane.

> BINGERA departed Sydney at 0848K/17 for Westernport E.T.A. 1000K/19.

> YANDRA returned Sydney at 1135K/17 from A/S Patrol.

M.L. 807 E.T.D. Sydney 0900K/18 for Brisbane thence to Darwin.

> H.D.M.L. 1326 arrived Coffs Harbour at 1730K/16 from Sydney.

GENERAL BUTNER (U.S.N.T.) departed Port Melbourne at 0900K/17 for Los Angeles E.T.A. 0900K/2.

H.D.M.L. 1327 en route Hobart to Port Melbourne reported at 0905K/17. Sheltering in Bay of Fire (N.E. Tasmania) until westerly gale moderates.

> COOTAMUNDRA departed Thursday Island at 0630K/17 escorting ADMIRAL CHASE to Darwin E.T.A. 1200K/21.

> BALLARAT escorting THEDENS arrived Thursday Island at 1843K/16 from Merauke.

> BALLARAT departed Thursday Island 1100K/17 escorting BIDEZIA to Merauke E.T.A. 1100K/18.

> BOWEN arrived Thursday Island at 1118K/17 from Port Moresby.

MARY CAM departed Edithburg at 1230K/17 E.T.A. Albany daylight/23rd.

OPERATION ADDER UNSUCCESSFUL.

At 1641K/ N.O.I.C. DARWIN reported that M.L. 428 was sighted and shadowed by enemy aircraft and is returning to Darwin E.T.A.

Y. 15 - Small Tanker - aground off Hood Bay (60 miles S.E. Port Moresby). Tug WAREE is proceeding to assistance and should arrive daybreak 18th. Y. 7 on passage Port Moresby to Milne Bay has also been ordered to stand by.

CAPE MENDOCINO (6711 gross tons en route Milne Bay to Brisbane) reported at 1354K/16 being in collision with ALFRED C. TRUE (Liberty Ship en route Sydney to Milne Bay) when in a position 024° 27' S, 153° 55' E - off Sandy Cape. CAPE MENDOCINO has since arrived Brisbane with starboard bow shell plating holed 4 feet above and forward of collision bulkhead. After collision ALFRED C. TRUE turned east, presumably proceeding on voyage - damage as yet unknown.

Tug WYBIA and tow - en route to Merauke from Thursday Island are now overdue on passage, and N.O.I.C. Merauke has requested an air search be conducted.

SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900K/Saturday, 17th June, 1944.

"VENDETTA") escorting M.V's departed Humboldt Bay
"STRAHAN") 1800K/14 for Langemak E.T.A. 0700K/17.
U.S.S. "CRAIG" (Minesweeper))
U.S.S. "LOVELACE" (DE.))

"COLAC") escorting 9 M.V's departed Langemak 1610K/14 E.T.A.
"LITHGOW") Humboldt Bay 0600K/17.
"DELOIRINE")
P.C. 1122)

"KIAMA") arrived Langemak 1011K/16 from Solomon Sea Patrol.
"KAPUNDA")

U.S.S. "WIZAR" (Store Ship) departed Milne Bay 0630K/16 - E.T.A. Cape
Sudest 1900K/16 thence Morobe E.T.A. 1100K/17.

"STAWELL" arrived Langemak 1336K/16 from Milne Bay.

"SWAN") escorting 7 M.V's arrived Langemak 0600K/14 from Humboldt Bay.
"GEELONG")

"BENALLA" E.T.D. Hollandia 1700K/16 E.T.A. Seeadler Harbour 0700K/18
(For boiler clean).

"MERKUR" (V.S.I.S.) departed Milne Bay 0845K/16 E.T.A. Langemak 1900K/17
(For onward convoy).

P.C. 477 escorting) departed Madang 1600K/15 E.T.A.
U.S.S. "ELKHORN" (Gasolene Tanker)) Seeadler Harbour 1800K/16.

U.S.S. "HUTCHINSON" (Frigates) departed Milne Bay 1200K/16 E.T.A.
U.S.S. "BELFAST") Langemak 1330K/17 (thence Manus).

U.S.S. "ORANGE" (Frigate)) arrived Langemak 0330K/15 from Humboldt Bay.
U.S.S. "GLENDALE" ")
U.S.S. "OCTANS" (Store Ship))

"GERARD" departed Finschhafen 1017K/15 E.T.A. Madang 0600K/16.

U.S.S. "POLLUX" (Store Ship) arrived Langemak 0600K/14 from Cape Sudest.

YMS.393 departed Langemak 0700K/16 for Morobe E.T.A. 1500K/16 (for repairs).

S.C. 734 arrived Langemak 1000K/16 from Milne Bay.

YMS.73 departed Hollandia 1000K/14 for Mios Woendi E.T.A. 1100K/16.

M.L. 818 departed Madang 2000K/15 E.T.A. Langemak 0900K/16.

P.C. (E) 850 departed Bora Bora 0300K/14 E.T.A. Brisbane 26th June.

L.C.I. 578 departed Tutuila 0800K/16 E.T.A. Milne Bay 25th June.

P.C. 479 departed Cairns 0600K/16 E.T.A. Milne Bay 1200K/18.

"URALBA" departed Cairns 0600K/16 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 1100K/20.

"WHYALLA" escorting U.S. Submarine "DACE" approximately position at 0600K/17
14 15'S, 155 25'E (80 miles North of Mellish Reef) en route
Brisbane - Milne Bay.

"ECHUCA" E.T.D. Brisbane 1900K/17 for Sandy Cape Patrol (to depart Patrol
area A.M. 20th June and return to Brisbane).

YP.237 en route Noumea - Sydney completely disabled - in tow by P.C.E.849
Tug requested off Cape Moreton - E.T.A. 1501K/16.

"WARRNAMBOOL" arrived Sydney 0859K/16 from Smoky Cape Patrol.

"YANDRA" departed Sydney 0902K/16 on A/S patrol to Smoky Cape.

"MARTINDALE" (C.P.B.) departed Sydney 0920K/16 for Townsville and Milne Bay (Calling at Coff's Harbour, Gladstone and Mackay en route).

H.D.M.L. 1327 departed Hobart 1122K/16 E.T.A. Port Melbourne 0500K/18.

"MARY CAM" en route Adelaide-Fremantle sheltering at Edithburg (St. Vincent's Gulf).

"KARANGI" amended E.T.A. Fremantle 1400K/18 from Port Adelaide.

"SEAMIST" arrived Melville Bay P.M. June 15th for A.S.R. Duties.

"LATROBE" departed Thursday Island 1730K/16 E.T.A. Pt1 Moresby 1700K/17 (For onward routing to Milne Bay).

"BALLARAT" (escorting 1 M.V.) departed Merauke 1840K/15 E.T.A. Thursday Island 1430K/16.

"SMEROE" (HMMS Minesweeper) departed Merauke 1730K/15 on Eilanden River and North West Coast Patrol (duration 14 days).

ENEMY SURFACE FORCE.

Aircraft reports at 1325K/16 sighting 3 warships and an unknown number of freighters each 4000/5000 tons in Jeffmann Harbour position 01°06'S. 131°10'E (approximately 300 miles East of Biak. (N.O.I.C. Darwin's 160911Z/6).

HDML.1339 commissioned 0800K/15th June at Milne Bay.

.....

To 0900K/Friday, 16th June, 1944.

"ROCKHAMPTON") departed Milne Bay 1004K/15 to take over Solomon Sea
 "KATOOMBA") Patrol from 1200K/16.
 "GYMPIE")

"COLAC") (escorting A.N. 25) arrived Langemak 1041K/14 from Seeadler
 P.C. 1121) Harbour.

"GENERAL JOHN POPE" (U.S.N.T.) arrived Langemak 1800K/13 from Milne Bay.

U.S.S. "GOLD STAR" (Store Ship) E.T.D. Seeadler Harbour 0700K/15 -
 E.T.A. Langemak 1400K/16 E.T.A. Milne Bay 0700K/18.

U.S.S. "MIZAR" (U.S.N. Store Ship) arrived Milne Bay 0744K/15 from Brisbane

"BUNBURY" arrived Langemak 1745K/14 from Milne Bay.

U.S.S. "ADVENT" (Minesweeper) Sydney departed 1357K/15 E.T.A. Espiritu
 Santo 1700K/20.

U.S.S. "ROCHAMBEAU" (U.S.N.T.) departed Noumea 0600K/14 E.T.A. Morobe
 2000K/18.

U.S.S. "MURZIM" (U.S.N. Cargo Ship) arrived Morobe 0800K/15 from
 Russell Islands.

"GOULBURN" arrived Langemak 0831K/13 from Madang.

"LITHGOW" arrived Langemak 0831K/13 from Milne Bay.

"KALGOORLIE" arrived Milne Bay 1400K/14 from Brisbane.

"STAWELL" departed Milne Bay 1030K/15 E.T.A. Langemak 1600K/16 (on arrival
 to come under the operational control of P.D. Langemak).

U.S.S. "SHIKELLAMY" (U.S.N. Tanker) arrived Milne Bay 1600K/13 from
 Langemak.

P.C. 1120 arrived Saidor 1440K/14 from Langemak.

"BOWEN" departed Milne Bay 1200K/14 arrived Port Moresby 1025K/15 -
 departed Pt. Moresby 1436K/15 E.T.A. Thursday Island 2000K/16.

"GOULBURN") including "GANNYMEDE" and "POLLUX" (U.S.N. Store Ships)
 "GLENELG") (escorting N.A. 24) departed Langemak 1005K/14 E.T.A.
 Seeadler Harbour 1500K/15.

U.S.S. "ORANGE") Frigates) departed Humboldt Bay 1600K/13 E.T.A.
 U.S.S. "GLENDALE") Langemak 0900K/15.
 U.S.S. "OCTANS" (Store Ship)

U.S.S. "PORCUPINE" (U.S.N. Tanker) arrived Langemak 0600K/13 from Lae.

"GLADSTONE" departed Manus Island 1000K/13 E.T.A. Langemak 1500K/16.

P.C. 1124) arrived Espiritu Santo 0734K/15 from
 U.S.S. "CARINA" (Store Ship)) Manus Island.

U.S.S. "SEKONK" (Tanker) arrived Langemak 1230K/13 from Milne Bay.

S.C. 743 departed Cape Gloucester 1630K/13 (escorting B.N. 25) E.T.A.
 Langemak 0530K/14.

S.C. 744 (escorting 2 M.V's) arrived Cape Gloucester 0755K/14 from Langemak

U.S.S. "MIZAR" (Store Ship) E.T.D. Milne Bay 1600K/16 E.T.A. Cape Sudest
 1900K/16 (thence Morobe).

A.P.C. 7 departed Saidor 0904K/15 E.T.A. Madang 1400K/15.

S.C. 738 departed Milne Bay 1000K/14 E.T.A. Langemak 1600K/15.

U.S.S. "KAILUA" (Loop Repair Ship) arrived Espiritu Santo 1446K/14 from Milne Bay.

M.L. 426 departed Milne Bay 1200K/15 for Langemak E.T.A. 1500K/16 (thence Madang) on arrival to come under the operational control of P.D. Madang.

YMS. 336 (escorting 1 M.V.) arrived Madang 0630K/14 from Milne Bay.

"RESERVE" (with S.C. 699 in tow) E.T.A. Cairns 1630K/19 from Milne Bay ("RESERVE" to be relieved of tow at outer anchorage (Cairns) then proceed Sydney).

U.S.S. "WOOD ISLAND" (Tug) } towing ARD 7 (Dock) departed Cairns 1240K/15
U.S.S. ATR. 31 (reserve Tug) } E.T.D. Milne Bay P.M. 18th.

APC. 16 departed Cairns 1031K/15 E.T.A. Milne Bay 1000K/17.

P.C. 479 E.T.D. Cairns 0600K/16 E.T.D. Milne Bay 1900K/17.

U.S.S. "ETAMIN" (Store Ship) } arrived outside anchorage Cairns
in tow } at 1531K/15 from Morobe.
U.S.S. "YUMA" and "FIRE ISLAND" (Tugs)

"URALBA" E.T.D. Cairns 0600K/16 E.T.A. Milne Bay 1100K/20.

U.S.S. "CARONDELET" (Tanker) arrived Townsville 0559K/14 from Brisbane.

"CASTLEMAINE" arrived Brisbane 1907K/14 from Milne Bay E.T.D. 1030K/16 for Sydney E.T.A. 0600K/18.

HMML. 1323 (en route Brisbane - Townsville sheltering at Platypus Bay. Intends proceeding when weather moderates amended E.T.A. to be signalled 1815K/15. Proceeding E.T.A. Townsville 1200K/?

"BINGERA" arrived Sydney 1738K/14 from Westernport.

HMML. 1326 departed Sydney 0712K/15 for Sugarloaf and Coff's Harbour Arrived Sugarloaf 1730K/15. E.T.A. Coff's Harbour 1730K/16th June.

U.S.S. "GENERAL BUTNER" (U.S.N.T.) arrived Melbourne 1441K/15 from Trincomalee.

"ALFIE CAM" arrived Port Adelaide 2356K/14 from Albany.

"MARY CAM" departed Pt. Adelaide 1457K/15 E.T.A. Albany - daylight 21st June. (thence Fremantle).

YP. 286 departed Pt. Adelaide 1316K/15 - E.T.A. Fremantle 1530K/22.

"FREMANTLE" (escorting 1 M.V.) departed Thursday Island 1800K/14 for Darwin E.T.A. 1600K/17th June.

"INVERELL" (escorting D.T. 62) arrived Thursday Island 2000K/14 from Darwin.

"PIRIE" (escorting 1 M.V.) departed Thursday Island 1800K/15 E.T.A. Darwin 1330K/18.

M.L. 804 arrived Thursday Island 1730K/15 from Cairns.

S E C R E T.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900K/Thursday, 15th June, 1944.

"SAN CARLOS" (U.S. Seaplane Tender) departed San Francisco at 1000K/11 for Milne Bay via Tarawa and Tulagi.

YMS. 73 with motor boat departed Hollandia at 0946K/14 for Mios Woendi E.T.A. 1100K/16.

M.L. 817 arrived Hollandia at 0700K/13 from Aitape E.T.D. P.M/13 for Madang.

S.C. 741 departed Langemak 0631K/14 for Morobe for repairs E.T.A. 1400K/14.

"COLAC") departed Seeadler at 0700K/13 escorting convoy A.N.23 to
P.C. 1121) Langemak E.T.A. 1500K/14.

"GERARD" arrived Langemak at 0710K/14 from Lae.

S.C. 743 arrived Langemak at 0630K/13 escorting convoy B.N.25 from Cape Gloucester.

"BOWEN" E.T.D. Milne Bay 14/6 for Thursday Island via Pt. Moresby.

"MORESBY" departed Milne Bay at 1700K/13 for Sydney E.T.A. 19/6.

"RESERVE" departed Milne Bay at 1130K/14 for Townsville E.T.A. 2200K/18.

"CAPE LEEUWIN" departed Oro Bay at 2200K/13 for Kiriwina E.T.A. 1600K/15.

YP. 236 departed Cairns at 0445K/14 for Brisbane.

"WOOD ISLAND" (Tug) departs Cairns at 0900K/15 towing A.R.D.7
(Floating dock) to Milne Bay E.T.A. P.M/18. A.T.R.31
(Reserve Tug) also in attendance.

"MILDURA" departed Brisbane at 1002K/14 for Sandy Cape A/S patrol.

"MIZAR" departed Brisbane 12/6 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 15th./6.

M.L. 821 arrived Brisbane at 0919K/14 from Gladstone.

"DOOMBA" returned to Sydney at 0905K/14 from Smoky Cape A/S patrol.

"WARRNAMEOOL" departed Sydney at 0912K/13 on A/S patrol to Smoky Cape and return.

"COONAMBEE" arrived Sydney at 1509Z/14 with concrete lighter in tow from Hobart.

"DURRAWEE" returned to Port Phillip at 0352K/14 from local operations.

"FREMANTLE" E.T.D. Thursday Island 1800K/14 escorting "ALAGNA" to Darwin E.T.A. 1600K/19.

"JUNEE" arrived Darwin at 1303K/14 escorting convoy T.D.58 from Thursday Island.

HML.1329 commissioned at Hobart at 0900K/14 as tender to H.M.A.S. RUSHCUTTER. Lieutenant J.P. MORRISON R.A.N.V.R. in command.

.....

0900K/Wednesday, 14th June, 1944.

"VENDETTA" } arrived Humboldt Bay at 1035K/13 escorting convoy from
"STRAHAN" } Langemak. P.C. 1123 detached and escorted 1 M.V. to Aitape.

"LOVELACE" } Destroyer Escorts - arrived Humboldt Bay at 0600K/10
"WHITEHURST" } for completion of escort duties
"THOMASON" } from Langemak.
"SWAN" }
"GEE LONG" }

YP. 237 departed Noumea at 0700K/12 for Brisbane E.T.A. 1400K/16.

"BALLARAT" arrived Merauke at 1845K/12 escorting "THE DENNS" from Thursday Island.

"GOLD STAR" (U.S. Stores Ship) E.T.D. Noumea 0700K/15 for Milne Bay.

"CAPE LEEUWIN" departed Langemak at 1230K/12 for Morobe E.T.A. 2100K/12.

YMS. 336 arrived Langemak at 0300K/13 from local duties.

"KIAMA" departed Langemak at 1730K/12 on Solomon Sea patrol.

S.C. 737 departed Langemak at 0606K/13 for Morobe E.T.A. 1600K/13.

S.C. 648 } E.T.A. Humboldt Bay 1800K/13 escorting "RAIL" (U.S. Fleet
S.C. 742 } Tug) from Langemak.

"BUNBURY" } departed Milne Bay at 1030K/13 "BUNBURY" for Langemak
"TOWNSVILLE" } E.T.A. 1500K/14 "TOWNSVILLE" for Oro Bay, Morobe thence
Langemak E.T.A. Morobe 1100K/14.

"MORESBY" arrived Milne Bay at 0830K/13 from Langemak.

S.C. 703 arrived Milne Bay at 1715K/12 from Morobe.

"BOWEN" arrived Milne Bay at 1810K/12 for Langemak.

HMML. 1323 E.T.D. Caloundra 2300K/13 for Townsville and onward routing to Merauke.

"WHYALLA" E.T.D. Brisbane 1700K/13 escorting U.S. Submarine "DALE" to position $12^{\circ}20'E$. $154^{\circ}00'E$ where "WHYALLA" detaches and proceeds to Milne Bay E.T.A. 0800K/19.

"ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" arrived Port Melbourne at 1926K/12 from Sydney.

HMML. 1327 arrived Hobart 1531K/13 from Bay of Fire (N.E. Coast of Tasmania) for repairs to electrical equipment before proceeding to Melbourne.

"MARY CAM" E.T.D. Adelaide 14/6 for Fremantle, calling Albany en route.

M.L. 429 departed Darwin at 1135K/13 for operations in the Timor area.

"WILCANNIA" departed Champagne Island at 0705K/13 for West Bay E.T.A. 1830K/14.

"FIRE ISLAND" (U.S. Tug) departed Milne Bay at 0650K/13 to assist "YUMA" (U.S. Tug) towing "ETAMIN" (U.S. Store Carrier). Position of tow at 1700K/12 $013^{\circ}12'S$. $149^{\circ}27'E$. - 170 miles S. of Milne Bay.

"INVERELL" reported at 1431K/13. Carrying out search for crashed aircraft in position $011^{\circ}08'S$. $138^{\circ}19'E$ - 90 miles E of Cape Wessel.

.....

SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900K/Tuesday, 13th June, 1944.

"BARCOO" arrived Milne Bay 1447K/12 from Seeadler Harbour E.T.D. Milne Bay for Manus Island approximately 19th June.

"WARREGO" arrived Milne Bay 1800K/11 from Langemak.

U.S.S. "GENERAL JOHN POPE" (U.S.N.T.) arrived Milne Bay 1730K/11 from San Francisco.

"GLENELG") (escorting N.A. 22) arrived Langemak 1530K/10 from
"GLADSTONE") Seeadler Harbour.

U.S.S. YP.237 E.T.D. Noumea 0700K/12 for Brisbane E.T.A. 1400K/16.

"PING WO" departed Milne Bay 1300K/11 for Port Moresby E.T.A. 0600K/15.

"DELORAINE" arrived Madang 1400K/11 from Milne Bay - departed 1700K/11 for Langemak E.T.A. 0700K/12.

U.S.S. "GANYMEDE" (Store Ship) departed Milne Bay 1340K/12 for Langemak E.T.A. 0600K/14 (for onward convoy to Manus Island).

U.S.S. "POLLUX" (Store Ship) departed Milne Bay 1428K/12 E.T.A. Cape Sudest 0600K/13.

"BOWEN" departed Langemak 1300K/11 E.T.A. Gilli (probably refers Gilli Gilli anchorage Milne Bay) 1800K/12.

U.S.S. P.C. 1132 escorting 15 L.C.T.'s arrived Madang 0745K/12 from Langemak.

"MINGO" (U.S. Submarine) at 0600K/13 in approximately position 08°45'S, 153°08'E (25 miles N.E. of Woodlark Is) northbound.

"MORESBY" E.T.A. Milne Bay 0800K/13 from Alexishaven.

U.S.S. "TRIANGULUM" (Store Carrier) arrived Oro Bay 0430K/11 from Milne Bay.

"STRAHAN" arrived Langemak 1030K/10 from Saidor, escorting 1 M.V.

S.C. 732) arrived Langemak 1630K/11 from Milne Bay.
S.C. 749)

S.C. 743 (escorting 1 M.V.) arrived Cape Gloucester 0945K/11 from Milne Bay.

S.C. 745 arrived Milne Bay 1230K/11 from Cairns.

"MATAFELE" arrived Milne Bay from Townsville at 1634K/12.

"MESQUITE" (U.S. Coastguard Icebreaker) arrived Milne Bay 1230K/12 from Madang

"TERKA" arrived Milne Bay 1500K/12 from Oro Bay.

"KIAMA" E.T.D. Langemak 1700K/12 to rejoin Solomon Sea patrol to rendezvous with "COWRA" in position 06°40'S 149°30'E at 0700K/13.

APC. 20 towing Dry Dock arrived Saidor P.M. 11th E.T.D. for Langemak Bay 0800K/12.

U.S.S. YP.236 E.T.D. Cairns for Brisbane 1400K/14 E.T.A. 0600K/18.

"URALBA" arrived Cairns 0801K/12 from Bowen.

"BIRCHGROVE PARK" departed Townsville 1750K/12 with ammunition lighter in tow for Milne Bay E.T.A. 1600K/17.

"MILDURA" E.T.D. Brisbane for Sandy Cape patrol 1800K/13 - To depart Patrol area to arrive Gladstone 1800K/17.

U.S.S. "MIZAR" (Store Carrier) E.T.D. Brisbane 1500K/12 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 1100K/15.

U.S.S. YP.516 } arrived Brisbane 1250K/12 from Noumea.
U.S.S. YP.240 }

M.L. 821 (escorting 10 ALCM's) arrived Gladstone 0550K/12 from Brisbane E.T.D. M.L. 821 for Brisbane 0600K/13 - E.T.A. 0600K/14.

U.S.S. "WHITNEY" (Destroyer Tender) } arrived Sydney 0805K/12.
U.S.S. "GAMBLE" (Minesweeper ex Destroyer) }

"DOOMBA" departed Sydney at 0851K/12 on A/S patrol to Smoky Cape.

"PLATYPUS" arrived Port Melbourne 0901K/12 from Sydney.

"BINGERA" departed Westernport Bay 1640K/12 for Sydney (on training cruise) E.T.A. 14th June. E.T.D. Sydney 0800K/17 returning to Westernport.

HMML. 1327 (en route Hobart to Melbourne) returned to Bay of Fires (N.E. coast of Tasmania) for shelter. (Ship reported engine room and wheel-house leaking badly - essential that electrical equipment be cleaned and ship refuelled before proceeding). 1850K/12 HMML. instructed to return to Hobart forthwith by N.O.I.C. that port.

H.M.S. "CUMBERLAND" (Cruiser) arrived Fremantle 1158K/12 from Trincomalee

"BALLARAT" (escorting "THEDENS") departed Thursday Island 0730K/12 E.T.A. Merauke 0500K/13.

GROUNDING - At approximately 1255K/12 U.S.S. "CARONDELET" (Tanker) (en route Brisbane - Thursday Island) reported - Struck an uncharted knob in position Copper Smith light bearing 294°, Blackfire Island bearing 021° (Whitsunday Passage). Water leaking into bilges through vent pipes. Screw and rudder undamaged but something loose causing moderate, irregular pounding. Vessel's draught 24 ft. forward 26 ft. aft (T.O.O. 120255Z/6). Further report T.O.O. 120700Z/6 - Hull under fire and engine room leaking badly. Shaft alley flooded above journal. Situation not critical but may become so. Recommend discharging cargo nearest available storage. COMSERFOR VII. Flt. instructed ship to proceed Townsville. D.S.O. Brisbane advised by 'phone that CARONDELET was proceeding Townsville to discharge 1600 tons of distillate, thence Cairns to discharge 5000 tons.

COMMISSIONING. H.D.M.L. 1324 commissioned A.M. Monday 12th June at Pt. Adelaide.

DND

To:- 0900K/12th June, 1944.

U.S.S. LOVELACE (D.E.) }
 " THOMASON " }
 " WHITEHURST " } (escort - 7 M.V.'s) arrived Humboldt Bay
 H.M.A.S. SWAN } 0600K/10 from Langemak.
 " GEELONG }

STRAHAN (escort - 1 M.V.) arrived Saidor 0630K/9 from Langemak.

U.S.S. MARTIN (D.E.30) E.T.D. Lunga 0630K/9 for Russell Island (on relief escort duties).

DOBBIN (U.S. Destroyer Tender) arrived Seeadler Harbour 1400K/8 from Morobe.

WARREGO departed Langemak 1530K/10, E.T.A. Milne Bay 1800K/11.

HUNDABERG arrived Milne Bay 2147K/10 from Langemak.

SWAN departed Humboldt Bay 1800K/11, escort - 7 M.V.'s, 3 L.C.T.L.'s, 2 S.C.'s, 1 A.P.C. and 2 Y.M.S.'s for Langemak.

U.S.S. EMERY (D.E.) arrived Port Purvis (Tulagi) 1700K/10 from escort duties to New Guinea Area.

U.S.S. YUMA (Fleet Tug)

U.S.S. ETAMIN (Store Carrier) } departed Morobe 0600K/8 for Cairns, E.T.A.
 1001K/14 (U.S.S. ETAMIN in tow).

KAPUNDA } arrived Langemak 0601K/10 from Solomon Sea Patrol.
COWRA }

P.C. 477 (escort - 1 M.V.) arrived Langemak 0600K/11 from Seeadler Harbour.

BARCOO E.T.A. Milne Bay 1130K/12 from Espiritu Santo.

BOWEN departed Langemak 0616K/10 for Morobe, E.T.A. 1500K/10.

CASTLEMAINE departed Milne Bay 0600K/11, E.T.A. Brisbane 0400K/15.

MORESBY departed Alexishaven 1421K/11 for Langemak (thence Milne Bay).

CAPE LEEUWIN arrived Madang 1216K/10 from Langemak. Departed Madang 1345K/11 on return. E.T.A. Langemak 0700K/12.

S.C. 732 } departed Milne Bay 1130K/10, E.T.A. Langemak 1600K/11.
S.C. 749 }

S.C. 703 departed Langemak 1730K/10, E.T.A. Morobe 2300K/10.

GERARD departed Milne Bay 1200K/11 for Lae, E.T.A. p.m. 14th. (Carrying stores for Lae, Langemak, Madang and Manus Island).

M.L. 817 E.T.D. Madang 1500K/11, E.T.A. Aitape 1700K/12.

CAROO (Powered Lighter) arrived Milne Bay 1830K/10 from Lae (in tow by "KARSIK").

U.S.S. Submarine "MINGO" approximate position at 0600K/12 - 14°00' S, 155°18' E. (150 miles south of Rossel Island) Northbound.

MUNGAREE arrived Townsville 1610K/10 from Bowen and departed at 2330K/10 for Survey Ground. E.T.A. 13th June.

MEPKUR (V.S.I.S.) departed Brisbane 1014K/11 for Milne Bay, E.T.A. 1700K/15.
Brisbane

M.L.821 E.T.D./0600K/11, escort - 10 A.L.C.M.'s to Gladstone - on completion return Brisbane.

WHYALLA arrived Brisbane 1527K/11 with C.H. WINDHAM (Liberty Ship) in company. (See N.O.I.C.(B) 101120Z, ref. - collision between 2 liberty ships).

U.S.S. BLUE RIDGE (Combined Operations Communications Ship) arrived Sydney 0758K/11 from Milne Bay.

WARRNAMBOOL arrived Sydney from Smoky Cape Patrol at 2317K/11.

BETTY TOO }
EMPEROR } (N.A.P. Launches) arrived Brisbane from Sydney at 2144K/11.
AYESHA }

GOONAMBEER (towing ammunition lighter) departed Hobart 1125K/10 for Sydney, E.T.A. 1200K/15.

H.D.M.L. 1327. E.T.D. Bay of Fire (North coast Tasmania) a.m. 12th for Melbourne. (May call Launceston en route for repairs to engine room). (See daily narrative to 0900K/11).

H.M.S. CUMBERLAND (CR) } Sighted by aircraft in position 32° S, 109°22' E
U.S.S. GENERAL BUTNER } at 1432K/11. E.T.A. Fremantle H.M.S. CUMBERLAND
(U.S.N.T.) } 1200K/12. GENERAL BUTNER to proceed unescorted to Melbourne.

COOTAMUNDRA arrived Thursday Island 1139K/11 from Townsville.

VIGILANT departed Thursday Island 0030K/10 for Rennel Island.

BALLARAT (escort - 1 M.V.) E.T.D. Thursday Island 0700K/12, E.T.A. Merauke 0500K/13.

LATROBE (escort - D.T.61) arrived Thursday Island 1835K/11 from Darwin.

H.D.M.L. 1322 arrived Thursday Island 1444K/11 from Merauke.

INVERELL (escort - 1 M.V.) arrived Darwin 1651K/10 from Thursday Island, departed Darwin 0502K/11 escorting D.T.62 for Thursday Island, E.T.A. 1500K/14.

ENEMY SURFACE FORCE.

Sighted by aircraft at 1741K/11 in position - 07°00' N, 134°15' E off Palau Island (approximately 440 miles North of Biak Island), (N.O.I.C. (D) 111121Z June) 1 light cruiser, 2 destroyers.

AIR RAID WARNINGS.

BOWEN - Air Raid Warning RED 0055K/12.

CAIRNS - Air Raid Warning WHITE 0050K/12.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

TO 0900K/Sunday 11th June, 1944.

BREESE (U.S. Minelayer) ETD. Russel Is. 1200K/10 escorting
MURZIM (U.S. Cargo ship) en route to Morobe. Escort
detaches at 07°48' S 152° 59 E and return to Guadalcanal.

GOLD STAR (U.S. Store Ship) ETD. Hollandia 1300K/8 ETA Seeadler
0700K/10.

PYRO (U.S. Ammunition Carrier) Arrived Hollandia at 0730K/5
from Morobe.

VAS 73. Departed Madang at 0800K/9 for Hollandia E.T.A. 11/6.

GOULBURN. Arrived Madang at 0640K/7 for Langemak.

VENDETTA. Arrived Langemak at 1700K/8 from Milne Bay.

S.C. 648

S.C. 698 . Arrived Langemak at 1500K/8 from Milne Bay.

S.C. 742

S.C. 698. Departed Langemak at 1712K/9 for Cape Gloucester.

STRAHAN. Departed Saidor at 0730K/9 escorting M/V to Langemak
E.T.A. 1830K/9.

CAPE LEEUWIN. Departed Langemak 9/6 for Madang E.T.A. 0700K/10.

BUNDABERG. Departed Langemak at 1001K/9. for Milne Bay E.T.A. 1200K/10.

BROOME. Escorting U.S. Sub. S.47. Departed Milne Bay at 0700K/10
for Seeadler E.T.A. Noon/14th.

SHIKELAMMY (Tanker) } Arrived Langemak at 1930K/8
RAIL (Fleet Tug) } from Milne Bay.

HUTCHINSON } U.S. Frigates O Arrived Milne Bay at 1130K/9
BELFAST } from Cairns.

M.L. 423. Arrived Milne Bay at 1500K/9 from Port Moresby.

PARKES. Arrived Milne Bay at 1130K/9 from Sydney.

L.C.I's. 547 and 663. Arrived Milne Bay at 1200K/10 from Efate.

COWRA) Departed Langemak at 1700K/10 to rejoin Solomons
KAPUNDA) Sea Patrol. Will R/V with KIAMA in position 006°40' South
149° 30' East at 0700K/11.

H.D.M.L. 1322. Departed Merauke at 1815K/10 for Thursday Island
E.T.A. 1130K/11.

JUNEE. Departed Thursday Island at 0300K/10 escorting convoy T.D.81
E.T.A. Darwin 1200K/14.

VIGILANT. E.T.D. Thursday Is. 10/6 for Rennel Island.

BALLARAT. Arrived Thursday Island at 1333K/9 from Cairns.

M.L. 804. Departed Cairns at 0015K/10 for Thursday Island.

HUNGAREE. Departed Bowen at 0615K/10 for Townsville E.T.A. 1800K/10.

URALBA. Departed Bowen at 1300K/10 for Cairns E.T.A. 1300K/12.

KALGOORLIE. E.T.D. Caloundra 1700K/10 for Milne Bay.
E.T.A. 1700K/14.

KYBRA. Arrived Brisbane at 0102K/10 from Sydney.

SAN PABLO. (U.S. Seaplane Tender) Arrived Sydney at 1230K/10
from Brisbane.

ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN. Departed Sydney at 0847K/10 for Melbourne
E.T.A. 1700K/12.

KARANGI. Departed Port Adelaide at 1650Z/10 for Fremantle
E.T.A. 0430K/17.

SWAN. Reported at 0930K/8 sinking German type mine in position
003° 17' South 146° 39' East (60 miles South of Seeadler).

H.D.M.L. 1327. Reported at 1530K/10. Sheltering in Bay of Fire.-
(Eddystone Pt. N.E. Tasmania) due rough seas and strong
westerly winds in Bass Strait. Engine room deck leaking
badly. Fear damage to electrical equipment unless passage
to Melbourne can be made in smooth sea.
N.O.I.C. Hobart ordered H.D.M.L. 1327 to proceed at
own discretion. To call at Launceston for repairs if
necessary.

VAN OUTHORN. (2069 gross tons en route Langemak to Milne Bay).
Reported at 0545K/10. Having grounded in position -
approximately 10° 00' South 150° 49' East. No immediate
danger - not making water - need assistance of tug.
N.O.I.C. New Guinea is taking necessary action.

Two Liberty Ships collided 70 miles North of Smoky Cape.

At 2005K/10 CHARLES H. WINDHAM (7176 gross tons en route Sydney
to Milne Bay) reported being in a collision.

At 2105K/10 MARIE SANDFORD (7176 gross tons - en route Milne Bay
to Newcastle) Reported in collision & proceeding to
destination.

At 2050K/10 CHARLES H. WINDHAM. Reported. Vessel severely
damaged. Will try to make Brisbane.

At 2120K/10 N.O.I.C. Brisbane ordered WHYALLA (on Brisbane/Sandy
Cape Patrol) to proceed with all despatch to render
assistance.

At 2235K/10 N.O.I.C. Sydney ordered WARRNAMBOOL (on Smoky Cape
Patrol) To proceed with all despatch and render any
assistance necessary. E.T.A. 1530K/11.

At 2250K/10 N.O.I.C. Brisbane advised CHARLES H. WINDHAM.
assistance sent. Break W/T silence reporting your
position on receipt and at 0700K/11.

At 0215K/11 CHARLES H. WINDHAM. Reported Position 28° 39' S.
153° 49' off Cape Byron. Course 003° Speed 10 knots.

To 0900K/Saturday, 10th June, 1944.

"BARCOO" departs Espiritu Santo at 0800K/9 for Seeadler E.T.A. prior dark 13th.

"WAGGA" arrived Hollandia at 1800K/8 from Seeadler escorting "OCTANS".

"KOOPA" arrived Madang at 0900K/5 from Langemak.

"JON JIM" arrived Madang at 1400K/5 from Saidor.

YMS. 30 departed Langemak at 1836K/6 from Madang. E.T.A. 0800K/7.

M.L. 806 departed Langemak 1140K/6 for Madang.

YMS. 73 arrived Langemak at 1200K/6 from Madang.

S.C. 741 arrived Langemak at 0817K/8 escorting "HILO" from Cape Gloucester.

"BUNDABERG" } arrived Langemak at 0701K/8 from Madang.

"BOWEN" }

P.C. 1131 }

P.C. 1131 departed Langemak at 1306K/8 for Morobe E.T.A. 1900K/8.

S.C. 743 departed Cape Gloucester at 1700K/7 escorting convoy B.N. 24 to Langemak.

"GLENELG" } departed Langemak at 1400K/7 escorting convoy N.A. 22 to

"GLADSTONE" } Seeadler.

P.C. 477 }

"STRAHAN" } arrived Langemak at 1625K/7 escorting convoy A.N. 21 "A" from

P.C. 1121 } Seeadler.

"PING WO" arrived Milne Bay at 1500K/8 from Buna.

"RESERVE" arrived Milne Bay at 2130K/7 towing S.C. 699 from Langemak area.

S.C. 736 arrived Milne Bay at 1830K/8 from Langemak.

M.L. 804 E.T.D. Cairns 0400K/11 for Thursday Island E.T.A. 1600K/14 to carry out R.M.S. duty at Cape Director en route.

S.C. 745 departed Cairns at 1206K/9 for Milne Bay.

"COOTAMUNDRA" departed Townsville at 1850K/8 for Thursday Island E.T.A. 1130K/11.

"HERON" (U.S. Seaplane Tender) arrived Mackay at 1500K/9 from Brisbane.

P.C. 240 and YP. 516 departed Noumea at 0700K/8 for Brisbane E.T.A. 1200K/12.

"URALABA" arrived Bowen at 1500K/9 from Brisbane, en route to Milne Bay.

"BUNGAREE" arrived Bowen at 1845K/8 from Townsville.

"MERKUR" arrived Brisbane at 1350K/9 from Sydney.

"SUSQUEHANNA" (U.S. Tanker) arrived Brisbane at 2106K/8 from Milne Bay.

"KALGOORLIE" arrived Brisbane at 1207K/9 from Sydney.

"MINGO" (U.S. Submarine) departs Caloundra at 1800K/9 on patrol.

"WHYALLA" E.T.D. Caloundra 1800K/9 for Sydney Cape A/S patrol. To depart patrol area A.M./13 return to Brisbane.

To 0900K/Friday, 9th June, 1944.

YP. 240 } departed Noumea 0700K/8 for Brisbane E.T.A. 1200K/12.
YP. 516 }

"BARCOO" } arrived Espiritu Santo A.M. 8th from Manus Island.
U.S.S. "ADHARA" }
(Store Carrier)

"ROCKHAMPTON" arrived Milne Bay 1455K/7 from Gladstone.

YMS. 73 departed Langemak 1836K/6 E.T.A. Madang 0800K/7.

"WARREGO" } arrived Manus Island 1001K/7 from
U.S.S. "VICTORIA" (Tanker) } Hollandia.

"STAWELL" (towing R.A.A.F. Schooner "BETTY JOAN") arrived Milne Bay
1730K/7 from Goodenough Island.

"BUNBURY" arrived Milne Bay 1800K/5 from Langemak Bay.

P.C. 1124)
U.S.S. "CARINA" (Cargo Ship)) departed Manus Island 0600K/6 E.T.A.
Espiritu Santo 1200K/17.

U.S.S. "YUMA" (Fleet Tug) arrived Morobe 1320K/7 from Milne Bay.

S.C. 743 (escorting "C.B. EILSON" and "H.L. GANNT") E.T.D. Cape
Gloucester 1700K/7 for Guadalcanal E.T.A. 1001K/10 "H.L.
GANNT" to be detached off Langemak at 0700K/8.

"RESERVE" (towing S.C. 699) arrived Milne Bay 2130K/7 from Langemak.

"SWAN") arrived Langemak 2300K/5 from Solomon Sea patrol (Now
"GLENELO") under operational control of P.D. LANGEMAK.
"GEELONG")

U.S.S. "KAILUA" (Loop repair vessel) departed Milne Bay 0330K/7 for
Pago Pago.

"GLADSTONE") arrived Langemak Bay 0100K/6 from Milne Bay
"DELORAINE") arrived Langemak Bay 0100K/6 from Milne Bay.

"COULBURN" departed Langemak 0700K/8 for Madang.

M.L. 426 departed Port Moresby 1435K/8 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 1430K/9.

YP. 236 arrived Cairns 0105K/8 from Thursday Island.

S.C. 745 arrived Cairns 1401K/8 from Brisbane (E.T.D. Cairns 1000K/9
for Milne Bay 1200K/11.

"COOTAMUNDRA" arrived Townsville 0440K/8 from Sydney (for onward route-
ing to Thursday Island).

"BUNGAREE" departed Townsville 0802K/8 E.T.A. Bowen 1900K/8 (on
completion coaling, returns to Townsville.

U.S.S. "HERON" (Seaplane Tender) departed Townsville 1750K/8 for
Mackay.

U.S.S. "SAN PABLO" (Seaplane Tender) E.T.D. Caloundra 1100K/9 E.T.A.
Sydney 1400K/10.

U.S.S. "CARONDELET" (U.S.N. Tanker) E.T.D. Caloundra 1500K/9 for
Thursday Island and onward routeing to Darwin. E.T.A.
Ince Point 1300K/16.

M.L. 821 arrived Gladstone 0900K/8 from Brisbane.

"KALGOORLIE" departed Sydney 1743K/7 for Brisbane E.T.A. off Caloundra 0900K/9.

U.S.S. "ADVENT" (Minesweeper) } arrived Sydney 1017K/8 from Gavutu
U.S.S. "MEDUSA" (Repair Ship) } Harbour (Solomon Island).

H.M.S. "SPRINGDALE" departed Sydney 0840K/8 for Fremantle and onward routing to Colombo - E.T.A. Fremantle 0600K/18.

"ALFIE CAM" departed Albany 0940K/8 E.T.A. Port Adelaide P.M. 13th June.

"STEADY HOUR" arrived Drysdale at 1900K/7 from Darwin (For A.S.R. duties).

"VIGILANT" arrived Thursday Island 1048K/8 from Cairns.

FLOATING MINES -

At 0815K/8th a floating mine resembling German Type I. was sunk by gunfire from H.M.A.S. "SWAN" and U.S.S. "THOMASON" (D.E.) in position $04^{\circ}13'S$, $146^{\circ}40'E$ (approximately 70 miles N.E. of Madang). At 1125K/8 another mine (same type) was sighted in position bearing 014° from KarKar, distant 52 miles and was destroyed by U.S.S. "THOMASON".

ENEMY SURFACE FORCE (BIAK ISLAND AREA).

Intercept from Aircraft - 5 unidentified vessels in position $00^{\circ}22'S$, $135^{\circ}00'E$ (approximately 40 miles W.N.W. of Biak Is.) course $120^{\circ}SOA$. 12K, at 2155K/8 (Aircraft instructed not (R) not to bomb (N.O.I.C. Darwin's 081317Z/June).

Following reports received from C.T.F. 74 - (1) about to engage enemy vessels in position $00^{\circ}29'S$, $135^{\circ}45'E$ (15 miles north of Biak Island) T.O.O. 2330K/8.

(2) Enemy force apparently 4 destroyers retiring at high speed am chasing T.O.O. 2345K/8).

(3) Do not think we can catch the enemy (T.O.O. 2355K/8).

.....

S E C R E T.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900K/Thursday 8th June, 1944.

"STRAHAN") escorting A.N.21 departed Seeadler Harbour 0630K/6 E.T.A.
P.C. 1121) Langemak 1730K/7.

"WARREGO") departed Hollandia 1600K/5 - E.T.A. MANUS
U.S.S. "VICTORIA" (Tanker)) 1001K/7.

"GOULBURN" arrived Langemak 0646K/6 from Lae.

"VENDETTA" departed Milne Bay 1500K/7th. E.T.A. Langemak 1630K/8 (On arrival to come under the operational control of P.D. Langemak.

U.S.S. "TRIANGULUM" (Store Carrier) arrived Milne Bay 1600K/6 from Brisbane.

U.S.S. "BLUE RIDGE" (Op.Com's Ship) departed Milne Bay 1600K/6 for Sydney
E.T.A. 0600K/11.

"GYMPIE" arrived Milne Bay 1430K/6 from Langemak.

U.S.S. "OCTANS" (Store Carrier) E.T.D. Manus 0800K/7 E.T.A. Hollandia
1800K/8.

S.C. 648) departed Milne Bay 0830K/7 - E.T.A. Langemak 1430K/8 (On
S.C. 698) arrival to come under the operational control of P.D. Langemak.
S.C. 742)

YMS.52 departed Hollandia 1000K/6 ETA. Mios Woendi 1700K/7.

YMS.336 arrived Langemak 1700K/5 from Manus Island.

"FALIE" arrived Seeadler Harbour 5th June from Langemak.

"WHANG PU" arrived Milne Bay 1100K/6 from Brisbane.

"RESERVE" (towing S.C. 699) departed Langemak 1147K/7 E.T.A. Milne Bay
A.M.8th.

S.C. 743 departed Langemak 1731K/6. E.T.A. Cape Gloucester 0700K/7.

U.S.S. "HUTCHINSON") Frigates, departed Cairns 1031K/7 E.T.A. Milne Bay
U.S.S. "BELFAST") 0900K/9.

U.S.S. "TRINITY" (U.S. Fleet Oiler) arrived Cairns 0147K/7 from Pt. Moresby

"BALLARAT" departed Cairns 1500K/7 E.T.A. Thursday Island 1800K/9.

U.S.S. "HERON" (Seaplane Tender) arrived Townsville 1546K/7 from Palm Is.

"BUNGARKE" E.T.D. Townsville 0700K/8 - E.T.A. Bowen 1900K/8 (On completion of bunkers at Bowen return to Townsville. E.T.A. on return 0600K/11.

U.S.S. "MIZAR" (Store Ship) arrived Brisbane 0400K/7 from Milne Bay.

U.S.S. "DERRICK" (Fuel Oil Barge) arrived Brisbane 0919K/7 from Milne Bay.

U.S.S. "BUTTONWOOD" (U.S. Coastguard Icebreaker) arrived Brisbane 0908K/7
from Guadalcanal.

"SAMUEL BENHOW" arrived Sydney 1819K/6 towing 2 small ships from Moruya.

"YANDRA" arrived Sydney 0852K/7 from A/S patrol Smoky Cape.

YP.286 departed Sydney 0740K/7 E.T.A. Adelaide A.M.13th (for onward routing to Fremantle).

"KYBRA" departed Sydney 1637K/7 E.T.A. Moreton Bay 2200K/10 (on routing course).

H.M.S. "SPRINGDALE" E.T.D. Sydney 0700K/8 for Fremantle.

V.S.I.S. "FORT DUNVEGAN" arrived Melbourne 1416K/6 from Sydney.

"LATHOBE" (escorting D.T. 6) departed Darwin 0412K/7 E.T.A. Thursday Island 2359K/10.

"INVERELL" (escorting M.V. "JOHN OWEN") departed Thursday Island 1630K/7th for Darwin E.T.A. 1500K/10.

"RINDJANI" (RNN Minesweeper) arrived Merauke 1230K/7 from Eilanden River post.

DRIPTING MINES - At 0840K/6th P.T. BOATS sank 2 spherical mines drifting in position 07°15'S 156°03'E (30 miles S.E. of Bougainville Island). Probability other mines in the vicinity (Comsopac's 060049Z/6).

(U.S. ... R.T.A. 0700K/7.

... arrived Milne Bay

... E.T.A. Milne Bay 08. June today U.S. ... damaged in action in forward area.

(U.S. ... departed Milne Bay at 1500K/8 for Morobe S.V.A. 0300K/9.

... 022 to 022 inclusive departed Bora Bora at 1200K/8 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 19/8.

... "HITCHHIKER" ... E.T.D. CAIRNS 0600K/7 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 0800K/8.

... arrived Cairns at 0800K/8 from Townsville, en route to Thursday Island.

... (Fast Kinslayer) arrived Brisbane at 1800K/8 from Sydney - en route to Soudler Harbour. S.V.A. Brisbane 1700K/7, E.T.D. Brisbane 1700K/7 E.T.A. Soudler 1800K/11.

... (U.S. Seaplane Tender) arrived Brisbane at 1700K/8 from Samarai.

... departed Sydney at 1400K/8 for Morobe to tow army bulks to Sydney.

... arrived Sydney at 0600K/8 from Melbourne.

... departed Melbourne at 0600K/8 from Adelaide, thence to Fremantle E.T.A. Adelaide 0300K/8.

... arrived Albany at 1700K/8 from Fremantle en route to Adelaide and Sydney.

... arrived Thursday Island at 1400K/8 from Milne Bay en route to Darwin.

... arrived Thursday Island at 1700K/8 escorting T.T. 00.

POSITION OF JAPANESE FLEET IN ADJACENT AREAS AS AT 0100.

Commander 7th Fleet has based this estimate on recent sightings and considers that Japanese Naval Activity apparently is imminent on Allied North S.O. Seas.

C R E T.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900K/Wednesday 7th June, 1944.

P.C. 1124 departed Manus at 0600K/6 escorting "CARINA" to Espiritu Santo E.T.A. noon 17th.

YMS. 52 departed Hollandia at 1000K/6 for Mios Woendi E.T.A. 1200K/7.

S.C. 736 departed Langemak at 1500K/6 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 1000K/8.

> "CASTLEMAINE" arrived Milne Bay at 1030K/5, from Langemak.

> "PING WO" departed Milne Bay at 1300K/5 for Buna E.T.A. 1300K/6.

"KAILUA" (U.S. Loop repair vessel) departed Milne Bay at 1200K/4 for Pearl Harbour.

"MIZAR" (U.S. Store Ship) departed Milne Bay at 1530K/4 for Brisbane E.T.A. 0700K/7.

> "GERARD" arrived Milne Bay at 1845K/5.

"RESERVE" E.T.A. Milne Bay 8th June towing S.C. 699 damaged in action in forward area.

"YUMA" (U.S. Tug) departed Milne Bay at 1500K/6 for Morobe E.T.A. 2000K/7.

L.C.I's 955 to 962 inclusive departed Bora Bora at 1300K/6 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 19/6.

U.S. Frigates "HUTCHINSON", "BELFAST" E.T.D. CAIRNS 0800K/7 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 0900K/9.

> "BALLARAT" arrived Cairns at 0603K/6 from Townsville, en route to Thursday Island.

> "ARIADNE" (Fast Minelayer) arrived Brisbane at 1227K/6 from Sydney - en route to Seeadler Harbour. E.T.D. Brisbane 1700K/7. E.T.D. Brisbane 1700K/7 E.T.A. Seeadler 1600K/11.

> "SAN PABLO" (U.S. Seaplane Tender) arrived Brisbane at 1726K/6 from Samarai.

"SAMUEL BENBOW" departed Sydney at 1425K/5 for Moruya to tow army hulks to Sydney.

> "PLATYPUS" arrived Sydney at 0850K/6 from Melbourne.

> "KARANGI" departed Melbourne at 0830K/6 from Adelaide, thence to Fremantle E.T.A. Adelaide 2000K/8.

> "ALFIE CAM" arrived Albany at 1727K/6 from Fremantle en route to Adelaide and Sydney.

> "JUNEE" arrived Thursday Island at 1402K/6 from Milne Bay en route to Darwin.

> "FREMANTLE" arrived Thursday Island at 1743K/5 escorting D.T. 60.

DISPOSITION OF JAPANESE FLEET IN ADJACENT AREAS AS AT A.M./6.

Commander 7th Fleet has based this estimate on recent sightings and considers that Japanese Naval Assault apparently not imminent on Allied North N.G. Bases.

TAWI TAWI: 7 5th June, 1942.

- 2 Battleships
- 5 Carriers
- 6 Heavy Cruisers
- 1 Light cruiser
- 10 Destroyers

BERAM-SORONG: Langkok at 1130K/4 from Sabatang.

- 1 Heavy Cruiser
- 1 Light cruiser
- 5 to 6 Destroyers.

HALMAHERA: and Madang A.M./3 from local operations.

- 4 destroyers

DAVAO GULF: Sailor at 1130K/4 from Madang.

- 1 Battleship
- 2 Heavy Cruisers
- 5 Destroyers

At 0251K/7: Milne Bay at 0800K/4 from Langkok.

N.O.I.C. Darwin reported that aircraft had bombed a cruiser in position 80 miles West of SORONG - Result 2 possible hits.

(U.S. Tanker) departed Milne Bay at 1300K/4 for Krishana 1800K/7.

.....

departed Cairns at 1345K/5 for Thursday Island.

departed Townsville at 1840K/5 for Thursday Island via Cairns.

ARRIVED FAME* arrived Townsville from Sydney at 0845K/5 with ammunition lighter in tow.

(U.S. Submarine) departs Caloundra at 1100K/6 to carry out trials in vicinity of Caloundra Heads. To return to Brisbane daylight/8.

departed Sydney at 1100K/6 for Townsville thence to Milne Bay E.T.A. Townsville 1700K/11.

departed Sydney at 0810K/5 on A/S patrol to Beaky Cape and return.

E.L.U. Sydney prior departure 6th June for Adelaide.

E.L.U. Port Melbourne 0830K/6 for Fremantle via Adelaide.

E.L.U. Port Melbourne 0830K/7 for daily service of Pt. Phillip Heads.

departed Fremantle at 1840K/4 for Sydney calling at Albany and Adelaide en route. E.T.A. Adelaide 18/5.

departed Darwin at 0700K/5 for Milne Bay E.T.A. P.M./8 thence to Melville Bay.

departed Darwin at 1130K/5 for Sydney E.T.A. 0230K/8.

Aircraft reported sighting possible enemy submarine off Milne Bay New Britain (East of Tolovoy) at 0840K/5. Appeared to submerge on approach of aircraft.

.....

To 0900K/Tuesday 6th June, 1944.

P.C. 1124 departs Manus at 0600K/6 escorting "CARINA" (U.S. Cargo Ship) to Espiritu Santo E.T.A. A.M/13.

"STAWELL" departed Langemak at 1800K/4 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 1000K/6.

"BENALLA" arrived Hollandia at 0745K/5 from Biak area.

"HUNBURY" arrived Langemak at 1130K/4 from Seeadler.

S.C. 737 arrived Langemak at 1200K/4 from Milne Bay.

"RAIL" (U.S. Tug) arrived Milne Bay at 1100K/4 from Tulagi.

M.L. 806 } arrived Madang A.M/3 from local operations.

M.L. 428 }

M.L. 431 arrived Saidor at 1330K/4 from Madang.

YMS. 52 } E.T.D. Hollandia 0700K/6 for Mios Woendi.

"SEALARK" }

"YUNNAN" arrived Langemak 0600K/3 from Hollandia.

"MIZAR" arrived Milne Bay at 0600K/4 from Langemak.

"CASTLEMAINE" } arrived Langemak at 1530K/3 from Manus.

"GOULBURN" }

"SUSCUEHANNA" (U.S. Tanker) departed Milne Bay at 1305K/4 for Brisbane E.T.A. 1600K/7.

"VIGILANT" departed Cairns at 1341K/5 for Thursday Island.

"BALLARAT" departed Townsville at 1244K/5 for Thursday Island via Cairns.

"BIRCHGROVE PARK" arrived Townsville from Sydney at 0946K/5 with ammunition lighter in tow.

"DALE" (U.S. Submarine) departs Caloundra at 1100K/8 to carry out trials in vicinity of Caloundra Head. To return to Brisbane daylight/8.

"MATAFELE" departed Sydney at 1135K/5 for Townsville thence to Milne Bay E.T.A. Townsville 1700K/11.

"YANDRA" departed Sydney at 0858K/5 on A/S patrol to Smoky Cape and return.

Y.P. 286 E.T.D. Sydney prior darkness 6th June for Adelaide.

"KARANGI" E.T.D. Port Melbourne 0830K/6 for Fremantle via Adelaide.

"KOROWA" E.T.D. Port Melbourne 0830K/7 for daily sweeps at Pt. Phillip Heads.

"ALMIE CAM" departed Fremantle at 1200K/4 for Sydney calling at Albany and Adelaide en route. E.T.A. Adelaide 13/6.

"SEA MIST" departed Darwin at 0736K/5 for Millingimbi E.T.A. P.M/9 thence to Melville Bay.

"STEADY HOUR" departed Darwin at 1138K/5 for Drysdale E.T.A. 0230K/8.

Aircraft reported sighting possible enemy submarine off Dheregula Bay New Britain (East of Talasea) at 0945K/5. Appeared to submerge on approach of aircraft.

.....

S E C R E T.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900K/Monday 5th June, 1944.

U.S.S. "GENERAL JOHN BROOK") departed Oro Bay 2040K/2nd E.T.A.
U.S.S. "GENERAL TASKER H. BLISS") Balboa 1200K/25th.

U.S.S. "POLLUX" (U.S.N. Store Carrier) arrived Milne Bay 1258K/3rd
from Brisbane.

> "KIAMA") departed Milne Bay 1000K/4th for Solomon Sea patrol.
> "COWRA")
> "KAPUNDA")

"SWAN") depart Solomon Sea patrol area at 1200K/5th for Langemak
"GLENELG") (on arrival to come under operational control of
"GEELONG") P.D. Langemak).

> "JUNEE" departed Milne Bay 1000K/4th for Thursday Island (via N.E.
Channel) E.T.A. 1800K/6th thence Darwin.

> "KATUOMBA" arrived Milne Bay 1400K/4th from Cape Gloucester.

> "DELORAINE" departed Milne Bay 1000K/4th - E.T.A. Madang 0800K/6th.

U.S. Submarine "BLUEGILL" southbound for Brisbane - position at dawn
5th vicinity of Mellish Reef (16° 25' S. 156° 08' E)

> U.S.S. "SAN PABLO" (Seaplane tender) departed Samarai 0800K/3rd E.T.A.
Caloundra 0600K/6th.

U.S.S. P.C. 476 arrived Milne Bay from Langemak at 1200K/4th.

U.S.S. "ALNITAH" (U.S.N. Store Ship) arrived Espiritu Santo 0918K/3rd
from Langemak.

> "GLADSTONE" departed Milne Bay 1000K/4th for Langemak E.T.A. 1600K/5th
(on arrival to come under operational control P.D. Langemak.).

> "BENALLA" departed Mios Woendi Atoll 1700K/3rd E.T.A. Hollandia 0700K/5th.

U.S.S. "ADHARA" (U.S.N. Store Ship) E.T.A. Espiritu Santo 0600K/6th
from Manus Island.

> "FALIE" departed Langemak 1200K/3rd E.T.A. Seeadler Harbour 1800K/5th.

L.C.I's (large) 577(S.O.) 578, 579 and 661, departed Bora Bora 0400K/1st
E.T.A. Milne Bay 15th June.

YMS. 393 arrived Langemak 1830K/3rd from Milne Bay.

> "KOOPA" arrived Langemak 0700K/3rd from Milne Bay.

> "JON JIM" arrived Saidor A.M. 4th June from Langemak.

U.S.S. "TRINITY" (U.S. Fleet oiler) departed Pt. Moresby 0610K/4th.
E.T.A. Cairns 1330K/6th.

"VIGILANT" E.T.D. Cairns 1400K/5th for Thursday Island E.T.A. 1400K/8th.

S.C. 745 E.T.D. Brisbane (Caloundra) 1300K/5th for Cairns and onward
routeing to Milne Bay. E.T.A. Cairns 1300K/8th.

M.L. 821 E.T.D. Caloundra 2000K/4th in company with 5 A.L.C.M.'s to
Wide Bay Bar E.T.A. 0600K/5th. M.L. then proceeds to Sandy
Cape on A/S patrol departing Lady Elliott Island at 0600K/7th
for Gladstone E.T.A. 1300K/7th.

> "AYESHA") (N.A.P.) departed Gladstone 1115K/4th for Caloundra via
> "EMPEROR") Wide Bay Bar E.T.A. 8th June.

"KALGOORLIE" E.T.D. Sydney P.M. 7th June for Townsville.

H.M.S. "ARIADNE" (Minelayer) E.T.D. Sydney 1400K/5th for Seeadler Harbour calling Brisbane en route for fuel.

"KARANGI" (Boom Defence Vessel) arrived Melbourne 0521K/4th from Sydney en route Fremantle.

H.M.A.S. "HEATHER" (Lugger) arrived Cape Londonderry 1400K/3rd from Darwin.

LANDING OPERATIONS:

M.Ls. 424, 816 and 817 successfully covered landing operations KARKAR ISLAND A.M. 2nd June. Nil opposition encountered (P.D. Madang's 021410Z/June).

AIRCRAFT INTERCEPTS:

Sighted 5 warships position $02^{\circ}00'N$ $129^{\circ}11'E$ 440 M. N.W. of Biak) course 250° at 0440K/4th (N.O.I.C.(D) 040145Z/6). Sighted 2 Destroyers position $04^{\circ}00'N$ $129^{\circ}45'E$ (480 miles N.W. of Biak) course $190^{\circ}15$ knots at 1138K/4th June. One direct hit 2 near misses left in a sinking condition. (N.O.I.C.(D) 040859Z/6). Sighted distant convoy 1045K/4th position $01^{\circ}32'N$. $130^{\circ}05'E$ (365 miles N.W. of Biak) 9 unidentified war ships - Heavy cruiser and destroyers bombed. A second convoy was sighted at 1055K in approximately position $02^{\circ}00'N$. $129^{\circ}56'E$ (400 miles N.W. of Biak) course $150^{\circ}20$ knots (N.O.I.C. (D) 040827Z/6).

ENEMY SUBMARINE REPORT:

At 2300K/4th 6 H.M.A.S. "STRAHAN" reported being in contact with and engaging a submarine in position $04^{\circ}28'S$ $147^{\circ}25'E$ (northern approaches to Vitiaz Strait) course 355° 10 knots. Further report from "STRAHAN" at 2357K/4th - Searched vicinity but lost contact. P.C. 1121 left to carry out further investigations. "STRAHAN" is proceeding at maximum speed to overtake convoy. (Admiralty A/F message was originated by N.O.I.C. (New Guinea) at 2300K/4th/6. 0135K/5th P.C. 1121 searched area with negative results and is rejoining the convoy.

.....

To 0900K/Sunday, 4th June, 1944.

U.S.S. "SAN PABLO" (Seaplane Tender) E.T.D. Samarai 0800K/3rd E.T.A. Caloundra 0600K/6th.

U.S.S. "GOLDSTAR" (Store Ship) E.T.D. Hollandia 1300K/8th for Manus.

✓ "BENALLA" departed Mios Woendi Atoll 1715K/3rd for Hollandia E.T.A. 0700K/5th.

✓ "GBELONG" departed Langemak Bay 1200K/2nd to join Solomon Sea patrol.

✓ "CAPE LEEUWIN" arrived Langemak Bay 1300K/2nd from Morobe.

S.C. 737 departed Milne Bay 0630K/3rd for Langemak E.T.A. 1530K/4th (On arrival to come under operational control of P.D. Langemak).

"BALLARAT" E.T.D. Townsville 1200K/5th for Thursday Island calling at Cairns en route for stores. E.T.A. Cairns 0500K/6th. Thursday Island 1800K/8th. (To replace S.C. 731 on escort duties Thursday Island/Merauke).

"PARKES") E.T.D. Caloundra 1800K/3rd. Escort leaves SEAHORSE
U.S.S. "SEAHORSE") at dusk 7th June when submarine will proceed
Milne Bay independently. E.T.A. "PARKES" at
Milne Bay 0800K/9th.

U.S.S. "TRIANGULUM" (Store Carrier) departed Brisbane 1323K/2nd E.T.A. Milne Bay 6th June.

✓ "ROCKHAMPTON" arrived Gladstone 1000K/3rd (Detached Pattern VII. target for repairs and shipment) departed 1700K/3rd for Milne Bay E.T.A. 2000K/7th.

"URALBA" (Control Mining Vessel) E.T.D. Caloundra 1800K/3rd E.T.A. Bowen (for coal) 1600K/9th, thence Cairns E.T.D. A.M. 12th June.

"BIRCHGROVE PARK" en route Sydney-Townsville anchored off Seawall Island (Southern approaches to Whitsunday Passage) on night of 3rd proceeding dawn 4th amended E.T.A. Townsville 1200K/5th.

✓ H.M.A.S. "SHROPSHIRE" arrived Sydney 0707K/3rd from Humboldt Bay.

H.M.S. "ARIADNE" (Minelayer) E.T.D. Sydney 1200K/5th for Seeadler Harbour.

"COOTAMUNDRA" E.T.D. Sydney P.M. 3rd June for Townsville for onward routing to Thursday Island.

✓ "DOOMBA" arrived Sydney 0857K/3rd from A/S patrol Smoky Cape.

✓ H.M.S. "CUMBERLAND" (Cruiser)) departed Trincomalee 2230K/3rd
U.S.S. "GENERAL BUTNER") "GENERAL BUTNER" E.T.A. Melbourne 1600K/
(U.S.N. Transport).) 15th (Cumberland to part company
and proceed to Fremantle arriving
approximately 13th June.)

✓ "WILCANNIA" (escorting M.V. LORINNA) departed Darwin 0548K/3rd for Sir Graham Moore Island. E.T.A. 1030K/4th, thence proceeding to Champagne Island, Drysdale and Darwin.

✓ "LATROBE" (escorting M.V. EMPIRE SILVER) arrived Darwin 1428K/3rd from Thursday Island.

YF.236 departed Thursday Island 0828K/3rd E.T.A. Cairns P.M. 7th (anchoring at night).

ENEMY SURFACE FORCE:

Aircraft report (Intercept signal) sighting of following shipping at approximately 1424K/3rd - 2 Battleships, 3 Heavy Cruisers, 1 Light Cruiser and 9 Destroyers in position 04°08'S, 128°30'E course 100° S.O.A. 20 knots. One "Betty" over force (See N.O.I.C. (D) 030635Z June).

R.A.A.F. also reports 15 naval vessels at Davao on 3rd. At 0300K/37 naval vessels stationery off Cape San Agustin (09°17'N, 126°12'E). At 0400K one heavy cruiser, 3 destroyers west of Helen Island (02°58'N, 131°50'E) course 240°. At 0700K - 2 Heavy cruisers, 1 light cruiser, 2 destroyers and 1 unidentified vessel 20 miles east of Talaud Islands, approximately position (04°58'N, 127°13'E). course 150° S.O.A. 22 knots. (See N.O.I.C. (D) 0317311Z June).

.....

To To 0900K/Saturday, 3rd June, 1944.

"GENERAL GEORGE M. RANDALL" (U.S. Naval Transport) E.T.D. Balboa 0300K/30/5 for Fremantle E.T.A. 21/6.

"RAIL" (U.S. Fleet Tug) E.T.D. Tulagi 1400K/1 for Milne Bay E.T.A. China Strait 0700K/4.

P.C. 1121 departed Madang 1800K/1 escorting "EDWARD D. BAKER" for Langemak E.T.A. 0900K/2.

"MIZAR" E.T.D. Langemak 2300K/2 for Cape Sudest and Milne Bay E.T.A. 0800K/4, then E.T.D. Milne Bay 1500K/4 for Brisbane E.T.A. Caloundra 0400K/7.

{ "CASTLEMAINE" } escorting "INDUS" (U.S. Net Cargo Ship) departed
{ "GOULBURN" } Langemak 1800K/1 for Seeadler.

{ "STAWELL" } arrived Langemak 1800K/31/5 from Oro Bay.
{ "GYMPIE" } dep H B 1915 K/1 E.T.A. Langemak 1800 K/3.

✓ "AASE MAERSK" arrived Langemak 21/5 from Hollandia.

"ELKHORN" (U.S. Gasolene Tender) arrived Langemak 1/6 from Cape Sudest.

"PYRO" (U.S. Ammunition Ship) arrived Morobe 1300K/31/5 from Langemak.

"KATOOMBA" arrived Cape Gloucester 0830K/1 escorting one ship from Langemak.

"WATO" (H.M.A. Tug) together with Australian Army tug is assisting U.S. Small Ship "TUNG SONG" which went aground on 1st June off Killerton Island (Milne Bay). No details are known of the "TUNG SONG".

"SHIKELLAMY" (U.S. Naval Tanker) arrived Milne Bay 0825K/2 from Langemak.

✓ "SWAN" departed North Foreland (Milne Bay) 1400K/1 escorting U.S. Submarine "BASHAW" to position 15 miles east of Normanby Is. "SWAN" is then to join Solomon Sea patrol.

✓ "OTUS" departed Milne Bay 1420K/2 for Morobe 1600K/3.

YMS. 393 departed Milne Bay 1200K/2 for Langemak E.T.A. 2300K/3.

✓ "GERARD" departed Milne Bay 1200K/2 for Goodenough Is. E.T.A. 1300K/3.

✓ "BERMAGUI" departed Brisbane 1155K/2 E.T.A. Sydney 0800K/6.

"ECHUCA" } E.T.D. Caloundra 1700K/3 escorting U.S. Submarine "SEAHORSE"
"PARKES" } E.T.A. Milne Bay of "ECHUCA" and "PARKES" 0800K/9.

✓ "WHYALLA" arrived Brisbane 0942K/2 from Sandy Cape patrol.

✓ "SAMUEL BENBOW" arrived Sydney 0724K/2 from towing two army hulks to Nowra.

.....

SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900K/Friday, 2nd June, 1944.

U.S.S. "GENERAL J.R. BROOKE" (Transport) departed Milne Bay 0600K/1
E.T.A. Oro Bay 2000K/1.

U.S.S. "GENERAL TASKER H. BLISS" (Transport) arrived Oro Bay 0630K/1
from Milne Bay.

"BARCOO") departed Seeadler 0600K/1 "ADHARA" E.T.A. Santo
U.S.S. "ADHARA") A.M. 6/6.
(Store Carrier))

"BROOME" arrived Milne Bay 1400K/1 escorting U.S. Submarine "BASHAW"
from Brisbane.

"ANNALLA" departed Hollandia 1115K/1 for Mios Woendi Atoll, Schouten Is.
(off South East corner Biak Island) E.T.A. 1500K/2.

"BUNDABERG") to commence Hansa Bay patrol 1/6. Departing Bunabun
" "BOWEN") Harbour 1700K/daily.
P.C. 1131)

"COLAC") arrived Langemak 1600K/31 from Seeadler.
P.C. 476)
P.C. 1132)
YMS. 336)
P.C. 1121)
P.C. 1123)

U.S.S. "MIZAR" (Store Ship) E.T.D. Seeadler 1500K/1 E.T.A. Finschhafen
0800K/2.

U.S.S. "SHIKELLAMY" (Tanker) departed Langemak 1400K/31 E.T.A. Milne Bay
1000K/2.
(Tanker)

U.S.S. "SUSQUEHANNA" departed Langemak 1630K/1 E.T.A. Milne Bay
1600K/1.

"CAPE LEEUWIN" E.T.D. Morobe 0400K/2 E.T.A. Langemak 1300K/2.

"KOOPA" departed Milne Bay 0600K/1 E.T.A. Langemak 0700K/3.

S.C. 732 arrived Milne Bay 1645K/31 from Langemak.

"PREMANTLE" departed Darwin 0800K/1 escorting D.T. 60 E.T.A. Thursday
Island. 1230K/5.

"HEATHER" departed Darwin 0751K/1 for Port Hedland E.T.A. Cape Londonderry
P.M. 3rd.

U.S.S. "TRIANGULUM" E.T.D. Brisbane 1000K/2 E.T.A. Milne Bay 1500K/6.

U.S.S. "BUTTONWOOD" (Coastguard Icebreaker) E.T.D. Guadalcanal 1100K/1
E.T.A. Brisbane 0800K/7.

"ARIADNE" arrived Sydney 1854K/1 from Jervis Bay.

"YANDRA" arrived Sydney 0832K/1 from Smoky Cape A/S patrol.

"DOOMBA" departed Sydney 0903K/1 on A/S patrol to Smoky Cape patrol.

"SAMUEL BENBOW" departed Sydney 0039K/1 towing two army hulls to Nowra.

Y.P. 286 arrived Sydney 1312K/1 from Melbourne.

U.S.S. "MEDUSA" (Repair Ship) E.T.D. Gavutu (Solomon Island) 0700K/1.

U.S.S. "ADVENT" (Minesweeper) E.T.A. Sydney 0900K/8.

"HDML.1338" commissioned at Milne Bay 31 May 1944.

At 0630K/31, 2 M.Ls. whilst returning to Madang from patrol in Hansa Bay
area reported being fired on by a possible 40 mm. gun position on
Chirimosh Is. about 25 miles South West Hansa Bay. The M.Ls. shelled
and strafed the position with unobserved results.

SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900K/Thursday, 1st June, 1944.

"ADHARA" (U.S. Cargo Ship) E.T.D. Manus 0600K/1/6 for Espiritu Santo.

"CELENO" (U.S. Cargo Ship) departed Espiritu Santo 0500K/31 for Guadalcanal E.T.A. 2/6.

× "GOULBURN") arrived Langemak 0830K/29 from Madang.
× "GYMPIE")

× "BUNDABERG" arrived Langemak 0200K/29 from Madang.

S.C. 744 arrived Langemak 1630K/29 from Milne Bay.

× "SWAN" arrived Milne Bay 1900K/30 from Solomon Sea patrol.

"TRINITY" (U.S. Naval Tanker) arrived Milne Bay 29th April from Oro Bay.

× M.L. 428 departed Milne Bay 1600K/30 for Oro Bay.

× "SAN PABLO" (U.S. Seaplane Tender) arrived Milne Bay 1900K/30. from Hollandia.

S.C. 981) arrived Milne Bay 1600K/30 from Langemak.
YMS. 316)

× "ZANANA" (A.S. Rescue) arrived Kiriwina P.M. 27/5 from Milne Bay.

× "STELLA MARIS" (A.S. Rescue) departed Kiriwina 27/5 for Goodenough E.T.A. 1600K/30.

"ELKHORN" (U.S. Gasolene tanker) departed Milne Bay 1415K/31 for Cape Sudest E.T.A. 1200K/1/6.

× "FALIE" departed Milne Bay 0800K/31 for Langemak E.T.A. 1700K/2/6.

× "INVERELL" arrived Thursday Island 1821K/31 escorting Convoy D.T. 58 from Darwin.

"LATROBE" E.T.D. Thursday Island 1600K/31 escorting 1 ship for Darwin.

× "FREMANTLE" arrived Darwin 1331K/31 escorting Convoy T.D. 57 from Thurs.Is.

× M.L. 809 arrived Darwin 1218K/31 escorting "LORINNA" from Cape Fourcroy.

× M.L. 804 arrived Cairns 1740K/31 from Thursday Island.

"TOWNSVILLE" E.T.D. Caloundra 1700K/31 towing one Pattern Six target via Grafton Passage to Milne Bay E.T.A. 1300K/7/6.

"ROCKHAMPTON" E.T.D. Caloundra 1800K/1/6 towing one Pattern Six target via Grafton Passage to Milne Bay E.T.A. 1400K/9/6.

"TRIANGULUM" (U.S. Store Ship) E.T.D. Caloundra 1100K/1/6 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 1600K/5/6.

"BERMAGUI" E.T.D. Caloundra 1800K/1/6 for Sydney E.T.A. 0600K/5/6.

× "GASCOYNE" arrived Sydney 0803K/31 from Milne Bay.

× "KARANGI" departed Sydney 1654K/31 for Melbourne E.T.A. 1900K/3/6. for onward routeing to Fremantle.

YP.288 arrived Fremantle 1947K/31 from Exmouth Gulf.

JAPANESE CONCENTRATION SOUTH OF PHILLIPINES:

On 26th May, 1944, Commander 7th Fleet reported that on 24th May at Tawi Tawi, South west of Phillipines, there was the following concentration of Japanese shipping -

- 40 cargo ships and warships, PLUS
- 10 Battleships or cruisers (~~Probably 10 cruisers~~
(Probably 3 battleships and 7 cruisers).
- 6 Aircraft Carriers (including probably one large aircraft carrier).
- 1 Large Oiler.

At 1530K/30, U.S. Submarine "CABRILLA" reported that at least three battleships, and possibly three other battleships, departed from Southern Sibutu (about 30 miles south of Tawi Tawi) on a course of 160° at high speed. No aircraft carriers were sighted, but some are thought to be present.

At 1830K/30 U.S. Submarine "BLUEFISH" sighted one Battleship 4 heavy cruisers and 3 destroyers travelling due east at 19 knots, to the east force sighted by "CABRILLA". No further information is to hand apart from Commander 7th Fleet's appraisal that these are two sightings of the one force.

To 0900K/Wednesday, 31st May, 1944.

"SARATOGA" (U.S. Aircraft carrier) } comprising T.G. 58.5 departed
 "CUMMINS" (U.S. Destroyer) } Sydney 1058K/30 for Noumea E.T.A.
 "FANNING" " } 0600K/1/6.
 "DUNLAP" " }

"WARREGO") arrived Humboldt Bay 1530K/28 escorting 12 M.V's from
 "KATCOMBA") Langemak.
 "STRAHAN")
 P.C. 1122)
 P.C. 1134)

"JUNEE" E.T.D. Milne Bay A.M. 4/6 for Thursday Island and Darwin.

"SWAN" E.T.A. Milne Bay 2000K/30 from Solomon Sea patrol.

"BENALLA" } arrived Hollandia 1745K/30 from Madang.
 YMS. 52 }

"PANDA" (U.S. Tanker) arrived Hollandia 0900K/30 from Langemak.

M.L. 809 E.T.D. Cape Foureroy 0059K/31 for Darwin.

"PIRIE" arrived Thursday Island 1037K/30 escorting D.T. 59 from Darwin.

YP. 236 arrived Thursday Island 1253K/30 from Cairns.

"ROCKHAMPTON" arrived Brisbane 0308K/30 from Sydney (to Milne Bay).

"VENDETTA" E.T.D. Brisbane 1500K/30 for Milne Bay.

"TOWNSVILLE" arrived Brisbane 0700K/30 from Sydney (to Milne Bay).

"BUNGAREE" arrived Townsville 1510K/30 from Survey Ground.

"PLATYPUS" departed Cairns 1500K/30 for Sydney thence to Melbourne.

"NAIRANI") departed Pt. Kembla 0635K/30 arrived Sydney 1317K/30.

"PATERSON")

YDG. 5 (U.S. Degaussing Ship) arrived Sydney 1357K/29 from Brisbane.

"POLLUX" (U.S. Store Repair Ship) departed Brisbane 28/5 E.T.A. Milne Bay
2/6.

"YANDRA" departed Sydney 0832K/30 on A/S patrol to Smoky Cape.

"COOTAMUNDRA" E.T.D. Sydney P.M./3 June for Thursday Island and Darwin.

"ALLENWOOD" departed Pt. Phillip 0990K/29 for Hanns Inlet arrived
1834K/30.

.....

To 0900K/Tuesday, 30th May, 1944.

"SARATOGA" Aircraft Carrier } E.T.D. Sydney 1130K/30 E.T.A. Bulari
 "DUNLAP" } Destroyers } Passage 0730K/1.
 "CUMMINGS" }
 "FANNING" }

"SHROPSHIRE" departs Humboldt Bay at 1200K/28 for Sydney - proceeding independently via China Strait E.T.A. Sydney 1000K/3/6.

> "BARCOO" departed Humboldt area at 1400K/29 escorting "MIZAR" to Manus E.T.A. 1300K/30.

"ALNITAH" (U.S. Cargo Ship) departed Langemak at 0930K/28 for Espiritu Santo E.T.A. 1400K/2.

> "MORESBY" } arrived Madang 1000K/27 ^{from} for Seeadler.
 > "BENALLA" }

> "BENALLA" } departed Madang at 0700K/29 for Hollandia E.T.A. 1800K/30.
 YMS. 52 }

> "BUNBURY" departed Milne Bay at 0959K/29 escorting U.S.S. (Submarine) S.42 to Seeadler E.T.A. 1000K/2.

with

P.C. 476 } arrived Manus at 1200K/28/"EURYALE" for Milne Bay.
 P.C. 1132 }

"ARIDED" (U.S. Cargo Ship) departed Milne Bay at 1030K/29 for Guadalcanal E.T.A. 0600K/1.

P.C. 1121 } departed Langemak at 0900K/27 escorting N.A. 19 to
 YMS. 336 } Seeadler E.T.A. 1600K/29.

S.C. 749 arrived Milne Bay at 0200K/29 from Langemak.

"YUMA" (U.S. Tug) E.T.D. Noumea 2/6 for Milne Bay.

"BELFAST" } U.S. Frigates arrived Cairns at 1215K/29 from Noumea.
 "HUTCHINSON" }

S.C. 637 arrived Cairns at 0816K/29 for Milne Bay.

"PLATYPUS" E.T.A. Cairns 1500K/30 for Melbourne.

> HDML.1323 arrived Brisbane at 1350K/29 from Sydney.

"POLLUX" (U.S. Store Ship) departed Brisbane 28/5 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 2/6.

> HDML.1326 arrived Sydney at 1317K/29 from Port Kembla.

> M.L. 813 arrived Sydney at 1618K/29 from Newcastle.

> "NARANI" } departed Sydney at 0735K/27 arrived Port Kembla 1507K/29.
 > "PATERSON" }

> "GOOLGWAI" arrived Sydney at 2307K/28 from Newcastle.

> M.L. 813 departed Newcastle at 1203K/29 for Sydney E.T.A. 1630K/29.

YP.286 departed Port Phillip at 2023K/29 for Sydney E.T.A. P.M./2/6.

> "INVERELL" departed Melville Bay at 0930K/29 escorting D.T. 58 to Thursday Island E.T.A. 1830K/30.

S.C. 731 E.T.D. Thursday Island 1000K/30 for Cairns for engine repairs.

To 0900K/29th May, 1944. Monday.

H.M.A.S. "AUSTRALIA" } Cruisers.) Arrived at Humboldt Bay
 H.M.A.S. "SHROPSHIRE" }) 0830K/28.
 U.S.S. "NASHVILLE" })

H.M.A.S. "ARUNTA" } Destroyers)
 H.M.A.S. "WARRAMUNGA" })
 U.S.S. "MULLANY" })
 U.S.S. "AMMEN" })
 U.S.S. "AENER READ" })

"WARREGO") departed Langemak at 0951K/27th escorting 12 M.V.'s for
 "KATOOMBA") Humboldt Bay. E.T.A. 1600K/28.
 "STRAHAN")
 P.C. 1112)
 P.C. 1134)

"GASCOYNE" departed Milne Bay 1000K/27th for Sydney. E.T.A. 1200K/31st.

"GENERAL JOHN POPE" (U.S. Navy Transport) departed San Francisco 1106K/
 27th for Milne Bay. E.T.A. 13th June.

U.S.S. "SAKATONCHEE" } (U.S.N. Tankers) departed Milne Bay 1030K/28th
 U.S.S. "SEEKONK" } for San Francisco E.T.A. 24th June.

U.S.S. "SOLACE" (Hospital Ship) arrived Espiritu Santo 1000K/28th from
 Milne Bay.

"GENERAL J.R. BROOKE" (U.S.N. Transport) E.T.A. China Strait 1100K/30th
 from San Francisco.

U.S.S. "SUSQUEHANNA" (U.S.N. Tanker) arrived Langemak 1400K/26th from
 Milne Bay.

"BUNBURY" arrived Milne Bay 0900K/28th from Morobe.

P.C. 476) arrived Seeadler Harbour 1516K/28th from
 P.C. 1132) Milne Bay.
 U.S.S. "EURAYLE" (Sub. Tender).

S.C. 637 departed Milne Bay at 1300K/27th for Cairns E.T.A. 1000K/29th.
 (for refit and docking.)

U.S.S. "INDUS" (Net Cargo Ship) arrived Milne Bay 1041K/27th from Santo.

"MORESBY") arrived Madang 1000K/27th from Seeadler Harbour.
 "BENALLA")

S.C. 744 departed Milne Bay at 1415K/28th. E.T.A. Langemak 2200K/29th.
 (On arrival to come under operational control of P.D. Langemak
 as a relief for YMS.71, which is to be sailed Milne Bay).

"MILDURA" arrived Brisbane 1103K/28th from A/S patrol Sandy Cape.

"WHYALLA" E.T.D. Brisbane 1830K/29th for A/S patrol Sandy Cape.
 (To depart patrol area A.M. 2nd June and return Brisbane).

"VENDETTA" E.T.D. Caloundra 29th for Milne Bay deferred owing to trials
 not being satisfactory.

"WHANG PU" E.T.D. Caloundra 1730K/28th for Milne Bay. E.T.A. 1030K/3rd June.

"ROCKHAMPTON" departed Sydney 0644K/28th for Brisbane. E.T.A. Caloundra
 0200K/30th. (For fuel and onward routing to Milne Bay).

"TOWNSVILLE" departed Sydney 0915K/28th for Brisbane for fuel and onward
 routing to Milne Bay. E.T.A. Caloundra 0400K/30th.

"BENDIGO" arrived Sydney 1514K/28th from Townsville.

"GOOLGWAI" departed Newcastle 1348K/28th towing Patt. VII. target for
 Sydney.

- M.L. 810 arrived Twofold Bay 1500K/27th from Pt. Kembla.
 M.L. 823 arrived Coff's Harbour 1830K/27th from Pt. Stephens.
 HMML.1326 arrived Jervis Bay 1745K/28th from Sydney.
 YP.435 departed Exmouth Gulf at 1631K/28th for Fremantle. E.T.A. 1000K/1st June.
 M.L. 804 departed Thursday Island 1429K/27th for Cairns E.T.A. 2359K/31st (Anchoring at night).

AIR RAID WARNING:

Red. - at Higgins Field (Cape York at 1224K/28th.

POSSIBLE FLOATING MINE:

Sighted in position $05^{\circ}25'S$. $149^{\circ}01'E$ (40 miles East of Cape Gloucester). Report being investigated.

"STEPHEN CRANE" (Liberty Ship) reports torpedo track in position 38° degrees 16 minutes S. 153° degrees 23 minutes E. at 0100K/29th. (A/F message originated at 0216K/29th to B.A.M.S. Area 5B).

A further torpedo track was reported in position $38^{\circ}23'S$. $152^{\circ}55'E$ at 0203K/29th then at 0237K/29th this vessel reported having dodged six (6) torpedoes in the same position.

At 0650K/29th "STEPHEN CRANE" reported - Attack ceased no damage.

(Approx. location 150 miles south East of Gabo Island).

Presence of submarine considered improbable and A.F. message cancelled at 0921K/29th.

.....

DAILY NARRATIVE
TO 0900K SUNDAY 28TH MAY, 1944.

- ^ BENALLA Departed Seeadler 23/5 E.T.A. Madang 1100K/27.
- SHIKELAMY (USN Tanker) Arrived Seeadler 1200K/25 from Langemak.
- GOLD STAR (USN Store Ship) Arrived Seeadler 1400K/25 from Langemak.
- U.S.S. MESQUITE Arrived Madang 1400K/26 from Milne Bay.
- ^ GEELONG Departed Milne Bay 0955K/27 escorting U.S. Submarine BREAM E.T.A. Manus 1200K/30.
- ^ WILCANNIA Arrived Darwin 1605K/22 ex T.D.56 including SEA MIST and STEADY HOUR from Thursday Island.
- ^ FREMANTLE Departed Thursday Island 0200K/27 escorting T.D.57 E.T.A. Darwin 1200K/31.
- ^ M.L.804 E.T.D. Thursday Island 1200K/27 for Cairns.
- BROOME E.T.D. Caloundra 1830K/27 escorting U.S. Submarine BASHAW E.T.A. Milne Bay 1100K/1 June.
- POLLUX (U.S. Store Ship) E.T.D. Brisbane 1400K/28 towing L.C.T.86 Milne Bay ETA 1500K/2/6 thence proceeding Manus, Finschafen, Morobe, Oro Bay.
- ^ DOOMBA Arrived Sydney 1030K/27 from Sydney.
- ^ KYERA Arrived Sydney 1100K/27 from Newcastle.
- ^ M.B.823 Arrived Port Stephens 0230K/27 from Sydney; departed - 0545K/27 for Coffs Harbour.
- ^ GOOLGWAI Departed Sydney 2133K/26 towing Patt.VI target for Army Firings Newcastle. Arr. Newcastle 0735K/27.
- ^ M.L.810 Arrived Twofold Bay 1500K/27 from Sydney.
- ^ BIRCHGROVE PARK Departed Sydney 1347K/27 towing concrete ammunition lighter to Milne Bay via Townsville. E.T.A. Townsville 0900K/6 June.
- ROCKHAMPTON E.T.D. Sydney PM 27/5 for Brisbane and Milne Bay.
- TOWNSVILLE E.T.D. Sydney 1000K/28 for Milne Bay.
- ALLENWOOD To depart Port Phillip to arrive Hans Inlet (Western Port) by 0830K/30.

A.M.S.'s CO-OPERATING WITH ARMY.

GOULBURN and GYMPIE will cover Army occupation of Bunabun Harbour A.M. 28/5. (This operation was postponed from 27/5).

Two A.M.S.'s will cover landings on Karkar Island about 4/6 instead of 28/5 as was originally intended.

Bunabun Harbour and Karkar 40 miles N.W. of Madang.

To 0900K/27th May, 1944. Saturday.

- × U.S.S. "NASSAU" (Escort Carrier) departed Langemak 1400K/25 E.T.A. San Diego 12/6.
- × U.S.S. "SAN PABLO" (Seaplane Tender) E.T.D. Hollandia 0615K/27 E.T.A. Milne Bay 2000K/30.
- × "SWAN") arrived Langemak 1630K/24 from Milne Bay.
- × "GOULBURN")
- × "STRAHAN")
- × M.L. 818)
- × "SWAN" departed Langemak 1400K/26 to relieve "GYMPIE" on Solomon Sea Patrol.
- × "COLAC" departed Milne Bay 0630K/26 escorting U.S. Submarine "BREAM" E.T.A. Manus A.M. 29/5.
- "GEELONG" E.T.D. Milne Bay A.M. 27/5 escorting U.S. Submarine "FLOUNDER" E.T.A. Manus 1200K/30.
- × "KIAMA") arrived Milne Bay 1015K/24 from Langemak.
- × M.L. 802)
- × "DELORAINÉ" arrived Milne Bay 1100K/26 from Brisbane.
- × "GLADSTONE" arrived Milne Bay 1830K/25 from Langemak.
- × "COWRA") arrived Langemak 1930K/24 escorting A.N.17.
- × P.C. 1123)
- × YMS. 336)
- × "COWRA" arrived Milne Bay 0930K/26.
- × "MORESBY" arrived Seeadler 1412K/25 from Madang.
- × "STAWELL" arrived Seeadler 0300K/26 from Langemak.
- P.C. 476) departed Milne Bay 0800K/26 escorting U.S.S. "EURYALE"
- P.C. 1132) (submarine tender) E.T.A. Seeadler A.M. 28/5.
- × M.L. 827 arrived Langemak 1401K/25 from Milne Bay.
- × "ORARA" arrived Milne Bay 1930K/26 from Port Moresby.
- × "TROPIC BIRD" (A.S.R.) departed Milne Bay 0500K/26 E.T.A. Kiriwina A.M. 28/5.
- × "PALUMA" departed Port Moresby 0700K/26 E.T.A. Milne Bay A.M. 28/5.
- × "WATCHER" arrived Port Moresby 1806K/26 from Milne Bay.
- × "INVERELL" arrived Melville Bay 1045K/26 escorting "HENRY DODGE" from Darwin.
- × "PIRIE" arrived Darwin 1725K/25 escorting "T.W. DRENNAN" from Thursday Island. Departed 0607K/26 escorting D.T. 59 E.T.A. Thursday Island 1630K/30.
- × M.L. 809 departed Darwin 1852K/25 escorting "LORINNA" to Cape Fourcroy (Bathurst Island).
- × U.S.S. "OTUS" (Submarine tender) departed Cairns 0831K/26 towing L.C.T. 973 E.T.A. Milne Bay 0900K/28.
- Y.P. 236 departed Cairns 0600K/26 E.T.A. Thursday Island 1800K/30.

"VENDETTA" E.T.D. Caloundra 0200K/29 E.T.A. Milne Bay 1600K/31.

U.S.S. "CARONDELET" (Tanker) arrived Brisbane 2340K/25 from Milne Bay.

x "WHANG PU" arrived Brisbane 0521K/26 from Sydney.

x U.S.S. "SARATOGA" (Aircraft carrier) } arrived Sydney 1017K/26 from
x "DUNLAP" } Fremantle.
x "CUMMINGS" (U.S. Destroyers) }
x "FANNING" }

U.S.S. "OCTANS" (Store Ship) departed Sydney 1158K/26 E.T.A. Cape
Sudest 0700K/1/6.

x "TONGKOL" arrived Sydney 0713K/26 from Brisbane.

"BIRCHGROVE PARK" E.T.D. Sydney A.M. 27/5 towing concrete ammunition
lighter to Milne Bay via Townsville.

x M.L. 810 departed Sydney 0822K/26 arrived Jervis Bay 1515K/26 E.T.A.
Twofold Bay 1700K/27.

x M.L. 823 departed Sydney 0927K/26 E.T.A. Port Stephens 1700K/26
thence Coffs Harbour.

x H.M.L. 1323 departed Sydney 1445K/26 E.T.A. Brisbane 1600K/28.

x "PARKES" (AMS) commissioned at Sydney 25/5/1944.

P.D. Langemak intends to despatch "GYMPIE" and "GOULBURN" P.M. 26/5
to cover Army occupation of BUNABUN Harbour 27/5, and
Landing Party at Karkar Island 28/5. (Both places about
30 miles north of Madang.

P.D. MADANG reports that 3 M.L.s. made a daylight reconnaissance of
coastline from BILAU BAY to BUNABUN Harbour and reported
that enemy defences were in a state of disrepair and over
grown.

.....

"MORNING" arrived Milne Bay 1357K/26 from Cairns.

"MORNING" arrived Milne Bay 1247K/26 from Langemak.

"MORNING" (U.S. Naval tanker) departed Milne Bay 0755K/24 for
Langemak E.T.A. 0700K/26.

"MORNING" departed Milne Bay 1137E/26 for Port Moresby.

"MORNING" (M.A.S.) departed Milne Bay 0400K/26 for Kiriwina E.T.A. P.M.

"MORNING" left Milne Bay 1000K/26 for Opa Bay.

"MORNING" E.T.D. Milne Bay 1045K/24 for Morobe E.T.A. 1800K/26.

"MORNING" (U.S. submarine tender) E.T.D. Milne Bay 0800K/26 for Goodenough
Island E.T.A. 1300K/26.

"MORNING" departed Port Moresby 0412/25 towing lighter to Milne Bay E.T.A.
1500K/27.

"MORNING" departed Morobe 25/5 with convoy O.T. 38 (3 ships) for
Thursday Island.

M.L. 804 arrived Thursday Island 1935K/26 escorting "CARD" "MORNING"
from laying cable in vicinity of Great North Eastern Channel.

SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900K/Friday, 26th May, 1944.

"SHROPSHIRE" is to return to Sydney for four weeks' availability after impending operations; E.T.A. Sydney 4th June.

"HUTCHINSON" } (U.S. Frigates) departed Noumea 0600K/25 for Cairns;
"BELFAST" } E.T.A. Grafton Passage 0930K/29.

"ELKHORN" (U.S. Gasolene tanker) departed Noumea 0700K/25 for Milne Bay
E.T.A. China Strait 1200K/29.

"SPANGLER" (U.S. Destroyer Escort) E.T.D. Tulagi 1900K/25 for Seeadler
E.T.A. 1900K/27.

"WIZAR" (U.S. Store Ship) arrived Hollandia 1014K/21; E.T.D. 0630K/26
for Manus E.T.A. 0530K/27.

"BENALLA" departed Hollandia 1345K/25 for Madang.

"COWRA" } departed Seeadler 0700K/23 escorting Convoy A.N. 17 for
"P.C. 1123" } Langemak E.T.A. 1800K/24.
"YMS. 336" }

"STAWELL" } departed Langemak 1001K/24 escorting N.A. 17 (1 ship) to
"BOWEN" } Seeadler E.T.A. 1800K/25.
"P.C. 477" }

"LUNDABERG" arrived Langemak 0600K/25 from Solomon Sea patrol.

"GOLD STAR" (U.S. Store Ship) departed Finschhafen 24th May for Manus
E.T.A. 1800K/25; thence to Hollandia.

"NASSAU" (U.S. Aircraft carrier) arrived Langemak 1257K/25 from San
Francisco; to sail when ready for San Diego.

"S.C. 746" arrived Langemak 1200K/24 from Milne Bay.

"SOLACE" (U.S. Hospital Ship) arrived Milne Bay 0800K/24 from Oro Bay;
departed Milne Bay 1530K/24 for Espiritu Santo E.T.A.
0600K/28.

"GEELONG" arrived Milne Bay 1257K/25 from Cairns.

"KAPUNDA" arrived Milne Bay 1247K/25 from Langemak.

"SUSQUEHANNA" (U.S. Naval tanker) departed Milne Bay 0755K/24 for
Langemak E.T.A. 0900K/26.

"WATCHER" departed Milne Bay 1107K/25 for Port Moresby.

"ZANANA" (N.A.P.) departed Milne Bay 0400K/25 for Kiriwina E.T.A. P.M.

"LYSANDER"^{27/5} departed Milne Bay 1000K/25 for Oro Bay.

"LAURABADA" E.T.D. Milne Bay 1045K/24 for Morobe E.T.A. 1200K/26.

"EURYALE" (U.S. Submarine tender) E.T.D. Milne Bay 0800K/26 for Seeadler
"P.C. 476" and "P.C. 1132") E.T.A. 1200K/28.

"ORARA" departed Port Moresby 0943K/25 towing lighter to Milne Bay E.T.A.
1500K/27.

"INVERELL" departed Darwin 22/5 with convoy D.T. 58 (2 ships) for
Thursday Island.

"M.L. 804" arrived Thursday Island 1932K/24 escorting "CABLE ENTERPRISE"
from laying cable in vicinity of Great North Eastern Channel.

0900K/Thursday, 25th May, 1944.

"INDUS" (U.S. Net cargo ship) departed Santo 0800K/22 for Morobe E.T.A. 0700K/27.

^ "MANOORA" arrived Milne Bay 1400K/23 from Cape Sudest.

"BENALLA" E.T.D. Hollandia 1900K/25 for Madang E.T.A. 0900K/27.

"MORESBY" E.T.D. Manus 1400K/24 for Madang area E.T.A. 1300K/25.

"ALNITAH" (U.S. Cargo Ship) arrived Langemak 2200K/22 from Milne Bay.

"GOLDSTAR" (U.S. Store Ship) arrived Oro Bay 0600K/22 from Brisbane.

^ "JON JIM" E.T.D. Milne Bay 1200K/24 for Madang via Langemak E.T.A. A.M./28.

^ M.L. 818 departed Milne Bay 0800K/23 for Madang via Langemak E.T.A. 1800K/24.

S.C. 746 departed Milne Bay 1000K/23 for Langemak E.T.A. 1600K/24.

YMS. 52 } departed Milne Bay 0900K/24 for Oro Bay E.T.A. 0600K/25.
YMS. 73 }

^ M.L. 802 arrived Milne Bay 1015K/24 from Langemak.

^ M.L. 827 departed Milne Bay 1000K/24 for Langemak E.T.A. 1700K/25.

^ "AMOHINE" (A.S.R.) departed Milne Bay 0530K/24 for Morobe E.T.A. A.M./27.

^ "WHYALLA" arrived Brisbane 1144K/24 from Sandy Cape patrol.

^ "DOOMBA" arrived Brisbane 1740K/23 from Newcastle (towing two barges).

^ "WHANG PU" departed Sydney 2103K/23 for Brisbane E.T.A. 2359K/25.

^ "PATERSON" } departed Newcastle 0015K/24 arrived Sydney 1332K/24.
^ "GOOLGWAI" }
^ "NARANI" }

^ "ROCKHAMPTON" arrived Sydney 0827K/24 from Adelaide (to Milne Bay).

^ "WARRNAMBOOL" arrived Sydney 0947K/24 from Smoky Cape patrol.

^ "QUIBERON" arrived Melbourne 1701K/24 from Fremantle (to refit).

^ "WILLIAM B. PRESTON" (U.S. Seaplane Tender) arrived Fremantle 1850K/24 from Exmouth Gulf.

"CITY OF PHILADELPHIA"

The "CITY OF PHILADELPHIA" which was aground on Euston Reef (Grafton Passage) was refloated 2045K/23 and arrived Cairns 0725K/24.

0900K/Wednesday, 24th May, 1944.

"WARREGO" arrived Langemak at 1430K/22 escorting tug from Aitape.

S.C. 749 arrived Langemak at 1600K/22 from Milne Bay.

"BOWEN" arrived Langemak at 0600K/22 from Kiriwina.

P.C. 477 } arrived Langemak at 0900K/22 from Saidor.
M.L. 802 }

"STAWELL" arrived Manus at 1100K/21 from Hollandia.

"SWAN" } departed Milne Bay at 1000K/23 E.T.A. Langemak 1700K/24.
"GOULBURN" }
"STRAHAN" }

"LONGBEACH" (U.S. Frigate) arrived Milne Bay at 0900K/23 from Cairns.

"ORCA" (U.S. Seaplane Tender) departed Manus 1600K/22 for Hollandia
E.T.A. 0300K/24.

"GLENELG" } E.T.D. Milne Bay 1000K/23 to relieve "BUNDABERG" and
"LITHGOW" } "GLADSTONE" on Solomon Sea patrol at 1300K/24.

M.L. 818 } E.T.D. Milne Bay 0800K/23 for Langemak E.T.A. P.M/24.
S.C. 746 } M.L. 818 then to proceed to Madang.

"MONTEREY" departed Milne Bay at 1515K/22 for San Francisco.

"ARAYAT" (U.S. Tanker) departed Milne Bay at 0705K/23 for Buna E.T.A.
1310K/24.

"SHIKELLAMY" (U.S. Tanker) departed Milne Bay 1300K/22 for Langemak.

"MORESBY" E.T.D. Morobe 24/5 for Manus to return 27/5.

"GEELONG" departed from vicinity Euston Reef Grafton Passage at 1214¹/₂/23
for Milne Bay after assisting in salvage operations of
"CITY OF PHILADELPHIA".

"STELLA" arrived Townsville at 1942K/22 from Cairns.

"MILDURA" E.T.D. Caloundra 1800K/24 for Sandy Cape A/S patrol.

"BENLIGO" departed Townsville at 1450K/23 for Sydney E.T.A. 1200K/29.

"WHYALLA" departs Sandy Cape patrol area A.M/24 for Brisbane.

"TONGKOL" E.T.D. Caloundra 2000K/23 for Sydney E.T.A. 0800K/26.

"TOWNSVILLE" E.T.D. Sydney A.M/27 for Brisbane for onward routing
to Milne Bay.

"NARANI" } arrived Newcastle at 1608K/22 from Sydney.
"PATERSON" }
"GOOLGWAI" }

Y.P. 286 arrived Melbourne at 2245K/22, from Fremantle, thence to proceed
Sydney.

"KOROWA" E.T.D. Melbourne 0830K/23 for sweeps off Port Phillip thence
on 27/5 to relieve "DURRAWEEEN" for daily sweeps Wilson
Promontory area.

"CAIRNS" arrived Adelaide at 1250K/23 from Fremantle.

YMS. 72 } arrived Fremantle at 0839K/23 from Exmouth Gulf.
YMS. 11 }

"INVERELL" departed Darwin at 0820K/23 escorting D.T. 58.

"LATROBE" arrived Thursday Island at 1832K/23 escorting D.T. 57.

M.L. 804 departed Port Moresby area at 0630K/22 escorting "CABLE ENTERPRISE" to Thursday Island E.T.A. P.M./25.

M.L. 804 REPORTS ATTACKING SUBMARINE CONTACT:

At 1643K/23 M.L. 804 reported attacking submarine contact in position 8° 35' S. 145° 15' E (120 miles N.W. of Port Moresby). Four attacks were carried out, and target was reported to have shown movement - large air bubbles were brought to the surface.

At 1831K/23 M.L. 804 reported - After conducting attacks lasting over one hour have abandoned and returned to patrol.

M.L. 429 (U.S.N. Store Ship) arrived Milne Bay 17th May from Guadalcanal.

Returned to Darwin at 1117K/23 from Timor area - N.O.I.C. Darwin reported that the operation of landing special personnel and stores was unsuccessful.

M.L. 744 arrived Milne Bay 1200K/21st from Cape Gloucester.

M.L. 877 arrived Milne Bay 1200K/21st from Cairns (in tow "ROSE").

"MORNING" (C.P.E.) arrived Weruwa at 2100K/21st.

"MORNING" departed Thursday Island 0800K/21st escorting "P.L. BRUNNEN" (Tug) for Darwin E.T.A. 1800K/23rd.

"MORNING" E.T.A. Cairns 0800K/21st for Milne Bay E.T.A. 0800K/23. ("MORNING" being despatched at 0700K/21st to render assistance to "CITY OF PHILADELPHIA" aground on Boston Reef (Crafter Passage).

M.S.S. "STUB" (Submarine Tender) towing L.C.T. 873 departed Brisbane at 1700K/21st for Cairns - E.T.A. 2000K/23rd - thence Milne Bay.

"MORNING" E.T.A. Melbourne 1200K/23rd for Newcastle. E.T.A. 1500K/23rd.

"MORNING" departed Sydney 0800K/22nd on A/S patrol to Sackey Cape.

M.S.S. "MORNING" (Minelayer) departed Sydney 1120K/22nd for Jarvis Bay (working up).

"MORNING" arrived Sydney 1800K/22nd from Brisbane.

"MORNING" E.T.A. Sydney A.M. 13rd for Brisbane and onward routing to Milne Bay.

"MORNING" } departed Sydney at 0800K/22nd arrived Newcastle 1800K/22nd
"MORNING" } (On minesweeping duties).
"MORNING" }

"MORNING" arrived Sydney 1300K/22nd from Brisbane.

M.P. 104 (Yard Patrol) entered Port Phillip at 1810K/22nd from Fremantle from thence Sydney.

M.S.S. "MORNING" (Aircraft carrier) } departed Fremantle at
1900K/21st for Sydney.

M.S.S. "MORNING" } (S.O.A.) } E.T.A. 1800K/23rd.

M.S.S. "MORNING" }

M.S.S. "MORNING" (Submarine Rescue Ship) arrived Fremantle at 1800K/22nd from Geraldton.

To 0900K/Tuesday, 23rd May, 1944.

U.S.S. "ALNITAH" (U.S.N. Store Ship) departed Milne Bay 1415K/21st for Langemak. E.T.A. 0200K/23rd.

<u>H.M.A.S. "AUSTRALIA"</u>) Cruisers.	}	T.F. 74 arrived Humboldt Bay 1158K/21st from Wakde Island.
<u>H.M.A.S. "SHROPSHIRE"</u>			
<u>H.M.A.S. "ARUNTA"</u>) Destroyers	}	
<u>H.M.A.S. "WARRAMUNGA"</u>			
<u>U.S.S. "MULLANY"</u>			
<u>U.S.S. "AMMEN"</u>			

U.S.S. "ROTANIN" (U.S.N. Store Ship) arrived Manus 17th May from Guadalcanal.

L.C.I's 955 - 962 (Group 23) departed Balboa 0100K/18th for Bora Bora E.T.A. 6th June, thence Milne Bay.

S.C. 744 arrived Milne Bay 1930K/21st from Cape Gloucester.

M.L. 827 arrived Milne Bay 1000K/22nd from Cairns (in tow "BOTH").

"TOOMEREE" (C.P.B.) arrived Merauke at 2130K/21st.

"PIRIE" departed Thursday Island 0300K/22nd escorting "T.W. DRENNAN" (Tanker) for Darwin E.T.A. 1200K/26th.

"GEELONG" E.T.D. Cairns 0600K/23rd for Milne Bay E.T.A. 0800K/25. ("GEELONG" being despatched at 0500K/23rd to render assistance to "CITY OF PHILADELPHIA" aground on Euston Reef (Grafton Passage).)

U.S.S. "OTUS" (Submarine Tender) towing L.C.T. 973 departed Brisbane at 1710K/21st for Cairns - E.T.A. 2300K/23rd - thence Milne Bay.

"KYBRA" E.T.D. Caloundra 1200K/23rd for Newcastle. E.T.A. 1000K/25th.

"WARRNAMBOOL" departed Sydney 0927K/22nd on A/S patrol to Smoky Cape.

H.M.S. "ARIADNE" (Minelayer) departed Sydney 1130K/22nd for Jervis Bay (working up).

"INNISFAIL" arrived Sydney 1322K/22nd from Brisbane.

"WHANGPU" E.T.D. Sydney A.M. 23rd for Brisbane and onward routing to Milne Bay

<u>"NARANI"</u>) departed Sydney at 0815K/22nd arrived Newcastle 1608K/22nd	
<u>"PATERSON"</u>) (On minesweeping duties).
<u>"COOLGWAI"</u>		

"KARANGI" arrived Sydney 1313K/22nd from Brisbane.

YP. 286 (Yard Patrol) entered Port Phillip at 1813K/22nd from Fremantle from thence Sydney.

<u>U.S.S. "SARATOGA"</u> (Aircraft carrier)) departed Fremantle at 1200K/21st for Sydney. E.T.A. 1000K/26th.	
<u>U.S.S. "DUNLAP"</u>) (D.D's.)
<u>U.S.S. "CUMMINGS"</u>		
<u>U.S.S. "FANNING"</u>		

U.S.S. "CHANTICLEER" (Submarine Rescue Ship) arrived Fremantle at 1612K/22nd from Geraldton.

14 0900K/Monday, 22nd May, 1944.

^{passed #45.}
 "GANNY EDE" (U.S.N. Cargo Ship) arrived Seeadler 18/5 from Langemak.
 U.S.S. "ROTANIN" (U.S. Cargo Ship) departed Manus 1600K/20 for
 U.S.S. "SPANGLER" (Destroyer Escort) Guadalcanal. E.T.A. 1000K/25.

"HOWEN" departed Kiriwina 1030K/21 E.T.A. Langemak 0800K/22.

^{passed #45.}
 "CARINA" (U.S.N. Cargo Ship) arrived Langemak 1830K/20/5 from Milne Bay.

S.C. 749 departed Milne Bay 1000K/21. E.T.A. Langemak 1600K/22.

U.S.S. "THOMASON" (D.E.) arrived Milne Bay 1100K/19.

^{passed #45.}
 U.S.S. "WEST POINT" (U.S.N.T.) departed Milne Bay 1000K/20. E.T.A.
 Balboa 0300K/9 June.

"SUSCUHANNA" (U.S.N. Tanker) arrived Milne Bay 0900K/20 from Langemak.

^{passed #45.}
 U.S.S. "MONTICELLO" (U.S.N.T.) departed Milne Bay 1400K/20. E.T.A.
 Suva 1100K/26 en route Balboa.

A.P.C. 17 (U.S.N. Coastal Transport) departed Milne Bay 1106K/21.
 E.T.A. Cairns 0100K/24.

U.S.S. "SAKATONCHEE" } (Tanker) } E.T.A. Milne Bay 1200K/26 from Bora Bora.
 U.S.S. "SEEKONK" } (Tanker) }

"CABLE ENTERPRISE" } departed Port Moresby 0740K/21 for Delena (North of
 M.L. 804 } Moresby). Arrived 1530K/21 thence Thursday Island
 E.T.A. 24/5.

H.D.M.L. 1074 arrived Port Moresby 1522K/21 from Milne Bay for refit.

M.L. 429 departed Darwin A.M. 20/5 for Operation "ADDER".

"FREMANTLE" arrived Thursday Island 2011K/20 from Cairns en route Darwin.

"STELLA" departed Cairns 1346K/21 E.T.A. Townsville 1800K/22.

APC. 18 arrived Cairns from Milne Bay.

"LONGBEACH" (U.S. Frigate) departed Cairns 1646K/21 E.T.A. Milne Bay 0800K/
 23.

"DOOMBA" departed Newcastle 1145K/21 towing 2 barges. E.T.A. Brisbane
 1300K/23.

"MATAPLE" arrived Sydney 1947K/20 from Townsville.

"QUIBERON" arrived Fremantle 1005K/21 in company with H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE".
 "QUIBERON" departed Fremantle 1530K/21. E.T.A. Melbourne
 1500K/24.

U.S.S. "CHANTICLEER" arrived Geraldton 1600K/21 from Exmouth Gulf.
 Departed 2345K/21. E.T.A. Fremantle 1445K/22.

NAVAL ATTACK, SOURABAYA.

Two Allied Aircraft Carriers with Battleship
 and Cruiser support attacked Sourabaya first light 17th May.

GROUNDING OF U.S. TANKER T.W. DRENNAN - THURSDAY ISLAND.

Tanker "T.W. DRENNAN" grounded lightly for 2
 hours whilst leaving Harbour Thursday Island. No damage apparent
 and expected to proceed 0200K/22.

.....

SECRET

DAILY NARRATIVE

TO 0900K - 21st May - 1944.

- U.S.S. "DOBBIN" (Destroyer Tender) E.T.D. Port Harvey 1500K/20
- U.S.S. "GLENDALE" (Frigate) E.T.A. Morobe 1200K/21.
- U.S.S. "BOOTES" - dep. Milne Bay 1100K/20;
(Store Ship) *passed H.S.* E.T.A. Brisbane 1900K/24.
- S.C. 741 - arr. Langemak 1800K/17 from Milne Bay.
- > M.L. 803 - arr. Milne Bay 0900K/20 from Madang.
- > "ORARA" - arr. Port Moresby 1256K/20 from Milne Bay.
- "PIRIE" - E.T.D. Thursday Is. 0300K/21 escorting
"T.W. DRENNAN" to Darwin.
- U.S.S. "LONGBEACH" - E.T.D. Cairns 1600K/21; E.T.A. Milne Bay
(Frigate) 0800K/23.
- "DELORAINÉ" - E.T.D. Caloundra 1300K/21; E.T.A. Milne Bay
0900K/23.
- U.S.S. "OTUS" - E.T.D. Caloundra 1630K/21; E.T.A. Cairns 2300K/21
(Submarine Tender)
- U.S.S. "BLANK" - arr. Brisbane 0822K/20 from Melbourne.
(Minesweeper) *passed H.S.*
- U.S.S. "OCTANS" - arr. Sydney 0638K/20 from Brisbane.
(Store Ship) *passed H.S.*
- > "SHEPPARTON" - arr. Sydney 1230K/20 from Townsville.
- > "DOOMBA" - dep. Sydney 0859K/20. Arr. Newcastle 1607K/20.
To tow 2 barges to Brisbane.
- > "ROCKHAMPTON" - dep. Adelaide 1339K/20; E.T.A. Sydney 0700K/24.

M.Ls. ATTACK - KARKAR IS.

P.D. Madang reports that on 18th May, M.Ls. 431, 806 and 424 shelled and strafed enemy positions on North and West of Karkar Is. during recee. for Army Authorities.

"SHEPPARTON" arrived Brisbane 1430K/19 from A/S Supply Dept. port.

"DELORAINÉ" arrived Brisbane 0942K/19 from Sydney.

"LONGBEACH" departed Sydney 0232K/19 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 1210K/20.

"OTUS" E.T.A. Sydney 0900K/20 for Brisbane.

"BLANK" arrived Sydney 0633 from A/S patrol Supply Dept.

"ROCKHAMPTON" E.T.A. Adelaide 1339K/20 for Milne Bay.

"DOOMBA" E.T.D. Robert 0615 for Sydney.

F.L. AIRY TRAWLER ON FIRE

While undergoing trials in Port Phillip Bay on Friday afternoon 19th May, 1944, the U.S. Army 90 lb. strafe, "T-122" caught fire. The trawler was bombed at Black Rock and the fire extinguished. Salvage board has been informed.

SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900K/Saturday, 20th May, 1944.

"MARTIN" (U.S. Destroyer Escort) E.T.D. Green Island 0900K/19 E.T.A. Dreger Harbour 1200K/20.

"MESQUITE" (U.S. Coastguard Cutter) departed Milne Bay 0830K/18 for survey ground.

S.C. 749) arrived Milne Bay 1130K/18 from Cairns.
YES. 70)

"CALAMARES" (U.S. Store Ship) ^{arrived to report} departed Milne Bay 1320K/18 for San Francisco E.T.A. 1100K/9th June.

"MONTICELLO" (U.S. Navy Transport) ^{arrived} arrived Milne Bay 1423K/18 from San Francisco. 7

✓ "COLAC" towing motor boats "RONA" and "EVERON" arrived Milne Bay 1500K/18.
✓ "BENDIGO" arrived Milne Bay 0945K/17 from Manus; departed Milne Bay 1400K/19 for Sydney for repairs to port shaft and gyro compass.
✓ "WATCHER" arrived Milne Bay 1100K/17 from Saidor.

"CINNAMON" (U.S. Naval transport) arrived Milne Bay 2200K/19 from Funa Futi.

P.C. 1120 arrived Milne Bay 1000K/19 from Langemak.

"SUSQUEHANNA" arrived Langemak 1700K/18 from Seeadler.

"SHIKELLAMY" (U.S. Naval tanker) arrived Milne Bay 0930K/19 from Lae.

"POYANG") arrived Langemak 0600K/19 from Oro Bay.
"KAILUA" (U.S. Loop layer))

"CARONDOLET" (U.S. Naval tanker) departed Port Moresby 0852K/29 for ^{HTS} Brisbane E.T.A. 1800K/27. 7

P.C. 1123) departed Seeadler 0900K/16 escorting convoy A.N.15 for
P.C. 1131) Langemak E.T.A. 0700K/17.

✓ "LATROBE" departed Darwin 0736K/19 with convoy D.T. 57 (ships) for Thursday Island E.T.A. 0715K/25.

✓ "FREMANTLE" departed Cairns 0805K/19 for Thursday Island.

✓ M.L. 827 departed Cairns 0935K/19 for Milne Bay.

✓ "KARANGI" arrived Brisbane 1545K/18 from Cairns, towing HDML.1129
"KARANGI" E.T.D. 1300K/20 for Sydney E.T.A. 1800K/24.

✓ "MILDURA" arrived Brisbane 1430K/19 from A/S Sandy Cape patrol.

✓ "DELORAINE" arrived Brisbane 0949K/19 from Sydney.

✓ "BISHOPDALE" departed Sydney 0214K/18 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 1514K/23.

"OCTANS" E.T.A. Sydney 0600K/20 for Brisbane.

✓ "YANDRA" arrived Sydney 0852 from A/S patrol Sandy Cape.

"ROCKHAMPTON" E.T.D. Adelaide 1230K/20 for Milne Bay.

"GOONAMBEE" E.T.D. Hobart 26/5 for Sydney

U.S. ARMY TRAWLER ON FIRE.

While undergoing trials in Port Phillip Bay on Friday afternoon 19th May, 1944, the U.S. Army 66 ft. trawler, "T.125" caught fire. The trawler was beached at Black Rock and the fire extinguished. Salvage Board has been informed.

To 0900K/Friday, 19th May, 1944.

YMS. 222 and C. 411 (unclassified) escorting "CARL B. EIELSON" and "HENRY L. GANET" departed Guadalcanal about 1600K/18 for Port Moresby. Escorts detach S. of Milne Bay and return to Guadalcanal.

> "ELLAN" arrived Morobe 1200K/17 from Langemak.

P.C. 1122 arrived Langemak 1700K/16 from Milne Bay.

"CALAMARES" U.S. Store Carrier departed Milne Bay 1100K/18 for San Francisco for repairs, E.T.A. 1100K/9th June.

> "PING WO" arrived Milne Bay 1530K/17 from Oro Bay.

> "POYANG" departed Milne Bay 1600K/17 E.T.A. Cape Cretin 0600K/19 E.T.D. 1500K/19 for onward convoy to Hollandia.

> "BOWEN" arrived Milne Bay 0945K/17 from Cairns departed 1400K/17 for Kiriwina.

> "ORARA" departed Milne Bay 0830K/18 E.T.A. Port Moresby 1300K/19 towing H.D.M.L. 1074 for refit and slipping.

> "SPRIGHTLY" arrived Milne Bay 1530K/17 from Cairns.

"WEST POINT" U.S.N.T. arrived Milne Bay 0930K/18 from Sydney.

"BOOTES" U.S. Store Carrier arrived Milne Bay 0930K/18 from Finschhafen.

"MESQUITE" U.S. Coastguard Cutter departed Milne Bay 1900K/18 northbound.

> M.L. 804 arrived Port Moresby 0748K/18 escorting "CABLE ENTERPRISE" from Baera.

> "WILCANNIA" escorting T.D. 56 departed Thursday Island 1800K/17 E.T.A. 1600K/22 convoy includes "STEADY HOUR" and "SEA MIST" (A.S.R. Vessels) under tow.

M.L. 827 E.T.D. Cairns 0900K/19 in tow of "BOTH" for Milne Bay.

"FREMANTLE" E.T.D. Cairns 0700K/19 E.T.A. Thursday Island 1000K/21.

> "HERON" U.S. Seaplane Tender departed Townsville 1000K/17 E.T.A. Palm Island 1400K/17.

> "VENDETTA" arrived Brisbane 1131K/18 from Cairns for docking.

"OCTANS" U.S. Store Carrier departed Brisbane 0400K/18 E.T.A. Sydney 1600K/19.

"WHYALLA" E.T.D. Brisbane 2000K/19 on A/S patrol Sandy Cape.

"OTUS" U.S. Submarine Tender E.T.D. Brisbane 20/5 for Cairns.

> "WARRNAMBOOL" arrived Sydney 0922K/18 from A/S patrol to Smoky Cape.

> "YANDRA" departed Sydney 0857K/18 on A/S patrol to Smoky Cape.

> "CAIRNS" departed Fremantle 1400K/18 E.T.A. Adelaide 1630K/23.

S.C. 746 arrived Milne Bay 1630K/17 from Cape Gloucester.

L.CI's 545 and 546 arrived Milne Bay 1030K/18.

ENEMY AIR RAIDS.

Advanced Bomber Command

" " "

" " "

Red 0355K/19.

White 0420K/19

Red 0600K/19

SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900K/Thursday, 17th May, 1944.

"SPANGLER" (U.S. Destroyer Escort) arrived Manus 17/5 escorting "ROTANIN" (U.S. Cargo Ship) from Munda.

"KATOOMBA" arrived Langenak at 1000K/15 from Manus.

"WARREGO" arrived Langenak 1206K/15 from Manus.

YMS. 315 arrived Manus at 1130K/14 from Langenak.

"STAWELL" arrived Manus at 1300K/15 from Langenak and departed so as to arrive Hollandia 1300K/17 escorting "YUNNAN".

"MORESBY" departed Langenak at 1800K/16 for Morobe.

"CARONDELET" (U.S. Tanker) arrived Port Moresby at 1831K/17 from Milne Bay.

"FREMANTLE" arrived Cairns at 1146K/17 towing M.L. 827 from Brisbane.

"LONGBEACH" (U.S. Frigate) arrived Cairns at 1525K/17 from Milne Bay.

"OTUS" (U.S. Sub. Tender) arrived Brisbane at 0642K/17 from Sydney.

"GOLDSTAR" (U.S. Store Carrier) E.T.D. Brisbane 1300K/17 for Milne Bay then Oro Bay E.T.A. 1600K/23.

"MIZAR" (U.S. Stores Ship) departed Brisbane 16/5 for Oro Bay E.T.A. 19/5.

"POLLEUX" (U.S. Stores Ship) arrived Brisbane 16/5 from Milne Bay.

"OCTANS" (U.S. Stores Ship) E.T.D. Caloundra 0400K/18. for Sydney E.T.A. 1600K/19.

YP. 236 E.T.D. Caloundra 1400K/18 for Palm Island E.T.A. 1400K/21 thence Cairns E.T.A. 1000K/23 for onward routing to Thursday Island.

"DELOBRAINE" departed Sydney at 0849K/17 for Brisbane E.T.A. 1030K/19 thence to Milne Bay.

YP. 288 departed Fremantle at 1520K/17 for Exmouth Gulf.

"MERBABOE" (N.E.I. M/S.) arrived Merauke at 0730K/16 from local operations.

S.C. 731 arrived Thursday Island at 1636K/16 escorting "THEDENS" from Merauke.

FURTHER TO ATTACK ON POSSIBLE SUBMARINE:

At 1245K/16 "BUNDABERG" reported having attacked suspected submarine in position 006°55'S. 150°23'E (160 miles E. of Cape Cretin) Underwater explosions, air bubbles resulted but only slight oil traces - continuing attacks.

"BOWEN" departed Milne Bay at 1400K/17 for Kiriwina E.T.A. 0600K/18 to deliver depth charges to "BUNDABERG" and group on A/S patrol Solomon Seas.

At 1905K/16 "BUNDABERG" reported that "BUNDABERG" and "GLADSTONE" had made 12 attacks on what was considered a definite submarine contact without any trace of damage - search is continuing - Required surface assistance in view of depleted depth charges.

At 1620K/17 "BUNDABERG" reported that "GLADSTONE" was continuing the search - and that "BUNDABERG" was proceeding to locate Beaufighter crew forced down in the area.

To 0900K/Wednesday, 17th May, 1944.

"WESTRALIA" arrived Sydney 0624K/16 from Milne Bay.

"MARTIN" (U.S. Destroyer Escort) E.T.D. Green Island 19/5 for Dreger Harbour. E.T.A. P.M./20 escorting "MTBRONS 6 and 9" which are to report to Com. 7th Fleet for duty.

"KIAMA" departed Seeadler 1200K/14 for Hollandia arrived 0800K/16 escorting "VICTORIA" (U.S. Fleet oiler).

"LONGREACH" (U.S. Frigate) departed Milne Bay 0540K/16 for Cairns E.T.A. 1700K/17.

"CARONDELET" (U.S.N. Tanker) departed Milne Bay 0745K/16 for Port Moresby. E.T.A. 1700K/17.

"POYANG" E.T.D. Milne Bay 1500K/17 for Cape Cretin and Hollandia.

P.C. 1122 departed Milne Bay 1200K/15 for Langemak E.T.A. 1900K/16. On arrival to relieve P.C. 1123 which is to return to Milne Bay.

S.C. 741 departed Milne Bay 1430K/16 for Langemak and Cape Gloucester.

A.L. 804 arrived Baera (Pt. Moresby area) 1730K/15 from DELENA (escorting "CABLE ENTERPRISE").

"HERON" (U.S. Seaplane Tender) arrived Townsville 0548K/16 from Samarai.

"VENDETTA" departed Cairns 1130K/16 for Brisbane E.T.A. 1200K/16 (docking).

P.278 arrived Cairns 1405K/16 from Milne Bay.

MS. 70 } departed Cairns 0800K/16 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 1100K/16.

S.C. 749 }

P.C. 5 }

"INNISFAIL" E.T.D. Brisbane 1500K/18 for Sydney E.T.A. 0600K/22.

"DEORAINÉ" E.T.D. Sydney 0900K/17 for Brisbane and Milne Bay.

"DOOMBA" arrived Sydney 0907K/16 from Smoky Cape patrol.

"WARRNAMBOOL" departed Sydney 0904K/16 on Smoky Cape Patrol.

"ROCKHAMPTON" E.T.D. Adelaide 20/5 for Sydney en route to Milne Bay.

"QUIBERON" E.T.D. Ceylon 19/5 for Fremantle (refit Melbourne).

"CAIRNS" } arrived Fremantle 1900K/16 from Addu Atoll (to refit)

"MOLLONGONG" } escorting "ATHOS" (tanker).

MARINE CONTACT 40 MILES S. GASMATA.

At 1245K/16 "BUNDABERG" (on Solomon Sea Patrol) reported suspected submarine contact approximately 40 miles south of Gasmata. An attack was made and underwater explosions and bubbles occurred. O.I.C. New Guinea issued an A.F. message at 1415K/16.

To 0900K/Tuesday, 16th May, 1944.

"GANYMEDE" (U.S.N. Cargo Ship) departed Milne Bay 1310K/15. E.T.A. Langemak 0100K/17 for onward convoy to Seeadler.

S.C. 738 arrived Langemak 1350K/10.

U.S.S. "SPANGLER" (Destroyer Escort) E.T.D. Munda A.M/13 for
U.S.S. "ROTANIN" (Commissioned Cargo Ship)) Emirau thence Seeadler
Harbour.

"PORCUPINE" (U.S.N. Tanker) arrived Langemak 1600K/14 from Milne Bay.

x "JUNEE" arrived Milne Bay 0800K/15 from Brisbane.

x "GASCOYNE" arrived Milne Bay 1430K/14 from Seeadler.

"CALAMARES" (U.S. Store Carrier) departed Langemak 0600K/14 E.T.A. Milne Bay 1500K/15.

U.S.S. "MONTICELLO" (U.S.N.T.) departed Noumea 0800K/15 for Milne Bay E.T.A. China Straits 1100K/18.

U.S.S. "MESQUITE" departed Milne Bay 15/5 to North of Buna to relay missing buoy.

"CABLE ENTERPRISE") E.T.D. Delena (North of Pt. Moresby) 0700K/15.
M.L. 804) E.T.A. Baera (Moresby Area) probably 1800K/15.

S.C. 731 departed Merauke 1900K/15 escorting "THEDENS" to Thursday Is. E.T.A. 1500K/16.

x "PIRIE" arrived Thursday Island 1550K/15 escorting D.T. 56 from Darwin.

x "INVERELL" arrived Darwin 2043K/15 escorting T.D.55 from Thursday Island.

"BOWEN" departed Cairns 1521K/15 E.T.A. Milne Bay 0900K/17.

S.C. 749) E.T.D. Cairns 0800K/16 E.T.A. Milne Bay 1100K/18.
APC. 5.)
YMS. 70)

"SPRIGHTLY" departed Cairns 0705K/15 E.T.A. Milne Bay 0900K/17.

"SHEPPARTON" arrived Townsville 0516K/15 from Milne Bay. Departed 1755K/15 E.T.A. Sydney 0700K/20.

"GOLDSTAR" (U.S. Stores Ship) E.T.D. Caloundra 1100K/17. E.T.A. Oro Bay 0600K/23 thence to Manus.

"OCTANS" (U.S. Stores Carrier) arrived Brisbane 0530K/15 from Milne Bay.

"TRIANGULUM" (U.S. Store Carrier) arrived Brisbane from Cairns.

U.S.S. "OTUS" (SUBMARINE TENDER) departed Sydney 1651K/15 E.T.A. Brisbane 1400K/17.

H.D.M.L. 1323 E.T.D. Sydney 21/5 for Darwin.

U.S.S. "LARK" departed Melbourne 1040K/15 E.T.A. Caloundra 2000K/19.

U.S.S. "PELIAS" departed Fremantle 1100K/15 for Pearl Harbour. E.T.A. A.M. 6/6.

To 0900K/Monday, 15th May, 1944.

"WARREGO" departed Milne Bay 1030K/14 E.T.A. Langemak 1430K/15.

"BENALLA" arrived Hollandia 0700K/13 from Manus.

"LITHGOW" arrived Milne Bay 1000K/13 towing "GERARD" from Langemak.

P.C. 1119 arrived Milne Bay 0930K/13 from Langemak.

P.C. 1122) E.T.D. Milne Bay 1000K/15 E.T.A. Langemak P.M.16/5.

S.C. 741)

APC. 2 E.T.D. Dreger 1000K/14 E.T.A. Talasea 1200K/15.

U.S.S. "BOOTES" (Cargo Ship) departed Milne Bay 1800K/12 E.T.A. Finschhafen 2300K/14.

U.S.S. "SUSQUEHANNA" (Tanker) arrived Langemak 1730K/13 from Milne Bay.

"LATROBE" arrived Darwin 1552K/14 escorting T.D. 54.

S.C. 731 E.T.D. Merauke 1900K/15 escorting "THEDENS" to Thursday Island

"WILCANNIA" arrived Thursday Island 0043K/14 escorting D.T. 55.

"STEADY HOUR") (A.S.R.) arrived Thursday Island 1615K/14 from Cairns.

"SEA MIST")

"BOWEN" E.T.D. Cairns 1500K/15 E.T.A. Milne Bay 0900K/17.

"BALLARAT" departed Cairns 2245K/13 to search for life raft reported by aircraft 70 miles north of Townsville.

"KARANGI" departed Cairns 0731K/14 towing HML.1129 E.T.A. Brisbane 0900K/19.

"MAIAFELE" arrived Townsville 0415K/14 from Milne Bay departed 1350K/14 E.T.A. Sydney 1800K/20.

U.S. Submarine "NAUTILUS" arrived Brisbane 0510K/14 (transpacific).

"ECHUCA" arrived Brisbane 0156K/14 from Milne Bay.

"MILDURA" E.T.D. Caloundra 1600K/15 for Sandy Cape Patrol.

"WHYALLA" arrived Brisbane 1223K/14 from Sandy Cape patrol.

U.S.S. "MIZAR" (Store Carrier) E.T.D. Caloundra 0530K/15 E.T.A. Oro Bay 0130K/18.

U.S.S. "WEST POINT" (Transport) departed Sydney 1451K/14 E.T.A. Milne Bay 0700K/18.

"YANDRA" arrived Sydney 0841K/14 from Smoky Cape Patrol.

"DOOMBA" departed Sydney 0907K/14 on Smoky Cape patrol.

"SPRINGDALE" arrived Sydney 2037K/14 from Milne Bay.

"STAWELL" BOMBARDS KARKAR ISLAND:

At dawn 12th May "STAWELL" bombarded enemy targets on North Western side of KARKAR ISLAND (North of Madang). The enemy returned light inaccurate fire.

.....

Saturday, 13th May, 1944.

2.

MILDURA Arrived Brisbane 0155K/13 from A/S Patrol.

FREMANTLE E.T.D. Caloundra 2000K/13 for Cairns E.T.A. 1400K/17
towing M.L.827. (M.L.827 to Milne Bay.
FREMANTLE to Thursday Is. and Darwin.)

DACE (U.S.S./M) Arrived Brisbane 0605K/13 from Milne Bay.

MIZAR (U.S. Store Ship) arrived Brisbane 1935K/13 from Sydney.

KYBRA Arrived Brisbane 0112K/13 from exercising with U.S. S/M BREAM.

WEST POINT (U.S.N.T.) E.T.D. Sydney 1400K/14 for Milne Bay.

LARK (U.S. Minesweeper) Arrived P.Phillip 0742K/13 from Fremantle.

K.15 (R.N.N. S/M) Arrived Fremantle 1400K/12 from Darwin.

Y.P.286 E.T.D. Fremantle 1000K/13 for Sydney via Melbourne. E.T.A.
Port Phillip 23/5.

RAFT SIGHTING BY AIRCRAFT.

At 1757/13 N.O.I.C. Townsville instructed BALLARAT to proceed to a position 70 miles N. of Townsville and investigate a reported life raft sighting by an aircraft. Assistance will also be given by aircraft.

BARCOO AND KAPUNDA BOMBARDMENT OF KARKAR IS.

At 1852K/12 P.D. Madang reported that BARCOO and KAPUNDA would be carrying out a bombardment of Karkar Is. (40 miles north of Madang) at dawn 13th May.

FLOATING MINE E.S.E. OF CAPE CRETIN.

At 1035K/13 Com. 3rd Fleet ordered PRUITT (D.M.S.- Fast Minesweeper) to search for and destroy the floating mine reported in position 320 E.S.E. of Cape Cretin, PRUITT to return Purvis Bay on completion of mission (See Previous narrative).

ENEMY AIR RAID.

NADZAB	-	Red	2114K/13
		White	2520K/13
		Red	0110K/14.

0900K/Saturday, 13th May, 1944.

"BENDIGO" arrived Manus at 1600K/12 from Langemak.

"CASTLEMAINE" departed Milne Bay 1400K/11 for Langemak E.T.A. 1200K/12.

"WESTRALIA") arrived Milne Bay at 1000K/11 from Cape Sudest.

"KANIMBLA")

"WESTRALIA" departed Milne Bay at 1500K/11 for Sydney E.T.A. 0800K/16.

"MONTEREY" arrived Langemak at 0800K/12 from Pearl Harbour.

"GYMPIE" will rendezvous with "BUNDABERG" in position 180 miles E.S.E. of Langemak for A/S patrol in Solomon Seas area - "BUNDABERG" departed Milne Bay at 1000K/12 to effect R.V.

"SHEPPARTON" arrived Milne Bay at 1538K/11 from Survey duties - vicinity Woodlark Island.

"TRYON" (U.S. Evacuation Transport) arrived Cape Sudest at 1200K/9 from Milne Bay - departed at 2100K/11 for Guadalcanal.

"OCTANS" (U.S. Stores Carrier) departed Milne Bay at 1600K/11 for Brisbane. E.T.A. 0600K/15.

"SUSQUEHANNA" (U.S. Fleet Tanker) departed Milne Bay at 1445K/12 E.T.A. Langemak 1600K/13 - thence to Seeadler.

"CALAMARES" (U.S. Stores Carrier) arrived Langemak at 1100K/11 from Manus.

"VENDETTA" E.T.D. Cairns A.M/18 for Milne Bay E.T.A. A.M/19.

"KARANGI" E.T.D. Cairns 0800K/13 for Brisbane.

"GEELONG" arrived Cairns at 1246K/12 from Port Moresby for docking and boiler clean.

"WHYALLA" departed Gladstone at 1200K/12 on A/S patrol Sandy Cape. To return Brisbane P.M/14.

"SAN MICHELE" (C.P.B.) departed Cairns 1500K/12 for Townsville E.T.A. 1400K/13.

"TRIANGULUM" (U.S. Store Carrier) departed Cairns at 1709K/11 for Brisbane.

"SOLACE" (U.S. Hospital Ship) arrived Brisbane at 0610K/12 from Milne Bay.

"FREMANTLE" arrived Brisbane at 0841K/12 from Melbourne.

"KIZAR" departed Sydney at 1615K/12 for Brisbane E.T.A. 1930K/13.

"YANDRA" departed Sydney at 1614K/12 on A/S patrol to Smoky Cape and return.

"L. 825" arrived Sydney at 1303K/12 from Port Kembla.

"DOOMBA" returned Sydney at 0857K/12 from A/S patrol.

"DURRAWEE" returns to Williamstown A.M/15 from local duties.

"INVERELL" departed Thursday Island at 0630K/11 escorting T.D. 55. E.T.A. Darwin 2100K/15.

"C. 731" departed Thursday Island at 1746K/11 escorting "THEDENS" to Merauke. Arrived at 1655K/12.

"PIRIE" departed Darwin 0925K/12 escorting D.T. 56 for Thursday Is. E.T.A. 0900K/15.

H.M.L. 1352 commissioned at Sydney A.M./12 under the command of Sub-Lieutenant E.V. McKENZIE, R.A.N.V.R.

H.M.L. 1340 commissioned at Sydney A.M./12 under command of Sub-Lieutenant C.H. CUNDELL, R.A.N.R.

FLOATING MINE REPORTED BY N.O.I.C. New Guinea. to have been in position 008°03' South 153°03' 320 miles E.S.E. Cape Cretin E. at 0950K/11. Appeared German type - fairly new.

FLOATING MINE SUNK BY "GYMPIE".

At 1736K/12 "GYMPIE" reported sighting and sinking floating mine in position 006°45'S. 148°50'E 60 miles E.S.E. of Cape Cretin. Mine resembled British. Photograph follows.

LIBERTY SHIP AGROUND.

N.O.I.C. New Guinea reported that "RUSSELL SAGE" grounded Dorasi Shoal - near north foreland China Strait at 0908K/11. Tug "ST. GILES" rendering assistance.

SS. FINE (77 Tons) Dep. Oregan Harbour 1008K/11 S.T.A. Brisbane 1208K/11.

.....

SS. DUNN (Store Carrier) Arr. Milne Bay 0808K/11 from Brisbane S.T.A. 1208K/11 S.T.A. Brisbane 0808K/11.

SS. GARDNER (Tug) Dep. Milne Bay 1208K/10 S.T.A. Cape Sudest 1208K/11.

SS. LINDA Arr. Milne Bay 1208K/10 from Port Moresby.

SS. LINDA Dep. Milne Bay 1208K/10 S.T.A. Sydney 1208K/11.

SS. LINDA Dep. Milne Bay 1208K/10 S.T.A. Ona Bay 1208K/11.

SS. VII S.T.A. Thursday Is. 1708K/11 reporting 1208K/11 S.T.A. Brisbane 1208K/11.

SS. FRIENDLY S.T.A. Cairns 17/3 for Milne Bay.

SS. TRIANGLE (Store Carrier) S.T.A. Cairns 0808K/11 S.T.A. Calcutta 0808K/11.

SS. IV Arr. Cairns 1008K/11 from Brisbane.

SS. IV S.T.A. Cairns 0808K/11 using 1208K/11 S.T.A. Brisbane 1008K/11.

SS. POLARIS S.T.A. Arr. Brisbane 0808K/11 from Milne Bay.

SS. POLARIS S.T.A. Brisbane 0808K/11 from Sandy Cape Patrol.

SS. POLARIS S.T.A. Brisbane 1208K/11 to report in 1208K/11 from Burnett Heads to Brisbane S.T.A. 1208K/11. Then proceed on Sandy Cape patrol until 1208K/11.

SS. POLARIS (Transport - 1208K/11) S.T.A. Sydney 1208K/11.

SS. POLARIS (Store Carrier) Arr. Sydney 1208K/11 from Melbourne.

SS. POLARIS Arr. Java Bay 1208K/11 S.T.A. 1208K/11 S.T.A. Sydney 1208K/11.

DAILY NARRATIVE

TO 0900K/12th MAY, 1944

- > BARCOO Dep. Goodenough 1600K/9 E.T.A. Lae 1000K/10.
- > STAWELL Arr. Madang 0730K/10 from Oro Bay.
- CASTLEMAINE E.T.D. Milne Bay 1400K/11 E.T.A. Langemak P.M. 12/5.
- > BENALLA Dep. Seeadler 1715K/10 E.T.A. Hollandia 1700K/12.
- > HUNBURY Dep. Milne Bay 1030K/11 E.T.A. Oro Bay 0700K/12.
- > GOULBURN Arr. Milne Bay 1000K/11 from Langemak.
- P.C. 1123) Arr. Cape Gloucester 0600K/11 escorting 2 merchant ships
 * S.C. 744) from Milne Bay.
- S.C. 738 Dep. Oro Bay 1215K/9 escorting BG 99 including USS SHIKELLAMY (Tanker-for Lae) and USS ADHARA (Store Carrier) E.T.A. Langemak 1230K/10.
- USS HILO (PT Tender) Dep Dreger Harbour 1000K/11 E.T.A. Talasea 0500K/12.
- USS OCTANS (Store Carrier) Arr. Milne Bay 0930K/11 from Langemak E.T.D. 1500K/11 E.T.A. Caloundra 0900K/15.
- USS CARONDOLET (Tanker) Dep. Milne Bay 1500K/10 E.T.A. Cape Sudest 1500K/11.
- > CAPE LEEUWIN Arr. Milne Bay 1600K/10 from Port Moresby.
- > MATAFELE Dep. Milne Bay 1600K/10 E.T.A. Sydney 1600K/23.
- > PING WO Dep. Milne Bay 1830K/10 E.T.A. Oro Bay 1230K/11.
- S.C. 731 E.T.D. Thursday Is. 1730K/11 escorting THEDENS E.T.A. Merauke 1530K/12.
- SPRIGHTLY E.T.D. Cairns AM 17/5 for Milne Bay.
- USS TRIANGULUM (Store Carrier) E.T.D. Cairns 0800K/12 E.T.A. Caloundra 0500K/15.
- YMS. 70 Arr. Cairns 1601K/11 from Brisbane.
- KARANGI E.T.D. Cairns 0800K/13 towing HMML. 1129 E.T.A. Brisbane 1000K/18.
- U.S. Submarine SEA HORSE Arr. Brisbane 0525K/11 from Milne Bay.
- MILDURA E.T.A. Brisbane 0200K/12 from Sandy Cape Patrol.
- WHYALLA E.T.D. Gladstone 1500K/11 to escort 15 ALCM's from Burnett Heads to Gladstone E.T.A. 1100K/12. WHYALLA then proceeds on Sandy Cape patrol until 1600K/15.
- USS WEST POINT (Transport - transpacific) E.T.A. Sydney 1230K/12.
- > USS MIZAR (Store Carrier) Arr. Sydney 1637K/11 from Melbourne.
- > M.L. 825 Arr. Jervis Bay 1725K/11 E.T.D. 0630K/12 E.T.A. Sydney 1300K/12.

0930K/Thursday, 11th May, 1947.

ARARAT Arr. Melbourne 1648K/11 from Sydney for refit. OGDON and K.15 (Dutch S/M). E.T.A. Fremantle 1100K/12 from Darwin.

U.S. Auxiliary Aircraft Carrier, departed San Francisco 0300K/16 E.T.A. FRENCH

SUBMARINE WARNING

At 2235K/11 KIAMA reported an attack on a suspected Submarine in position 80 miles South of Admiralty.

At 0115K/12 M.O.I.C. New Guinea issued an A.F. message.

U.S. Ammunition Ship) comprising A.S. 12 departed Manus 1200K/9. U.S. Store Carrier "OCTAVS" for Langsok, "SANGAY" for Cape Cratin. "STREPTON" for Milne Bay thence Manus when relieved at Milne Bay by "GLENDALE" U.S. Frigate.

"OCTAVS" departed Langsok 1500K/9 E.T.A. Milne Bay 0900K/11 (amended time).

S.S. 425 } departed Langsok 1900K/7 for Madang. S.S. 508 }

"MUSQUETIER" arrived Milne Bay 1848K/8 from Buna.

"MOMA" departed Milne Bay 1400K/8 E.T.A. Madang 1000K/11 (via Langsok)

"MUSCA" departed Milne Bay 0300K/10 E.T.A. Calcedonia 0500K/14.

"MARNICO" arrived Milne Bay 0300K/10 from Cairns.

"MARBURY" arrived Milne Bay 0300K/10 from Brisbane.

"MIRA" departed Cape Sudest 2100K/9 E.T.A. Langsok 0700K/10.

"MILBY" departed Port Moresby 1430K/10 E.T.A. Cairns 1200K/12 for boiler cleaning and dome repairs.

S.S. 504 departed Thursday Island 0700K/10 to N.V. with "Cable Enterprise"

"STEADY HAND" } U.P.B.'s departed Cairns 0900K/10 E.T.A. Thursday Island "A. BENT" } 1600K/13.

"MORNING" arrived Moresby 1630K/9 from Princess Marianna Island.

"LA ROSE" escorting T.D. 54 departed Thursday Island 1200K/9 E.T.A. Darwin 1600K/14.

"MIRABELL" escorting D.T. 54, arrived Thursday Island 1200K/9.

"MILCANNIA" escorting "GEORGE EASTMAN" arrived Darwin 1730K/9 from West Bay.

"MILMOULUS" U.S. Store Carrier arrived Cairns 1206K/8 from Milne Bay.

"MILMANT" departed Townsville 1000K/9 arrived Cairns 1200K/10 (for docking).

"MILMANT" U.S. Auxiliary Aircraft Carrier, departed Townsville 0910K/10 E.T.A. San Diego 1400K/29.

To 0900K/Thursday, 11th May, 1944.

"J.D. BLACKWOOD" U.S. Destroyer Escort, escorting "THOMAS CONDON" and "WILLIAM KEITH" E.T.D. Rendova 1800K/10 for Manus, routed N. of Woodlark Island.

"NASSAU", U.S. Auxiliary Aircraft Carrier, departed San Francisco 0300K/16 E.T.A. Finschhafen 23/6.

Assigned to H.R. Service
"CALAMARES" U.S. Store Carrier escorted by P.C. 1119, P.C. 1133 and "LITHGOW" arrived Manus 1600K/8 from Langemak.

P.C. 1123, escorting "JAMES D. DOTY" arrived Langemak 0700K/9 from Cape Gloucester.

"SANGAY" U.S. Ammunition Ship) comprising A.N. 12 departed Manus 1200K/8
"OCTANS" U.S. Store Carrier) "OCTANS" for Langemak, "SANGAY" for Cape
"STOCKTON" U.S. Destroyer) Cretin. "STOCKTON" for Milne Bay
thence Manus when relieved at Milne Bay
by "GLENDALE" U.S. Frigate.

"OCTANS" departed Langemak 1500K/9 E.T.A. Milne Bay 0900K/11 (amended times).

M.L. 425) departed Langemak 1900K/7 for Madang.
M.L. 802)

"SUSQUEHANNA" arrived Milne Bay 1844K/9 from Buna.

"WAGGA" departed Milne Bay 1400K/8 E.T.A. Madang 1000K/11 (via Langemak)

"ECHUCA" departed Milne Bay 0600K/10 E.T.A. Caloundra 0200K/14.

"WARREGO" arrived Milne Bay 0900K/10 from Cairns.

"BUNBURY" arrived Milne Bay 0900K/10 from Brisbane.

Assigned to H.R. Service
"PYRO" departed Cape Sudest 2100K/9 E.T.A. Langemak 0700K/10. *ammunition ship*

"GEELONG" departed Port Moresby 1430K/10 E.T.A. Cairns 1200K/12 for boiler cleaning and dome repairs.

M.L. 804 departed Thursday Island 0700K/10 to R.V. with "Cable Enterprise"

"STEADY HOUR") C.P.B.'s departed Cairns 0900K/10 E.T.A. Thursday Island
"SEA MIST") 1800K/13.

"TOOMEREE" arrived Merauke 1630K/9 from Princess Mariana Island.

"LATROBE" escorting T.D. 54 departed Thursday Island 1920K/9 E.T.A. Darwin 1600K/14.

"INVERELL" escorting D.T. 54, arrived Thursday Island 1700K/9.

"WILCANNIA" escorting "GEORGE EASTMAN" arrived Darwin 2232K/9 from West Bay.

Assigned to H.R. Service
"TRIANGULUM" U.S. Store Carrier arrived Cairns 1206K/9 from Milne Bay.

"VIGILANT" departed Townsville 1600K/9 arrived Cairns 1506K/10 (for docking).

"PRINCE WILLIAM" U.S. Auxiliary Aircraft Carrier, departed Townsville 0919K/10 E.T.A. San Diego 1400K/29.

"MERKUR" arrived Brisbane 0615K/10 from Milne Bay.

"KYBRA" E.T.D. Caloundra 1530K/10 to exercise with U.S. Submarine
"BREAM" then return Brisbane E.T.A. 2100K/12.

M.L.808 arrived Brisbane from Gladstone 1643K/9.

"MILDURA" E.T.D. Caloundra 0600K/11 on Sandy Cape A/S patrol.

"JUNEE" departed Caloundra 1330K/10 E.T.A. Milne Bay 0600K/15.

"WAIRERE" N.A.P. arrived Sydney 1555K/10 from Newcastle.

"PATERSON") arrived Sydney 1357K/9 from Port Kembla.

"SAMUEL BENBOW")

"FLYING CLOUD" N.A.P. departed Sydney 0627K/10 arrived Port Kembla
1330K/10.

"DOOMBA" departed Sydney 0858K/10 on A/S patrol to Smoky Cape.

"YANDRA" arrived Sydney 0900K/10 from A/S patrol Smoky Cape.

"BINGERA" departed Westernport 1400K/10 arrived Williamstown 2331K/10
(for docking).

"MIZAR" departed Melbourne 0730K/10 E.T.A. Sydney 0600K/12.

"CHANTICLEER" U.S. Sbmbarine Rescue Vessel arrived Exmouth Gulf 1915K/10
from Fremantle.

S.C. 749 E.T.D. Caloundra 1400K/10 E.T.A. Cairns 1500K/13 for onward
routeing to Milne Bay.

S.C. 982 escorting "HILO" U.S. Gunboat arrived Langemak 1400K/8 from
Talasea.

S.C. 731 escorting "GORGON" departed Mersake 1530K/9 arrived Thursday
Island 0910K/10.

S.C. 738 escorting B.G. 99 departed Oro Bay 1215K/9 E.T.A. Langemak
1230K/10.

APC.5 towing A.P.C. 1 arrived Cairns 0756K/10 from Milne Bay.

APC.2 departs Dreger Harbour 1800K/10 E.T.A. Saidor 0700K/11.

YMS.71 escorting GB.98 departed Langemak 1800K/8 for Oro Bay.

SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE

0900K/Wednesday, 10th May, 1944.

WARRINGTON" (Destroyer) } E.T.D. Havannah P.M./10 for Milne Bay E.T.A.
BALCH" (Destroyer) } 13/5.

TRATHEN" (Destroyer) departed Munda (Solomon Island) 1600K/8 for Manus Island (escorting "AZALEA CITY").

CINNAMON" (U.S.S. Ship - not listed) departed Funa Futi 0500K/9 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 17/5.

GYMPIE" } departed Milne Bay 1400K/9 to commence patrol in Solomon
GLADSTONE" } Sea.
KATOOMBA" }

BARCOO" departed Milne Bay 0653K/9 for Langemak via Goodenough Island E.T.A. 1300K/9.

WAGGA" } E.T.A. Langemak 0730K/10 from Milne Bay.
KAPUNDA" }

ADHARA" (U.S. Cargo Ship) E.T.A. Manus A.M./12 from Oro Bay.

BECHUCA" E.T.D. Milne Bay A.M./10 for Brisbane E.T.A. A.M./14 (to effect repairs to distiller).

CARINA" (U.S. Cargo Ship) E.T.D. Espiritu Santo 0800K/9 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 14/5.

BENALLA" E.T.D. Seeadler Harbour 1700K/10 for Hollandia E.T.A. 1700K/12.

MESQUITE" arrived Milne Bay 1815K/8 towing YT.235 and YT.251 from Cairns.

PANDA" (U.S.N. Tanker) arrived Langemak 6/5 from Oro Bay.

.233 arrived Milne Bay 1045K/8 from Brisbane.

DIYANG" arrived Milne Bay 1005K/8 from Oro Bay.

S. 315) departed Milne Bay 1000K/8 for Langemak E.T.A. 2000K/9 thence
S. 49) to Seeadler.
C. 650)

S. 314) departed Milne Bay 1400K/9 for Langemak, E.T.A. 0600K/11.

S. 316) YMS. 71 to rendezvous off Oro Bay and proceed in company to
S. 336) Langemak where YMS's will be employed on patrol and escort
duty by P.D.

C. 1121 departed Milne Bay 0800K/9 for Langemak E.T.A. 0900K/10.
(on arrival to operational control P.D. Langemak).

L. 804 arrived Thursday Island 1903K/8 escorting "CABLE ENTERPRISE" from Cairns.

CAPE LEEUWIN" departed Port Moresby 0700K/9 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 2200K/10.

ML. 1322 departed Merauke 0700K/9 for Bilanden River (patrol).

RENDETTA" arrived Cairns 0904K/8 from Milne Bay (to boiler clean).

SAN MICHELE" arrived Cairns 0646K/9 from Townsville.

HYALLA" arrived Gladstone 1600K/9 from Brisbane.

C. 11 E.T.D. Cairns 0800K/10 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 1200K/12.

REAM" (U.S. Submarine) E.T.D. Brisbane 1330K/10 for Milne Bay.

TUNEE" arrived Brisbane 0806K/9 from Sydney E.T.D. Caloundra 1330K/10 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 1000K/15 (to work up).

"MILDURA" E.T.D. Brisbane 2000K/10 on A/S patrol to Sandy Cape

"MINGO" (U.S. Submarine) arrived Brisbane 0620K/9 from Milne Bay.

YP.291 arrived Brisbane 1905K/8 from Cairns.

"ARARAT" arrived Sydney 0930K/9 from Townsville departed Sydney 1616K/9. for Melbourne E.T.A. 1000K/11.

"PATERSON") departed Port Kembla 0720K/9 to conduct A/S sweep
"SAMUEL BENEOW") thence Sydney E.T.A. 1500K/9.

HML.1326 departed Sydney 0942K/9 for Jervis Bay E.T.A. 1730K/9.

"MIZAR" (U.S.N. Store Ship) E.T.D. Melbourne 0600K/10 for Sydney E.T.A. 2000K/11, E.T.D. Sydney 1500K/12 for Brisbane. E.T.A. 1930K/13.

"BINGERA" E.T.D. WESTERNPORT 1400K/10 for Melbourne (to refit).

"CHANTICLEER" (U.S. Submarine Rescue Ship) departed Fremantle 0032K/9 for Exmouth.

YMS.11 and 72 departed Fremantle 0032K/9 for Exmouth.

CHINA STRAIT AND SOLOMON SEA PATROLS:

N.O.I.C. New Guinea reported that the Box Patrol south of China Strait had been withdrawn P.M/8 May and that the Solomon Sea Patrol is to commence P.M/9 May.

DISCONTINUANCE OF B.G. AND G.B. CONVOYS:

GB. and BG convoys are to be discontinued from 9/5/44. Ships will be sailed to Oro Bay to await calls forward.

BRITISH COLUMBIA EXPRESS REFLOATED:

N.O.I.C. New Guinea reported that the "BRITISH COLUMBIA EXPRESS" (aground off Cape Sinclair, Oro Bay) had been refloated at 0130K/8.

T 0900K/Tuesday, 9th May, 1944.

"OCTANS" departed Manus at 1200K/8 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 2100K/10.

"FOREMAN" (U.S. Destroyer Escort) E.T.A. Cape Sudest 0650K/9 from escort duties with "PRESIDENT POLK".

YMS.73 arrived Milne Bay at 1045K/8 from escort duties with GB.97.

"ADAHARA" (U.S. Com. Cargo) departed Milne Bay at 0650K/8 for Oro Bay at E.T.A. 0400K/9. thence to Manus.

P.C. 1123) arrived Langemak at 1730K/5 from Milne Bay.
P.C. 1131)

P.C. 1120 departed Langemak at 1800K/6 from Milne Bay escorting GB.97.

"SHEPPARTON" departed Milne Bay at 0300K/7 for survey duties in vicinity Marshall Bennett Islands (20 miles N.W. Woodlark Is.).

"WAGGA") E.T.D. Milne Bay 1400K/8 for Langemak E.T.A. P.M.9th.
"KAPUNDA")

"BARCOO" departs Milne Bay 0600K/9 for Goodenough thence Lae and Langemak.

"SPRINGDALE" departed Milne Bay at 1530K/7 for Sydney E.T.A. 0600K/16.

"STAWELL") departed Milne Bay at 1335K/7 for Oro Bay E.T.A. 0800K/8.
P.C. 477)

"TRIANGULUM" (U.S. Stores Carrier) departed Milne Bay at 1100K/7 for Cairns E.T.A. 1500K/9.

"WARREGO" departed Cairns at 1426K/8 for Milne Bay.

"PRINCE WILLIAM" (U.S. Aux. Aircraft Carrier) arrived Townsville at 1630K/7 from South Pacific.

"BREAM" (U.S. Submarine) arrived Brisbane at 0547K/8.

"KAILUA" (U.S. Loop Repair Vessel) E.T.D. Brisbane 1430K/9 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 1630K/15.

YMS.70 departed Brisbane at 1350K/8 for Cairns thence to Milne Bay.

"ORCA" (U.S. Seaplane Tender) about 10th May to depart Brisbane for Milne Bay via Palm Island.

"YANDRA" departed Sydney at 0904K/8 for A/S patrol to Smoky Cape and return.

"PATERSON") departed Sydney 0752K/8 for Port Kembla on surveying
"SAMUEL BENBOW") operations arrived at 1330K/8.

"GEELONG" arrived Port Moresby at 1015K/8 from Milne Bay.

"CAPE LEEUWIN" arrived Port Moresby at 1328K/8 from Bramble Cay.

M.L. 429 arrived Darwin at 1550K/8 escorting "BABINDA" from Millingimbi.

YP.288 arrived Fremantle from Exmouth Gulf.

"ADELAIDE" arrived Fremantle at 2236K/7 escorting "GRIFFIN" (U.S. Sub.Tender

.....

To 0900K/Monday, 8th May, 1944.

"NATOMA BAY" } (U.S. Escort Carriers) } comprising C.T.G. 78.3 departed
 "MANILA BAY" } } Seeadler 0630K/6. E.T.A. Pearl
 0700K/18.

"LANDOWNE" } (U.S. Destroyers) }
 "LARDNER" } }
 "ELLET" } }

"VENDETTA" departed Milne Bay 1600K/6 E.T.A. Cairns 0830K/8.

U.S.S. "ORANGE" (Frigate) arrived Milne Bay 1815K/6 from Santo.

"SHEPPARTON" arrived Milne Bay 1100K/5 (after having been en route to
 Townsville) E.T.D. Milne Bay 0300K/7 for survey ground.

"GEELONG" arrived Milne Bay 2000K/6 departed 1100K/7 E.T.A. Port Moresby
 1100K/8.

"GOULBURN" arrived Langemak 0800K/5 towing "GERARD".

U.S.S. "ADHARA" (Cargo Ship) arrived Milne Bay 1115K/6 from Noumea.

"MERKUR" departed Milne Bay 0505K/6 E.T.A. Brisbane 1800K/10.

U.S.S. "SHIKELLAMY" (Tanker) departed Milne Bay 1418K/6 E.T.A. Buna
 0800K/7.

"FALIE" arrived Milne Bay 1400K/6 from Buna.

YP. 504 arrived Milne Bay 0921K/6 from Townsville.

"MATAFELE" arrived Milne Bay 2330K/7 from Kiriwina.

P.C. 1124 arrived Milne Bay 2100K/6 from Langemak.

S.C. 746 arrived Cape Gloucester 1600K/6 from Langemak.

S.C. 982 departed Cape Gloucester 1630K/6 for Talasea then returning
 Langemak escorting "HILO" E.T.A. Langemak 1900K/8.

U.S.S. "PRESIDENT JOHNSON" (Transport) departed Noumea 1600K/7 E.T.A.
 Milne Bay 0900K/11.

"SAKATONCHEE" } U.S. Gasoline Tankers) departed Bora Bora 1200K/5 E.T.A.
 "SEEKONK" } Milne Bay 23/5.

M.L. 425 E.T.D. Langemak 1800K/7 E.T.A. Madang 0800K/8.

"PIRIE" arrived Darwin 1453K/7 escorting "CHARON" from Thursday Island.

"CAPE LEEUWIN" E.T.D. Bramble Cay 1000K/7 E.T.A. Port Moresby.
 1300K/8.

S.C. 731 arrived Merauke 0130K/7 escorting "GORGON" from Thursday Island.

"TOOMEREE" (A.S.R.) departed Merauke 0315K/7 for Princess Mariana Strait.

"WARRECO" E.T.D. Cairns 1400K/8 E.T.A. Milne Bay 0200K/10.

"BALLARAT" E.T.D. Cairns 0900K/8 to carry out searching sweep and A/S
 patrol off Grafton Passage until 1600K/10 then return Cairns.

"SAN MICHELE" (C.P.B.) E.T.D. Townsville 0900K/8 E.T.A. Cairns 1000K/9.

"WARRNAMBOOL" arrived Sydney 0847K/7 from Smoky Cape Patrol.

"JUNEE" departed Sydney 1011K/7 E.T.A. Caloundra 0800K/9.

M.L. 810 departed Pt. Stephens 0530K/7 arrived Sydney 1238K/7.

U.S.S. "LARK" (Minesweeper) departed Fremantle 1940K/6 for Brisbane
 via Melbourne E.T.A. Melbourne 1100K/14.

To 0900K/Sunday, 7th May, 1944.

"PRESIDENT JACKSON") U.S.N. Transports) departed Cape Gloucester
 "PRESIDENT ADAMS")) 0600K/5 for Russell Island
 "PRESIDENT HAYES")) (routed N. of Woodlark Island.
)) E.T.A. 1600K/7.
 "TITANIA" Destroyer Escort.)
 "ELMORE" U.S. Cargo Vessel.)

x "REPUBLIC" U.S.N. Transport departed Langemak 1630K/4 E.T.A. Suva
 0800K/13 thence San Francisco.

• "POYANG" E.T.D. Cape. Sudest 1800K/7 E.T.A. Milne, Bay 1900K/8.

• "CALAMARES" U.S. Store Ship arrived Langemak 0600K/6 from Oro Bay.

• "BOOTES" U.S. Store Ship departed Langemak 0600K/4 for Aitape E.T.A.
 0600K/6.

• "PRESIDENT POLK" U.S. N. Transport and "MINTAKA", U.S.N. Cargo Ship,
 escorted by "FOREMAN", U.S. Destroyer Escort departed
 Seeadler Harbour 0800K/5 E.T.A. Green Island 0900K/7.
 "PRESIDENT POLK" and "FOREMAN" then proceed Guadalcanal.

• "SUSUEHANNA" E.T.D. Buna 0545K/5 for Milne Bay.

x "BENALLA" arrived Seeadler Harbour 0630K/5 from Humboldt Bay.

• "MENKUR" arrived Milne Bay 1025K/5 from Langemak.

• "GEELONG" E.T.D. Milne Bay A.M. 7/5 E.T.A. Port Moresby A.M. 8/5.

• "WITTER" U.S. Destroyer Escort arrived Milne Bay 1230K/5 from Russell Is.

x "COWRA") arrived Seeadler Harbour 1830K/4 escorting N.A. 8.

x "GLENELG")
 P.C. 1134)

• "SHIKELLAMY" E.T.D. Milne Bay 6/5 for Buna and Lae.

x "STAWELL" E.T.D. Milne Bay now 1200K/7 E.T.A. Langemak A.M. 9/5.

• "ARAYAT" U.S. Tanker, arrived Milne Bay 1430K/6 from Brisbane.

x M.L. 425 departed Milne Bay 0600K/5 arrived Langemak 0800K/6.

• "TRYON" U.S. Evacuation Transport arrived Milne Bay 0600K/5 from
 Cape Sudest.

x "VENDETTA" arrived Milne Bay 0900K/5 from Langemak.

x "ALATNA" arrived Darwin 1145K/5 from Millingimbi.

- APC. 11 arrived Cairns 0841K/6 from Brisbane.

x M.L. 804 departed Cairns 1200K/6 to R.V. with "ENTERPRISE" off Fairway
 Buoy and escort to Thursday Island E.T.A. 2330K/8. M.L. 804
 remains with "ENTERPRISE" during cable repairing operations -
 approximately 7 days - then returns Cairns.

• YMS. 70 E.T.D. Brisbane 8/5.) for Milne Bay (for transfer to operation-
 • S.C. 749 E.T.D. Brisbane 10/5) al control of N.O.I.C. New Guinea.
 • S.C. 745 E.T.D. Brisbane 15/5)

> "TERRY" } U.S. Destroyers, departed Sydney 1530K/6 for Efate.
> "WADSWORTH" }

> M.L.810 arrived Port Stephens 1730K/6 from Coffs Harbour.

> "WARRNAMBOOL" departed Sydney 0907K/6 on A/S patrol to Smoky Cape.

> "NEW MEXICO" } U.S. Battleships. } comprising T.F. 37 departed
> "PENNSYLVANIA" } } Sydney 0700K/6 for Havannah Har-
> "IDAHO" } } bour E.T.A. 1300K/10.
> "ANTHONY" } U.S. Destroyers. }
> "WARRINGTON" } }
> "BALCH" } }
> "BRAINE" } }

> "JUNEE" E.T.D. Sydney A.M. 7/5 for Brisbane.

> "DOOMBA" arrived Sydney 0915K/6 from Smoky Cape Patrol.

> "KYBRA" departed Newcastle 1114K/6 for Brisbane E.T.A. 1700K/8.

> "MIZAR" arrived Port Phillip 0717K/6 from Sydney.

> S.C. 732 } arrived Milne Bay 1200K/5 from Langemak.
> S.C. 735 }
> S.C. 741 }

> S.C. 982 escorting 2 L.C.T. and 2 L.C.M's arrived Cape Gloucester 1300K/5 from Langemak.

> S.C. 731 escorting "GORGON" departed Thursday Island 0743K/6 E.T.A. Merauke 0030K/7.

POSSIBLE SUBMARINE SIGHTING:

At 1000K/6 a U.S. aircraft en route Noumea to Brisbane sighted a surfaced submarine approximately 280 miles E. of Brisbane. Report was not received at Brisbane until 1955K/6 and the pilot was not interrogated until arrival Sydney. Grading C.3. was then given the sighting. No action was taken.

.....

[Faint, mostly illegible text continues on the page, including various ship movements and dates.]

To 0900K/Saturday, 6th May, 1944.

- "PRESIDENT ADAMS" (U.S.N.T.)
 "PRESIDENT JACKSON" "
 "PRESIDENT HAYES" " } arrived Cape Gloucester 1500K/3
 from Guadalcanal.
- "ELMORE" Destroyer Escort.
 "TITANIA" U.S. Cargo Vessel } from Thursday Island.
- "PRESIDENT POLK" (U.S.N.T.) E.T.D. Manus 0900K/5 for Guadalcanal.
- "VENDETTA" E.T.D. Milne Bay P.M/6 for Cairns E.T.A. A.M/8 (boiler clean).
- "COWRA") departed Langemak 0800K/5 escorting N.A. 8 to Seeadler
 "GLENELG") Harbour.
 P.C. 1134)
- "KATOOMBA" arrived Milne Bay 1100K/4 escorting "TUNNY" (U/S submarine)
 from Brisbane.
- "BARCOO" arrived Milne Bay 1400K/4 escorting F.117 (Small U.S. Army vessel)
 E.T.D. 4/5 to rejoin Box Patrol south of China Strait.
- "GEELONG") departed Seeadler 0900K/2 escorting A.N.7 (including
 "KIAMA") "MERKUR") to Langemak arrived 1500K/3.
 "GOULBURN")
- "BENALLA" arrived Langemak 0701K/3 departed 1807K/3 for Seeadler Harbour
 arrived 0630K/5 E.T.D. 10/5 for Humbolt Bay.
- "STAWELL" E.T.D. Milne Bay 1400K/6 for Langemak E.T.A. P.M/7. On
 arrival "STAWELL" to relieve "SWAN" which is to return to
 Milne Bay.
- "MATAFFLE" arrived Kiriwina 1900K/3 from Saidor.
- "LITHGOW" arrived Langemak 1700K/3 from Milne Bay.
- "BASHAW" (U.S. Submarine) departed Milne Bay 5/5 for Caloundra E.T.A.A.M/9.
- "PANDA" (U.S. Tanker) departed Milne Bay 1245K/4 for Oro Bay E.T.A. 0900K/4
- S.C. 746 departed Milne Bay 0800K/4 E.T.A. Langemak 1400K/5 thence
 Cape Gloucester.
- P.C. 1123) departed Milne Bay 1400K/4 E.T.A. Langemak 1800K/5.
 P.C. 1131)
- P.C. 1133 arrived Langemak 0900K/3 from Saidor escorting 2 L.C. Ts.
- YMS. 71) departed Milne Bay 0800K/5 for Oro Bay E.T.A. 0600K/6.
 S.C. 748)
- "SHEPPA TON" departed Milne Bay 1000K/4 for Townsville is now returning
 to Milne Bay E.T.A. 1200K/6.
- "PIRIE" departed Thursday Island 1800K/4 escorting "CHARON" to Darwin
 E.T.A. 0600K/7.
- H.M.L. 1322 arrived Merauke 1601K/4 from Kinaam.
- "INVERELL" departed Darwin 0802K/5 escorting D.T. 54 (including "ADMIRAL
 CHASE") towing "SEKA" (A.S.R.) to Thursday Island E.T.A. 1250K/9.
- S.C. 731 arrived Thursday Island 1345K/5 escorting "BARALABA" from
 Merauke E.T.D. 1800K/5 escorting "GORGON" to Merauke E.T.A.
 1130K/6.
- M.L. 429 departed Darwin 0800K/5 for Millingimbi E.T.A. 1430K/6 E.T.D.
 A.M/7 escorting "BABINDA" to Darwin.

"BUNBURY" E.T.D. Caloundra 1100K/6 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 0900K/10

"GOLDSTAR" (U.S. Store Ship) arrived Brisbane 0329K/5 from Milne Bay.

"MESQUITE" (U.S. Coastguard Cutter) departed Cairns 0700K/5 towing YT.235 and YT.251 to Milne Bay.

"STELLA" arrived Cairns 0903K/5 from Thursday Island.

H.D.M.L. 1129 arrived Cairns 0903K/5 from Thursday Island en route to Brisbane.

"ARARAT" arrived Townsville 1436K/5 from Milne Bay departed 2307K/5 for Melbourne (to refit) via Sydney E.T.A. 1200K/9.

S.C. 749 arrived Brisbane 1355K/5 from Sandy Cape patrol.

"NEW MEXICO" Battleship

"PENNSYLVANIA" " E.T.D. Sydney A.M/6 for Havannah

"IDAHO" " E.T.A. P.M/10.

"ANTHONY" Destroyer

"BRAINE" "

"WARRINGTON" "

"BALCH" "

"KYBRA" arrived Newcastle 0600K/5 from Sydney E.T.D. 1001K/6 for Caloundra E.T.A. 1700K/8.

"MIZAR" (U.S. Store Ship) departed Sydney 1827K/4 for Melbourne E.T.A. 0600K/6.

M.L.813 departed Sydney 1038K/4 arrived Pt. Stevens 1700K/4 E.T.D. 0600K/5 for Coffs Harbour E.T.A. 1800K/5.

"OTUS" (U.S. Submarine tender) arrived Sydney 2221K/5 from Brisbane.

"..." departed Sydney at ... patrol to Rocky Cape and return.

"..." returned to Sydney at 0600K/4 from 4/3 patrol to Rocky Cape.

"..." departed Sydney at 1000K/4 for Newcastle - E.T.A. 1800K/4.

"..." departs Port Phillip P.M/6th for Wilson's Promontory area to relieve "..." who is to return Phillipstown by mail by Sunday 8th.

"..." (U.S. Store Ship) departs Sydney at 1800K/4 for Melbourne - E.T.A. 0600K/6.

"..." departed Sydney at 1000K/4 for Port Stephens and Coffs Harbour E.T.A. Port Stephens 1700K/4.

"..." (U.S.S. Fast Minelayer) arrived Sydney at 1400K/5 from ...

"..." arrived Thursday Island at 1010K/5 escorting U.S. ...

"..." E.T.A. Billingsfield 0600K/6 for Darwin E.T.A. 1800K/6.

"..." departed Sydney at 0700K/4 escorting "..." to Thursday Island E.T.A. 1000K/5.

"..." arrived Fremantle at 1100K/4 from Darwin.

In co-operation with the Army carried out successful embarkment of many more prisoners in the ... area 2/5. No further information.

"..." U.S. Fleet minesweepers advanced H.Q. at Port Moresby and ... at Brisbane.

To 0900K/Friday, 5th May, 1944.

- "CAIRNS" } departed Addu Atoll at 2200K/3, escorting "ATHOS" to
 "WOLLONGONG" } Fremantle E.T.A. A.M/16.
- "DOBBIN" } departed Port Moresby at 1700K/4 for Port Harvey (vicinity
 "HUMPHREYS" } Oro Bay) E.T.A. Daylight/5th.
- "WITTER" (U.S. Destroyer escort) E.T.A. Milne Bay 0900K/5 from Solomons.
- "COUCAL" (U.S. Submarine rescue ship) departed Seeadler Harbour at
 1800K/3 for Aitape E.T.A. 0600K/5.
- "MINGO" (U.S. Submarine) departs Milne Bay at 0700K/5 escorted to South
 of China Strait en route to Brisbane E.T.A. dawn/9th.
- "SHEPPARTON" departed Milne Bay at 1000K/4 - E.T.A. Townsville 0700K/7.
- "GERARD" departed Milne Bay at 0700K/2 for Dreger Harbour E.T.A. PM/4th.
- "ARARAT" departed Milne Bay at 1230K/3 for Townsville E.T.A. 1700K/5.
- S.C. 746 departs Milne Bay at 0600K/4 for Langemak E.T.A. P.M/5, thence
 to Cape Gloucester.
- P.C. 1123 and P.C. 1131 departed Milne Bay at 1400K/4 for Langemak E.T.A.
 P.M/5.
- "COLAC" departed Milne Bay at 1400K/3 for Langemak E.T.A. 1830K/4.
- "MESQUITE" (U.S. Coastguard cutter) E.T.D. Cairns for Milne Bay 0700K/5.
 towing YTs. 235 and 251 E.T.A. 1900K/7.
- Y.P. 291 E.T.D. Cairns 0700K/5 for Brisbane - E.T.A. 1800K/8.
- "WHYALLA" E.T.D. Caloundra 2330K/4 to relieve S.C. 749 on Sandy Cape
 A/S patrol.
- "DOOMBA" departed Sydney at 0852K/4 on A/S patrol to Smoky Cape and
 return.
- "YANDRA" returned to Sydney at 0855K/4 from A/S patrol to Smoky Cape.
- "KYBRA" departed Sydney at 1506K/4 for Newcastle - E.T.A. 2359K/4.
- "DURRAWEN" departs Port Phillip P.M/6th for Wilson's Promontory area
 to relieve "KOROWA" who is to return Williamstown to coal by
 Monday 8th.
- "WIZAR" (U.S. Store Ship) departs Sydney at 1840K/4 for Melbourne - E.T.A.
 0600K/6.
- M.L. 813 departed Sydney at 1038K/4 for Port Stephens and Coff's Harbour
 E.T.A. Port Stephens 1700K/4.
- "ARIADNE" (H.M.S. Fast Minelayer) arrived Sydney at 1402K/3 from Funa
 Futi.
- "PIRIE" arrived Thursday Island at 1818K/3 escorting D.T. 53.
- "ALATNA" E.T.D. Millingimbi 0630K/3 for Darwin E.T.A. 1030K/5.
- S.C. 731 departed Merauke at 0730K/4 escorting "BERALABA" to
 Thursday Island E.T.A. 1000K/5.
- YMS. 11 and 72 arrived Fremantle at 1135K/4 from Darwin.
- 3 MLs. in co-operation with the Army carried out successful bombardment
 of enemy shore positions in the Madang area 2/5. No further
 information.
- At 0700K/5 Com. 7th Fleet closes advance H.Q. at Port Moresby and opens
 same time in H.Q. at Brisbane.

S E C R E T.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900K/Thursday 4th May, 1944.

"GASCOYNE" escorting U.S.S. "LASSEN" (Ammunition ship en route Manus to Marshalls) now to continue escort until 1500K/4.

U.S.S. "GREINER" (Destroyer Escort) departed Manus 1700K/26 for Kwajalein.

"THOMASON") (U.S. Destroyer Escorts) depart Russells P.M. 3/5 E.T.A.
"WITTER") Milne Bay P.M. 5/5.

"SHEPPARTON" arrived Milne Bay 1130K/2 from Morobe.

"BENALLA" E.T.D. Morobe 2000K/2 E.T.A. Langemak 0700K/3. E.T.D. Langemak 1800K/3 E.T.A. Seeadler 0600K/5.

"MORESBY" departed Langemak 1530K/1 E.T.A. Madang 0700K/2.

"GOULBURN") arrived Seeadler 0945K/2 escorting N.A. 7.
"BENDIGO")
"GEELONG")
"KIAMA")

"LITHGOW" departed Milne Bay 0600K/2 E.T.A. Langemak 1400K/3.

U.S.S. "REPUBLIC" (Naval Transport) departed Milne Bay 1530K/1 E.T.A. Oro Bay 0100K/2.

U.S.S. "GENERAL G.O. SQUIRES" (Transport) departed Milne Bay 1500K/3 E.T.A. Balboa 28/5.

U.S.S. "CALAMARES" (Store Carrier) departed Milne Bay 1400K/2 arrived Buna 0800K/3.

U.S.S. "PORCUPINE" (Tanker) departed Milne Bay 1400K/2 E.T.A. Lae 0200K/4.

U.S.S. "ORANGE" (Frigate) departed Santo 0600K/3 E.T.A. Milne Bay 1400K/8.

"GERARD" departed Milne Bay 0700K/2 E.T.A. Dreger P.M. 4/5.

P.C. 1119 arrived Cape Gloucester 1730K/2 from Langemak.

P.C. 1120) departed Langemak 1530K/1 escorting GB.94A. to Oro Bay.
P.C. 1124)

S.C. 741) arrived 1033K/1 escorting GB.94 departed Oro Bay 0815K/2
S.C. 735) escorting BG.96 E.T.A. Langemak 0630K/3.
S.C. 732)

YMS. 73) departed Oro Bay 0945K/1 escorting BG.95.
S.C. 737)

YMS. 393) arrived Milne Bay 1200K/1 from Langemak.
S.C. 746)
S.C. 650)

"LATROBE" arrived Thursday Island 0605K/3 from Millingimbi.

U.S.S. "PRINCE WILLIAM" (Escort Carrier-Transpacific) E.T.A. Townsville 7/5.

"STELLA" E.T.A. Cairns A.M. 5/5 from Thursday Island.

U.S.S. "ORCA" (Seaplane Tender) arrived Brisbane 0935K/3 from Santo.

U.S.S. "OTUS" (Submarine Tender) E.T.D. Caloundra 1400K/4 E.T.A. Sydney 2300K/5.

"NAHANI") arrived Sydney 0817K/3 from Newcastle.
"FAIRBANKS")

U.S.S. "CHILDS" (Seaplane Tender) arrived Fremantle 1010K/3 from Exmouth Gulf.

YP.288 arrived Exmouth Gulf P.M. 2/5 from Fremantle.

C.S.W.P.S.F. is to assume responsibility for routing and protection of shipping when seaborne supply to Madang and Alexishafen begins early May.

"WOOD ISLAND" U.S. Tug (non-commissioned) towing A.P.D's 3 and 11 departed 1010K/3 via Cape Gloucester, E.T.A. Russell Island 11/5.

"SCALE POINT" U.S. Tug (non-commissioned) towing A.P.D's 24 and 25 with 11.303 departed Milne Bay 22/4 E.T.A. Milne Bay via Bear 12/5.

"MUSKIE" departed Langemak 0800K/1 for Madang.

"WILKIN" U.S.N. Cargo Vessel and "FRONTIER POINT" U.S.N.L. arrived Manus 20/4 from Guadalcanal.

"GENERAL JOHN FIFE" U.S.N.T. departed Ore Bay 0827K/2 for Bougainville.

"GULLBURN") escorting AA.7 departed Langemak 1100K/20 E.T.A. Manus
"WINDMILL") 0743K/2.

"SUNSHINE"
"MAMA"

P.C. 1114 escorting "MAMA" arrived Saider 0800K/20 from Langemak.

"MUSKIE" departed 1100K/1 for Milne Bay.

"MUSKIE" escorting "WINDMILL" and "FRONTIER POINT" departed Manus 0800K/20, E.T.A. Milne Bay 0800K/3.

"MUSKIE" departed Saider 0800K/20 April for Madang.

"MUSKIE") arrived Saider 0800K/1 from Madang.

P.C. 1114 arrived Saider 1115K/1 from Langemak.

P.C. 1112 departed Langemak 1000K/2 E.T.A. Cape Gloucester 1720K/2.

"MUSKIE" escorting "LADY" U.S. Ammunition ship departed Broadwater Harbour, 1800K/2 for Majuro. "MUSKIE" will be relieved of escort at 1800K/2, North of New Ireland.

"MUSKIE" escorting U.S. Submarine "SILVERBACK" arrived Milne Bay 1800K/1 from Brisbane.

"MUSKIE" departed Milne Bay 1800K/2 escorting "SILVERBACK" via Bougainville Safety Line. E.T.A. Broadwater Harbour 3.30.5.

"MUSKIE" departed Milne Bay 0800K/2 to assist P. 117 which is proceeding Tagula Island (see previous narrative).

"GENERAL G.O. KNIGHT" U.S.N.T. arrived Milne Bay 1115K/1 five Bougainville. E.T.A. 2/5 for Manus for onward passage to New York via Panama Canal.

"MUSKIE" U.S. Store Carrier arrived Milne Bay 1015K/2 from Port Moresby.

P.C. 1112 departed Manus 0715K/2 for Kina. Returns on 8/5.

P.C. 1114 E.T.A. Manus 1000K/2 E.T.A. Fremantle 4.15.5.

"MUSKIE" arrived Cairns 0845K/5 from Milne Bay for boiler cleaning and repairs.

To 0900K/Wednesday, 3rd May, 1944.

"FAYETTE" } U.S. Naval Transports.) Departed Cape Gloucester
 "LEEDSTOWN" } 0700/1, E.T.A. Russell Island
 "DUPAGE" } 1300K/3, routed North of
 Woodlark Island.

"WARREN" U.S. Attack Transport }
 "LIBRA" U.S.N. Cargo Vessel. }
 "BIDDLE" U.S. Destroyer }

"WOOD ISLAND" U.S. Tug (non-commissioned) towing A.F.D's 5 and 11
 departed Bora Bora 0300K/2, E.T.A. China Strait 21/5.

"RACE POINT" U.S. Tug (non-commissioned) towing A.F.D's 24 and 25
 with YT.369 departed Balboa 29/4 E.T.A. Milne Bay via
 Boar Bora 28/5.

"VENDETTA" departed Langemak 0800K/1 for Madang.

"MINTAKA" U.S.N. Cargo Vessel and "PRESIDENT POLK" U.S.N.T. arrived
 Manus 20/4 from Guadalcanal.

"GENERAL JOHN POPE" U.S.N.T. departed Oro Bay 0837K/2 for Noumea.

"GOULBURN") escorting NA.7 departed Langemak 1100K/30 E.T.A. Manus
 "BENDIGO") 0745K/2.
 "GEELONG")
 "KIAMA")

P.C. 1134 escorting "WILLIAM N. BYERS" arrived Saidor 0930K/30 from
 Langemak.

"SHIKELLAMY" departed Lae 1100K/1 for Milne Bay.

"ARARAT" escorting "HOPECREST" and "FORT DONELSON" departed Manus
 0600K/30, E.T.A. Milne Bay 0800K/3.

"MATAFELE" departed Saidor 0200K/30 April for Madang.

"MATAFELE") arrived Saidor 0830K/1 from Madang.
 M.L.803)

P.C. 1133 arrived Saidor 1515K/1 from Langemak.

P.C. 1119 departed Langemak 1000K/2 E.T.A. Cape Gloucester 1730K/2.

"GASCOYNE" escorting "LASSEN" U.S. Ammunition Ship departed Seeadler
 Harbour. 1200K/2 for Majuro. "GASCOYNE" will be relieved
 of escort at 1800K/3, North of New Ireland.

"COLAC" escorting U.S. Submarine "SILVERSIDES" arrived Milne Bay 1200K/1
 from Brisbane.

"SWAN" departed Milne Bay 1100K/2 escorting "SILVERSIDES" via submarine
 Safety Lane. E.T.A. Seeadler Harbour A.M.5/5.

"BARCOO" departed Milne Bay 0400K/2 to assist F. 117 which is proceeding
 Tagula Island (see previous narrative).

"GENERAL G.O. SQUIER" U.S.N.T. arrived Milne Bay 1212K/1 from Noumea.
 E.T.D. 3/5 for Balboa for onward routing to New York via
 Panama Canal.

"CALAMARES" U.S. Store Carrier arrived Milne Bay 1815K/1 from Port
 Moresby.

HM.L.1322 departed Merauke 0715K/2 for Kinam. Returns on 6/5.

K.15 E.T.D. Darwin 1500K/2 E.T.A. Fremantle A.M.12/5.

"BOWEN" arrived Cairns 0841K/2 from Milne Bay for boiler cleaning
 and repairs.

M.L. 811 departed Cairns 0657K/2 with R.M.S. party to render safe mine reported on coast 21 miles S.

"OTUS" U.S. Submarine Tender arrived Brisbane 1st May from Milne Bay.

"MILDURA" arrived Brisbane 1527K/2 from Sandy Cape A/S patrol.

"YANDRA" departed Sydney 0902K/2 on A/S Patrol to Smoky Cape and return.

"WARRNAMBOOL" arrived Sydney 0858K/2 from A/S patrol Smoky Cape.

S.C. 744 en route Langemak returned Milne Bay from Buna 1330K/1, with engine defects.

APC.16 departed Milne Bay 1031K/1 E.T.A. Cairns 0800K/4.

YMS.73) escorting B.G. 95 departed Oro Bay 0945K/1 E.T.A.

S.C. 737) Langemak 0730K/2.

S.C. 732) escorting B.G. 94 arrived Langemak 0900K/30.

S.C. 735) (Dest. Escort)) (Destination).

H.M.A.S. "KURANDA" left Milne Bay 1000K/1 - E.T.A. Cape Stuart 0800K/4.

On 8th May, the Naval Establishment at Cairns will be commissioned as H.M.A.S. "KURANDA".

"NORMAN E. MACK" now refloated.

F. 117 (proceeding Tagula Island in leaking condition).

"BARCOO" has not yet reported contact with F. 117. Air search will be continued A.M. 3/5. A Catalina from Cairns carrying a salvage pump to the vessel crashed in taking off.

At 0200K/3, F. 117 reported herself 350 miles S.E. of Tagula Island. There are "badly burnt" survivors aboard.

Tug "CAMBRIAN SALVOR" broken down:

At 1845K/1 "KAPUNDA" reported that "CAMBRIAN SALVOR" (attending "PRESIDENT GRANT") had broken down. Vessel will require docking for repairs to shafting.

ENEMY AIR RAID:

WOODLARK ISLAND - Yellow 2150K/2.

"MILNE" departed Langemak 0800K/29 for Morobe, E.T.A. 1700K/30, E.T.A. 1100K/30 for Sumatra Island, E.T.A. 1200K/30 E.T.A. 0800K/1 April for Milne Bay, E.T.A. 1000K/2.

"MILNE" (U.S. Cargo ship) arrived Milne Bay 0800K/30 from Buna.

"MILNE" (U.S. Store Ship) arrived Milne Bay 22/4 from Langemak.

"MILNE" (U.S. Tanker) arrived 28/4 from Oro Bay.

"MILNE" (U.S. Store Ship) departed Buna 2100K/30 for Milne Bay via China Straits E.T.A. 2100K/5 Bay.

"MILNE" arrived Langemak from Calder and departed 0800K/30 for Cape Gloucester E.T.A. 1700K/30.

"MILNE" (U.S. Store Carrier) arrived Langemak 1800K/1 Bay from Cape Stuart.

"MILNE" arrived Langemak 1800K/16 from Cape Gloucester.

"MILNE"

"MILNE" departed Thursday Island 0700K/30 for Bramble Bay (U.S. Channel).

"MILNE" arrived Langemak 1800K/30 from Milne Bay.

10 0900K/Tuesday, 2nd May, 1944.

TASK UNIT 34.9.6. consisting of 2 destroyers, one destroyer escort, two destroyer minesweepers, one minelayer, four transports and one commissioned cargo ship. E.T.D. Cape Gloucester 0700K/1 May for Russell Island. E.T.A. 1300K/3.

TASK UNIT 34.9.5. consisting of 5 transports, two commissioned cargo ships, four fast minesweepers and a destroyer departed Guadalcanal 0001K/1 May for Cape Gloucester - E.T.A. 1500K/3.

"GENERAL JOHN POPE" (U.S.N.T.) E.T.D. Oro Bay 1900K/1 May. E.T.A. Noumea 1600K/4.

"BARCOO") departed Milne Bay 30/4 to relieve "SWAN", "LITHGOW" and
"WAGGA") P.C. 1131 on China Strait Box Patrol, P.M.30/4.
"KAPUNDA")

"FOREMAN" (Destroyer escort) E.T.D. Russell Island 0900K/29 for
"COLEBAUGH" (Dest. Escort)) Finschhafen.

"MANOORA") departed Milne Bay 1400K/1 - E.T.A. Cape Sudest 0800K/2.
"WESTRALIA")

"KANIMBLA" departed Milne Bay 0800K/1 for Cape Sudest via Goodenough
 E.T.A. 1600K/1 May.

"BOWEN" departed Milne Bay 1200K/30 for Cairns - E.T.A. Grafton Passage
 0400K/2.

"KIAMA" arrived Saidor 1230K/29 from Langemak.

"GOLD STAR" (U.S. Store Carrier) departed Milne Bay 1340K/30 - E.T.A.
 Brisbane 1200K/5 May.

"GLADSTONE" arrived Milne Bay 1545K/29 from Brisbane.

"CASTLEMAINE") arrived Milne Bay 0609K/30 April escorting GB.92
"BOWEN") (4 ships) from Langemak.

"ECHUCA" arrived Milne Bay 1630K/30 from Brisbane.

YMS. 73) departed Milne Bay 1030K/30 for Oro Bay - E.T.A. 0600K/2.
S.C. 737)

"SHEPPARTON" departed Langemak 0900K/29 for Morobe, E.T.A. 1700K/29,
 E.T.D. 1100K/30 for Nuakata Island, E.T.A. 1200K/30 E.T.A.
 0600K/1 April for Milne Bay, E.T.A. 1040K/2.

"GANYMEDE" (U.S. Cargo ship) arrived Milne Bay 0900K/30 from Buna.

"TRIANGULUM" (U.S. Store Ship) arrived Milne Bay 29/4 from Langemak.

"SHIKELLAMY" (U.S. Tanker) arrived Lae 28/4 from Oro Bay.

"ADHARA" (U.S. Store Ship) departed Noumea 2100K/30 for Milne Bay via
 China Straits E.T.A. 2100K/5 May.

"MATAFELE" arrived Langemak from Saidor and departed 0630K/29 for
 Cape Gloucester E.T.A. 1700K/29.

"POLLUX" (U.S. Store Carrier) arrived Langemak 1001K/1 May from
 Cape Sudest.

P.C. 1124) arrived Langemak 1830K/28 from Cape Gloucester.
P.C. 1134)

"CAPE LEEUWIN" departed Thursday Island 0710K/30 for Bramble Cay
 (G.N.E. Channel).

M.L. 1321 arrived Langemak 1300K/28 from Milne Bay.

YMS. 393) departed Oro Bay 1030K/28 escorting B.G. 93 to Langemak
S.C. 650) arrived 0900K/29.
S.C. 746)

"MORESBY" arrived Morobe 0130K/29 from Milne Bay.

"HEATHER" arrived Darwin 1935K/30 from Port Hedland.

"JOHN HARDY" (CPB). arrived Townsville 0902K/1 May from an unsuccessful search for a suspicious object sighted 50 miles S.E. of Mackay (Narrative 25/4/44).

S.C. 731 arrived Merauke 1930K/30 escorting Baralaba from Thursday Is.

"LATROBE" E.T.A. Thursday Island 0800K/3 from Millingimbi.

K.15 (Netherlands submarine) arrived Darwin 1815K/1 May from special operations.

YP.233 E.T.D. Caloundra 1500K/1 May for Milne Bay E.T.A. 1100K/8.

APC.11 E.T.D. Caloundra 1700K/2 for Cairns E.T.A. 1100K/6.

"WADSWORTH") (U.S. Destroyers) arrived Sydney 0806K/1 May from
 "TERRY") Purvis.

"PATERSON") departed Sydney 0804K/1 May arrived Newcastle 1650K/1 May.
 "NARANI")

"CHILDS" (U.S. Seaplane Tender) departed Onslow 1106K/1 May for Fremantle.

F. 117 U.S. Army Small Freighter.

At 2020K/1 May F. 117 in position 16°20'S, 157°20'E en route to Milne Bay from Noumea reported that a serious leak had developed in the steering post and that a suction pump was urgently required. Course was changed for Tagula Island (Louisades).

N.O.I.C. Townsville later reported that a Catalina would be departing at dawn on 2nd May with a pump on board.

"BARCOO" on "Box Patrol" south of the China Straits is also proceeding to render assistance.

...

To 0900K/MONDAY, 1ST MAY, 1944.

"RUSSELL" (U.S. Destroyer) with "WILLARD A. HOLBROOK" departed Funafuti 29/4 for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 1800K/4/5.

MLs. 803, 816, 431, 424 and 802 are operating in the Madang area. Reported from N.O.I.C. New Guinea at 1237K/30.

"SUSQUEHANNA" (Tanker) arrived Lae at 1115K/30 from Langemak.

"GLENELG") arrived Langemak at 1800K/29 escorting "POYANG" and APC.7
"COWRA") from Manus.
P.C. 1120)

S.C. 732) departed Oro Bay at 0830K/29 escorting BG.94 to Langemak.
S.C. 735)

"VENDETTA" departed Langemak at 2000K/29 with 350 troops for Madang. E.T.A. 0630K/30 - E.T.D. 0800K/30 for Langemak - E.T.A. 1700K/30.

"KANIMBLA") arrived Milne Bay at 0900K/29 from Cape Sudest.
"MANOORA")
"WESTRALIA")

S.C. 982 arrived Langemak at 1800K/28 from Milne Bay.

"OTUS" (U.S. Submarine Tender) departed Milne Bay at 0800K/28 for Brisbane - E.T.A. 0800K/2/5.

"BOWEN") arrived Milne Bay at 1145K/29 from Langemak.
"CASTLEMAINE")
P.C. 1132)

"BOWEN" E.T.D. Milne Bay 1400K/30 for Cairns - for boiler clean and docking for repairs to dome.

"BUNDABERG" arrived Milne Bay at 1400K/29 from Langemak.

"GOLD STAR" E.T.D. Milne Bay 1330K/30 - E.T.A. Caloundra 0500K/5/5.

YP.504 departed Rockhampton at 1030K/30 for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 0800K/6/5.

"WARRNAMBOOL" departed Sydney at 1015K/30 on A/S patrol to Smoky Cape and return.

"DOOMBA" arrived Sydney at 0910K/29 from Smoky Cape patrol.

YP.291 departed Thursday Island at 0718K/30 for Cairns - E.T.A. 1700K/3/5.

"CAPE LEEUWIN" arrived Thursday Island at 1540K/30 for water.

LIBERTY SHIP AGROUND.

At 2315K/30 "NORMAN E. MACK" reported being aground on Keast Reef (Ward Hunt Strait - 60 miles N. of Milne Bay). Ship requested assistance. Information passed to all concerned.

AMERICAN TRANSPORT IN AITAPE AREA (WEST OF WEWAK) BOMBED ON THE NIGHT
April 27th. No further details.

N.O.I.C. New Guinea reported at 1044K/30 that a torrential downpour for the past 48 hours has interrupted land communications, immobilised shipping, affected W/T communications and delayed air transport.

.....

SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900K/Sunday 30th April, 1944.

WEST POINT U.S. Naval Transport departed San Francisco 0500K/28.
for Sydney E.T.A. 12th May.

OCRA (U.S. Seaplane Tender (Small)) E.T.D. Espiritu Santo 0700K/30
E.T.A. Brisbane 1000K/3/4.

ARIADNE (H.M. Fast Minelayer) departed Funafuti 1000K/28 for Sydney

FAYETTE {
WARREN { U.S. Naval }
DUPAGE { Transports } arrived Cape Gloucester 1100K/28
from Guadalcanal.
BIDDLE Destroyer }
LIBRA Commissioned }
Cargo Vessel }

M.L. 425 } to proceed to Humboldt Bay E.T.A. 1st May for Survey.
Y.M.S. 314 }
S.C. 650 } arrived Langemak 1200K/26 from Buna.
S.C. 746 }

Y.M.S. 393 }
S.C. 746 } departed Langemak 1400K/26 with convoy G.B. 91
S.C. 650 } (2 ships) for Milne Bay E.T.A. 1100K/28.

CASTLEMAINE }
LOWEN } departed Langemak 1700K/27 with Convoy G.B. 92
S.C. 735 } (5 ships) for Milne Bay E.T.A. 1100K/29.
P.C. 1132 }

CONRA }
GLENELG } departed Langemak 0915K/26 escorting Convoy N.A. 6
P.C. 1120 } (2 ships) to Seadler Harbour E.T.A. 1600K/27.
Y.M.S. 313. }

SHEPPARTON departed Langemak 0811K/29 for surveying grounds.

CALAMARES arrived Port Moresby 0745K/28 from Brisbane; departed
Port Moresby 0830K/29 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 0800K/30.

TOOMEREE arrived Merauke 1630K/29 from Thursday Island.

GERLONG }
S.C. 732 } departed Milne Bay 1225K/26 escorting Convoy B.G. 92
S.C. 735 } (U.S.S. SUSQUEHANNA (Naval tanker) and 15 Merchant
ships); arrived Langemak 1730K/27.

P.C. 1133. departed Milne Bay 2100K/27 escorting David F. BARRY
to Saidor.

SHIKELLAMY departed Milne Bay 1030K/27 for Oro Bay.

S.C. 741. departed Milne Bay 0600K/28 with DAVID DUDLEY FIELD for
Langemak.

POLLUX departed Milne Bay 1400K/27 for Cape Sudest and Langemak.

P.C. 476 }
P.C. 1122 } arrived Milne Bay 100K/27 from Langemak.
S.C. 748 }
Y.M.S. 55 }
Y.M.S. 73. }

PIRIE departed Darwin 0651K/29 escorting Convoy D.T. 53 (2 ships)
to Thursday Island E.T.A. 1530K/3/5.

23/5/Saturday, 19th Apr - 2 -

S.C. 731 departed Thursday Island 0408K/29 escorting BARALABA to Merauke E.T.A. 0500K/30.

LATROBE departed Thursday Island 1300K/29 escorting BABINDA and H.M.A.S. ALATNA to Millingimbi. ALATNA is to fuel at Millingimbi and then proceed independently to Darwin.

Y.T. 251)
Y.T. 235) arrived Cairns 0647K/29 from Mackay.

S.C. 749 E.T.D. Caloundra 2000K/1/5 to relieve HILDURA on Sandy Cape A/S Patrol.

KATOOMBA E.T.D. Caloundra 1730K/29 in company with U.S. Submarine TUNNY for Milne Bay E.T.A. 1000K/4/5.

WHYALLA arrived Brisbane 1325K/29 from Sandy Cape A/S patrol.

<u>NEW MEXICO</u>	}	U.S. Battleships	}	arrived Sydney 0935K/29 from Havannah Harbour, New Hebrides.
<u>PENNSYLVANIA</u>				
<u>IDAHO</u>				
<u>ANTHONY</u>	}	U.S. Destroyers	}	arrived Sydney 0935K/29 from Havannah Harbour, New Hebrides.
<u>WARRINGTON</u>				
<u>BALCH</u>				
<u>BRAINE</u>				

K.9. (Submarine) was turned over to Netherlands Navy at 1000K/28.

CUMBERLAND (H.M. Cruiser) departed Fremantle 1100K/28 for Colombo E.T.A. 1230K/6/5.

S.S. CORIO at Newcastle, which was to have been manned by a Naval crew, sailed at 150K/29th for Adelaide with a Union crew.

... arrived Milne Bay 1130K/27 from Langkok.

... departed Milne Bay 0700K/28 escorting L.C.T.(I) 179 to ... E.T.A. 1100K/30, ... E.T.A. 1500K/30. To be sailed for Makung for local patrol duty.

... arrived Thursday Island 0720K/28 escorting ...

S.C. 731 E.T.D. Thursday Island 1400K/29 escorting BARALABA to Merauke 0300K/30.

... departed Thursday Island 0800K/28 E.T.A. ... 1100K/29.

... (Submarine Tender) E.T.D. Caloundra 1100K/28 E.T.A. Fremantle 0900K/7.

... arrived Brisbane 1010K/28 from Sydney - E.T.D. Caloundra 1700K/28 escorting U.S. Submarine TUNNY to Milne Bay.

... (en route Brisbane to Milne Bay with "VOLVO" and U.S. submarine "GILBERT") has leak in hull and is proceeding independently.

... (Submarine Tender) departs ... 20/4 for Brisbane.

... (U.S. Destroyers) departed ... E.T.A. ...

... departed Sydney 0550K/28 on A/S patrol to ...

... (S.S.) departed Port Phillip 1010K/28 E.T.A. San Francisco 0900K/14/5.

... departed ... 1000K/27 to ... ton ... lighter E.T.A. Sydney 11/5.

To 0900K/Saturday, 29th April, 1944.

"VENDETTA" departed Langemak 0700K/28 with troops for Madang. E.T.A. 1830K/28 E.T.D. Madang 1800K/28 (carrying casualties if required). E.T.A. Langemak 0800K/29.

"GASCOYNE" arrived Langemak 1700K/28 escorting A.N.5.

"GENERAL JOHN POPE" (U.S.N.T.) departed Milne Bay 0615K/27 E.T.A. Oro Bay 1830K/27.

"MUNDABERG" E.T.D. Langemak 1100K/28 - E.T.A. Milne Bay 1200K/29.

"STRAHAN" arrived Milne Bay 1030K/28 from Cairns.

"BOWEN" arrived Langemak 1500K/25 from Seeadler.

"COWRA") arrived Seeadler 1735K/27 escorting N.A. 6.
 "GLENELG")
 P.C. 1120)
 YMS. 313)

"MORESBY" departed Milne Bay 1500K/27 for Cape Sudest and Morobe.

"SHEPPARTON" E.T.D. Langemak 0900K/29 E.T.A. Morobe 1700K/29 thence Nuakata Island E.T.A. 1200K/1 thence Milne Bay E.T.A. 1030K/2.

"SPRINGDALE" arrived Milne Bay 1400K/27 from Cairns.

P.C. 1133 departed Saidor 0800K/28 E.T.A. Langemak 1830K/28.

P.C. 1134 arrived Gloucester 1800K/28 from Langemak.

S.C. 982) departed Milne Bay 1230K/27 E.T.A. Langemak 0400K/28.
 S.C. 744)

YMS. 314) departed Buna 1400K/25 escorting B.G. 91 to Langemak.
 S.C. 650)
 S.C. 741)

"GERARD" arrived Milne Bay 1130K/27 from Langemak.

M.L. 802 departed Milne Bay 0700K/28 escorting L.C.T.(I) 170 to Lae E.T.A. 1100K/30, thence Langemak E.T.A. 1500K/30. To be sailed for Madang for local patrol duty.

"LATROBE" arrived Thursday Island 0725K/28 escorting D.T. 52.

S.C. 721 E.T.D. Thursday Island 0400K/29 escorting "BARALABA" E.T.A. Merauke 0500K/30.

"TOOMEREE" departed Thursday Island 0955K/28 E.T.A. Merauke 1100K/29.

U.S.S. "GRIFFIN" (Submarine Tender) E.T.D. Caloundra 1500K/28 E.T.A. Fremantle 0600K/7.

"KATOOMBA" arrived Brisbane 1003K/28 from Sydney - E.T.D. Caloundra 1700K/29 escorting U.S. Submarine "TUNNY" to Milne Bay.

"ECHUCA" (en route Brisbane to Milne Bay with "COLAC" and U.S. submarine "SILVERSIDES") has leak in distiller and is proceeding independently.

U.S.S. "ORCA" (Seaplane Tender) departs Santo 30/4 for Brisbane.

"TERRY") (U.S. Destroyers) departed Purvis 1200K/27 E.T.A. Sydney
 "WADSWORTH") 1/5.

"DOOMBA" departed Sydney 0854K/28 on A/S patrol to Smoky Cape.

U.S.S. "MOUNT VERNON" (M.T.) departed Port Phillip 1011K/28 E.T.A. San Francisco 0030K/14/5.

"COOMBAR" departed Hobart 1051K/27 towing 200 ton ammunition lighter E.T.A. Sydney A.M. 3/5.

0900K/Friday, 28th April, 1944.

H.M.A.S.'s "CAIRNS" and "WOLLONGONG" now with Eastern Fleet, E.T.A. Fremantle 17th May for refitting.

" <u>PRESIDENT JACKSON</u>"	) U.S.N. Transports	) Constituting T.U. 34.9.5
" <u>PRESIDENT ADAMS</u>"	)	) departing Cape Gloucester 1300K/25
" <u>PRESIDENT HAYES</u>"	)	) for Russell Island E.T.A.
" <u>ELMORE</u>"	)	) 28/4. " <u>WAYNE</u> " with one escort
" <u>WAYNE</u>"	)	) to detach vicinity Russell Island to Guadalcanal.
" <u>TITANIA</u>"	) U.S. Cargo Ships)
" <u>AQUARIS</u> "))
" <u>SAMPSON</u>"	) U.S. Destroyer)
" <u>GAMBLE</u>"	) U.S. Fast)
" <u>SOUTHARD</u>"	) Minesweepers)
" <u>PRUITT</u> "))
" <u>TRACY</u> "))

"WADSWORTH" and "TERRY" (U.S. Destroyers) departed Guadalcanal P.M. 27/4 E.T.A. Sydney 1st May for recreation.

"ORCA" (U.S. Seaplane Tender) departs Espiritu Santo about 28/4 for Milne Bay via Bougainville Strait.

"ORANGE" (U.S. Frigate) departed San Diego 0900K/13 for Cairns - E.T.A. Tutuila en route 0600K/26.

"PRESIDENT MONROE", "WHARTON", "GEORGE ELLIOTT" (U.S. Naval Transports) arrived Green Island 23/5 from Manus.

"GENERAL G.O. SCUIER" (U.S.N.T.) departed Noumea 1300K/26 E.T.A. Milne Bay 0800K/30.

P.C. 1128 escorting "JAMES M. CLEMENTS" departed Guadalcanal 1600K/27 for Lae.

P.C. 1128 to return Guadalcanal on relief by S.W.P. escort.

"ARARAT" and "CELENO" U.S. Cargo Ship departed Manus 1000K/24 E.T.A. Green Island A.M. 25/4.

P.C. 1133 arrived Langemak 1800K/26 from Saidor.

"BENDIGO" escorting N.A.5 arrived Seeadler Harbour 1600K/24.

P.C. 1132 arrived Langemak from Manus 0715K/25.

"FALIE" departed Langemak for Buna 1600K/24 arrived 1700K/25.

"GLENELG") departed Saidor 2200K/24 E.T.A. Langemak 0600K/25.
P.C. 1122)

"AASE MAHNSK" arrived Buna A.M. 25/4 from Milne Bay.

"BARCOO" arrived Milne Bay 0830K/27 from Townsville.

"PING WO" arrived Milne Bay 1430K/26 from Cape Sudest.

M.L. 431 departed Milne Bay 1140K/26 for Madang (for patrol duties) calling Buna 0700K/27, and Langemak 2200K/27 for onward routing.

"SHIKELLAMY" (U.S. Tanker) departed Milne Bay 1230K/26 E.T.A. Oro Bay 1001K/27 for onward convoy to Lae.

"MATAFELE" departed Milne Bay 1835K/26 - E.T.A. Langemak 1900K/2, thence Madang.

"PANDA" (U.S. Tanker) arrived Milne Bay 1135K/26 from Lae.

"STAWELL" arrived Milne Bay 1853K/26 from Langemak.

M.L.803 arrived Milne Bay 1800K/26 from Langemak.

HDML.1321 departed Milne Bay 0630K/27 E.T.A. Langemak 1500K/28.

M.L.803 and M.L.806 departed Milne Bay 1530K/27 - E.T.A. Langemak 2200K/28, thence Madang for patrol duties.

"MERBABOE" departed Merakue 1615K/27 for Bilanden River.

"INVERELL" escorting T.D. 53 arrived Darwin 1801K/27.

"STEADY HOUR" and "SEA MIST" (C.P.B.'s) E.T.D. Cairns 1/5 for Thursday Is

"MILDURA" E.T.D. Brisbane 2000K/28 to relieve "WHYALLA" on A/S patrol Sandy Cape.

"KATOOMBA" E.T.D. Brisbane 0600K/29 for Milne Bay.

"ECHUCA") escorting U.S. Submarine "SILVERSIDES" departed Caloundra
"COLAC") 1700K/28 for Milne Bay.

"ARAYAT" (U.S. Tanker) E.T.D. Caloundra 1700K/28, E.T.A. Milne Bay 1500K/4.

S.C. 982 and 744 E.T.D. Milne Bay 1200K/27 for Langemak.

AFC.11 arrived Brisbane from Ballina 0242K/27.

S.C. 737 and YMS 314 arrived Milne Bay 2200K/26 from Langemak.

YP.291 arrived Thursday Island 1520K/27 from Brisbane.

"LYMAN" BEECHER" REFLOATED:

"LYMAN BEECHER" aground Raven Channel since 1030K/23 was refloated A.M. 27th April and proceeded Milne Bay.

[Faint, mostly illegible text continues on the page, including various ship arrivals and departures.]

0900K/Thursday, 27th April, 1944.

"OSTERHAUS" (U.S. Destroyer escort)) E.T.D. Tulagi P.M./25 for Seeadler
 "BELLEGROVE" (U.S. Landing Ship Dock)) Harbour E.T.A. 1800K/28 to dis-
 charge personnel and L.C.M.'s.
 E.T.D. from Seeadler Harbour A.M./
 29 for Russell Is. E.T.A. A.M./2 M.

"VENDETTA" departed Langemak 2000K/26 for Madang area. E.T.A. 0630K/27
 "VENDETTA" to disembark troops and embark casualties for
 return.

"GENERAL JOHN POPE" (U.S.N. Transport) arrived Milne Bay 1105K/25 from
 Noumea.

"GYMPIE" arrived Milne Bay 0800K/25 from Langemak.

U.S.S. "OGLALA" (Repair Ship) arrived Milne Bay 1330K/24 from Tutuila.

"BUNDABERG" departed Langemak 1700K/25 for Madang area. Arrived Madang
 0930K/26. Later departed for Sek Island to land a platoon
 of troops at 1500K/26. After landing troops, "BUNDABERG"
 entered Alexishafen Harbour, thence returned to Madang
 at 1831K/26. E.T.D. 1730K/27 for Langemak - E.T.A. 0800K/28.

"GASCOYNE" departed Seeadler Harbour 1600K/25, escorting A.N.5 to Langemak
 E.T.A. 1500K/26.

"MATAFELE" E.T.D. Milne Bay 27/4 for Madang via Langemak and Saidor
 (carrying P.D. Unit for Madang).

"MORESBY" E.T.D. Milne Bay 0700K/27 for Morobe.

P.C. 1119 E.T.D. Milne Bay 1100K/26 escorting U.S. Submarine "SCAMP".
 E.T.A. Langemak 1400K/27. "SCAMP" to proceed independently
 to Langemak from entrance to submarine safety lane.

P.C. 1119 on arrival Langemak is to relieve P.C. 476, which is to proceed
 to Milne Bay.

"GOLD STAR" (USN Store Ship) E.T.A. Milne Bay 1800K/25 from Buna.

"OCTANS" (U.S.N. Store Ship) arrived Cape Sudest 24/4 from Milne Bay.

S.C. 737, 741, 735 departed Milne Bay 1210K/25. E.T.A. Oro Bay 0800K/26.

M.L. 431 arrived Milne Bay 1400K/23 from Lae. E.T.D. 26/4 for Madang.

APC. 20 arrived Manus 1545K/22 towing a pontoon barge.

YMS. 313 arrived Langemak 0830K/24 from Seeadler Harbour.

YMS. 335 departed Lae 1200K/22, escorting USN Tanker "PORCUPINE" to
 Milne Bay. "PORCUPINE" arrived Milne Bay 1040K/24.

YMS. 314, and S.C. 650, 746 departed Buna 1400K/25 escorting B.C. 91.
 E.T.A. Lae 0400K/26 E.T.A. Langemak 1001K/26.

"TOOMEREE" (C.P.B.) arrived Thursday Island 0855K/26 from Cooktown.

"ALATNA" E.T.D. Thursday Island A.M./28 for Darwin.

"COLAC" arrived Brisbane 0716K/26 from Sydney en route to Milne Bay.

M.L. 811 arrived Cairns 0601K/26 from Villis Point (250 miles N. of Cairns).

U.S.S. "MIZAR" arrived Sydney 0524K/26 from Brisbane.

"KATOOMBA" departed Sydney 1610K/26 for Milne Bay via Brisbane - E.T.A.
 0100K/29.

APC. 11 departed Ballina A.M./26 for Brisbane.

U.S.S. "MOUNT VERNON" (Transport) arrived Melbourne 1115K/26 from Bombay.

"CUMBERLAND" now at Fremantle is to depart in time to arrive at Colombo on 6/May.

YP.288 departed Fremantle 2015K/25 for Exmouth Gulf.

ALEXISHAFEN OCCUPIED:

Australian troops occupied Alexishafen A.M./26.

PORTS OF ALEXISHAFEN AND MADANG:

At 1527K/25 P.D. Langemak reported that the ports of Alexishafen and Madang would be used by Merchant ships and escort vessels, from 1200K/25 (it seems unlikely that this date is correct).

- 2.C. 1132 departed Manus 1100K/25 - R.T.A. Cape Croton 1000K/25.
- 2.C. 202 arrived Langemak 1500K/25 from Manus - departed Langemak 1700K/25 for Milne Bay.
- 2.C. 424 escorting "DUNHAM WICHY" arrived Langemak 0830K/24 from Lun.
- "TUNDABONO" escorting 3 ships arrived Langemak 1300K/25 from Seeadler Harbour.
- "SANTALINE" escorting P.A. 4 arrived Seeadler Harbour 1800K/25.
- U.S. Submarine Rescue Vessel "CYCAL" arrived Seeadler Harbour 2000K/25 from Milne Bay.
- "MORSE" escorting 2 ships arrived Seedor 1900K/24 from Langemak.
- 2.C. 1133 "MORSE STAR" arrived Manus 1900K/24 from Langemak.
- 2.C. 1134 arrived Cape Gloucester 0700K/24 from Seedor.
- 2.C. 1135 departed Seedor 1800K/24 for Langemak with transport provisions, thence Milne Bay.
- 2.C. 214 2.C. 220 escorting U.S. 88 departed Manus 1040K/25 for Langemak - arrived Langemak 0640K/25.
- 2.C. 727 and 728 escorting U.S. 89 departed Manus 1800K/25 for Langemak - arrived Langemak 0830K/24.
- "MORSE" escorting U.S. 88A arrived Langemak 0930K/25 - departed Manus 1700K/25 for Langemak.
- 2.C. 215 escorting U.S. 87A arrived Langemak 0840K/25.
- "MORSE" escorting "MORSE STAR" arrived Langemak 0800K/24 from Manus.
- "MORSE" escorting U.S. Cargo vessel "MORSE" departed Seeadler Harbour 1800K/25 for Green Island S.T.A. 0800K/25.
- "SANTALINE" arrived Langemak 1800K/24 from Manus.
- 2.C. 471 arrived Langemak 1200K/25 from Cape Gloucester.
- 2.C. 1134 escorting U.S. 88 arrived Cape Gloucester 1840K/25 from Manus.
- "MORSE" and "MORSE STAR" escorting "MORSE HILL" departed 1400K/24 for Langemak - R.T.A. 1700K/25, "MORSE" to relieve P.C. 1134 which is to proceed Milne Bay.

To 0900K/Wednesday, 26th April, 1944.

U.S. Destroyer Escort) about 1100K/25 to join T.U. 34.9.6. at
"OSTERHAUS") (Guadalcanal) and depart in company, "OSTERHAUS"
Landing Ship Dock) and "BELLE GROVE" to break off at dawn/28 and
"BELLE GROVE") proceed. Seeadler Harbour.

Task Unit 34.9.6. consisting of 2 destroyers, 1 destroyer Escort, 2 Destroyer Minesweepers, 1 Minelayer, 4 Attack Transports and 1 Auxiliary Cargo Ship, E.T.A. Cape Gloucester 28/5 to unload elements of 1st Marine Division and then proceed Russell Island and Guadalcanal.

Task Unit 34.7.1. U.S. Destroyer Escorts "LEVY", "PARKS", "BARON" and "ACREE" with U.S. Fleet Oilers, "ESCAMBIA", "CACAPON" and "CHIKASKIA" arrived Manus 1030K/23 from Santo.

P.C. 1132 departed Manus 1100K/23 - E.T.A. Cape Cretin 1000K/25.

M.L. 803 arrived Langemak 1530K/22 from Manus - departed Langemak 1700K/24 for Milne Bay.

M.L. 424 escorting "DUNHAM WRIGHT" arrived Langemak 0530K/24 from Lae.

"BUNDABERG") escorting 3 ships arrived Langemak 1300K/23 from Seeadler
"GLENELG") Harbour.

"CASTLEMAINE") escorting N.A. 4 arrived Seeadler Harbour 1200K/22.
"BOWEN")

U.S. Submarine Rescue Vessel "COUCAL" arrived Seeadler Harbour 2000K/21 from Milne Bay.

"GLENELG") escorting 2 ships arrived Saidor 1200K/24 from Langemak.
P.C. 1133)

"GOLD STAR" arrived Buna 1900K/24 from Langemak.

P.C. 1134 arrived Cape Gloucester 0730K/24 from Saidor.

P.C. 1122 departed Saidor 1800K/24 for Langemak with damaged propeller, thence Milne Bay.

YMS. 314, S.C. 650 escorting B.G. 88 departed Buna 1045K/22 for Langemak - arrived Langemak 0645K/23.

S.C. 737 and 746) escorting B.G. 89 departed Buna 1200K/23 for Langemak -
YMS. 393) arrived Langemak 0930K/24.

"BENDIGO") escorting B.G. 88A arrived Langemak 0930K/23 - departed Manus
"KIAMA") 1700K/25 for Langemak.

YMS. 335 escorting B.G. 87A arrived Langemak 0945K/22.

"COWRA" escorting "SEA FLASHER" arrived Langemak 0500K/24 from Buna.

"BOWEN" escorting U.S. Cargo vessel "CELENO" departed Seeadler Harbour 1600K/23 for Green Island E.T.A. 0600K/25.

"CASTLEMAINE" arrived Langemak 1200K/24 from Manus.

P.C. 476 arrived Langemak 1900K/23 from Cape Gloucester.

P.C. 1124 escorting L.C.T. 393 arrived Cape Gloucester 1545K/23 from Talasea.

"GOULBURN" and "GEELONG" escorting "JOHN BALL" departed 1430K/24 for Langemak - E.T.A. 1730K/26, "GEELONG" to relieve P.C. 1132 which is to proceed Milne Bay.

"BENALLA" arrived Morobe 1700K/24 for boiler cleaning.

"SWAN") assumed box patrol south of China Strait P.M./24.
 "LITHGOW")
 P.C. 1131)

"SHEPPARTON" intends to carry out a survey of Alim Island Area (about 40 miles S. of Mamus) departing thence 1600K/28 for Langemak E.T.A. 1600K/29.

YMS. 49 and 50) arrived Milne Bay 1630K/24 from Cairns.
 A.P.C. 3.)

"SUSQUEHANNA" departed Milne Bay 1415K/24 for Buna - E.T.A. 0600K/25.

U.S. Store Carrier "OCTANS" departed Milne Bay 1300K/24 for Cape Sudest - E.T.A. 1000K/25.

"SPRINGDALE" towing C.P.B.'s "SEA MIST" and "STEADY HOUR" arrived Cairns 0541K/25, from Sydney, departed Cairns 0956K/25 for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 1800K/27.

"BALLARAT" arrived Cairns 1547K/24 from Thursday Island.

"BARCOO" departed Townsville 1728K/25 for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 1100K/27.

"GLADSTONE" E.T.D. Caloundra 1800K/25 for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 1300K/29.

"ECHUCA" and "COLAC" escorting U.S. Submarine "SILVERSIDES" E.T.D. Caloundra 1700K/26 for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 1000K/1/5.

S.C. 749 arrived Brisbane 1508K/25 from Sandy Cape Patrol.

"KATOOMBA" E.T.D. Sydney P.M./26 for Brisbane - E.T.A. P.M./28 to escort U.S. Submarine to Milne Bay.

AUSTRALIAN TROOPS OCCUPY MADANG.

Australian troops occupied MADANG at 0800K/25. N.O.I.C. New Guinea reported at 1851K/25 that 2 A.M.S.'s were being despatched from Langemak to commence sweeping operations in Madang Harbour, and two M.L.'s from Lae to maintain patrol. Port Director, Langemak, was proceeding Madang, to return P.M./26. 2nd Australian Corps advise that Port Director will not be required before 7th May, but N.O.I.C. New Guinea considers that it may be earlier and has arrangements well advanced.

"PRESIDENT GRANT".

"LITHGOW" reported at 1750K/24 that on Sunday night "PRESIDENT GRANT'S" bow was hauled 90 feet to seaward and prospects of refloating appear more hopeful.

"JOHN McLEAN REFLOATED:

"JOHN McLEAN" (U.S. Army Transport of 7181 tons gross) ashore on Bray Rock, Caloundra) was refloated at 0645K/25 under her own power.

.....

To 0900K/Tuesday, 25th April, 1944.

"NEW MEXICO") Battleships)
 "PENNSYLVANIA")) constituting Task Force 37 E.T.D.
 "IDAHO")) 0700K/24 Havannah for Port Jackson
 "ANTHONY") Destroyers) E.T.A. 0930K/29 for recreation and
 "WARRINGTON")) upkeep.
 "BALCH"))
 "BRAINE"))
 "BIDDLE") Destroyers) Comprising U.S. Task Unit
 "SIGOURNEY")) 34.9.6. E.T.D. Guadalcanal
 "EITTE") Destroyer Escort) is now 25th April; E.T.A. Cape
 "STANSBURY") Destroyer Minesweeper) Gloucester 28th April. On
 "TREVER")) unloading elements of 40th
 "SICARD") Minelayer) Division, Task Unit loads
 "DUPAGE") Attack Transports) elements of 1st Mardiv and
 "LEEDSTOWN")) proceeds to Russell Islands,
 "FAYETTE")) thence Guadalcanal, where it
 "WARREN")) is dissolved.
 "LIBRA") Auxiliary Cargo Ship)
 "WHARTON") U.S. Naval Transport) departed Seeadler Harbour
 "PRESIDENT MONROE") U.S. Naval Transport) 0800K/22 routed north of
)) New Ireland for Green Islands,
)) E.T.A. 1800K/23.
 "BUNDABERG") departed Seeadler Harbour 0900K/23 escorting 2 ships
 "GLENELG") to Langemak E.T.A. 1700K/24.
 "MORESBY") to proceed as soon as practicable to Seeadler Harbour to
 "BENALLA") expedite detailed survey of the harbour.
 "PRESIDENT JACKSON") U.S. Naval Transports) arrived Cape Gloucester
 "PRESIDENT ADAMS")) 1001K/23 from ~~xxxxxxxx~~
 "PRESIDENT HAYES")) ~~off Hekixxxxxx~~ Guadalcanal.
 "WAYNE"))
 "ELMORE"))
 "ACUARIUS") U.S. Commissioned cargo)
 "TITANIA") ships)

P.C. 476 departed Cape Gloucester 1125K/23 for Langemak.

S.C. 737) departed Langemak 1330K/21 escorting Convoy G.B.87 (con-
 S.C. 746) sisting of two merchant ships and "PORCUPINE" U.S. Naval
 Tanker) for Buna.

"BENALLA" arrived Langemak 1500K/23, departed Langemak 0934K/24 for
 Morobe E.T.A. 1600K/24 to clean boilers.

P.C. 1134 departed Saidor 2137K/23 escorting L.C.T. 248 to Cape
 Gloucester.

YMS. 335 departed Langemak 1200K/22 with convoy G.B.87 for Buna.

"GERARD" arrived Langemak 1030K/15 from Milne Bay.

YMS. 313 departed Milne Bay 1205K/22 for Langemak en route to Seeadler
 Harbour.

naval

"SUSQUEHANNA" (U.S./Tanker) departed Lae 19/4 and arrived Milne Bay 20/4.

"SOLACE" (U.S. Naval Hospital Ship) arrived Milne Bay 20th April; departed Milne Bay 21st April for Buna.

YMS. 314) departed Buna 22nd April escorting B.G. 88 for Langemak
S.C. 650) E.T.A. 0630K/23.

"WILCANNIA" departed Darwin 1041K/24 escorting "GEORGE EASTMAN" to West Bay E.T.A. 0830K/29.

"LATROBE" departed Darwin 0555K/24 escorting convoy D.T. 52 (2 ships) to Thursday Island E.T.A. 0830K/29.

"JOHN HARDY" (Channel patrol boat) departed Cairns 1702K/24 to investigate suspicious object like drum buoy with tripod mast twelve feet high surmounted by horizontal circular frame, sighted by S.S. "MUNGANA" at 1330K/23 in position 50 miles south east of Mackay.

"WARREGO" at Cairns for boiler cleaning and minor repairs E.T.D. 7/5 for Milne Bay.

YP. 291 departed Cairns 0659K/24 for Thursday Island.

YP. 504 (en route Brisbane to Milne Bay) arrived Rockhampton 1705K/23 for engine repairs.

"BUNBURY" arrived Brisbane 0444K/24 from Cairns for repairs.

"GLADSTONE" arrived Brisbane 0322K/24 from Sydney; to proceed to Milne Bay.

"WIZAR" arrived Brisbane 0620K/23 from Milne Bay; E.T.D. Caloundra 1200K/25 for Sydney E.T.A. 0400K/26.

"COLAC" departed Sydney 0934K/24 for Brisbane E.T.A. 0800K/26 for onward routeing to Milne Bay.

"NORMAN" arrived Sydney 1408K/24 from Sydney.

VESSEL AGROUND AT CALOUNDRA:

At 0400K/25 N.O.I.C. Brisbane reported that he had ordered "ST. GILES" (Salvage Tug) to assist "JOHN McLEAN" (U.S. Army Transport of 7181 tons gross en route Milne Bay to Brisbane) which was ashore on Bray Rock, Caloundra. No further details are yet to hand.

"MILNE" arrived Brisbane 1100K/24 from Sydney.

"MILNE" E.T.D. Caloundra 1200K/24 to relieve S.C. 749 on Sandy Cape patrol.

"MILNE" (Store Carrier) E.T.D. Caloundra 1200K/24. E.T.A. Port Moresby 0600K/25.

"MILNE" arrived Brisbane 1100K/24 from Sydney.

"MILNE" (en route Brisbane to Milne Bay) proceeding Rockhampton for repairs E.T.D. 1705K/23.

"MILNE" arrived Sydney 0600K/23 from Townsville.

"MILNE" departed Port Phillip 1200K/24 E.T.A. Sydney 1200K/24.

"MILNE" arrived Fremantle 1100K/23 from Calcutta.

To 0900K/24th April, 1944.

"VENDETTA" arrived Milne Bay 1415K/22 escorting U.S. Submarine "SCAMP" from Seeadler Harbour. Departed 1430K/23 E.T.A. Langemak 1400K/24.

"GOULBURN" E.T.D. Milne Bay P.M. 24/4 for Langemak to relieve "BUNDABERG".

"STAWELL" arrived Langemak 0800K/22 from Seeadler Harbour.

U.S.S. "GOLD STAR" (Store Carrier) E.T.D. Langemak 1600K/23 E.T.A. Buna 1800K/24.

U.S.S. "OCTANS" (Store Carrier) arrived Milne Bay 0930K/23 from Brisbane.

"MATAFELE" arrived Milne Bay 1215K/23 from Townsville.

P.C. 1124 departed Gloucester 1900K/21 escorting LCT.393 E.T.A. Langemak 1415K/22.

YMS.393) departed Langemak 1330K/21 escorting GB.87 E.T.A. Buna
S.C. 737) 0930K/23.
S.C. 746)

M.L.803 departed Manus 1500K/21 for Langemak.

"GENERAL JOHN POPE" (U.S.N.T.) departed Noumea 1100K/22 with Filipino Regiment for Milne Bay E.T.A. China Strait 0800K/25.

"PIRIE" arrived Darwin 1722K/22 escorting T.D. 52.

YMS.11) departed Darwin 1845K/23 E.T.A. Exmouth Gulf 1900K/29.
YMS.72)

"INVERELL" departed Thursday Island 1845K/22 escorting T.D. 53 E.T.A. Darwin 1600K/27.

"ALATNA" arrived Thursday Island 1103K/23 from Townsville.

"WARREGO" arrived Cairns 0921K/23 from Milne Bay.

"STRAHAN" departed Townsville 1046K/23 E.T.A. Milne Bay 0900K/26.

YP.291 E.T.D. Cairns 0630K/24 E.T.A. Thursday Island 1800K/27.

YT.235) (Tugs) departed Gladstone 0900K/23 E.T.A. Mackay 1900K/24.
YT.251)

"MILDURA" arrived Brisbane 1558K/22 from Sandy Cape patrol.

"WHYALLA" E.T.D. Caloundra 2200K/24 to relieve S.C. 749 on Sandy Cape patrol.

U.S.S. "CALAMARES" (Store Carrier) E.T.D. Caloundra 0200K/24. E.T.A. Port Moresby 0800K/28.

"INNISFAIL" arrived Brisbane 1130K/23 from Sydney.

YP.504 (en route Brisbane to Milne Bay) proceeding Rockhampton for repairs E.T.A. 1700K/23.

"BIRCHGROVE PARK" arrived Sydney 0340K/23 from Townsville.

"NORMAN" departed Port Phillip 1245K/23 E.T.A. Sydney 1530K/24.

"CUMBERLAND" arrived Fremantle 1130K/23 from Colombo.

"TANCRED" AGROUND:

While assisting operation on "PRESIDENT GRANT" A.M. 21/4 "TANCRED" grounded on Uluma Reef. Refloated at 0700K/22 some structural damage but may be able to proceed under her own power. A further report will be made.

"LYMAN BEECHER" AGROUND:

At 1030K/23 "LYMAN BEECHER" U.S. Liberty Ship en route Milne Bay to Lae and Finschhafen went aground in Raven Channel and requested assistance. No further details available.

ALLIED LANDINGS ON NORTH NEW GUINEA COAST:

At 0700K/22 April, U.S. Troops made an unopposed landing at Tanamerah on the north coast of Dutch New Guinea and advanced 3 miles south to Depapre where they overcame slight resistance. At the same time a landing was also made at Hollandia Humboldt Bay and large quantities of stores were captured.

At 0245K/22 April U.S. troops landed at Wapil (vicinity of Aitope) by mid afternoon they had captured air strips and killed 28 enemy troops and captured eight.

There was no air or naval opposition to the landings. Allied surface forces sank 6 barges and set fire to a small merchant vessel in Tamerah Bay.

- P.C. 2123 - arrived Milne/21 from Langkok.
- "STELLA" } departed Port Moresby 0600K/21, E.T.A. Thursday Is.
- M.B.S. 1123 } P.M. 21/4.
- "HALLAM" - departed Thursday Is. 1020K/20, F.J.A. Cairns 0600K/21.
- "MATHIAS" - arrived Townsville 0600K/21 from Sydney.
- "MONROE" - departed Townsville 0700K/21 for operations vicinity Great North Eastern Channel.
- "KRIFFIN" - U.S. Submarine Tender arrived Brisbane 0700K/21.
- "KIRKWOOD" - arrived Sydney 1800K/21 from A/S Patrol to Suez Canal.
- "YANDEA" - arrived Sydney 1940K/21 from A/S Patrol and U.S. exercises.
- "GULAC" - E.T.A. Sydney 0600K/21, E.T.A. Brisbane A.M. 06/4.
- "BLANDFORD" - departed Sydney 1200K/21 for Brisbane and Milne Bay.
- Y.P. 221 - arrived Cairns 0600K/21 from Brisbane and Palm Is.
- A.C. 741, 638 } arrived Langkok 1010K/21 from Milne Bay.
- M.S. 315 }
- A.C. 737, 738 } escorting A.C. 87 departed Milne 1100K/21
- M.S. 332 } for Lae and Langkok.
- A.C. 739, A.C. 838 - escorting A.C. 88 arrived Milne Bay 0800K/21.
- L.S. 48 and 50 - departed Cairns 1200K/21 for Milne Bay.
- A.P. 115 - departs Calcutta 1200K/21, E.T.A. Milne 0600K/22.

DAILY NARRATIVE

TO 0900K 23/4/44

SECRET

- H.T.131 - towing Y.F.690 and 696 (U.S. Covered Lighters) departed Pearl Harbour 20/4, E.T.A. Milne Bay 4/5.
- M.T.218 - towing B.G.592 and 593 departed Pearl Harbour 20/4, E.T.A. Milne Bay via Funafuti 6/5.
("H.T." and "M.T." - probably Tugs. "B.G." - probably Harbour craft.)
- "GUADALUPE" - U.S. Fuel Ship (Oil))
"SABINE" - " " " ") forming T.U.50, 17, 9 departed
"PLATTE" - " " " ") Seadler Harbour 0800K/22
"RIDDLER" - Destroyer Escort) E.T.A. Pearl Harbour 1200K/1st
"SWEARER" - " " " ") May. Routed north of New
"SAMUEL S.)
"MILES" - Unclassified.) Ireland.
- "BENALLA" - E.T.D. Seadler Harbour 1000K/22, E.T.A. Langemak 1700K/23, thence Morobe for boiler cleaning, E.T.A. 1300K/24.
- "CASTLEMAINE") escorting N.A.4, departed Langemak 0600K/20 for
"STAWELL") Seadler Harbour.
"BOWEN")
- P.C.1134 - escorting L.C.T.'s 245, 255 and 257 arrived Langemak 1300K/20 from Saidor.
- P.C.1123 - arrived Milne Bay 1100K/21 from Langemak.
- "STELLA") departed Port Moresby 0900K/21, E.T.A. Thursday Is.
H.D.M.L.1129) P.M. 25/4.
- "BALLARAT" - departed Thursday Is. 1025K/22, E.T.A. Cairns 0800K/24.
- "STRAHAN" - arrived Townsville 0845K/22 from Sydney.
- "BUNGAREE" - departed Townsville 0700K/22 for operations vicinity Great North Eastern Channel.
- "GRIFFIN" - U.S. Submarine Tender arrived Brisbane 0740K/22.
- "WARRNAMBOOL" - arrived Sydney 1836K/21 from A/S Patrol to Smoky Cape.
- "YANDRA" - arrived Sydney 1943K/21 from A/S Patrol and R.D.F. exercises.
- "COLAC" - E.T.D. Sydney 0900K/24, E.T.A. Brisbane A.M. 26/4.
- "GLADSTONE" - departed Sydney 1003K/22 for Brisbane and Milne Bay.
- Y.P.291 - arrived Cairns 0530K/22 from Brisbane and Palm Is.
- S.C.'s 744, 698) arrived Langemak 1015K/21 from Milne Bay.
Y.M.S.315)
- S.C.'s 737, 746) escorting B.G. 87 departed Buna 1145K/20
Y.M.S. 393) for Lae and Langemak.
- S.C.732, S.C.982 - escorting G.B.86 arrived Milne Bay 0930K/22.
- Y.M.S.49 and 50 - departed Cairns 1000K/22 for Milne Bay.
- A.P.C.15 - departs Caloundra 1400K/22, E.T.A. Ballina 0600K/23.

0800K/Saturday, 2nd April, 1944.

Page 2.

"FREDERICK BILLINGS" Aground.

At 0030K/23, "FREDERICK BILLINGS" (U.S. Cargo Ship - 7176 tons - due Buna 0647K/23 from Milne Bay), reported herself aground 2 miles from Ham Reef Light, approximately 55 miles N.W. of Cape Vogel. There is no immediate danger and an attempt to refloat will be made at High Water. Tugs and a lighter may be required.

A.F. MESSAGES ISSUED.

At 0029K/22, N.O.I.C. Port Darwin reported an aircraft sighting of an enemy submarine approximately 140 miles North of Melville Island at 1857K/21. Bombs were dropped, no results observed. Darwin issued an A.F. message at 1205K/22 addressed to C.S.W.P.S.F. and N.O.I.C. Fremantle.

At 0753K/22, N.O.I.C. New Guinea issued an A.F. message reporting an enemy submarine in a position 12 miles East of Lae.

At 0502K/22, N.O.I.C. New Guinea issued an A.F. message (in a position 100 miles South of Admiralty), based on "ARARAT's" reported attack (see previous narrative). In both cases local H.M.A. Ships and Authorities were informed.

escorting U.S.A. departed Milne Bay 1200K/22 for Langasak E.T.A. 0800K/22.

departed Milne Bay 1500K/22 for Buna - E.T.A. 0900K/21.

took over box patrol south of China Strait V.M. 10 from "BARBARO", "COULSON" and "WINDO".

escorting U.S.A. departed Milne Bay 1200K/21 "COULSON" to detach at Buna E.T.A. 1400K/22, convey E.T.A. Langasak 0800K/22.

departed Milne Bay 1200K/21 for Cape Sudest E.T.A. 1100K/22.

escorting "ISLANDER" arrived Thursday Island 1100K/22 from Herakle.

and 72 arrived Darwin 0800K/20 from Groote Eylandt.

departed Cairns 0815K/21 for Brisbane E.T.A. 0900K/24.

departed Cairns 0101K/21 with I.M.S. party for Villa Point (vicinity of Cape Direction) E.T.A. 1000K/22 E.T.A. Cairns on return 1800K/22.

arrived Cairns 0800K/21 from erecting lights.

E.T.A. Cairns 1800K/22 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 1200K/24.

E.T.A. Townsville 0700K/22 for operations in vicinity of Great North East Channel.

and 231 arrived Gladstone 1800K/20 from Brisbane.

S E C R E T.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900K/Saturday, 22nd April, 1944.

P.C. 1123 arrived Langemak 0700K/19 from Saidor.

P.C. 1122 departed Langemak 1400K/18 escorting GB.84A to Buna.

P.C. 1134 departed Langemak 0800K/19 for Saidor.

YMS. 73 and 53) escorting B.G. 85 including "MERKUR" for onward convoy
S.C. 748) to Manus arrived Langemak 1200K/19.

"CASTLEMAINE") escorting N.A.4 including "MERKUR" and "POYANG" departed
"LOWEN") Langemak 0600K/20 for Seeadler Harbour.

Y.P. 280 arrived Langemak 1030K/20 from Goodenough.

LST. 201 escorted by 2. P.T.'s departed Dreger Harbour 1600K/21 for Saidor E.T.A. 0900K/22.

"MIZAR" departed Langemak 0900K/20 for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 1100K/21.

U.S. Transport "TRYON" arrived Cape Sudest 1100K/19 from Milne Bay.

S.C. 982 and 732 escorting B.G.86 departed Buna 1145K/19.

"VENDETTA" escorting U.S. Submarine "SCAMP" E.T.A. Milne Bay 1100K/22 from Admiraltys.

"WARREGO" departed Milne Bay 1400K/21 for Cairns to boiler clean, E.T.A. 0730K/23.

YMS. 335 escorting BG.87A. departed Milne Bay 1230K/20 for Langemak E.T.A. 0800K/22.

YMS. 314) departed Milne Bay 1500K/20 for Buna - E.T.A. 0900K/21.
S.C. 650)

P.C. 1119, 1131 and 477 took over box patrol south of China Strait P.M./20 from "WARREGO", "GOULBURN" and "WAGGA".

"BENDIGO") escorting BG.88A. departed Milne Bay 1330K/21
U.S. Destroyer "JACOB JONES") "COWRA" to detach at Buna E.T.A. 1400K/22,
"COWRA") convoy E.T.A. Langemak 0800K/23.
"KIAMA")

"PING WO" departed Milne Bay 1000K/21 for Cape Sudest E.T.A. 1100K/22.

"BALLARAT" escorting "ISLANDER" arrived Thursday Island 1106K/22 from Merauke.

YMS. 11 and 72 arrived Darwin 2035K/20 from Groote Eylandt.

"HUNBURY" departed Cairns 0615K/21 for Brisbane E.T.A. 0500K/24.

M.L. 811 departed Cairns 0101K/21 with RMS. party for Villis Point (vicinity of Cape Direction) E.T.A. 1000K/23 E.T.A. Cairns on return 1800K/25.

"MESQUITE" arrived Cairns 0936K/21 from erecting lights.

YMS. 49 and 50) E.T.D. Cairns 1000K/22 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 1200K/24.
APC. 3)

"HUNGAREE" E.T.D. Townsville 0700K/22 for operations in vicinity of Great North East Channel.

YT. 235 and 251 arrived Gladstone 1800K/20 from Brisbane.

U.S. Auxiliary A/C Carrier "HINCE WILLIAM" departed San Francisco 1100K/18 for Brisbane E.T.A. 6/5.

"CALAMARES" E.T.D. Brisbane about 24/4 for Port Moresby and Milne Bay.

"ECHUCA" E.T.D. Brisbane 26/4 for Milne Bay.

"GLADSTONE" arrived Sydney 0620K/21 from Adelaide - E.T.D. 0900K/22 for Brisbane and Milne Bay.

"COLAC" is to depart Sydney to arrive Brisbane P.M./26 to escort U.S. submarine to Milne Bay.

"KATOOMBA" is to depart Sydney to arrive Brisbane P.M./29 to escort U.S. Submarine to Milne Bay.

"NORMAN" arrived Melbourne 0935K/21 from Fremantle.

"BINGERA" departed Port Phillip 0457K/21 arrived Westernport 1100K/21.

SUSPECTED SUBMARINE SOUTH OF ADMIRALTYS.

"ARARAT" escorting U.S. Cargo Ship "ARIDED" to Admiralty Island reported at 0259K/22 - "Attacked suspected submarine at 0207K/22 in position 03 52'S. 147 18'E without result Continuing" Position is about 100 miles S. of Admiraltys. NOIC New Guinea made an A.F. Message.

"VIGILANT" - commissioned as a tender to "MAGNETIC" as from 17/4.

..... Townsville.

..... from Cairns.

(U.S. Destroyer) departed Sydney Harbour 1400K/22 for Tarkine area E.T.A. 1700K/22.

(U.S. Naval Transport) arrived Noumea 19th April from Milne Bay departed Noumea at 1000K/22 for San Francisco E.T.A. 2100K/22 Bay.

survey vessel, arrived Port Moresby 1700K/22 from Milne Bay.

departing "....." departed Noumea 1100K/20 for Thursday Island E.T.A. 2400K/21.

arrived Thursday Island 1400K/20 for Townsville.

arrived Cocktown 1400K/20 from Cairns - E.T.D. Cocktown for Thursday Island 2400K/20.

E.T.A. Thursday Island 1000K/21 from Cairns.

arrived Townsville 2400K/20 from Cairns.

E.T.D. Calceonra 2000K/21 to relieve "....." as duty Cape A/B Patrol.

E.T.D. Calceonra 1700K/21 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 1800K/22.

departed Sydney 0700K/18 for Brisbane - E.T.A. 1800K/20.

E.T.A. Port Melbourne 2400K/21 from Fremantle. Arrived Sydney 1400K/20 from Melbourne.

E.T.A. Port Melbourne 0800K/21 from Fremantle.

departed Pt. Phillip 1100K/19 for Wilson's Promontory for sweeping operations.

(U.S. Liner) arrived Fremantle 0800K/20 from South Africa.

Ta 0900K/Friday, 21st April, 1944.

"PRESIDENT JACKSON") U.S.N. Transports))
"PRESIDENT ADAMS"		
"PRESIDENT HAYES"		
"ELMORE"		
"WAYNE"		
"TITANIA") U.S.N. Cargo Ships))
"AQUARIS"		
"SAMPSON"	U.S. Destroyer)
"GAMBLE") U.S. Fast Minesweepers))
"SOUTHARD"		
"PRUITT"		
"TRACY"		

constituting T.U.34.9.5 departed Guadalcanal 1300K/20 for Cape Gloucester E.T.A. 0700K/23 thence to ferry Marines back to Russell Island.

✓ "GASCOYNE" departed Milne Bay 0800K/15 to rendezvous at 2100K/20 with "SANGAY (U.S. Ammunition Ship) and "STARLING" (U.S. Minesweeper) (en route from Havannah Harbour to Manus Island) and escort through Vitiaz Strait to destination.

"COUCAL" (U.S. Submarine Rescue Ship) arrived Milne Bay 1430K/19 from Brisbane; departed Milne Bay 2305K/19 for Seeadler Harbour E.T.A. 0600K/22.

✓ "ARARAT" departed Milne Bay 0615K/19 to rendezvous with "ARIDED" (U.S.N. Cargo ship) en route Espiritu Santo to Seeadler, and escort through Vitiaz Strait to destination E.T.A. 1500K/22.

✓ "TOLGA" arrived Milne Bay 0930K/19 from Townsville.

✓ "BENDIGO" arrived Milne Bay 1000K/19 from Cairns.

✓ "CONWAY" (U.S. Destroyer) departed Dreger Harbour 1430K/20 for Tarokina area E.T.A. 1730K/21.

"HERMITAGE" (U.S. Naval Transport) arrived Noumea 19th April from Milne Bay departed Noumea at 1000K/20 for San Francisco E.T.A. 0200K/6th May.

✓ "WINTER") survey vessels, arrived Port Moresby 1703K/12 from Milne Bay.
 ✓ "POLARIS")

✓ "BALLARAT" escorting "ISLANDER" departed Merauke 1130K/20 for Thursday Island E.T.A. 0900K/21.

S.C. 731 arrived Thursday Island 1354K/20 for Townsville.

"TOOMEREE" arrived Cooktown 1013K/19 from Cairns - E.T.D. Cooktown for Thursday Island 0430K/20.

✓ "ALATNA" E.T.A. Thursday Island 1000K/21 from Cairns.

"JOHN HARDY" arrived Townsville 0400K/20 from Cairns.

S.C. 749 E.T.D. Caloundra 2200K/21 to relieve "MILDURA" on Sandy Cape A/S Patrol.

YP. 504 E.T.D. Caloundra 1730K/21 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 1330K/28.

✓ "INNISFAIL" departed Sydney 0707K/19 for Brisbane - E.T.A. 1800K/25.

✓ "WHANG PU" E.T.A. Port Melbourne 0930K/21 from Fremantle. Arrived Sydney 1140K/20 from Melbourne.

"NORMAN" E.T.A. Port Melbourne 0930K/21 from Fremantle.

✓ "DURRAWEEEN" departed Pt. Phillip 2103K/19 for Wilson's Promontory for sweeping operations.

✓ "CHANTICLEER" (U.S. Minesweeper) arrived Fremantle 0950K/20 from Exmouth Gulf.

To 0900K/Thursday, 20th April, 1944.

U.S.S. "CONWAY" (Destroyer) departed Green Island 0900K/19 escorting MTBRON 10 E.T.A. Dreger Harbour 115K/20.

U.S.S. "SANGAY" (Ammunition ship) departed Havannah Harbour 0700K/18 E.T.A. Manus 22/4.

"BENDIGO") E.T.D. Milne Bay 1400K/21 escorting BG.88A E.T.A. Langemak
"COWRA") 0800K/23.
"KIAMA")

U.S.S. "SHIKELLAMY" (Tanker) arrived Milne Bay 1040K/18 from Brisbane.

U.S.S. "TEAK" (Net Tender) arrived Milne Bay 1315K/18 from Woodlark.

U.S.S. "MIZAR" (Store Carrier) E.T.D. Cape Uretin 1100K/20 for Cape Sudest and Milne Bay E.T.D. Milne Bay 1500K/21 E.T.A. Caloundra 1000K/24.

"STAWELL") departed Manus 1200K/17 arrived Langemak 1300K/18.
"GYMPIE")
P.C. 1120)

P.C. 1124 arrived Langemak 1030K/18 from Saidor.

S.C. 982) departed Langemak 1630K/17 escorting BG.84 E.T.A. Buna 1030K/19.
S.C. 732)

S.C. 746) departed Milne Bay 1540K/18 E.T.A. Buna 1100K/19.
YMS. 393)

P.C. 1123 arrived Saidor 1430K/18 escorting 2 L.C.T.'s from Langemak departed 1500K/19 for Langemak.

"INVERELL" arrived Thursday Island 0235K/19 escorting DT.51.

HM.L.1322 departed Merauke 2230K/18 for Elanden River and return.

"BUNGAREE" arrived Townsville 1634K/18 from Bowen.

"MATAFELE" arrived Townsville 2114K/18 from Sydney departed 1402K/19 E.T.A. Milne Bay 0300K/23.

"CALAMARES" (Store Carrier) arrived Brisbane 0012k/19 from Milne Bay.

"WARRENAMBOOL") departed Sydney 0936K/19 for A/S patrol and RDP.
"YANDRA") exercises. "YANDRA" returns 0900K/22, "WARRENAMBOOL" returns 0900K/24.

"KALGOORLIE" arrived Sydney 0927K/19 from Townsville.

"DOOMBA" arrived Sydney 0900K/19 from Smoky/Patrol

"INNISFAIL" E.T.D. Sydney 0600K/20 E.T.A. Brisbane 1800K/25.

U.S.S. "CHANTICLEER" departed Exmouth Gulf 0430K/18 for Fremantle.

H.L. 827 commissioned at Brisbane 19/4.

To 0900K/Wednesday, 19th April, 1944.

"LISSEN" U.S. Ammunition Ship) E.T.D. Kwajalein 1300K/21 - E.T.A.
 "GREINER" Destroyer escort) Seeadler Harbour 0600K/26.
 "CLOUES" " " ")

"LISSEN" reports to C.T.F. 58 for duty on arrival. The escorts return to Kwajalein.

"CONWAY" U.S. Destroyer escorting MTBRON to E.T.D. Green Island 19/4, E.T.A. Dreger Harbour P.M.20/4. "CONWAY" then returns to Torokina area.

"BIDDLE" Destroyer) comprising U.S. Task Unit 34.9.6
 "SIGOURNEY" Destroyer) (to be formed 19/4) E.T.D. Guadalcanal 23/4, E.T.A. Cape Gloucester, A.M.26/4. On unloading elements of 40th Div.
 "WITTER" Destroyer Escort)
 "STANSHURY", Destroyer Minesweeper)
 "TREVOR" Destroyer Minesweeper) Task Unit loads elements of 1st MARDIV and proceeds Russel Is. thence Guadalcanal, where it is dissolved.
 "SICARD" Minelayer)
 "DUPAGE" Attack Transport.)
 "LEEDSTOWN" attack Transport)
 "FAYETTE" attack transport)
 "WARREN" Attack transport)
 "LIBRA" Auxiliary Cargo (Attack))

L.C.I's 245 and 246 departed Bora Bora 0400K/17, E.T.A. Brisbane 30/4.

"BOWEN" escorting "VAN SWOLL" departed Langemak 1700K/16 for Seeadler Harbour.

M.L.803 departed Langemak 1000K/18 E.T.A. Seeadler Harbour 0900K/19.

"CASTLEMAINE" escorting "ESTHER JOHNSON" arrived Langemak 1516K/15 from Seeadler Harbour.

"PYRO" arrived Cape Sudest 0600K/16 from Langemak.

"PORCUPINE", U.S. Tanker arrived Lae 2000K/15 from Langemak.

"GOLD STAR" arrived Buna 0900K/15 from Milne Bay.

"MIZAR" arrived Langemak 0600K/18 from Seeadler Harbour.

"GANYMEDE" arrived Buna 1400K/17 from Milne Bay.

"TEAK" U.S. Net Tender departed Milne Bay 1400K/16 arrived Woodlark 0600K/17 - E.T.A. Milne Bay on return 1800K/18.

"GLENELG") escorting N.A.3 arrived Seeadler Harbour 1630K/17.
 P.C's 1132, 1133)

"LAURABADA" arrived Milne Bay 1330K/17 from Cape Gloucester.

M.L.424 departed Milne Bay 1130K/17 - E.T.A. Lae 0030K/19.

"GASCOYNE", "BENDIGO", "COWRA" and "KIAMA" E.T.D. Milne Bay P.M.21/4 to relieve "STAWELL", "GYMPIE", "BOWEN" and "CASTLEMAINE" in Langemak area.

M.L.817 escorting "JACOB S. MANSFIELD" arrived Milne Bay 1160K/17 from Woodlark.

"GEELONG" arrived Milne Bay 1105K/17 from Cairns.

"SWAN" arrived Milne Bay 1240K/17 from Brisbane.

"ARARAT" E.T.D. 0600K/20 to rendezvous with P.C. 1126 and "ARIDED" (from Espiritu Santo) N. of Woodlark and escort to Seeadler Harbour.

"LITHGOW" arrived Milne Bay 0930K/18 from Townsville.

"MERABOE") departed Merauke 1800K/17 for Eilanden River Post and
"RINDJANI") return.

"WILCANNIA" escorting T.D. 51 arrived Darwin 1303K/18.

"PIRIE" escorting T.D. 52 departed Thursday Island 0210K/18 E.T.A.
Darwin 1200K/22.

M.L.820 arrived Thursday Island 1200K/17 from Cairns.

"BUNBURY" arrived Cairns 0928K/18 from Milne Bay.

"TOOMEREE" N.A.P. departed Cairns 1200K/18 E.T.A. Thursday Island
1500K/25 for onward routing to Merauke.

"ALATNA" departed Townsville P.M.17/4 arrived Cairns 1836K/18 for fuel
and onward routing to Thursday Island and Darwin.

"BIRCHGROVE PARK" departed 1625K/17 E.T.A. Sydney 0600K/24.

"BUNGAREE" departed Bowen 0630K/18 E.T.A. Townsville 1800K/18.

"OCTANS" U.S. Store Carrier E.T.D. Caloundra 1200K/19 E.T.A. China
Strait 0600K/23.

"ECHUCA" E.T.D. Caloundra 1130K/19 E.T.A. Milne Bay 1000K/24.

"SPRINGDALE" towing "Seamist" and "STEADY HOUR" (C.P.B's) departed
Sydney 1019K/18 for Milne Bay - E.T.A. Cairns 26/4.

"WHANGPU" departed Port Phillip 0935K/18 - E.T.A. Sydney 0900K/21.

YMS. 73) escorting B.G.85 departed Milne Bay 0915K/17. Convoy
YMS. 53) includes "MERKUR" for onward convoy Langemak/Manus
S.C. 748)

S.C. 982) escorting "ALCIBIADES" arrived Langemak 0700K/17 from
S.C. 732) Buna.
Y.P. 280) arrived Goodenough 1600K/19 from Langemak.

S.C. 735) arrived Milne Bay 1230K/17 from Langemak.
YMS. 336)

S.C. 731 departed Cairns 1200K/18 E.T.A. Thursday Island 1600K/20.

S.C. 745) arrived Brisbane 1646K/18 from A/S patrol Sandy Cape.

YT. 235) E.T.D. Caloundra 1400K/19 E.T.A. Townsville 26/4, calling
YT. 251) Gladstone and Mackay.

U.S. SUBMARINE SCAMP ATTACKED AND DAMAGED:

Com. 7th Fleet reported at 2359K/18 that U.S. submarine "SCAMP" was at Seadler Harbour in a damaged condition, the result of an enemy attack of which no details were given. CSWPSF was requested to provide escort for "SCAMP" to Milne Bay. The submarine can maintain 15 knots but can dive only with great difficulty.

SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900K/Tuesday, 18th April, 1944.

- U.S.N.T. "PRESIDENT JACKSON") E.T.D. Guadalcanal 20/4 for
"PRESIDENT ADAMS") Cape Gloucester - E.T.A. A.M./
"PRESIDENT HAYES") 23 thence to return to Russell
"ELMORE", "WAYNE") Island with troops.
U.S. Cargo ships "TITANIA" and)
"AQUARIUS" escorted by Destroyers)
"SAMPSON" and U.S. Fast Minesweepers)
"GAMBLE", "SOUTHARD", "FRUITT" and)
"TRACY")
- U.S. Destroyer Escorts "LEVY", "PARKS") E.T.D. SANTO 18/4 for Seeadler
"BARON" and "ACREE" with U.S. Fleet) Harbour E.T.A. 23/4.
Oilers "ESCAMBIA", "CACAPON" and)
"CHIKASKIA")
- U.S. Ammunition Ship "SANGAY" E.T.A. Cape Cretin 22/4 from Havannah
Harbour.
- "MIZAR" E.T.D. Manus 1500K/17 for Langemak E.T.A. 0600K/18.
- U.S.N.T. "PRESIDENT POLK") departed Guadalcanal 0930K/17 for
U.S. Destroyer "GEORGE") Seeadler Harbour E.T.A. 20/4.
U.S. Fast Minesweeper "DORSEY")
- "SHEPPARTON" arrived Langemak 1645K/15 from Morobe.
- P.T. 193 and 191 escorting APC.5 towing fuel barge E.T.D. Dreger Bay
0600K/17 for Talasea E.T.A. 1400K/19.
- "TRIANGULUM" arrived Langemak 1500K/14 from Lae.
- P.C. 1122 escorting "OLIVER KELLY" arrived Langemak 0600K/15 from Oro Bay.
- "SUSCUHANNA" arrived Langemak 1400K/14 from Lae.
- P.C. 1133 and 1134 escorting B.G. 83A arrived Langemak 0700K/16.
- "YUNNAN" arrived Langemak 14/4 from Milne Bay.
"POYANG" arrived Oro Bay 1400K/15 from Milne Bay.
U.S. Fleet Tug "CHETCO" arrived Oro Bay 1400K/15 from Milne Bay.
- "GLENELG") escorting N.A. 3 departed Langemak 0600K/16 for
P.C. 1132 and 1133) Seeadler Harbour.
- "VENDETTA" E.T.D. Milne Bay P.M/17 for Langemak E.T.A. P.M/18.
- U.S. Repair Ship "UGLALA" departed Tutuila 16/4 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 24/4.
- "MUNBURY" departed Milne Bay 1500K/16 - E.T.A. Grafton Passage 0600K/18.
- H.M.L. 1325 arrived Milne Bay 1600K/16 from Buna.
- APC.4 arrived Milne Bay 1200K/16.
- U.S.N. Tanker "ST. MARYS" arrived Milne Bay 1800K/16 from Milne Bay.
- "LITHGOW" E.T.A. Milne Bay 1000K/18 from Brisbane.
- "BALLARAT" escorting "ISLANDER" arrived Merauke 0855K/16 from Thursday Is.
- Lugger "HEATHER" departed Pt. Hedland 0445K/16 for Darwin E.T.A. 1/5.
- "BENDIGO" departed Cairns 1322K/17 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 0700K/19.

"BUNGAREE" arrived Bowen 0700K/17 from Torres Strait for fuel and water, and is to proceed Townsville for stores.

"OCTANS" arrived Brisbane 0443E/17 from Sydney; E.T.D. about 18/4 for Milne Bay.

U.S. Cruisers "MONTEELIER" and "CLEVELAND" U.S. Destroyers "FULLAM", "GUEST", "BENNETT", "HALFORD" and "HUDSON". } departed Sydney 1242E/17 for Port Purvis E.T.A. 1400K/21. Without additional after unloading.

M.L. 825 arrived Jervis Bay 1825K/15 from Pt. Kembla.

"WARRNAMBOOL" arrived Sydney 0849K/17 from Smoky Cape patrol.

"STRAHAN" departed Sydney 1727K/17 for Townsville E.T.A. 0900K/22.

"COOLEBAR" arrived Sydney 1139K/17 from Brisbane.

"DOOMBA" departed Sydney 0852K/17 on A/S patrol to Smoky Cape and return.

"GLADSTONE" departed Adelaide 1310K/17 for Sydney E.T.A. 0600K/21.

"NORMAN" E.T.A. Melbourne P.M/21 from Fremantle - E.T.D. P.M/23 for Sydney E.T.A. P.M/24.

OUTER GRAFTON PASSAGE PATROL ABOLISHED - departed Langsam 0900K/14;

Outer A/S patrol of Grafton Passage was abolished by C.SWP.S.F. 17/4. Inner patrol is to be continued. At least one H.M.S. as a striking force is to be maintained at Cairns.

P.S. 1122 arrived Langsam 1400K/15 from Milne Bay.

P.S. 1122 departed Langsam 1400K/15 from Milne Bay to escort "HILG" (U.S. Subint) towing floating dock to Langsam.

P.S. 1121 escorting "PINA ISLAND" (Tug) towing floating dock arrived Milne Bay 1000K/15 from various.

"WARRNAMBOOL" departed Milne Bay 1200K/15 for Buna E.T.A. 1000K/17 for call forward to Langsam.

M.L. 514 arrived Milne Bay 2000K/15 from Langsam.

M.L. 515 arrived Milne Bay 1000K/14 from Buna.

"TRIPPOBERRY" (U.S. Minesweeper) arrived Milne Bay 1915K/15 from Brisbane.

"MARBY" arrived Milne Bay 1545K/15 from Langsam E.T.D. 1300K/15 for Cairns for boiler cleaning and docking for repair to A/S done E.T.A. Grafton Passage 0745/16.

"CALABASH" (U.S. Store Ship) departed Milne Bay 0400E/15 for Brisbane E.T.A. 0600K/16.

"HEMLOCK" (U.S. Naval Transport) departed Milne Bay 1415K/15 for San Francisco, via Suva - E.T.A. Boston 0300K/16.

"WARRNAMBOOL" (U.S. Naval Transport) departed Milne Bay 1100E/15 for San Francisco E.T.A. 1st May.

M.L. 514 arrived Milne Bay 1800K/15 from Cape Gloucester.

M.L. 515 arrived Milne Bay 1700K/15 from Langsam.

P.S. 457 arrived Goodenough 1700K/15 from Milne Bay; arrived Milne Bay 1200K/15 from Goodenough.

to 0900K/Monday 17th April, 1944.

"PRESIDENT POLK" (U.S.N.T.) } constituting Task Unit 34.9.2 to
 "GEORGE" (U.S. Destroyer) } depart Guadalcanal 17th April and pro-
 "DORSEY" (Fast Mine Sweeper) } ceed through Vitiaz Strait to Seeadler
 Harbour E.T.A. 20th April. Task
 Unit is then to dissolve, "GEORGE" and
 "DORSEY" returning to Guadalcanal without
 delay; "PRESIDENT POLK" to return to
 Guadalcanal after unloading.

"PHILLIP" (U.S. Destroyer) escorting "CELENO" (U.S.N. Cargo Ship)
 arrived Manus Island 14th April from Guadalcanal. "CELENO"
 is to return to Langemak for onward routeing to Milne Bay.

"STAWELL" escorting "MIZAR" (U.S. Store Ship) and "JENKINS" (U.S.
 Destroyer) arrived Manus Island 15th April from Langemak.

P.C. 1123 arrived Saidor 0700K/14 from Langemak.

P.C. 1124 escorting 1 merchant ship arrived Saidor 1100K/16 from Langemak

YMS. 336) arrived Langemak 1001K/15 with B.G. 83 from Buna.
 S.C. 735)

P.C. 476 departed Langemak 0830K/15 and arrived Cape Gloucester 1645K/15.

H.D.M.L. 1325 arrived Langemak 1630K/13; departed Langemak 0900K/14;
 arrived Buna 1600K/16.

"KAPUNDA") departed Langemak 1500K/14 escorting Convoy G.B. 82;
 S.C. 982) arrived Milne Bay 1030K/16 (less S.C. 982 and S.C. 732).
 S.C. 732)

P.C. 1132 arrived Langemak 1300K/14 from Milne Bay.

P.C. 1122 departed Langemak 1400K/15 from Talasea to escort "HILO" (U.S.
 gunboat) towing floating dock to Langemak.

P.C. 1131 escorting "FIRE ISLAND" (Tug) towing floating dock arrived
 Milne Bay 1330K/13 from rendezvous.

"GANYMEDE" departed Milne Bay 1200K/16 for Buna E.T.A. 1001K/17 for
 call forward to Langemak.

YMS. 314 arrived Milne Bay 2000K/15 from Langemak.

YMS. 316 arrived Milne Bay 1000K/14 from Buna.

"WHIPPOORWILL" (U.S. Minesweeper) arrived Milne Bay 1915K/15 from Brisbane

"BUNBURY" arrived Milne Bay 1641K/14 from Langemak E.T.D. 1600K/16 for
 Cairns for boiler cleaning and docking for repair to A/S dome
 E.T.A. Grafton Passage 0600K/18.

"CALAMARES" (U.S. Store Ship) departed Milne Bay 0400K/15 for Brisbane
 E.T.A. 0600K/19.

"HERMITAGE" (U.S. Naval Transport) departed Milne Bay 1415K/15 for
 San Francisco, via Noumea - E.T.A. Noumea 0500K/19.

"GENERAL R.L. HOUZE" (U.S. Naval Transport) departed Milne Bay 1100K/15.
 for San Francisco E.T.A. 1st May.

A.P.C. 14 arrived Milne Bay 1200K/16 from Cape Gloucester.

YMS. 71 arrived Milne Bay 1700K/15 from Langemak.

P.C. 477 arrived Goodenough 1700K/14 from Milne Bay; arrived Milne Bay
 1600K/15 from Goodenough.

"BENDIGO" E.T.D. Cairns 1200K/17 for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 0700K/9.

YMS.72) arrived Groote Eylandt 1230K/15 from Thursday Island;
YMS.11) E.T.D. for Darwin 17/4.

"PIRIE" arrived Thursday Island 15th April escorting Convoy D.T. 50 from Darwin.

"COUCAL" (U.S. Submarine Depot Ship) E.T.D. Caloundra 2359K/15 for Milne Bay for onward routeing to Seeadler Harbour; E.T.A. China Strait 0700K/20.

"ECHUCA" arrived Brisbane 2315K/15 from Sydney.

YP.291 E.T.D. Caloundra 1700K/17 for Palm Island. E.T.A. 1400K/20. Cairns E.T.A. 0600K/24 and Thursday Island E.T.A. 1400K/27.

"WHYALLA" arrived Brisbane 0440K/16 from Sandy Cape A/S patrol.

"MILDURA" E.T.D. Brisbane 2200K/17 to relieve S.C. 745 on Sandy Cape A/S patrol.

"POLLUX" (U.S. Store Ship) E.T.D. Brisbane 0400K/17 E.T.A. Milne Bay. 1600K/22.

"STRAHAN" E.T.D. Sydney 1700K/17 from Townsville for onward routeing to Milne Bay.

M.L.825 arrived Jervis Bay 1825K/15 from Port Kembla.

"RANEE" departed Port Phillip 1517K/15 for Esquimalt E.T.A. 7th May.

"NORMAN" arrived Fremantle 1500K/16 from Addu Atoll.

SHIP AGROUND IN MILNE BAY.

"THOMAS NELSON" (Liberty Ship) 7176 tons gross en route Milne Bay to Oro Bay grounded off Killerton Island (northern shore of Milne Bay) on 15th April. No further details are yet to hand.

M.L.1225 Arrived Langkok 1200K/15. Departed 0700K/14 for Milne.

M.L.1226 (U.S. Store Carrier) Departed Langkok 1700K/14 E.T.A. Seeadler Harbour 1200K/15.

M.L.1227 Departed Darwin 0800K/15 escorting DT 51 E.T.A. Thursday Island 1200K/16.

M.L.1228 Departed Thursday Island 0800K/15 escorting 12.2222 E.T.A. Brisbane 0800K/16.

M.L.1229 Arrived Port Moresby 0500K/15 from Milne Bay.

M.L.1230 Arrived Harbourside 0800K/15 from Thursday Island.

M.L.1231 Departed Cairns 1200K/14. Arrived Townsville 0800K/15. Departed 1700K/15 E.T.A. Sydney 1100K/16.

M.L.1232 Arrived Cairns anchorage 0800K/15 for 12.2222. Departed 1020K/15 E.T.A. Milne Bay 0800K/17.

M.L.1233 Arrived Townsville 1000K/15 from Cairns.

M.L.1234 Departed Cairns 1400K/14 E.T.A. Thursday Island 1800K/17.

M.L.1235 (U.S. Store Carrier) E.T.D. Caloundra 1800K/16 leaving A.C.L. 17 E.T.A. Milne Bay 1200K/16.

M.L.1236 (U.S.) E.T.D. Caloundra 1800K/16 E.T.A. Brisbane 0800K/18.

DAILY NARRATIVE TO 0900K/16TH APRIL, 1944.

- BOWEN) Departed Langemak 0645K/13 escorting N.A.2. Arrived Seeadler
GYMPIE) Harbour 1700K/14.
P.C.1120)
- U.S.S. TRYON (Evacuation Transport (wounded)) Arrived Milne Bay
 1230K/14 from Santo.
- PING WO Arrived Milne Bay 1600K/14 from Buna.
- U.S.S. "SUSQUEHANNA" (Tanker) Arrived Langemak 1600K/13 from Lae.
- U.S.S. "CHETCO" (Tug) Departed Milne Bay 0715K/15 E.T.A. Cape Sudest
 1300K/16.
- P.C.1133 Departed Milne Bay 1600K/14 escorting BG 83A E.T.A. Langemak
P.C.1134 0930K/16.
- P.C.1132 Arrived Cape Gloucester 0800K/13 from Langemak. Departed
 1600K/13 escorting 1 Merchant Ship to Langemak.
- P.C.1122 Departed Oro Bay 1845K/14 escorting Olive Kelly E.T.A.
 Langemak 1000K/15.
- S.C.982) Arrived Langemak 0800K/14 escorting BG 82.
S.C.732)
- YMS.336) Departed Buna 1015K/14 escorting BG 83 E.T.A. Langemak
S.C.735) 1600K/15.
- YMS.71) Arrived Langemak 1100K/13 escorting BG 81.
YMS.314)
- YMS.393) Arrived Milne Bay 0930K/15 escorting GB 81.
YMS.314)
- HMML.1325 Arrived Langemak 1636K/13. Departed 0900K/14 for Buna.
- MIZAR (U.S. Store Carrier) Departed Langemak 1700K/14 E.T.A. Seeadler
 Harbour 1200K/15.
- INVERELL Departed Darwin 0810K/15 escorting DT 51 E.T.A. Thursday ,
 Island 1300K/18.
- BALLARAT Departed Thursday Island 0810K/15 escorting ISLANDER E.T.A.
 Merauke 0630K/16.
- STELLA) Arrived Port Moresby 0703K/15 from Milne Bay.
HMML.1129)
- HMML.1322 Arrived Merauke 0830K/15 from Thursday Island.
- KALGOORLIE Departed Cairns 1800K/14. Arrived Townsville 0910K/15.
 Departed 1258K/15 E.T.A. Sydney 1159K/19.
- GEELONG Arrived Cairns anchorage 0630K/15 for charts. Departed
 1030K/15 E.T.A. Milne Bay 0800K/17.
- BIRCHGROVE PARK Arrived Townsville 1030K/15 from Cairns.
- ML.820 Departed Cairns 1446K/14 E.T.A. Thursday Island 1600K/17.
- POLLUX (U.S. Store Carrier) E.T.D. Caloundra 1800K/16 towing LCT.170
 E.T.A. Milne Bay 1200K/22.
- U.S.S. YUMA (Tug) E.T.D. Caloundra 2100K/15 E.T.A. Noumea 0800K/18.

DAILY NARRATIVE

COOTAMUNDRA Arrived Sydney 2156K/15 from Townsville.

WARRNAMEOOL Departed Sydney 0906K/15 on A/S patrol to Smoky Cape.

YANDRA Departed Sydney 0904K/13 on A/S Patrol to Smoky Cape.
Arrived Sydney 1458K/15 from A/S Patrol to Smoky Cape.

U.S.S. OCTANS (Store Carrier) Departed Sydney 1333K/15 E.T.A. Caloundra 1200K/17.

M.L.825 Departed Port Kembla 1350K/15 E.T.A. Jervis Bay 1800K/15.

M.L.823 Arrived Sydney 1511K/15 from Coffs Harbour.

H.M.S. KANEE Departed Williamstown 1014K/15 for exercises in Port Phillip. E.T.D. Port Phillip 1515K/15 for Esquimalt.

H.M.S. CUMBERLAND Departed Trincomalee 1245K/15 to rendezvous with U.S.S. MOUNT VERNON and MARIPOSA (en route Bombay to Melbourne) and escort to vicinity Fremantle. CUMBERLAND then proceeds to Fremantle.

H.M.S. CASTLEMAIN escorting "ERMAK CHAMFORD" arrived Seeadler Harbour 1700K/15 from Cape Gloucester.

H.M.S. CASTLEMAIN escorting H.A. 2 departed Langsnek 0845K/15 - E.T.A. Admiralty Island 1300K/14.

H.M.S. STAR E.T.A. Gamadoda from Milne Bay 0800K/14 - E.T.A. Suva 0600K/15.

H.M.S. STAR arrived Langsnek 0800K/14 from Brisbane.

H.M.S. YITAGO U.S.N.T. arrived Milne Bay 0800K/14 from Goodenough.

H.M.S. YITAGO and "HADA" commenced patrol S. of China Strait 1300K/13.

H.M.S. YITAGO U.S. Tug arrived Milne Bay 1800K/13 from Langsnek.

H.M.S. YITAGO escorting S.G. 55 E.T.D. Suva 1200K/15 for Langsnek. Escorts will continue with Manus Section.

H.M.S. YITAGO E.T.D. Langsnek 0800K/15 to A.V. off Mitre Rock 1700K/15. with S.G. 55A (Manus Section). "JOHN G. MARYON" to join convoy off Langsnek 0700K/14.

H.M.S. YITAGO U.S.N.T. arrived Milne Bay 1800K/13 from Suva.

H.M.S. YITAGO escorting "ISLANDER" arrived Thursday Island 1400K/14 from Cairns.

H.M.S. YITAGO escorting T.D. 51 departed Thursday Island 0800K/14 E.T.A. Daru 1400K/17.

H.M.S. YITAGO escorting "WARRNAMEOOL" departed Thursday Island 1500K/14 for Manus.

H.M.S. YITAGO Departed Cairns 1400K/14 for Townsville E.T.A. 1800K/15.

H.M.S. YITAGO E.T.D. Cairns 1700K/14 E.T.A. Espiritu Santo 1800K/15

To 0900K/Saturday, 15th April, 1944.

C.N.B. Forward area to sail "ELISHA PERRY" escorted by "ADROIT", "STANSBURY" (U.S. M/S) and P.C. 1136 to Russell Island A.M. 15/4. On arrival ships form T.U. 34.9.1. With "MINTAKA" U.S. Cargo Ship and two merchant ships, departed Russell Island P.M. 15/4 for Seeadler Harbour, E.T.A. A.M. 20/4 proceeding E. and N of New Ireland escorted as necessary.

ARIDED" (U.S. Cargo Ship) escorted by P.C. 1126 E.T.D. Espiritu Santo 15/4 for Seeadler Harbour. P.C. 1126 returns Guadalcanal when relieved by S.W.P. escort.

MT. VERNON" (U.S.N.T.) and "MARIPOSA" escorted by H.M.A.S. "QUICKMATCH", "QUALITY" and H.M.S. "RAIDER" departed Bombay for Melbourne 2020K/13. H.M.S. "CUMBERLAND" will R.V. with convoy in position 5°22'S, 83°32'E. at 1600K/17 and escort to vicinity of Fremantle. Destroyers proceed to Addu Atoll after R.V.

MOGLALA", U.S. Repair Ship en route Milne Bay arrived Tutuila 14/4 from San Pedro.

P.C. 1132 arrived Cape Gloucester 0900K/13 from Langemak and departed escorting B.N. 16 at 1600K/13 - E.T.A. Langemak 1400K/14.

CASTLEMAINE" escorting "THOMAS CRAWFORD" arrived Seeadler Harbour 1700K/13 from Cape Gloucester.

HOWEN") escorting N.A. 2 departed Langemak 0645K/13 - E.T.A.
GYMPIE") Admiralty Island 1500K/14.
P.C. 1120)

GOLD STAR" E.T.A. Gamadodo from Milne Bay 0630K/14 - E.T.A. Buna 0600K/15.

MIZAR" arrived Langemak 0800K/14 from Brisbane.

HE MITAGE" U.S.N.T. arrived Milne Bay 0830K/14 from Goodenough.

WARREGO", "GOULBURN" and "WAGA" commenced patrol S. of China Strait 1500K/13.

CHETCO" U.S. Tug arrived Milne Bay 1201K/13 from Langemak.

P.C. 1133) escorting B.G. 83 E.T.D. Buna 1200K/15 for Langemak.
P.C. 1134) Escorts will continue with Manus Section.

BUNDABERG") E.T.D. Langemak 0900K/15 to R.V. off Mitre Rock 1700K/15.
GLENELG") with B.G. 83A (Manus Section). "JOHN G. BRADY" to join convoy off Langemak 0700K/16.

GENERAL R.L. HOWZE" U.S.N.T. arrived Milne Bay 1629K/13 from Lae.

BALLARAT" escorting "ISLANDER" arrived Thursday Island 1430K/14 from Cairns.

WILCANNIA" escorting T.D. 51 departed Thursday Island 0800K/14 E.T.A. Darw. 1930K/17.

P.L. 1322 escorting "JEAN LYKES" departed Thursday Island 1137K/14 for Merauke.

BIRCHGROVE PARK" departed Cairns 1400K/14 for Townsville E.T.A. 1200K/15.

BUSH" U.S. Destroyer E.T.D. Cairns 1730K/14 E.T.A. Espiritu Santo 1000K/18

"GEELONG" arrived Townsville 0602K/14 from Brisbane.

"TOLGA" departed Townsville 0635K/14 - E.T.A. Milne Bay 1700K/18.

"ALATNA" arrived Townsville 1500K/14 from Gladstone.

"LITHGOW" arrived Brisbane 1102K/13 from Melbourne - E.T.D. 1800K/14
E.T.A. Milne Bay 0900K/19.

"COOLEBAR" E.T.D. Caloundra 1400K/14 inshore for Sydney - E.T.A.
1600K/17.

"CARONDELET" U.S. Tanker departed Brisbane 1517K/13 for Milne Bay.

M.L.810 arrived Coff's Harbour 1740K/13 from Sydney.

"SUFFOLK" escorting "RUYS" (for Aden) and "ATHOS II." (for Bombay)
departed Fremantle 1045K/14. Eastern Fleet escorts will
R.V. at 1300K/23 in position 6°12'S. 69°01'E. H.M.S.
"RAIDER" and "PARRETT" will escort "RUYS", H.M.S. "QUICKMATCH"
and "QUALITY" will escort "ATHOS II" both to destination
when convoy splits at 1001K/24. "SUFFOLK" E.T.A. Colombo
1930K/25.

"HEATHER" E.T.A. Pt. Hedland 15/4 - E.T.A. Darwin 1/5.

S.C. 741 arrived Milne Bay 1515K/13 from Langemak.

YMS. 334 departed Milne Bay 1255K/13 - E.T.A. Cape Sudest 1300K/14.
YMS. 9)

S.Cs. 650) arrived Milne Bay 0900K/13 from Langemak.
YMS. 393)

YMS. 11 and 72 departed Thursday Island 1815K/13 - E.T.A. R.A.A.F.
Base Groote Island 1030K/15.

APC. 4 arrived Cairns 0735K/13 from Brisbane and departed at 0800K/14
for Milne Bay.

"PANAMA EXPRESS"- TORPELO TRACK BELIEVED SIGHTED.

"PANAMA EXPRESS", cargo vessel, 2549 tons, departed
Brisbane 1530K/13 for Oro Bay, reported that she believed a torpedo
was fired at her in a position 260 miles E. of Rockhampton at 1315K/14.
"SWAN" which was in the vicinity was informed. The sighting is
considered doubtful.

SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900K/Friday, 14th April, 1944.

"BUNDABERG") escorting N.A.1 arrived Seeadler 1700K/11 from Langemak.
"STAWELL")
"KAPUNDA")

"VENDETTA" arrived Milne Bay 0900K/13 from Brisbane.

"CASTLEMAINE" escorting "THOMAS CRAWFORD" departed Cape Gloucester 1200K/12 for Seeadler - E.T.A. 1100K/13.

P.C. 1124 escorting "J.G. BRADY" arrived Langemak 1415K/12 from Milne Bay.

U.S. Evacuation Transport "TRYON" E.T.A. Milne Bay 1400K/14 from Espiritu Santo.

"SHEPPARTON" departed Milne Bay 0700K/13 for surveying ground.

S.C. 741 & 650) escorting GB.79 departed Langemak 1205K/11.
YMS.393)

"GOULBURN" arrived Milne Bay 0945K/12 from escort duty with U.S.S. "PYRO".

L.C.I.227 arrived Milne Bay 1700K/11.

APC.20 towing APC.1 arrived Milne Bay 0920K/12.

YMS.71 and 314 escorting GB.78 departed Langemak 1315K/10.

YMS.71 and 314 escorting BG.80 including U.S.N.T. "GENERAL R.L. HOUZE" and U.S.S. "SUSQUEHANNA" for Lae and U.S.S. "LEOPARD" for Langemak, departed Buna 1230K/11, arrived Langemak 1100K/12.

U.S.S. "LEOPARD" arrived Buna 1030K/11 from Goodenough.

P.C. 1122 escorting "JOHN A. ROSSITER" E.T.A. Cape Sudest 1400K/11 from Lae.

"GENERAL R.L. HOUZE" departed Lae 1900K/12 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 1900K/13

"WILCANNIA" escorting D.T. 49 arrived Thursday Island 0520K/13; escorting "ALBERT HILL" and "SHWEDAGON" E.T.D. Thursday Island A.M./14 for Darwin.

"KALGOORLIE" departed Thursday Island 0700K/12 for Cairns - E.T.A. 0500K/14 for onward routing to Sydney - arrived Cairns 2311K/13.

K.15 departed Darwin 0808K/13 for special operations.

U.S. Tanker "ST. MARY" departed Cairns 1611K/13 for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 1000K/16.

"BIRCHGROVE PARK" arrived Cairns 1344K/13 from Port Moresby.

U.S. Hospital Ship "SOLACE" arrived Brisbane 0808K/12, from Milne Bay.

U.S.N. Tanker "CAHONDELET" E.T.D. Brisbane 1200K/13 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 1200K/20.

"LITHGOW" E.T.A. Brisbane 1100K/13 from Melbourne.

U.S. Net Tender "TEAK" arrived Woodlark 1001K/12 from Milne Bay.

"SUSQUEHANNA") arrived Lae 0430K/12 from Buna.
"GENERAL R.L. HOUZE")

U.S. Store Ship "TRIANGULUM" arrived Milne Bay 1400K/12.

"GERARD" departed "KANAKOPE" 0800K/13 E.T.A. Dreger Harbour 15/4.

"ORARA" arrived Milne Bay 1255K/12 from Cairns.

"MATAFELE" departed Sydney 0751K/13 for Townsville and Milne Bay.

"OCTANS" E.T.D. Sydney 1800K/14 for Brisbane.

"ECHUCA" departed Sydney 1430K/13 for Brisbane and Milne Bay - E.T.A. Brisbane 0200K/16.

M.L.810 departed Pt. Stephens 0615K/13 for Coff's Harbour.

"KYBRA" departed Sydney 1917K/12 on training cruise to Jervis Bay and Eden.

M.L.825 arrived Port Kembla 1420K/13 from Sydney.

H.M.S. "RANEE" arrived Melbourne 1351K/13 from Cochin.

U.S. Submarine Rescue Vessel "CHANTICLEER" departed Fremantle 1937K/13 for Exmouth Gulf.

YMS 11 and 72 UNDAMAGED:

YMS.11 and 72 which were aground at Thursday Island have been examined by divers who report no damage.

AIR RAID WARNINGS:

CAPE GLOUCESTER -- Red 1900K/13. Green 2025K/13
Red 2035K/13.

NADZAB -- Red 1950K/13
Green 2025K/13.

.....

0900K/Thursday, 13th April, 1944.

P.C. 1120 } arrived Langemak 1850K/10 from Buna.
P.C. 1124 }

M.L. 425 arrived Langemak 1800K/9 from Seeadler Harbour, departed Langemak 0930K/10 and arrived Milne Bay 1430K/11.

"BOWEN" arrived Langemak 1100K/10 from Saidor.

"MUNDABERG" } departed Langemak 0700K/10 escorting Convoy M.A.1 (2 ships)
"STAWELL" } for Seeadler Harbour 1500K/11; departed Seeadler Harbour
"KAPUNDA" } 0700K/12 escorting 3 ships E.T.A. Langemak 1700K/13.

YMS. 71 } arrived Langemak 1001K/10 with convoy BG.78 from Buna;
YMS. 314 } departed Langemak 1315K/10 escorting Convoy GB.78 to Buna,
departed Buna 1130K/11, escorting Convoy BG.80 (including U.S.S. "LEOPARD" and U.S.S. "SUSQUEHANNA" both tankers) for Langemak E.T.A. 1030K/12.

"TRIANGULUM" (U.S. Store Ship) departed 0959/11 for Lae E.T.A. 0700K/12.

P.C. 476 } arrived Cape Gloucester 1930K/11 from Langemak.
P.C. 1132 }

"FALIE" arrived Arawe 1655K/9 from Milne Bay.

S.C. 698 } arrived Langemak 1230K/11 with convoy BG.79 from Milne Bay.
YMS. 315 }

"WILKES" (U.S. Destroyer) escorting U.S.S. "CENTAURUS" (U.S. Cargo Ship), "SONOMA" and "CHETCO" (U.S. tugs) and H.M.A.S. "RESERVE" (Tug) 2 merchant ships departed Manus Island 1522K/9 E.T.A. Langemak midnight on 11th.

S.C. 741 } departed Langemak 1205K/11 escorting Convoy GB.79 for Milne
S.C. 650 } Bay.
YMS. 393 }

"HUNBURY" E.T.D. Langemak 0700K/14 for Milne Bay for repairs to starboard condenser.

"PING WO" arrived Buna 1530K/10 from Milne Bay.

"STELLA" } departed Milne Bay 0800K/12 for Port Moresby E.T.A. 0700K/14.
HMML. 1129 }

"CALAMERES" (U.S. Store Ship) arrived Milne Bay 1310K/11 from Pt. Moresby.

"TEAK" (U.S. Net tender) departed Milne Bay 1200K/11 for Woodlark Island E.T.A. 0600K/12.

"SHEPPARTON" arrived Milne Bay 1715K/11 from survey grounds.

S.C. 982 } departed Milne Bay 1600K/11 E.T.A. Buna 0800K/12.
S.C. 752 }
YMS. 316 }

"HERMITAGE" (U.S. Naval Transport) E.T.D. Milne Bay 12/4 for Goodenough.

HMML. 1325 departed Seeadler Harbour 0900K/12 for Langemak E.T.A. 0800K/13 thence Milne Bay.

"GLENELG" escorting "PYRO" (U.S. A munition Ship) passed East Cape (Milne Bay) going north E.T.A. Langemak 2230K/13.

"WALGOORLIE" E.T.D. Thursday Island 0700K/12 for Cairns, thence Sydney for annual refit.

"BUNGAREE" to proceed daylight 14th April from Torres Strait to Bowen E.T.A. 0800K/17 for fuel and water; thence to Townsville E.T.A. P.M. 18th April, for stores; thereafter returning to Great North East Channel, by A.M. 24th April.

"PIRIE" departed Darwin 0555K/12 escorting Convoy D.T. 50 (2 ships) for Thursday Island - E.T.A. 1600K/15.

"BALLARAT" departed Cairns 0621K/12 escorting "ISLANDER" to Thursday Is. and Merauke.

S.C. 731 arrived Cairns 1902K/11 from Thursday Island.

"ST. MARY" (U.S. Tanker) E.T.D. Cairns 1600K/13 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 1000K/16.

"ALATNA" departed Gladstone 0500K/12 for Townsville.

"COOLEBAR" arrived Brisbane 2320K/11 from Townsville.

"SHIKELLAMY" E.T.D. Brisbane 1900K/12 for Milne Bay.

"OMMANEY BAY" departed Brisbane 0902K/12 for San Diego.

M.L. 810 arrived Port Stephens 1611K/12 from Sydney.

"LITHGOW" departed Newcastle 1833K/11 for Brisbane.

M.L. 810 departed Sydney 0937K/12 for Pt. Stephens E.T.A. 1800K/12. thence Corfs Harbour.

"ROCKHAMPTON" arrived Adelaide 0650K/12 from Sydney for annual refit.

Y.P. 286 arrived Fremantle 1002K/12 from Exmouth Gulf.

"NOEMAN" E.T.A. Fremantle (not Geraldton) 0920K/17 from Addu Atoll.

"YANDRA") arrived Sydney 1550K/12 from exercises with K.12.

"WARRNAMBOOL")

"DOOMBA")

M.L. 813)

M.L. 825)

K.12 (Submarine))

H.M.A.S. "BUNBURY" reported having grounded at 2000K/10 at Cape Cretin. No apparent damage to hull or machinery was done, but A/B dome appears to have been damaged. The ship was refloated at 0054K/11.

YMS.11 now afloat.

YMS.11 which went aground at the degaussing range at Thursday Island on 11th was refloated at 2230K/11. No apparent damage was suffered. Diver will examine propellers and bottom.

.....

"YARRA") anchored ...
"YARRA")
"YARRA")

"YARRA")
"YARRA")

→ 0900K/Wednesday, 12th April, 1944.

U.S.S. "HERMITAGE" (Naval Transport) arrived Milne Bay 0843K/11 from Noumea.

"COWRA" arrived Milne Bay 0725K/11 from escort duty.

U.S.S. "SUSCUHANNA" (Tanker) departed Milne Bay 1400K/9 E.T.A. Buna 0600K/10 - thence to Langemak.

U.S.S. "LEOPARD" (Tanker) arrived Goodenough 1000K/9 from Milne Bay.

P.C. 1123 arrived Langemak 1200K/8 escorting "HILO" from Cape Gloucester.

P.C. 476 arrived Cape Gloucester 1700K/8 from Arawe.

P.C. 1132 departed Langemak 1700K/9 E.T.A. Cape Gloucester 0800K/10.

P.C. 1131 departed Milne Bay 0650K/11 to R.V. with "FIRE ISLAND" (U.S. Tug towing 2 YRDS) and escort to Milne Bay.

YMS. 336) arrived Langemak 0800K/9 escorting BG.77.
S.C. 735)

"GYMPIE" arrived Langemak 0800K/11 escorting Y.7 from Saidor.

M.L. 425 departed Seeadler Harbour 1930K/8 E.T.A. Langemak 1730K/9.

"TERKA" departed Milne Bay 0740K/11 E.T.A. Buna 1300K/12.

K.15 arrived Darwin 1030K/9 from Fremantle.

"KALGOORLIE" departed Merauke 1600K/10 escorting "THEDENS" arrived Thursday Island 1716K/10.

"MERBABOE") arrived Merauke 1420K/10 from Darwin.
"RINDJANI")
"SMEROE")

U.S.S. "CALAMBERES" (Store Carrier) departed Port Moresby 1400K/10 E.T.A. Milne Bay 1100K/11.

"ORARA" departed Cairns 1430K/11 E.T.A. Milne Bay 0730K/13.

"COOTAMUNDRA" arrived Townsville 0636K/11 from Thursday Island - departed 1535K/11 E.T.A. Sydney 1500K/15 for refit.

"SWAN" E.T.D. Caloundra 1300K/13 E.T.A. Milne Bay 1300K/17.

"MILDURA" arrived Brisbane 1015K/11 towing APC.15 from Cairns.

"CARONDOLET" (U.S. Tanker) E.T.D. Caloundra 1600K/12 E.T.A. Milne Bay 1400K/18.

Y.P. 291 arrived Brisbane 0804K/11 from Cairns.

S.C. 749 arrived Brisbane 1740K/11 from A/S patrol Sandy Cape.

"TOWNSVILLE" arrived Sydney 1236K/11 from Townsville.

"SAVORGNAN DE BRAZZA" departed Sydney 1402K/11 E.T.A. Noumea 1300K/15.

"KYBRA") anchored Twofold Bay 1416K/10 N.O.I.C. ordered "YANDRA", "KYBRA",
K.12) K.12, M.L. 825 and M.L. 813 to proceed from Twofold Bay at 0600K/11 and carry out exercises as already arranged.

"LITHGOW" en route Brisbane, arrived Newcastle 1300K/11 to land sick man requiring medical assistance.

"RANEE" E.T.A. Point Lonsdale now 1100K/13.

H.M.A.S. "JUNEE" (AMS) commissioned at Sydney 11/4.

YMS. AGROUND AT THURSDAY ISLAND.

While returning with YMS.72 from the degaussing range at Thursday Island at 0900K/11, YMS.11 (with a native pilot) ran aground on a bank. YMS.72 tried to tow her off but also ran on the bank. Shallow draft naval and army launches succeeded in refloating YMS.72. YMS.11 remained fast but an attempt will be made to refloat at high water 12/4. YMS.72 returned to Thursday Island with no apparent damage. (YMS.11 and YMS.72 are en route Exmouth Gulf via Darwin).

"IMPROBABLE" SUBMARINE SIGHTING AT CAPE GLOUCESTER.

The Commander Heavy Battery at Cape Gloucester reported sighting a submarine 10 miles off Cape Gloucester at 0730K/11. N.O.I.C. New Guinea issued an A.F. message at 1601K/11. Subsequent investigation by P.Cs. and aircraft produced a negative result. Weather overcast and misty.

.....

U.S. Sub Tender arrived Milne Bay 1100K/11 from Goodenough Island.

U.S. Sub Tender departed Milne Bay 1100K/11 reporting no sightings till 0900K/11 thence return Milne Bay.

U.S. Sub Tender arrived Milne Bay 1100K/11 from Langkok.

U.S. Sub Tender departed Milne Bay 1100K/11 via 1100K/11.

U.S. Sub Tender 1100K/11 via Townsville 1100K/11. (U.S. Sub Tender 1100K/11 for fuel, including 48 nights).

U.S. Sub Tender 1100K/11 departed Langkok 1100K/11 via 1100K/11.

U.S. Sub Tender and U.S. High Speed Minesweeper operating JMS-101 and U.S. Sub Tender arrived Milne Bay 0900K/11 from Exploive Bank.

U.S. Sub Tender and U.S. High Speed Minesweeper departed Milne Bay 1100K/11, via Port Moresby p.d. 11/4.

U.S. Sub Tender departed Milne Bay 1100K/11 to rendezvous with and report to North Portland.

U.S. Sub Tender Milne Bay via 1100K/11 to escort FYW from North Portland to Cape Uruu, U.S. Sub Tender 1100K/11 then to proceed Langkok.

U.S. Sub Tender departed Milne Bay 1100K/11 arrived Langkok 1100K/11.

U.S. Sub Tender departed Milne Bay 1100K/11 via 1100K/11 for escort survey to Langkok.

U.S. Sub Tender arrived Milne Bay 1100K/11 from according A.G. 1100K/11.

U.S. Sub Tender departed Milne Bay 1100K/11 via 1100K/11 for escort survey then returning Milne Bay.

TOP SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE
TO 0900K 11TH APRIL, 1944.

PRESIDENT MONROE, U.S.N.T. escorted by WHITEHURST, U.S. DESTROYER
Esc. arrived Milne Bay 1100K/9 for
Espiritu Santo.

FIRE ISLAND U.S. Tug towing YRD H5 and YRD M3, E.T.D. Guadalcanal 0700K/10
for Milne Bay. PC.1125 to escort for 48 hours then
proceed Espiritu Santo on being relieved by escort
provided by N.O.I.C. New Guinea (YRD -type not listed
but probably harbour craft).

EPPING FOREST U.S. Mechanised Artillery Transport, escorted by SAUFLEY
U.S. Destroyer ETD Esirau p.m. 9/4 for Admiralty Island.

THYON, U.S. Evacuation Transport (wounded) Departed Noumea 0430K/10 for
Milne Bay via Espiritu Santo. ETD
Santo before 1500K/11.

GERARD Arrived Kanakope 0900K/10 from Langemak.

NICHOLSON and WILKES U.S. Destroyers arrived Manus Island 1517K/9
escorting four ships from Langemak
and Saidor.

TEAK, U.S. Net Tender arrived Milne Bay 1530K/8 from Woodlark Island.

COWRA departed Milne Bay 1000K/9 escorting WELTEVREDEEN till 0600K/10
thence return Milne Bay.

HUEL.1321 arrived Milne Bay 1420K/9 from Langemak.

PING NO departed Milne Bay 1450K/9 ETA Buna 1500K/10.

ALATNA ETD Caloundra 1000K/10 ETA Townsville 1800K/14. (ETA Gladstone
1200K/11 for fuel. Anchoring at night).

PC.1120
PC.1124 Escorting GB76 departed Langemak 1710K/8 ETA Buna 1500K/8;

HAMILTON and LONG U.S. High Speed Minesweepers escorting JEAN CHATEAU
and CHIEF CHARLOT arrived Milne Bay 0640K/9 from
Espiritu Santo.

WINTER and PALUMA departed Milne Bay 1115K/9, ETA Port Moresby p.m. 12/4.

GOULBURN departed Milne Bay 1530K/10 to rendezvous Pyro and escort to
North Foreland.

GLENELO E.T.D. Milne Bay a.m. 12/4, to escort PYRO from North Foreland to
Cape Cretin, E.T.A. p.m. 13/4. GLENELO then to proceed Langemak.

ETAMIN U.S. Store Carrier departed Milne Bay 6/4 arrived Langemak 8/4.

TRIANGULUM U.S. Store Carrier departed Milne Bay 1410K/10 ETA Buna 1601K/11.
for onward convoy to Langemak.

YUNNAN departed Milne Bay 1245K/10, ETA Buna 1045/11 for onward convoy
to Langemak.

WARREGO arrived Milne Bay 1715K/10 from escorting F.C. AINSWORTH.

GLENELO departed Milne Bay 0810K/10 escorting KATUGEMA for 200 miles then
returning Milne Bay.

POYANG arrived Milne Bay 1000K/10 from Port Moresby.

BIRCHGROVE PARK departed Port Moresby 0718K/10 ETA Cairns 1800K/13.

HML.1322 arrived Thursday Island 1622K/10 from Townsville.

ST. MARY U.S. Tanker arrived Cairns 1145K/10 from Brisbane.

OHARA ETD Cairns 1430K/11 ETA Milne Bay 0730K/13.

MARCOO arrived Townsville 0247K/10 from Milne Bay.

POLLUX U.S. Store Carrier arrived Brisbane 0649K/10 from Sydney.

VENDETTA arrived Brisbane 1152K/10 from Sydney ETD 0830K/11 ETA Milne Bay 0900K/13.

GEELONG ETD Brisbane, 1300K/11 ETA Townsville 0600K/13.

HEMDS arrived Sydney 0606K/10 from Brisbane.

F/S SAUVIGNAN DE BRAZZA ETD Sydney a.m. 11/4 for Noumea.

KYBRA departed Towfold Bay 0107K/10 for Sydney; later met K.12 and proceeded in company at 1800K/10.

SC.745 arrived Brisbane 2045K/8 from A/S Patrol Sandy Cape.

SC.698, YMS 315) esc. BG.79 departed Milne Bay 0900K/9, ETA Langemak
BL.816) 1200K/11.

SC.744 departed Milne Bay 1615K/9 to join BG.79 enroute as additional escort.

YMS.71) escort BG.78 Buna 1115K/9.
YMS.314)

APC.20 towing APC.1 departed Langemak 1230K/10 ETA Oro Bay 1230K/11 ETD for Milne Bay 1230K/12.

APC.2 departed Dreger Harbour 0500K/11 ETA Milne Bay 1700K/12.

BRITISH CHIVALRY TORPEDOED

BRITISH CHIVALRY Tanker 7118 tons, departed Melbourne 3rd February due Abadan 3rd March was torpedoed by a Japanese Submarine 270 miles E. of Addu Atoll on 22nd February. Twenty three members of the crew are missing.

ENEMY AIR RAID

Nadzab (5th Bomber Command) Red 2352K/10
 Green 0420K/11.

DAILY NARRATIVE

To 0900K/Monday 10th April, 1944.

- JOHN ROGERS, McKEE, MURRAY,) Arrived Milne Bay 1015K/7 from
RINGGOLD, SIGBEE, STEVENS,) Havannah.
SCHNOEDER and DASHIELL)
- U.S. Destroyer Escorts)
LOVELACE) Arrived Milne Bay 1020K/7 from
MARRING) Guadalcanal.
REUENDORF)
JAMES E. CRAIG)
KICHENBERGER)
- MORESBY - departed Milne Bay 0700K/9 for survey grounds.
- COWRA - escorting U.S.S. GOLDSTAR arrived Milne Bay 1200K/8 from R.V.
- Y.M.S. 71 and 314 - escorting U.S. 76 departed Langemak 1210K/7.
- BOWEN - arrived Langemak 1200K/4 from Milne Bay.
- CASTLEMAINE - departed Langemak 1230K/7 for Cape Gloucester.
E.T.A. 0900K/8.
- P.C. 473 - Departed Arawe 0700K/8 for Cape Gloucester, E.T.A. 1700K/8.
- P.C. 1132 and 1134 - arrived Langemak 0700K/8 from Milne Bay.
- GYMPIE) - Arrived Langemak 0800K/8 from Milne Bay.
P.C. 1120)
- U.S. P.T. Tender) departed Talasea 1500K/7 for Langemak E.T.A. 1200K/8.
HILO) HILO escorted by P.T. 343. E.T.D. Langemak 1000K/10
P.C. 1123) for Talasea.
- GASCOYNE - On passage Sydney/Milne Bay is to RV U.S.N.T. HERMITAGE
(ex Noumea) in position 15° 06' S 152° 33' E at
1700K/10 and escort to Milne Bay.
- P.C. 1131 - arrived Milne Bay 1100K/8 escorting TJISDANE from R.V.
- Y.M.S. 9 - arrived Milne Bay 1245K/8 from Woodlark.
- P.C. 1122 - escorting 2 ships departed Cape Gloucester 0600K/8,
arrived Langemak E.T.A. 1530K/8.
- A.P.C. 20 - arrived Langemak 0600K/8.
- Y.M.S. 334 and 33 - arrived Milne Bay 1030K/8 from Langemak.
- Y.M.S. 325 - arrived Milne Bay 1300K/8 from Langemak.
- KALGOORLIE - escorting THEDERS arrived Merauke 1430K/8 from Thursday
Is., E.T.D. 1500K/10 for T.I.
- WAGGA - arrived Milne Bay 1500K/8 from Woodlark Is.
- WARREGO - departed Milne Bay 0530K/9 escorting P.C. AINSWORTH (bound
Brisbane) till 0100K/10.
- BOWEN - escorting Y. 7 departed Langemak 1805K/8 for Saidor E.T.A.
1300K/9.
- ARARAT - arrived Milne Bay 1440K/9 from C. Sudest.
- S.C. 736 and 735 - escorting B.U. 77 departed Buna 1030K/8.

To DOWNS/Sunday, 2nd April, 1944.

2.

- SUSQUEHANNA - arrived Milne Bay 0650K/9 from Langemak.
- U.S. Tanker - departed Milne Bay 0530K/9 for Goodenough E.T.A. 1400K/9.
- LEOPARD
- MERKUR - Arrived Milne Bay 1255K/8 from Buna.
- Y.M.S. 11 and 72 - arrived T.I. 1524K/9 from Cairns.
- S.C. 731 - departed T.I. 1158K/9 for Cairns E.T.A. 1500K/11.
- WILCANNIA - escorting E.T. 49 departed Darwin 0335K/9.
- PIRIE - escorting T.D. 50 arrived Darwin 1551K/8.
- U.D. Destroyer - arrived Cairns 1512K/9 from Milne Bay.
- BUSH
- Y.M.S. 50 - arrived Cairns 1041K/9 from Thursday Is.
- BENDIGO - arrived Cairns 1546K/9 from Milne Bay.
- L.C.L. 227 - departed Townsville 1410K/8 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 0800K/11.
- COOLEMAR - departed Mackay 0630K/9 for Brisbane.
- U.S. Submarine Rescue Vessel - arrived Brisbane from Milne Bay 1225K/8.
- COUGAL
- U.S. Escort Carrier - E.T.D. Brisbane about 11/4 for Omsaney Bay San Diego.
- WHYALLA - E.T.D. Caloundra 2200K/10 for Sandy Cape patrol.
- BROOME - Arrived Brisbane 2106K/8 from Townsville.
- MILDURA - towing A.P.C. 15 E.T.A. Brisbane 1000K/11 from Cairns.
- Y.T. 235 and 251 - arrived Brisbane 0830K/9 from Newcastle.
- HEROS - E.T.A. Sydney 0600K/10 from Brisbane.
- YANDRA - departed Lithgow as escort to Sydney.
- VENDETTA - departed Sydney 1214K/9 for Brisbane for onward routing to Milne Bay.
- M.L. 825 - arrived Twofold Bay 1420K/9 from Sydney.
- COOMBAR - arrived Hobart 0045K/9 from Sydney.
- H.M.A.S. NORMAN - departed Addu Atoll 1335K/8 for Geraldton E.T.A. 1500K/18 - to refit in Australia.
- Y.P. 286 - departed Exmouth Gulf 0159K/9 for Fremantle.
- SUTLEJ TORPEDOED.

SUTLEJ, a British cargo vessel of 5189 tons gross, has been overdue at Fremantle from Aden since March 11. Two European and 4 Indian survivors have been picked up and report that SUTLEJ was torpedoed on February 20 in approximate position 08°S 070°E (about 420 miles S. of Addu Atoll).

Y.P. 286 departed Caloundra 2/4 for Milne Bay for escort training for Cape Urelin E.T.A. 0400K/14.

To 0900L/Sunday, 9th April, 1944.

"TEAK" (U.S. Net tender) arrived Woodlark 0700K/7 from Milne Bay.

"BUNBURY" arrived Langemak 1700K/4.

"BARCOO") departed Langemak 1515K/5 escorting convoy GB.78 (4 ships)
P.C. 1132) for Buna. "BARCOO" arrived Milne Bay 1320K/7 and
departed Milne Bay 1430K/7 for Cairns to boiler clean.

YMS. 334) arrived Langemak escorting Convoy BG.75 (including
YMS. 53) "SUSQUEHANNA", U.S. tanker) at 0800K/6 from Buna; departed
Langemak 1200K/6 escorting Convoy GB.75 for Lae, Buna and
Milne Bay - E.T.A. Milne Bay 0900K/9.

S.C. 741) arrived Langemak 0900K/4 with convoy BG.74 from Milne Bay.
S.C. 650)
YMS. 393)

"BENDIGO") arrived Milne Bay 1030K/5 escorting Convoy GB74 from
"COWRA") Langemak. "BENDIGO" departed Milne Bay 1320K/7 escorting
"ARARAT") "EMPIRE SILVER" to Brisbane E.T.A. 0600K/13. "ARARAT"
YMS. 316) departed Milne Bay 0700K/8 with stores for "KANIMBLA" at
S.C. 744) Cape Sudest. "COWRA" departed Milne Bay 1400K/7 to
rendezvous with U.S.S. "GOLDSTAR" (store ship) and escort
to Milne Bay.

M.L. 425) E.T.D. Seeadler Harbour 1100K/8 for Milne Bay via Langemak.
HMML. 1325)

"STAVELL" arrived Saidor 1115K/6 escorting "MOA MOA" from Langemak.

"PORCUPINE" (U.S. Tanker) departed Milne Bay 0600K/7 for Buna - E.T.A.
0400K/8 for onward convoy to Langemak.

YMS. 71) departed Buna 1015L/6 escorting BG.76 (4 ships) for
YMS. 314) Langemak - arrived Langemak 1600K/7.

P.C. 1119 arrived Milne Bay 1310K/7 from escorting "ESSO MANHATTAN"

M.L. 431 arrived Lae 0200K/4 with B.G. 74 (including U.S.S. "PANDA"
tanker) from Milne Bay.

S.C. 746 E.T.D. Milne Bay 0600K/8 escorting U.S. Submarine "TUNNY" to
Point Rock (situation unknown).

P.C. 1123 departed Cape Gloucester 0800K/6 E.T.A. Talasea 1830K/6.

"LAURABADA" arrived Cape Gloucester 1230K/6 from Langemak.

"BIRCHGROVE PARK" arrived Port Moresby 1640K/7 from Milne Bay.

"CALAMARES" arrived Port Moresby 1330K/8 from Gladstone.

"PIRIE" arrived Darwin 1551K/8 with convoy T.D. 50 from Thursday Is.

"COOTAMUNDRA" departed Thursday Island 1330K/8 for Townsville -
E.T.A. 0800K/11 for onward routeing to Sydney for annual refit.

APC. 22 departed Cairns 0917K/8 for Milne Bay.

"TOWNSVILLE" departed Townsville 1914K/7 for Sydney - E.T.A. 1600K/11
for annual refit.

"PYRO" departed Caloundra 8/4 for Milne Bay for onward routeing
for Cape Cretin E.T.A. 0400K/14.

"POLLUX" (U.S. Store Carrier) departed Sydney 1647L/7 for Brisbane E.T.A. Caloundra 0700K/10.

M.L.825 departed Sydney 1041K/8 to work up in Twofold Bay.

"ROCKHAMPTON" departed Sydney 1131K/8 for Adelaide E.T.A. 0600K/12. for annual refit.

"VENDETTA" E.T.D. 9/4 from Sydney for Brisbane for onward routing to Milne Bay.

"ADELAIDE" arrived Fremantle 1315K/8 escorting "RUYS".

"BINGERA" arrived and departed Westernport 0925K/8 from Hobart arrived Port Melbourne 1715K/8.

"GENERAL GEORGE O. SQUEIR" (U.S. Naval Transport) E.T.D. San Francisco 1200K/8 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 24/4 via Noumea.

IMPROBABLE SIGHTING OF PERISCOPE 55 MILES SOUTH OF SYDNEY:

At 1201K/8th April, N.O.I.C. Sydney informed C.S.W.P.S.F. that a report graded C.5 had been received through Air Operations Room that a periscope five hundred yards off the beach had been sighted from the beach five miles south of Kiama (50 miles south of Sydney). An aircraft was detailed to search the area, and M.L.825 en route Sydney to Twofold Bay for working up exercises was ordered to investigate the report. No further information is to hand.

[Faint, mostly illegible text follows, appearing to be a list of ship movements and arrivals.]

DAILY NARRATIVE
TO 0900K/8TH APRIL, 1944.

U.S. DESRON 21 Arrived Milne Bay 0745K/7 from Port Purvis.

U.S.S. PERRY (Destroyer M/S) Arrived Milne Bay 0940K/6 from Noumea.

WARREGO Arrived Milne Bay 2115K/6 from escorting HADLEY.

BENDIGO
ARARAT) Arrived Milne Bay 0830K/6 from Langemak.
COWRA)

GYMPIE
P.C. 1120) Departed Milne Bay 1540K/6 E.T.A. Langemak 0700K/8.

U.S.S. LEOPARD) Arrived Milne Bay 1000K/6 from Cairns.

BARCOO) Departed Langemak 1510K/5 escorting G.B. 74A E.T.A. Lae
P.C. 1132) 2330K/5, Buna 1200K/6.

P.C. 1131 Departed Milne Bay 1830K/6 to rendezvous with ACONCAGUA
(1631 troops transpacific) and escort to Milne Bay.

P.C. 1119 Arrived Milne Bay 1515K/6 after having failed to meet
LEOPARD. Departed 1830K/6 escorting ESSO MANHATTAN (Tanker)
eastbound until 0200K/7 then return to Milne Bay.

P.C. 1124 Departed Milne Bay 0400K/7 E.T.A. Langemak 0700K/8.

P.C. 1134 Arrived Milne Bay 1330K/6 from escorting REIJNST.

P.C. 1133 Arrived Port Moresby 1646K/6 from Milne Bay. Departed
0645K/7 escorting HANYANG to China Strait.

S.C. 698 Arrived Milne Bay 1254K/6 escorting STICKLESTAD from Port
Moresby.

YMS 334) Departed Buna 1045K/5 escorting BG 75 (including SUSQUEMANNA)
YMS 53) E.T.A. Lae 0400K/6, Langemak 0900K/6.

YMS 336
YMS 335) Departed Milne Bay 1615K/6 for Buna thence to Langemak.
S.C. 735)

YMS 71) Departed Buna 1015K/6 escorting BG 76 E.T.A. Langemak 1300K/7.
YMS 314)

M.L. 817 Departed Milne Bay 0400K/7 E.T.A. Woodlark 1600K/7.

U.S.S. COUCAL Departed Milne Bay 0400K/6 E.T.A. Brisbane 1500K/8.

BIRCHGROVE PARK Departed Milne Bay 0430K/3 E.T.A. Port Moresby 2200K/7.

HERMITAGE (U.S. Naval Transport) Departed Noumea 1400K/7 E.T.A. Milne
Bay 0600K/11.

COOTAMUNDRA Arrived Thursday Island 1802K/6 escorting WM PROUSE from
Darwin E.T.D. A.M. 8/4 for Sydney via Townsville.

KALGOORLIE Departed Thursday Island 1600K/7 escorting THEDENS E.T.A.
Merauke 1230K/8.

S.C. 731 Arrived Thursday Island 1045K/6 from Merauke.

YMS 50 Departed Thursday Island 1556K/6 for Cairns.

BALLARAT Arrived Cairns 1441K/7 from A/S Patrol Grafton Passage.

- TOWNSVILLE Departed Cairns 1801K/6, arrived Townsville 0834K/7.
- GLENELG Departed Cairns 1530K/7 E.T.A. Milne Bay 1000K/9.
- Y.P. 291 Arrived Cairns 2251K/6 from Thursday Island. Departed 0300K/8 for Brisbane calling at Palm Island E.T.A. Caloundra 1000K/11.
- YMS 49 Arrived Cairns 2252K/6 from Thursday Island.
- APC 22 E.T.D. Cairns 0800K/8 E.T.A. Milne Bay 1400K/10.
- COOLEBAR (en route Townsville to Brisbane) Arrived Mackay 1600K/7 sheltering until weather moderates.
- OMMANEY BAY (US Aux. Aircraft Carrier) Arrived Brisbane 0910K/7 from Pacific.
- MIZAR E.T.D. Caloundra 0630K/7 E.T.A. Milne Bay 1300K/10.
- WHIPPOORWILL (US M/S) E.T.D. Caloundra 1800K/8 towing 1 LCT E.T.A. Milne Bay 1200K/15.
- S.C. 748 Departed Caloundra 2102K/7 to relieve S.C.745 on Sandy Cape A/S patrol.
- APC 11 E.T.D. Caloundra 0100K/8 E.T.A. Ballina 0700K/8.
- VENDETTA Arrived Sydney 0748K/7 from escorting LURLINE.
- ROCKHAMPTON E.T.D. Sydney 1000K/8 for Adelaide to refit.
- DOOMBA Arrived Sydney 0754K/7 from A/S patrol Smoky Cape. X
- M.L. 825 E.T.D. Sydney A.M. 8/4 for working up Towfold Bay.
- LITHGOW Departed Port Phillip 1810K/7 escorting Dutch S/M K 12. K.12 will exercise with RAAF from Wilson's Promontory to Twofold Bay. YANDRA will relieve LITHGOW as escort 36 miles East of Twofold Bay at 0700K/10. LITHGOW then proceeds to Brisbane E.T.A. Caloundra 0700K/13.
- BINGERA Departed Hobart 0916K/6 E.T.A. Westernport 0700K/8
- U.S.S. YUMA Departed Port Phillip 1112K/7 towing Dredge "D. YORK SYME" E.T.A. Caloundra 0800K/13.
- SUFFOLK Arrived Fremantle 1300K/7 from Colombo to escort HUYS and ATHOS II.
- K.14 Dutch S/M E.T.A. Northwest Cape (Exmouth Gulf) 1100K/7 from Indian Ocean.

To 0900K 7/4/44.

PRESIDENT MONROE, U.S.N.T., escorted by WHITEHURST, U.S. Destroyer Escort, departed Espiritu Santo 0600K/6 for Milne Bay. WHITEHURST for temporary duty with Commander 7th Fleet in Cortdiv 37 on arrival.

SHROEDER and DASHIELL, U.S. Destroyers, escorting POELAU LAUT, JAMES BUCHANAN and J. MAURICE THOMPSON, departed Guadalcanal 1500K/3 E.T.A. China Strait 0600K/7.

DICKERSON, U.S. Destroyer Transport, departed Guadalcanal 1800K/5 escorting WALTER WILLIAMS to Milne Bay.

OGLALA, U.S. Repair Ship, left San Pedro 0900K/1 E.T.A. Pago Pago 13/4. To be sailed for Milne Bay when ready after arrival.

WHARTON, U.S.N.T., with HOGAN, U.S. Destroyer Minesweeper, departed Russell Island 1400K/5 E.T.A. Milne Bay 0950K/7. HOGAN for temporary duty with Com. 7th Fleet.

P.C. 476, escorting JOHN I. NOKAN, departed Saidor 1900K/4 E.T.A. Langemak 0700K/5.

BARCOO, escorting CERO, U.S. S/M, arrived Langemak 0700K/5.

GERARD arrived Langemak 2335K/5 from Milne Bay.

CASTLEMAINE, escorting SEABIRD, departed Buna 1800K/4 E.T.A. Langemak 1200K/5.

COWRA arrived Langemak 1000K/3 from Cape Gloucester.

BOOTES, U.S. Store Carrier, arrived Langemak 0845K/4 from Saidor.

TROPIC BIRD, A.S.R., arrived Milne Bay 0700K/4 from Kiriwina.

P.C. 1120, escorting SHELDON CLARKE from rendezvous, arrived Milne Bay 1530K/5.

P.C. 1133 arrived Milne Bay 1230K/5, escorting GRANDE RONDE, and departed 2300K/5 E.T.A. Port Moresby 1900K/6.

P.C. 1119 departed Milne Bay 2333K/5 to rendezvous with LEOPARD, U.S. Tanker, and escort to Milne Bay. (P.C. 1119 replace P.C. 1131 which returned to Milne Bay with Hospital patients).

"WARREGO" departed Milne Bay 1545K/5 escorting HADLEY until 0600K/6, then returning Milne Bay.

<u>BENDIGO</u>	}	escorting G.B. 74 departed Langemak 1200K/4 E.T.A. Buna 1200K/5 Milne Bay 1100K/6.
<u>ARARAT</u>		
<u>COWRA</u>		
<u>Y.M.S. 316</u>		
<u>S.C. 744</u>		

GLENELG E.T.D. 1200K/7 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 0800K/9.

BROOME departed Townsville 0950K/6 E.T.A. Brisbane 2200K/8.

ST. MARY, U.S. Tanker, departed Caloundra 0600K/6 for Cairns.

HEROS, E.T.D. Caloundra 1700K/7 E.T.A. Sydney 1900K/10.

KYBRA departed Sydney 2000K/5, E.T.A. Twofold Bay 2200K/6.

GASCOYNE departed Sydney 1554K/8, E.T.A. Milne Bay, 1800K/11.

POLLUX, U.S. Store Carrier, E.T.D. Sydney 1700K/8 to Brisbane for onward routing to Milne Bay.

ADELAIDE departed Fremantle 2300K/5 to rendezvous with RUYS and escort to Fremantle.

A.P.C. 13, departed Milne Bay 0800K/5, E.T.A. Langemak 0900K/6.

S.C. 982 arrived Milne Bay 1130K/5 from Langemak.

Y.P. 288 arrived Fremantle 0115K/6 from Exmouth Gulf.

TULAGI OVERDUE.

S.S. "TULAGI", Cargo Ship, 2281 tons gross, departed Sydney 10th March, due Colombo 21st March, had not arrived at 1935K/4 April.

PROTECTION OF SHIPPING.

New arrangements for protection of shipping approaching or leaving New Guinea will be brought into force forthwith. A group of three or more escort vessels will maintain continuous patrol in an area, approximately 200 miles by 60 miles, S.E. of Milne Bay.

Escorts as necessary from this group will be detached to escort :-

- (a) Troopships carrying more than 2000 troops,
- (b) Aircraft Carriers and Capital Ships proceeding independently,
- and (c) Specially important Naval Auxiliaries,

when within 200 miles of Milne Bay if westward of 150° E and North of 14° S, and if eastward of 150° E. Other shipping will proceed unescorted through the patrolled area.

SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900K/Thursday, 6th April, 1944.

"DESRON 25" - less "SCHROEDER", "HARRISON" and "DASHIELL" E.T.D. Havannah 0700K/5 - E.T.A. China Strait 1000K/7.

U.S. Destroyer "NICHOLAS" - with "DESRON 21" less 2 ships E.T.D. Port Purvis (Florida Island) for Milne Bay - E.T.A. China Strait 0700K/7.

U.S. Frigate "EL PASO" - arrived Milne Bay 1250K/4 from Santo.

YMS. 71 and another YMS. departed Milne Bay 1655K/4 for Buna and thence to escort duty to Langemak.

YMS. 334 and 53 } escorting GB. 73 departed Langemak 1430K/3 YMS to Buna
S.C. 982 } S.C. to Milne Bay.

P.C. 1134 escorting "REIJNST" for 200 miles - departed Milne Bay 1405K/4.

P.C. 1131 escorting "CAPE COD" arrived Milne Bay 1400K/4 departed 2213K/4 to R.V. U.S.S. "LEOPARD" (tanker) bound from Cairns and escort to Milne Bay.

"GYMPIE") E.T.D. Milne Bay 6/4 for Langemak.
P.C. 1120 and 1124)

"ARARAT" escorting "YOCHOW" departed Langemak 1800K/2 arrived Saidor 0800K/3 escorting "COMARA" arrived Langemak 0615K/4.

"WARREGO" arrived Milne Bay 2030K/3 having departed to R.V. "F.C. AINSWORTH"

"MORESBY" arrived Milne Bay 1100K/4 from Buna.

U.S.S. "PORCUPINE" (tanker) arrived Milne Bay 0901K/5 from Noumea.

P.C. 1119 arrived Milne Bay 1215K/4 having departed to R.V. U.S.S. "PORCUPINE"

P.C. 1123 escorting F. 73 (Army Tug) departed Langemak 1001K/3 - arrived Cape Gloucester 0845K/4.

APC. 9 and 14 arrived Milne Bay 1700K/4.

"GANYMEDE" arrived Milne Bay 1805K/4 from Cairns.

YP. 283 departed Langemak 1800K/4 for Seeadler Harbour E.T.A. 0700K/6.

YMS. 313 arrived Milne Bay 0930K/4 from Langemak.

U.S.S. "TEAK" (Net Tender) arrived Milne Bay 0950K/4 from Tutuila.

"BENALLA" arrived Seeadler Harbour 1700K/3 from Langemak.

"FALIE" arrived Milne Bay 1300K/4 from Cape Gloucester.

"PING WO" departed Cape Sudest 1900K/3 arrived Milne Bay 1740K/4.

APC. 14 arrived Milne Bay 1600K/4.

YP. 283 arrived Langemak 0630K/4 from Milne Bay.

"SUSQUEHANNA" departed Milne Bay 1500K/4 for Buna E.T.A. 0700K/5 for onward convoy to Langemak.

P.C. 1122 escorting two ships departed Cape Gloucester 1700K/2 for Talasea E.T.A. 1600K/3.

APC. 16 - departed Langemak 1600K/4 for, Buna E.T.A. 0700K/5.

Case S.C. escorting "BAYOU ST. JOHN" and tow departed Milne Bay 1405K/5 for Woodlark E.T.A. 0800K/6.

APC.6 arrived Milne Bay 0955K/5.

U.S.S. "VICTORIA" arrived Seeadler Harbour 5/4 from Milne Bay.

S.C. 698 arrived Port Moresby 1223K/5 from Milne Bay escorting "STICKLESTAD" departed 1400K/5 E.T.A. Milne Bay 1600K/6.

"MERBABOE") (R.N.N. Minesweepers) - departed Darwin 0800K/5 for
 "RINDJANI") Merauke E.T.A. 1230K/10.
 "SMEBOE")

S.C. 731 returned Merauke 2359K/4 from Frederik Hendrik Island - departed 1230K/5 for Thursday Island - E.T.A. 0630K/6.

YP.291 departed Thursday Island 1620K/4 for Cairns - E.T.A. 1830K/6.

YMS.49 departed Thursday Island 1620K/4 for Cairns - E.T.A. 1850K/6.

"PIRIE" escorting T.D. 50 departed Thursday Island 1313K/5 - E.T.A. Darwin 1600K/8.

"COOLEBAR" departed Townsville 0945K/5 for Brisbane E.T.A. 1200K/10

YMS.11 and 72 departed Cairns 1812K/15 for Thursday Island.

"BROOME" departed Cairns 1950K/4 arrived Townsville 0800K/5.

APC.3 - arrived Cairns 1726K/5 from Milne Bay.

HM.L.1322 departed Townsville 0947K/5 for Thursday Island E.T.A. 1159K/8

"CALAMARES" (U.S.N. Store Carrier) departed Gladstone 0730K/5 for Port Moresby E.T.A. 1400K/8.

"WHYALLA" arrived Brisbane 0030K/5 from Sandy Cape patrol.

"GEELONG" arrived Brisbane 0245K/4 - E.T.D. Brisbane 11/4 for Townsville and Milne Bay.

LST.462 E.T.D. Caloundra 2300K/4 for Milne Bay E.T.A. China Strait 0600K/11.

"HEROS" arrived Brisbane 2238K/4 from Mackay.

U.S. Cruisers "MONTPELIER" and "CLEVELAND") E.T.D. Pt. Purvis (Florida
 and U.S. Destroyers "FULHAM", "BENNET",) Island) 0700K/5 E.T.A. Port J
EGUEST", "HALFORD" and "HUDSON") Jackson 1000K/9.

"GASCOYNE" E.T.D. Sydney P.M/6 for Milne Bay.

"ROCKHAMPTON" arrived Sydney 1220K/4 from Cairns.

"DOOMBA" departed Sydney 0800K/5 on A/S patrol to Smoky Cape and return

"VENDETTA" departed Sydney 1536K/5 escorting "LURLINE" to 159° then returning Sydney.

"WARRNAMBOOL" arrived Sydney 1134K/5 from Smoky Cape patrol.

"RANEE" E.T.A. Pt. Phillip 1230K/12 from Cochin.

"COOMBAR" on passage Sydney/Hobart reported A.M/5 sheltering in Jervis Bay from strong southerly weather.

"BINGERA" arrived Hobart 0520K/5 from Western Port.

PETROL VAPOUR EXPLOSION IN M.L.427:

As a result of a petrol vapour explosion in M.L.427 at Milne Bay on Friday March 31 four R.A.N. ratings are in U.S. Navy Hospital Milne Bay seriously ill from burns. No damage was done to ML.427.

To 0900K/Wednesday, 5th April, 1944.

P.C. 1132 arrived Langemak 1900K/31/3 from Saidor.

"BENALLA" departed Langemak 0500K/2 for Seeadler Harbour E.T.A. 1400K/3.

"SAN PEDRO" (U.S. Frigate) escorting U.S.S. "MINK" (Tanker) departed Buna 0700K/2 for Seeadler Harbour E.T.A. 1300K/3.

"KAPUNDA" escorting "BOTH" (merchant vessel) departed Lae 0800K/2 E.T.A. Langemak 1300K/2.

P.C. 1133 departed Milne Bay 2309K/3 to rendezvous with "KOTA INTEN" and escort to Milne Bay.

YMS. 315) arrived Milne Bay 1100K/3 from Langemak.
S.C. 746)

S.C. 698 departed Milne Bay 3rd April for Port Moresby E.T.A. 0700K/5.

P.C. 1124 arrived Milne Bay 1200K/3 escorting "WELTEVREDEN" (troop ship), to depart to rendezvous at 0430K/4 with U.S. Submarine "SILVERSIDES" and escort to Milne Bay.

"BUNDABERG", "BOWEN" dep. Milne Bay 1000K/3 E.T.A. Langemak 1600K/4.

"CASTLEMAINE" departed Milne Bay 1000K/3 E.T.A. Buna 0800K/4 to disembark officers and ratings - E.T.D. 1400K/4 for Langemak - E.T.A. 0800K/5.

P.C. 1134 departed Milne Bay 1400K/4 escorting "REIJNST" beyond China Strait - then returning to Milne Bay.

M.L. 425 arrived Seeadler Harbour 2100K/3 from Cape Gloucester

"TROPIC BIRD" (A.S.R.) departed Kiriwina 0410K/3 for Milne Bay via Goodenough Island.

"BROOME" E.T.D. 1800K/4 from Cairns for Townsville E.T.A. 0800K/5.

"LEOPARD" (U.S. Naval tanker) departed Cairns 0645K/4 for Milne Bay

"ORARA" arrived Cairns 0800K/4 from Brisbane.

YMS. 11) arrived Cairns 1141K/4 from Brisbane.
YMS. 72)

"MILDURA" departed Cairns 1101K/4 towing APC.15 to Brisbane - E.T.A. 1000K/8.

HML. 1322 arrived Townsville 0030K/4 from Brisbane,

"MIZAR" (U.S. Store Carrier) arrived Brisbane 0500K/4 from Milne Bay.

"SHIKELLAMY" (U.S.N. Tanker) arrived Brisbane 0617K/4 from Townsville.

S.C. 745 departed Caloundra 0212K/4 for Sandy Cape A/S Patrol.

YT. 235) arrived Coff's Harbour from Newcastle E.T.D. 0900K/5 for
YT. 251) Brisbane for onward routing to Milne Bay.

"COOMBAR" departed Sydney 1500K/4 for Hobart E.T.A. 1200K/8.

"INVERELL" escorting "PENNANT" arrived Darwin 1251K/4 from Thursday Island.

To 0900K/Tuesday, 4th April, 1944.

"WESTRALIA" arrived Langemak 0700K/1 from Sudest.

"LA VALETTE") U.S. Destroyer arrived Milne Bat 1300K/2 escorting 12
"HOPEWELL") L.S.T's from Guadalcanal.

"VAN BUREN") (U.S. Frigates) arrived Milne Bay 1445K/2 escorting
"OGDEN") "GEORGE F. ELLIOT" (U.S.N.T.) from Santo.

"HAMILTON") (U.S. Frigates) depart Santo 0500K/3 escorting "J.P.
"LONG") CHOUTEAU" and "CHIEF CHOUTOC" (Merchant Ships) - E.T.A.
Milne Bay 8/4.

"PERRY" (U.S. Destroyer M/S) E.T.D. Noumea 0900K/3 E.T.A. Milne Bay
1100K/6.

"SOLACE" (U.S.N. Hospital Ship) arrived Milne Bay 1110K/30 from Santo.

"STAWELL") arrived Langemak 1400K/1 from Cape Gloucester.
"BUNBURY")

"BENALLA" departed Langemak 0600K/2 E.T.A. Alim Island (Southern Group
Admiralty Island) 0800K/3.

"GYMPIE" arrived Kiriwina 0001K/5 from Milne Bay.

"COWRA" departed Langemak 1030K/1 escorting 3 Merchant Ships E.T.A. Cape
Gloucester 0800K/2.

"WATO" arrived Milne Bay 1300K/2 towing M.L.819 from Cape Vogel.

P.C. 1122 departed Cape Gloucester 1730K/2 escorting 2 merchant ships
E.T.A. Talasea 1600K/3.

P.C. 1120 departed Milne Bay 1000K/3 escorting "STANVAC WELLINGTON"
(Tanker southbound) until 2100K/3 then to R.V. with "GANYMED" (from Cairns) at 0700K/4 and escort to Milne Bay.

S.C. 735 arrived Milne Bay 0900K/2 from Langemak.

YMS. 315) arrived Langemak 0700K/2 escorting BG.72.
S.C. 746)

Y.P. 283 departed Milne Bay 1215K/2 E.T.A. Langemak 1001K/4.

M.L. 425 departed Hyane Harbour 1600K/1 for Cape Gloucester.

"FALIE" departed Saidor 1800K/2 for Cape Gloucester.

"STELLA") arrived Milne Bay 1100K/2 from Buna.
"WINTER")

APC. 20 arrived Milne Bay 1840K/2 from Cairns.

APC. 3 departed Milne Bay 1530K/3 E.T.A. Cairns 1800K/6.

"COOTAMUNDRA" departed Darwin 1042K/3 escorting D.T. 48 (William Pryuse)
E.T.A. Thursday Island 0900K/6.

"MERBABOE") arrived Darwin 1312K/3 from Fremantle.
"SMEBOE")
"RINDJANI")

Y.P. 291 arrived Thursday Island 0859K/3 from Cairns.

"MILDURA" E.T.D. Cairns 1100K/4 towing APC.15 E.T.A. Caloundra 1000K/8.

"BROOME" arrived Cairns 1616K/3 from A/S Patrol Grafton Passage.

"BALLARAT" departed Cairns 1314K/3 for A/S patrol Grafton Passage.

"LEOPARD" (U.S. Tanker) arrived Cairns 0401K/3 from Brisbane - E.T.D. Cairns 0700K/4 E.T.A. Milne Bay 1200K/5.

"COOLEBAR" arrived Townsville 2359K/2 from Thursday Island.

U.S.S. "MESQUITE" departed Cleveland Bay (Townsville) P.M.1/4 to continue erection of lights in Coral Sea.

HDML.1322 amended E.T.A. Townsville 0100K/4.

YMS.70 arrived Brisbane 1316K/3 from Cairns.

"DOOMBA" arrived Sydney 0855K/3 from A/S Patrol Smoky Cape.

"WARRNAMBOOL" departed Sydney 0859K/3 for A/S patrol to Smoky Cape.

"VALENGEN" (N.A.P.) arrived Sydney 0952K/3 from Port Kembla.

YT.235, YT.251 departed Newcastle 0915K/3 for Brisbane.

"BINGERA" E.T.D. Westernport 0830K/3 E.T.A. Hobart 0700K/5.

USS "YUMA" E.T.D. Melbourne A.M./4 towing dredge to Brisbane.

YP.286 arrived Exmouth Gulf 2/4 from Fremantle.

YP.288 departed Exmouth Gulf 1225K/2 for Fremantle.

POSSIBLE SUBMARINE SIGHTING:

At 1322K/3 "ELINOR WYLIE" (Liberty) en route Fremantle to Colombo reported sighting periscope in position 320 miles east of Fremantle. Air search of area has been arranged - no other shipping in the vicinity.

FREMANTLE - UNIDENTIFIED LOOP CROSSING.

At 2040K/3 N.O.I.C. Fremantle reported an unidentified crossing on No. 5 Loop. Thought unlikely to be of enemy origin. Precautions taken.

P.S. 1124 departed Milne Bay 0300K/2 to R.V. "Walters" and escort

APC.12 departed Milne Bay 1200K/1 E.T.A. Port Moresby 1100K/3.

"BONDI" departed Milne Bay 1200K/2 for Buna.

"BARRING" reporting "BONDI" departed Milne Bay 1200K/2 - at 0400K/3 "BARRING" will return to R.V. "Walters" and escort to Milne Bay.

P.S. 1112 departed Milne Bay 1200K/2 to R.V. with U.S.S. "WARRNAMBOOL" (Tanker).

APC.13 departed Port Moresby 1400K/1 E.T.A. Milne Bay 1200K/3.

"INDEPENDENT" reporting "PHEASANT" departed Thursday Island 1100K/1 E.T.A. Darwin 1100K/1.

"BONDI" reporting P.S. 11 arrived Darwin 1100K/1.

"BARRING" arrived Cairns 1010K/3 from Brisbane.

APC's 9 and 14 departed Cairns 1200K/2 for Milne Bay.

"WARRNAMBOOL" U.S. Store Carrier departed Cairns 1200K/3 E.T.A. Milne Bay 1200K/4.

HDML.1322 departed Milne Bay 1200K/4 E.T.A. Townsville 1200K/4.

No 0900K/Monday, 3rd April, 1944.

U.S.S. "PERRY" Destroyer Minesweeper to leave Noumea, when ready, for Milne Bay for temporary duty with Commander 7th Fleet.

P.C. 1132 departed Saidor A.M 31/3 E.T.A. Langemak 1700K/31.

"STAWELL" AND "BUNBURY" escorting F.A. 15 departed Langemak 1100K/30 arrived Cape Gloucester 0740K/1 - "STAWELL" departed for Langemak 0800K/1.

P.C. 1123 arrived Langemak 0800K/31 from Buna.

"COWRA" escorting "MILLEN GRIFFITH" arrived Langemak 0800K/31 from Saidor.

"LAURABADA" arrived Saidor from Milne Bay 1530K/31 and departed 1600K/31. E.T.A. Langemak 1200K/1.

"PING WO" arrived Oro Bay 1230K/31 from Milne Bay.

"KAPUNDA" escorting "DAVID F. BARRY" arrived Lae 1700K/31 from Langemak.

"BENALLA" arrived Langemak 1600K/31 from Seeadler Harbour.

"FALIE" arrived Langemak 0900K/29 from Buna.

"BENDIGO" arrived Langemak 0600K/31 from Cape Gloucester.

"HARRISON" U.S. Destroyer escorting "MEDUSA" U.S. Repair Ship arrived Milne Bay 1430K/1 from Havannah Harbour.

"STEMBELL" U.S. Destroyer with 7 L.S.T's arrived Milne Bay 0700K/29.

"GYMPE" departed Milne Bay 1400K/1 E.T.A. Kiriwina 0700K/2.

"MIZAR" departed Milne Bay 0715K/1 E.T.A. Brisbane 1300K/4.

P.C. 1124 departed Milne Bay 0030K/2 to R.V. Weltereden and escort to Milne Bay

APC.19 departed Milne Bay 1255K/1 E.T.A. Oro Bay 1100K/2.

"MORESBY" departed Milne Bay 1500K/1 for Buna.

"WARREGO" escorting "CONTESSA" departed Milne Bay 1200K/2 - At 0400K/3 "WARREGO" will detach to R.V. "FRED AINSWORTH" and escort to Milne Bay.

P.C. 1119 departed Milne Bay 1500K/2 to R.V. with U.S.S. "PORCUPINE" (Tanker).

APC.20 departed Port Moresby 1431K/1 E.T.A. Milne Bay 1800K/2.

"INVERELL" escorting "PENNANT" departed Thursday Island 2145K/1 E.T.A. Darwin 1130K/4.

"WILCANNIA" escorting T.D. 49 arrived Darwin 2124K/1.

"KARANGI" arrived Cairns 1012K/2 from Brisbane.

APC's 9 and 14 departed Cairns 0800K/2 for Milne Bay.

"GANYMEDE" U.S. Store Carrier departed Cairns 1430K/2 E.T.A. Milne Bay 1230K/4.

HMML.1322 departed Gladstone 1200K/2 E.T.A. Townsville 1400K/4.

TO 0900K/SUNDAY, APRIL 2ND, 1944.

U.S. DESTROYERS
ERBEN, ABBOTT
WALKER & HALE

Escorting Attack Transports ZEILIN, ORMSBY, WINDSOR and HARRY LEE and Attack Cargo Ship VIRGO. Arrived Milne Bay 2331K/31 from Torokina for temporary duty with COM. 7th Fleet.

U.S. FRIGATE
EL PASO

Departed Santo 1400L/31 for Milne Bay.

WIZAR

ETD Milne Bay 0600K/1 for Brisbane.

BARREGO
Y.M.S. 3369 & S.C. 737

Escorting G.B. 70 departed Langemak 1001K/30. E.T.A. Milne Bay 1000K/1.

KAPUNDA
S.C. 737 & Y.M.S. 336

Escorting B.G. 70 arrived Langemak 0900K/30 from Buna.

S.C. 750 & 747

Escorting ESTHER JOHNSON, RAMO and SONOMA. Departed Langemak 1700K/31 for SEEADLER HARBOUR.

OLYMPIE

Escorting APC.13 arrived Milne Bay 1639K/31 from Cairns,

S.C. 1122

Arrived Cape Gloucester 1700K/30 from Langemak.

S.C. 1132

Departed Langemak 1010K/30 for Cape Gloucester, escorting COMARA arrived Saidon 0800K/31.

WATO

Departed Milne Bay 1130K/31 to assist M.L. 819 aground at Cape Vogel.

S.C. 476
M.S. 334 & 53

Escorting B.G. 71 Departed Milne Bay 1001K/30 E.T.A. Langemak 1001K/31.

S.P.C. 3

Arrived Milne Bay 1532K/29 from Oro Bay.

M.S. 316, S.C. 744
S.L. 430

Escorting B.G. 68 Departed Milne Bay 1100K/28, Arrived Langemak 0800K/28.

M.S. 315, S.C. 746

Escorting B.G. 72 departed Buna 1001K/31, E.T.A. Langemak 1001K/1.

S.D.M.L. 1129

Arrived Milne Bay 1700K/30.

UNDABERG
CASTLEMAINE
OWEN

E.T.D. Milne Bay AM/3 for Langemak to relieve BENDIGO, COWRA and ARARAT which are to be sailed Milne Bay in company on relief.

S.C. 731

Departed Merauke 0900K/1 on patrol to Frederik Hendrik Is., E.T.A. Merauke 1001K/3 on return.

M.S. 50

Arrived Thursday Is. 1341K/1 from Milne Bay.

OOTAMUNDRA

Escorting WILLIAM PROUSE arrived Darwin 2032K/1 from West Bay.

ANYMEDE

E.T.D. Cairns 1200K/2 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 1000K/4.

S.P. 291

Dept. Cairns 1001K/1 for Thursday Is. E.T.A. 1200K/4.

ILDURA

Arrived Cairns 1806K/1 from Milne Bay.

OOLEBAR

E.T.A. Townsville PM/2 or AM/3 from Thursday Is.

S.S. MESQUITE

Anchored Cleveland Bay 0500K/1 to await better weather to proceed Frederick's Reef.

S.D.M.L. 1322

On passage Brisbane/Townsville. Arrived Gladstone 1030K/1 on account of adverse weather.

Y.L. 11 & 72

Dept. Caloundra 2245K/31 for Cairns E.T.A. 0800K/4 en route to Thursday Is. and Darwin.

HYALLA

Dept. Caloundra 1823K/31 on Sandy Cape patrol.

GASCOYNE

Arrived Sydney 0505K/1 from Milne Bay and Townsville.

DOOMBA

Dept. Sydney 0854K/1 on Smoky Cape patrol.

DOOMBAR

Towing ammunition lighter arrived Sydney 0932K/1 from Hobart.

WARENAMEBOOL

Arrived Sydney 0850K/1 from Smoky Cape patrol.

K.12

Arrived Melbourne 1015K/31 from Fremantle.

SUFFOLK

Dept. Colombo 2136K/30 for Fremantle for escort duty with ATHOS II, ORUYS, E.T.A. Fremantle 1115K/7.

SCOTCH CAP & TOW

TANCRED, towing SCOTCH CAP, dry dock and barge made an E.T.A. Townsville 2000K/1, but will continue tow direct to Cairns.

L.S.T. 462 AND LIBERTY SHIP IN COLLISION

At 0114K/1 L.S.T. 462 and MARY. E. KINNEY (LIBERTY SHIP) collided 103° 14½ miles from Sandy Cape. Both vessels arrived Caloundra 1327K/1. L.S.T. 462 had her bow doors damaged and required about 12 hours repair work.

SUSPICIOUS VESSEL REPORTED S.E. OF CAIRNS

EMPIRE HAMBLE (cargo vessel of 3260 tons gross on passage Newcastle/Milne Bay) at 0200K/2 reported a suspicious vessel 10 miles S. of Russel Is. Position is about 30 miles S.E. of Cairns. EMPIRE HAMBLE gave no description of the sighting. The report was passed to COM. 7th Fleet, N.O.I.C. Townsville and N.O.I.C. Cairns.

To 0900L/Saturday, 1st April, 1944.

TASK FORCE 74 will carry out exercises with U.S. Submarine "CERO" to southward of China Strait during 31st March-1st April.

"CASTLEMAINE" arrived Milne Bay at 1030K/30 from Port Moresby.

"HARCOO" departed Milne Bay at 1535K/30 escorting "PANAMA EXPRESS" (bound for Sydney) for 200 miles South of Milne Bay.

P.C. 477 arrived Milne Bay at 1500K/30 escorting "CONTESSA" from R.V.

"MILDURA" departed Milne Bay at 1500K/30 escorting "ESSO BAYWAY" to position 12°00'S. 151°22'E - thence to Cairns via Grafton Passage E.T.A. 1500K/1.

P.C. 1133 escorting U.S. Submarine "CERO" arrived Milne Bay at 1100K/30 from R.V.

S.C. 747 departed Milne Bay at 0300K/30 for Langemak - E.T.A. 0900K/31.

"FALIE" departed Milne Bay at 1800K/29 for Saidor - E.T.A. 1200K/30.

"PING WO" departed Milne Bay at 1430K/30 - E.T.A. Buna 1400K/31.

YMS. 315) departed Langemak at 1400K/29 escorting GB.69 - E.T.A.
S.C. 746) Milne Bay 1200K/31.

YMS. 314) arrived Milne Bay at 1330K/30 escorting G.68.

YMS. 393)

YMS. 71)

M.L. 424)

YMS. 9 arrived Milne Bay 1830K/30 from Woodlark Island.

S.C. 737) E.T.A. Langemak 1200K/30 escorting B.G.70.

YMS. 336)

"WAGGA" arrived Woodlark at 1800K/30 escorting "JACOB S. MANSFIELD" from Milne Bay.

"PATHFINDER" (U.S. Survey vessel) and "EPPING FOREST" (U.S. Mec. Artillery Transport) E.T.A. Manus Is. dawn 10th April from Emirau - Matthias Group.

"BENALLA" E.T.D. Seeadler Harbour 0700K/30 - E.T.A. Langemak 0200K/1.

"MIZAR" departed Buna at 0600K/31 for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 1800K/30.

"BENDIGO" arrived Cape Gloucester at 0600K/30 escorting "AUGUSTUS THOMAS" from Lae.

T.U. 34.9.4 (with Com. L.S.T. Group 13 in L.S.T. 395) departed Guadalcanal at 1400K/30 - E.T.A. China Strait 1000K/2.

"HARMON" (U.S. Destroyer Escort) departed Langemak at 1400K/30 escorting Celeno to Guadalcanal - E.T.A. 0900K/2.

"ROCKHAMPTON" departed Cairns at 0731K/31 for Sydney and Adelaide.

YMS. 70 departed Cairns at 0751K/31 for Brisbane - E.T.A. 1600K/3.

"MESQUITE" (U.S. Coastguard cutter) departed Cairns 0753K/31 for Fredericks Reef, Lihou Reef and Bougainville Reef to erect light towers. "MESQUITE" returns to Cairns on completion about 21/4 - E.T.A. Frederick Reed 1500K/3.

"TOWNSVILLE" arrived Cairns at 1116K/31 from Port Moresby.

"BROOME" departed Townsville at 1702K/30 to relieve "BALLARAT" on A/S patrol Grafton Passage.

"BALLARAT" arrived Cairns at 1119K/31 on being relieved by "BALLARAT"

"SAVORGNAN DE BRAZZA" (French Sloop) arrived Sydney at 0812K/31 from Fremantle.

K.12 (N.E.I. Submarine) arrived Port Melbourne at 0621K/31 from Fremantle.

K.15 (N.E.I. Submarine) departed Fremantle at 1100K/30 for Darwin.

"YUMA" (U.S. Tug) Arrived Melbourne at 1121K/31 from Fremantle. When ready about 2/4 to proceed Brisbane towing Navy dudge D-YORK SYME.

YMS.50 E.T.A. Thursday Island 1800K/1 detaching "HAN YANG" near Basilisk Passage.

S.C. 731 departed Thursday Island at 1210K/31 escorting "GORGON" to Merauke - E.T.A. 0600K/1/4.

"MARIPOSA" departed Fremantle at 1015K/13 to R.V. with escorts "QUALITY" and "REDOUBT" in position 004°50'S. 074°25'E at 1800K/5 then proceed to Bombay.

"COOTAMUNDRA" departed West Bay at 1530K/31 escorting "WILLIAM PROUSE" to Darwin - E.T.A. 1930K/1.

S.C. 650 departed Milne Bay at 0530K/31 for Langemak to assist M.L.319 aground on Cape Vogel.

HDML.1325 at 1900K/30 M.L.425 reported that HDML.1325 was immobilised by grounding on coral pinnacle - apparently in Hyane Harbour, Admiralty Island - starboard propeller damaged and rudder jammed.

.....

TOP SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900K/31st March, 1944. Friday.

TASK FORCE 74 will exercise with U.S. Submarine "CERO" to southward of China Strait during day and night of 31/3.

"WESTRALIA" departed Milne Bay 1500K/28 for Cape Sudest.

"BARCOO" departed Milne Bay 1700K/29 to R.V. with "SEA BARB" (2811 troops trans Pacific) and escort to Milne Bay, on arrival China Strait to detach "Sea Barb" and R.V. with "PANAMA EXPRESS" (southbound) and escort until 0600K/31 then return to Milne Bay.

"MILDURA" arrived Milne Bay 1400K/29 from Port Moresby.

"BIRCHGROVE PARK" arrived Milne Bay 1815K/29 from Townsville.

U.S.S. "TRIANGULUM" arrived Milne Bay 1220K/29 from Woodlark.

P.C. 1120 arrived Milne Bay 1100K/29 escorting "AGWI PRINCE" (1279 troops Trans Pacific).

P.C. 1123 departed Milne Bay 1500K/29 E.T.A. Buna 0930K/30 thence Langemak

P.C. 1124 arrived Milne Bay 1610K/29 from escorting "E.J. HENRY" (Tanker)

P.C. 1122) departed Cape Gloucester 1430K/28 E.T.A. Langemak 2100K/28.
P.C. 1132)

S.C. 741 arrived Milne Bay 1500K/29 from Woodlark.

YMS. 50 departed Milne Bay 1525K/29 escorting "HANYANG" to Basilisk Passage (Port Moresby), thence to Thursday Island E.T.A. 1700K/31.

YMS. 53 departed Milne Bay 1300K/29 to R.V. with B.G. 71 off Buna 0900K/30

YMS. 71) departed Langemak 1000K/28 escorting GB.68.

YMS. 314)

YMS. 393)

M.L. 819 departed Lae 1600K/29 E.T.A. Buna 0700K/30.

"EL PASO" (U.S. Frigate) E.T.D. Santo 1400K/31 E.T.A. China Strait dawn 4/4.

"ODEN") (U.S. Frigates) departed Santo 0700K/30 escorting
"VAN BUREN") "G.F. ELLIOTT" to Milne Bay - E.T.A. China Strait 0800K/1/4.

"PIRIE" arrived Thursday Island 1735K/29 escorting D.T. 46 from Darwin.

YMS. 49 arrived Thursday Island 0755K/30 escorting "R.H. WALKER" from Milne Bay.

"BROOME" E.T.D. Townsville 1600K/30 to relieve "BALLARAT" on Grafton Passage A/S patrol.

"ROCKHAMPTON" E.T.D. Cairns 0730K/31 E.T.A. Sydney 2200K/4. To be sailed to Adelaide to arrive by 12/4 for refit.

YP. 291 arrived Cairns 0725K/30 from Brisbane.

"GOLD STAR" arrived Brisbane 1648K/29 from Sydney.

"PYRO" arrived Brisbane 0604K/30 from Milne Bay.

HMML. 1322 E.T.D. Caloundra 1700K/30 E.T.A. Townsville 1300K/2.

MILNE BAY NARRATIVE.

L.S.T. 462 E.T.D. Caloundra 1300K/31 E.T.A. Milne Bay 1300K/6.

"WARRENAMBOOL" departed Sydney 0903K/30 for A/S patrol to Smoky Cape and return.

"STRAHAN" departed Newcastle 0630K/30 for Sydney - Arrived 1341K/30.

"YANDRA" arrived Sydney 0845K/30 from A/S patrol.

"SAMUEL BENBOW" departed Moruya 1130K/30 towing 2 barges to Sydney.

STORE LIGHTER NO.1. arrived Sydney 1655K/29 from Melbourne.

"FREMANTLE" arrived Melbourne 0907K/30 from Sydney to refit.

K.15 departed Fremantle 1100K/30 E.T.A. Darwin daylight 9/4.

"SCOTCH CAP"

"TANCRED" reported arrived at Pine Peak 30/3.

Expects to depart with tow A.M. 31/3.

PROTECTION OF SHIPPING TO ADMIRALTIES.

C.S.WP.S.F. will be responsible for protection and routing of shipping to and from Admiralty Islands as from April 8th 1944.

"HARPER" arrived Buna 1300K/27 from Milne Bay E.T.A. 1300K/27

"BENNETT" U.S. Fleet Tug arrived One Bay 1641K/27 from Milne Bay.

P.C. 1124 escorting "HARPER" (U.S. Tanker) arrived Milne Bay 1418K/28 and departed escorting "E.J. EVERT" at 1800K/28. Will break off when necessary to E.V. "FRANCIS G. QUINONES" and escort to Milne Bay.

P.C. 477 departed Milne Bay 1400K/28 to E.V. with "JOHN". E.V. not made.

P.C. 477 will now E.V. with "POLARIS" and escort south until time to depart to E.V. "DORIS" and escort to Milne Bay.

"POLARIS" (U.S. Store Carrier) departed Milne Bay 1100K/28 E.T.A. Sydney 1300K/3.

P.C. 476, YRS. 524 departed Milne Bay 1500K/28 E.T.A. Buna 1100K/29.

"AFORDA" departed Milne Bay 1500K/28 for Buna E.T.A. 0500K/29 - thence Langoak.

"HESPER" departed Milne Bay 1500K/28 E.T.A. Buna 1100K/29 for onward convoy. to Langoak.

"POWER" and "HUNDABERGH" escorting T.A. 222 arrived Milne Bay 0845K/28.

"VIRGA" arrived Milne Bay 1300K/28 from Buna.

P.C. 1123 departed Milne Bay 1200K/28 to E.V. with U.S. Submarine at dawn 30/3 and escort to Milne Bay.

"DORVILLE" escorting "HALLIFAPAN" escorting T.A. 222 arrived Port Moresby 1100K/28 and departed 1000K/29 E.T.A. Cairns 1000K/31.

"CASTLEBAIN" towing "CAROLAN" from Kookoro Bay arrived Port Moresby 0700K/28 and departed 1500K/28 - E.T.A. Milne Bay 1100K/30.

"WILGAMIA" escorting T.A. 42 departed Thursday Is. 0800K/28 E.T.A. Darwin 1800K/3.

TOP SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900L/Thursday, 30th March, 1944.

"NIZAM" escorting "RANEE" departed Cochin 1636K/28 E.T.A. Pt. Phillip 1230K/12.

TASK UNIT 34.9.4 consisting of LST Division 79 (LST's 395, 339, 397, 460, 472, 447) escorted by 2 destroyers of DESRON 21 to be designated by CTF.38 to depart Guadalcanal P.M.30/3 for Milne Bay.

"PORCUPINE" U.S. Tanker escorted by S.C. 1273, departed Noumea 20/3 E.T.A. China Strait 0800K/3.

"CELENO", U.S. Naval Cargo ship escorted by "HARMON" U.S. Destroyer Escort departed Langemak 24/3 for Admiralty Island and arrived Pinschhafen 0930K/29.

"BOOTES" U.S. Store Carrier arrived Langemak 26/3 from Milne Bay.

"CHETCO" U.S. Tug arrived Langemak 26/3 from Milne Bay.

"RESERVE" with tow arrived Langemak 1600K/27 from Milne Bay.

M.L.430 arrived Lae 2100K/27 from Milne Bay.

"MIZAR" U.S. Store Carrier arrived Oro Bay 1845K/28 from Milne Bay and Buna.

"FALIE" arrived Buna 1200K/27 from Milne Bay E.T.D. 0800K/28 for Langemak. E.T.A. 1100K/29.

"SONOMA" U.S. Fleet Tug arrived Oro Bay 1631K/27 from Milne Bay.

P.C. 1124 escorting "HADLEY" (U.S. Tanker) arrived Milne Bay 1415K/28 and departed escorting "E.J. HENRY" at 1530K/28. Will break off when necessary to R.V. "FRANCISCO M. QUINONES" and escort to Milne Bay.

P.C. 477 departed Milne Bay 1400K/28 to R.V. with "BOTH". R.V. not made.

P.C. 477 will now R.V. with "POLLUX" and escort south until time to depart to R.V. "CONTESSA" and escort to Milne Bay.

"POLLUX" (U.S. Store Carrier) departed Milne Bay 1100K/28 E.T.A. Sydney 1300K/2.

P.C. 476, YMS.334 departed Milne Bay 1530K/28 E.T.A. Buna 1100K/29.

"KAPUNDA" departed Milne Bay 1600K/28 for Buna E.T.A. 0900K/29 thence Langemak.

"MERKUR" departed Milne Bay 1535K/28 E.T.A. Buna 1100K/29 for onward convoy. to Langemak.

"BOWEN" and "BUNDABERG" escorting T.N. 232 arrived Milne Bay 0845K/28.

"TERKA" arrived Milne Bay 1500K/28 from Buna.

P.C. 1133 departed Milne Bay A.M./29 to R.V. with U.S. Submarine at dawn 30/3 and escort to Milne Bay.

"TOWNSVILLE" escorting "BALIKPAPAN" escorting T.N. 232 arrived Port Moresby 1159K/28 and departed 1031K/29 E.T.A. Cairns 1000K/31.

"CASTLEMAINE" towing "CANONBAR" from Keakaro Bay arrived Port Moresby 0702K/28 and departed 1538K/29 - E.T.A. Milne Bay 1100K/30.

"WILCANNIA" escorting T.D. 49 departed Thursday Is. 0827K/29 E.T.A. Darwin 1200K/2.

"COOLEBAR" departed Thursday Island 0737K/28 E.T.A. Townsville 2000K/1.

"KALGOORLIE" escorting "GORGON" departed Merauke 1710K/28 arrived Thursday Island 0836K/29.

"GYMPIE") with A.P.C. 13 departed Cairns 0900K/29 E.T.A. Milne Bay
 APC. 20) 1300K/31 sailed in company to junction of routes, thence Port Moresby independently - E.T.A. 1800K/31.

"CAPE LEEUWIN" departed Cairns 1300K/28 for duty with "BUNGAREE" Torres Strait area E.T.A. R.V. 21/30.

APC. 14 arrived Cairns 1316K/29 from Milne Bay.

"SHIKELLAMY" U.S. Tanker arrived Townsville 0850K/29 from Port Moresby.

"GASCOYNE" departed Townsville 0900K/29 for Sydney.

"GEELONG" and "WHYALLA" arrived Brisbane 0140K/29 from Wide Bay.

"LEOPARD" U.S. Tanker E.T.B. Brisbane 2000K/29 E.T.A. Cairns 0700K/3 for onward routing to Milne Bay.

"KARANGI" E.T.D. Caloundra 1900K/29 E.T.A. Cairns 1900K/2.

"BOROUGH BELLE" (N.A.P.) departed Sydney 0748K/28 arrived Port Aembla 1215K/28.

"SAMUEL BENBOW" departed Sydney 0945K/28 for Moruya to tow 2 Army Hulls to Sydney.

YMS. 70 arrived Cairns 1851K/28 from Milne Bay.

YMS. 315. S.C. 746 arrived Milne Bay 0940K/27 escorting GB. 66.

YMS. 49 escorting "ROBERT H. WALKER" departed Milne Bay 1530K/27 - E.T.A. Thursday Island A.M. 30/3.

1140K/28

S.C. 982 & 735 escorting "YOCHOW" arrived Langemak/from Cape Gloucester.

YMS. 315. S.C. 746 escorting B.G. 69 departed Milne Bay 0900K/28 E.T.A. Langemak 0900K/29.

YP. 286 departed Fremantle 1527K/29 for Exmouth Gulf.

YMS. 11 and 72 E.T.D. Caloundra 1600K/31 - E.T.A. Cairns 0800K/4 for onward routing to Thursday Island and Darwin.

S.C. 750 departed Milne Bay 0600K/29 for Langemak (E.T.A. 1200K/30) and Admiralty Island.

S.C. 747 (replacing S.C. 698) E.T.D. Milne Bay A.M. 30/3 for Langemak and Admiralty Island.

ENEMY AIR RAID:

NADZAB Red 2047K/20.
 " White 2108K/29.

" (Fightercom H.Q. Adv. Echelon) White 2104K/29.
 Red 2120K/29.

To 0900L/Wednesday, 29th March, 1944.

"HARMON" (Destroyer Escort) } E.T.D. Admiralties 0700K/28 for
 "CELENO" (USN Cargo vessel) } Finschhafen - E.T.A. 0800K/29.

P.C. 1120 departed Milne Bay 1700K/27 to R.V. AGWI PRINCE and escort to Milne Bay.

"SHEPPARTON" arrived Milne Bay 1000K/27.

"MORESBY" departed Milne Bay 1145K/28 for Buna E.T.A. 0700K/29.

"KAPUNDA" E.T.D. Milne Bay P.M./28 and provide additional escort for BG.70 from Buna, relieving S.C. 735 which is to be sailed Milne Bay.

"FALIE" arrived Oro Bay 1600K/26 from Milne Bay.

"POYANG" arrived Port Moresby 27/3 from Milne Bay.

APC.14 departed Milne Bay 0645K/27 for Cairns - E.T.A. 1800K/29.

"SONOMA" departed Milne Bay 1300K/26 for Buna for repairs, thence Langemak.

S.C. 750 escorting "MANA" arrived Goodenough 1600K/26 - arrived Milne Bay 1330K/27.

YMS. 336 } escorting B.G.67 departed Buna 1200K/26 arrived Langemak
S.C. 737 } 0900K/27.

YMS. 315 } escorting "HENRY C. PAYNE" arrived Langemak 0800K/26.
S.C. 746 }

"WAGGA" arrived Milne Bay 1800K/27.

"MERKUR" arrived Milne Bay 1130K/27 from Brisbane.

K.15 E.T.A. Darwin 9/4 from Fremantle - E.T.D. Darwin 13/4 on operations

"KALGOORLIE" escorting "GORGON" arrived Merauke 1730K/27 from Thursday Is

"INVERELL" arrived Thursday Island 0717K/28 escorting D.T. 47.

"MILDURA" escorting "MARY WALKER" departed Port Moresby 1445K/28 for Milne Bay. E.T.A. 1330K/29.

"CASTLEMAINE" towing "CANONBAR" arrived Port Moresby 27/3.

U.S.S. "PORCUPINE" (Liberty Tanker) E.T.A. China Straits 0800K/4 from Noumea.

S.C. 735 and 982 escorting "YOCHOW" departed Cape Gloucester 1800K/27 for Langemak E.T.A. 0700K/28.

"GLENELG" arrived Cairns 1144K/28 from Milne Bay to boiler clean.

"BENDIGO" } arrived Langemak 0330L/24 from Seeadler Harbour.
U.S.S. "COUCAL" }

"COOLEBAR" departed Thursday Island 0737K/28 for Townsville - E.T.A. 2000K/1 anchoring at night.

"STRAHAN" (A.M.S) E.T.D. Newcastle A.M/30 for Sydney.

"GASCOYNE" on passage Milne Bay to Sydney via Townsville was reported by N.O.I.C. Townsville at 1524K/28 hove to off Magnetic Island due to weather.

"PATERSON" } arrived Pt. Kembla 1635K/27 from Sydney - departed
"NARANI" } Port Kembla 0730K/28 for Sydney - arrived Sydney
1450K/28.

"YANDRA" departed Sydney 0906K/28 on A/S patrol to Smoky Cape and return.

"DOOMBA" arrived Sydney 0901K/28 from Smoky Cape patrol.

"FREMANTLE" departed Sydney 1050K/28 for Melbourne - E.T.A. 0700K/30.

"ORARA" departed Sydney 1027K/28 for Cairns - E.T.A. 0800K/4.

"HINGERA" arrived Westernport 1600K/27 from Hobart.

U.S. Seaplane Tender "WILLIAM B. PRESTON" departed Fremantle 1320K/28 for Exmouth Gulf.

CYCLONE N. OF TOWNSVILLE.

N.O.I.C. Townsville reported a cyclone centred 50 miles N. of Townsville on coast moving inland at 1600K/28 and forecast a gradual slackening of winds with heavy rain and rough seas continuing for some time.

"SCOTCH CAP" and TOW.

At 0920K/28 "SCOTCH CAP" anchored with AFD.10 at Pine Peak Island (240 miles S.E. of Townsville) reported "All is well. Anchors holding. No report from salvage tug "TANCRED". Strong S.S.E. wind. Visibility improving".

.....

[Faint, mostly illegible text continues on the page, including various ship arrivals and departures.]

0900L/Tuesday, 28th March, 1944.

"HARRISON" (U.S. Destroyer) E.T.D. Havannah Harbour 1400K/27 escorting
"MEDUSA" (U.S.N. Repair Ship) to Milne Bay E.T.A. 1530K/1/4.

S.C. 746 } departed Langemak at 1430K/26 escorting GB.66 - E.T.A. Milne Bay
YMS. 335 } 1200K/28.

S.C. 362 } departed Langemak at 1900K/25 for Saidor and Cape Gloucester
S.C. 735 } Arrived Cape Gloucester escorting "JOHN ROSSITER" at 0800K/27.

"BARARAT" arrived Langemak at 1815K/25 from Arawe.

P.C. 1132 } arrived Cape Gloucester at 1001K/27 escorting "THOMAS
P.C. 1122 } CRAWFORD" from Langemak.

S.C. 737 } departed Milne Bay at 1200K/26 escorting BG.67 E.T.A. Langemak
YMS. 336 } 1100K/27.

M.L. 819 arrived Cape Gloucester at 1000K/26 from Langemak - thence to
Saidor.

"BARCOO" arrived Langemak at 1400K/25 escorting B.G.65 "A" from Milne Bay.

"WESTRALIA" arrived Milne Bay at 0930K/27 from Langemak.

"WIZAR" E.T.D. Milne Bay 0700K/28 for Buna - E.T.A. Cape Sudest 1900K/28.

"GANYMEDE" (U.S.N. Cargo Ship) arrived Cairns at 1712K/27 from Brisbane.

"ROCKHAMPTON" arrived Cairns at 0245K/26 from Milne Bay.

"GASCOYNE" (en route Milne Bay to Townsville) was ordered by C.S.W.P.S.F.
to proceed to Sydney - "GASCOYNE" acknowledged and gave
E.T.A. Sydney at 1800K/31.

P.C. 479 arrived Cairns at 1912K/27 from Milne Bay.

"CAPE LEEUWIN" E.T.D. Cairns 0830K/28 to report to "BUNGAREE" - Torres
Strait area at 2030K/30.

"BALLARAT" departed Townsville at 1540K/26 for outer A/S patrol Grafton
Passage.

"BIRCHGROVE PARK" departed Townsville at 1720K/26 for Milne Bay (via Grafton
Passage) E.T.A. 0030K/30.

"ORARA" E.T.D. Sydney P.M./28 for Cairns for onward routing to Milne
Bay.

"MARANI" } departed Sydney at 0742K/27 - E.T.A. Pt. Embila 1500K/27.
"PATERSON" }

"MATAFELE" arrived Sydney at 1452K/27 from Townsville.

"GOLDSTAR" departed Sydney at 0749K/27 for Brisbane - E.T.A. Caloundra
1000K/29.

"COOMBAR" departed Hobart at 1015K/27 for Sydney towing ammunition
lighter E.T.A. 0800K/2.

"KALGOORLIE" departed Thursday Island at 2037K/26 escorting "GORGON"
to Merauke - E.T.A. 1300K/27.

"TANCRED" (en route from Townsville to assist "SCOTCH CAPE and tow
AFDIO anchored at Battle Bay - Percy Island Group) Reported
at 1502K/27 - Anchored off Bowen - very heavy weather gale
force - dense rain - visibility nil - Made two attempts
Whitsunday Passage - everything completely obscured.
proceeding when possible.

"WILCANNIA" returned Thursday Island at 1735K/27 from Richardson Reef with 2 barges abandoned by "COLORADO".

"CASTLEMAINE" located "CANONBAR" in Keakaro Bay (70 miles S.E. Port Moresby) Vessel is short of coal and "CASTLEMAINE" will tow to Port Moresby.

"GEELONG" at 1528K/26 reported -

Standing by 19 A.L.C.'s sheltering at Wide Bay (Sandy Cape area) A.L.C.'s are en route Brisbane to Gladstone.

At 1259K/27 N.O.I.C. Brisbane reported that "TONGKOL" would depart Caloundra at 1300K/27 and "WHYALLA" at 1700K/27 to stand by A.L.C.'s.

- "[Faint Name]" departed [Faint] [Faint] [Faint] [Faint]
- "[Faint Name]" departed [Faint] [Faint] [Faint] [Faint]
- "[Faint Name]" arrived [Faint] [Faint] [Faint] [Faint]
- "[Faint Name]" departed [Faint] [Faint] [Faint] [Faint]
- "[Faint Name]" arrived [Faint] [Faint] [Faint] [Faint]
- "[Faint Name]" departed [Faint] [Faint] [Faint] [Faint]
- "[Faint Name]" arrived [Faint] [Faint] [Faint] [Faint]
- "[Faint Name]" departed [Faint] [Faint] [Faint] [Faint]
- "[Faint Name]" departed [Faint] [Faint] [Faint] [Faint]
- "[Faint Name]" arrived [Faint] [Faint] [Faint] [Faint]
- "[Faint Name]" departed [Faint] [Faint] [Faint] [Faint]
- "[Faint Name]" departed [Faint] [Faint] [Faint] [Faint]
- "[Faint Name]" arrived [Faint] [Faint] [Faint] [Faint]
- "[Faint Name]" arrived [Faint] [Faint] [Faint] [Faint]
- "[Faint Name]" departed [Faint] [Faint] [Faint] [Faint]
- "[Faint Name]" departed [Faint] [Faint] [Faint] [Faint]
- "[Faint Name]" arrived [Faint] [Faint] [Faint] [Faint]
- "[Faint Name]" departed [Faint] [Faint] [Faint] [Faint]
- "[Faint Name]" arrived [Faint] [Faint] [Faint] [Faint]
- "[Faint Name]" departed [Faint] [Faint] [Faint] [Faint]

To 0900K/27th March, 1944.

"KANIMBLA" } arrived Langemak 0930L/25 escorted by P.C. 1122 and P.C.
 "MANOORA" } 1132 departed Langemak 1430L/25 escorted by P.C. 1133 and
 P.C. 1134 - E.T.A. Cape Sudest 2330L/25.

P.C. 1133 } arrived Milne Bay 1400K/26.
 P.C. 1134 }

"GLENELG" departed Langemak 1800L/24 - E.T.A. Milne Bay 2300L/25.
 Departed Milne Bay 1400K/26 - E.T.A. Grafton Passage
 0800K/26.

"KAPUNDA" arrived Milne Bay 1608L/25 escorting "STANVAC WELLINGTON"
 (Tanker).

"ANARAT" departed Araxe 1100L/25 E.T.A. Langemak 1700L/25.

"MURMURY" departed Langemak 1830L/24 for Seeadler Harbour.

"MORESBY" arrived Milne Bay 0950L/25 from Cairns.

"WAUGA" departed Milne Bay 1700K/26 to R.V. with "MERKUR" and escort to
 Milne Bay.

P.C. 477 } arrived Milne Bay 1200L/25 from Cairns.
 "CORONADO" }

P.C. 477 departed Milne Bay 1400K/26 to R.V. with "MOTH" and escort to
 Milne Bay.

"RESERVE" departed Milne Bay 1600L/25 E.T.A. Langemak 1300K/26.

"PALIE" departed Milne Bay 0700L/25 - E.T.A. Oro Bay 1500K/26.

P.C. 476 arrived Milne Bay 1040L/25 escorting "EMPIRE SILVER" from
 Port Moresby.

S.C. 737 } departed Langemak 1415L/24 escorting CB.65 (including U.S.S.
 YMS.336 } "MINK" and YO.59) E.T.A. Lae 2230L/24 - Buna 1400L/25
 Milne Bay 0900K/26.

S.C. 962 departed Langemak 0800L/24 for Dampier Strait Area.

YMS.335 } departed Milne Bay 1000L/25 escorting B.G.66 E.T.A. Lae
 S.C. 746 } 0200L/26 Langemak 0900K/26.

YMS.313 arrived Langemak 0800L/24 and departed 0800L/24 to search area
 Nessup Channel (vicinity Umbel Island) thence Cape
 Gloucester E.T.A. 1800L/24.

YMS.9 } arrived Woodlark 0800L/25 from Milne Bay.
 S.C. 741 }

U.S.S. "TEAK" (Net Tender 1500 tons) departed Tutuila 1200L/25 for Milne
 Bay 4/4.

"PING HO" arrived Milne Bay 1200L/25 from Buna.

S.C. 744 } departed Milne Bay 0800K/26 E.T.A. Buna 0900K/27.
 YMS.316 }

M.L.430 departed Milne Bay 0900K/26 for Lae.

P.C. 1124 departed Milne Bay 1900K/26 to R.V. with "HADLEY" (Tanker) and
 escort to Milne Bay.

YP.263 arrived Milne Bay 1215K/26 from Langemak.

YMS.70 departed Milne Bay 1300K/26 E.T.A. Cairns 1500K/26.

"MILDURA" arrived Port Moresby 0146L/26 from search for lifeboats.

"KALGOORLIE" arrived Thursday Island 0700K/26 escorting "GORGON"
E.T.D. 2000K/26 E.T.A. Merauke 1230K/27.

"WILCANNIA" departed Thursday Island 1355K/26 for Richardson Reef.

"COOLEBAR" arrived Thursday Island 2050L/25 from Darwin.

"POLARIS" arrived Thursday Island 1105K/26 from Port Moresby.

"TOWNSVILLE" departed Cairns 2116L/25 to overtake and join T.N. 232.

"BALLARAT" departed Townsville 1540K/26 for A/S patrol Grafton Passage.

"CALANARES" arrived Gladstone 1125K/26 from Milne Bay.

S.C. 749 arrived Brisbane 1901L/25 from A/S patrol Sandy Cape.

YMS11) arrived Brisbane 0634K/26 from Cairns.
YMS72.)

"WARRNAMBOOL" arrived Sydney 0848K/26 from A/S patrol Smoky Cape.

"FREMANTLE" arrived Sydney 0830K/26 from Townsville.

"DOOMBA" departed Sydney 0908K/26 for A/S patrol to Smoky Cape.

"GOLD STAR" E.T.D. Sydney 0800K/27 E.T.A. Caloundra 1000K/28.

NAVAL STORE LIGHTER NO.1. departed Port Phillip 1109K/26 E.T.A. Sydney
29/3.

"BINGERA" departed Hobart 0903K/26 E.T.A. Westernport 0700K/28.

U.S.S. "YUMA" departed Fremantle 2145K/25 for Noumea via Melbourne
E.T.A. Melbourne 0800K/31.

"MERBAHOE") arrived and departed Carnarvon 26/3 en route Darwin.
"RINDJANI")
"SMEHOE")

BARGES ADRIFT FROM COLORADO:

N.O.I.C. Thursday Island despatched "WILCANNIA" A.M. 26/3
to Richardson Reef to pick up barges abandoned by Colorado. "WILCANNIA"
expects to arrive with tow F.M. 37/3.

SCOTCH CAP:

At 1135K/26 "SCOTCH CAP" (Tug 1200 tons) with A.F.D. 10 in
tow en route Gladstone to Cairns, reported that she was anchored at
Battle Bay Pine Peak Island (Perey Island Group 240 miles S.E. Townsville
Engines completely out of action, unable to handle tow.

N.O.I.C. Townsville despatched "TANCRED" at 1707K/26 to
assist.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

MOST SECRET.

To 0900K 26/3/44.

- SOLACE, U.S. Hospital Ship, E.T.D. Espiritu Santo P.M. 26/3 for Milne Bay for temporary duty with Com. 7th Fleet.
- MEBUSA, U.S. Repair Ship (8125 tons) with one U.S. Destroyer of Desron 25, E.T.D. Havannah Harbor P.M. 27/3 for Milne Bay. Both Vessels for temporary duty with Com. 7th Fleet.
- P.C. 1134 arrived Langemak 1500Z/23 from Milne Bay. (to be retained for additional escorts with KANIMBLA and MANOORA on their return voyage to Milne Bay.
- SUSQUEHANNA, U.S. Tanker, arrived Lae 23rd March from Buna.
- P.C. 1124 arrived Milne Bay 2200Z/24 from escorting GREGON TRAIL.
- GASCOYNE escorting M.V. 75 departed Milne Bay 1800Z/23.
- PC 1120, escorting SEA WITCH arrived Milne Bay 1430Z/24.
- CHETCO, U.S. Tug, departed Milne Bay 1130Z/24. ETA. Langemak 0500K/26.
- RIANA arrived Milne Bay 1130Z/24 from Brisbane.
- ROCKHAMPTON arrived Milne Bay 1430Z/24 } from escorting KANIMBLA and
SAN PEDRO, U.S. Frigate, arrived Milne Bay 1245Z/24. } MANOORA (bound Pinschafen).
Escort taken over by P.C.1122 and 1132 from Milne Bay.
- COWRA departed Milne Bay 1600Z/24 ETA. Langemak 0600K/26.
- SHEPPARTON LTD. Milne Bay 1030K/26 for Huakata Is. (40 miles E. of Milne Bay).
- P.C. 479 departed Milne Bay 0700Z/25 ETA. Cairns 1000K/27.
- FALIE departed Milne Bay 0700Z/25 ETA. Oro Bay. 1500K/26.
- MIZAR arrived Milne Bay 0930Z/25 from Brisbane.
- PIRIE, escorting JOHN B. TROY, arrived Darwin 1856Z/24 from Thursday Island and departed escorting D.T. 46 at 0903Z/25.
- INVERELL escorting D.T. 47, departed Darwin 0844Z/25 ETA. Thursday Island 0500K/26.
- TOWNSVILLE arrived Cairns 1616Z/25 from Milne Bay.
- BUNDABERG and BOWEN, to depart Cairns 1454/25 to escort TH.232, Milne Bay Section, ETA.0900K/26. Townsville (delayed) to ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ overtake convoy and escort Pt. Moresby Section. ETA 0900K/26.
- ALABASTER, U.S. Converted Yacht, departed Cairns 1100Z/25 for Milne Bay.
- TOOMEREE (N.A.P.) departed Townsville 1230Z/25 ETA. Cairns 1700K/27 (anchoring at night)
- GEELONG departed Brisbane 1445Z/25 for A/S. Patrol Sandy Cape.
- LEOPARD, U.S. Tanker, E.T.D. Brisbane 1500K/27 ETA Milne Bay 1500K/27 18 ALC's dep. Caloundra 1155Z/25 Gladstone 29/3 (anchoring at night).
- HL 807 arr. Sydney 1422Z/25 from Pt. Stephens.
- HL 822 arr. Sydney 1202Z/25 from Pt. Keble.
- YMS 9 departed Milne Bay 1230Z/24 for Woodlark (YMS 50 to be sailed for Milne Bay on arrival YMS 9).

HIGHEST SECRET.

SC 741 departed Milne Bay 1200Z/24 ETA. Woodlark 0700Z/25.

YMS 73 and 334 escorting G.B. 64 arrived Milne Bay 0955Z/25.

C.C.C.C. Message from "RANDPONTEIN".

At 1850Z/25. RANDPONTEIN (Dutch Cargo Ship, due Melbourne 26/3 from Fremantle) sent a C.C.C.C. Message in a position 50 miles S.W. of Cape Nelson. The message was cancelled later. MARIPOSA was possibly the vessel sighted.

FRIGATE NO. 7 LAUNCHED.

H.M.A.S. "LACHLAN" was successfully launched at Hort's Dock at 1000Z/25.

H.M.A.S. "STRAHAN" (Commissioned 14/3/44). Provisional Acceptance.

H.M.A.S. "STRAHAN" has been accepted by Rear-Admiral-in-Charge, Sydney, provisionally on completion of minor outstanding items. Compass adjustment will be made on 28th March and vessel will depart Newcastle for Sydney the following day.

WILLIAM D. BOYCE Refloated.

H.M.A.S. "TOWNSVILLE" reported at 0941Z/25, that WILLIAM D. BOYCE was afloat and proceeding under her own power to Townsville.

COLORADO - Two Barges in tow abandoned.

COLORADO, U.S. Cargo Vessel (1667 tons, departed Townsville 1825Z/19 for Milne Bay) reported at 1430Z/24 that her towing gear had fouled and the barges in tow had been abandoned. They were stated to be anchored, in good condition, in a position approx. 40 miles N.E. of Cape York. COLORADO requested that the barges be picked up. Authorities concerned were informed.

FURTHER TO HOOD POINT SEARCH.

As CANONBAR (700 tons Cargo Vessel departed Milne Bay 0500Z/21 ETA. Port Moresby 0600Z/23) had not arrived, Castlemaine, WAGGA and MILDURA were directed to search for her. At 2011Z/25, M.O.I.C. Port Moresby reported an aircraft sighting of a vessel answering CANONBAR's description, anchored in KeaKaro Bay (20 miles E. of Hood Point). CASTLEMAINE was instructed to investigate. WAGGA is returning to Milne Bay ETA 1100Z/26.

PRESIDENT GRANT.

U.S. Comnavbase Milne Bay has ordered that the entire crew of PRESIDENT GRANT be detached to staging area Gamadodo (Milne Bay area).

"ELLEN" arrived Milne Bay 0700Z/24 from Townsville.
"WAGGA" arrived Milne Bay 0700Z/24 from Port Moresby.
"MILDURA" arrived Milne Bay 0700Z/24 from Port Moresby.
"CASTLEMAINE" arrived Milne Bay 0700Z/24 from Port Moresby.
"CANONBAR" arrived Milne Bay 0700Z/24 from Port Moresby.
"MARIPOSA" arrived Milne Bay 0700Z/24 from Port Moresby.
"LACHLAN" arrived Milne Bay 0700Z/24 from Hort's Dock.
"STRAHAN" arrived Milne Bay 0700Z/24 from Newcastle.
"TOWNSVILLE" arrived Milne Bay 0700Z/24 from Townsville.
"BOYCE" arrived Milne Bay 0700Z/24 from Townsville.
"COLORADO" arrived Milne Bay 0700Z/24 from Townsville.
"CANONBAR" arrived Milne Bay 0700Z/24 from Port Moresby.
"CASTLEMAINE" arrived Milne Bay 0700Z/24 from Port Moresby.
"WAGGA" arrived Milne Bay 0700Z/24 from Port Moresby.
"MILDURA" arrived Milne Bay 0700Z/24 from Port Moresby.
"MARIPOSA" arrived Milne Bay 0700Z/24 from Port Moresby.
"LACHLAN" arrived Milne Bay 0700Z/24 from Hort's Dock.
"STRAHAN" arrived Milne Bay 0700Z/24 from Newcastle.
"TOWNSVILLE" arrived Milne Bay 0700Z/24 from Townsville.
"BOYCE" arrived Milne Bay 0700Z/24 from Townsville.
"COLORADO" arrived Milne Bay 0700Z/24 from Townsville.

To 0900L/Saturday, 25th March, 1944.

"BARCOO" escorting B.G. 65A departed Milne Bay 1737L/24 for Lae and Langemak.

U.S. Seaplane Tender "SAN PABLO" arrived Seeadler Harbour 1230L/24 from Milne Bay.

U.S.S. "CELENO" (Cargo Vessel) } arrived Langemak 1000L/22 from Guadal-
U.S.S. "HARMON" (Destroyer) } canal - E.T.D. P.M/24 in convoy to
(Escort) } Admiralties.

"CASTLEMAINE" } escorting T.N. 231 arrived Milne Bay 1140L/23.
"WAGGA" & "KAPUNDA" }

S.C. 746 } departed Milne Bay 1530L/23 - E.T.A. Buna 1400L/24.
YMS. 315 }

S.C. 737 } escorting B.G. 65 departed Milne Bay 1200L/23 - E.T.A.
YMS. 336 } Lae 0300L/24, Lnagemak 1000L/24.

YMS 53 & 316 } escorting GB.63 arrived Milne Bay 1419L/23.
S.C. 744 & 747 }
M.L. 816 }

S.C. 982 escorting "LYMAN STEWART" departed Lae 1030L/23 for Langemak.

"PYRO" departed Milne Bay 1330L/23 for Brisbane - E.T.A. 27/3.

P.C. 1133 } escorting G.B.63 departed Langemak 1700L/22 - escorts to
S.C. 735 } Buna, thence to Langemak.

U.S.S. "TEAK" (Net Tender) departed Tutuila 0500L/23 for Milne Bay
E.T.A. 2/4.

YMS. 334 and 73 escorting GB.64 departed Langemak 1101L/23.

"STAWELL" escorting "KOONDOOLOO" and "KOMARA" arrived Langemak 1441L/23
from Saidor.

P.C. 476 arrived Port Moresby 1850L/23 from Milne Bay - escorting
"EMPIRE SILVER" departed 1021L/24 for Milne Bay E.T.A.
1730L/25.

S.C. 741 escorting "TRIANGULUM" E.T.A. Woodlark 1900L/24.

"WILCANNIA" escorting D.T.45 arrived Thursday Island 1520L/23.

"COOLEBAR" departed Wessel Island 0041L/24 for Thursday Island - E.T.A.
1230L/26.

U.S.S. "ALABASTER" (Converted Yacht) E.T.D. Cairns 1100L/25 for Milne
Bay E.T.A. 1100K/27.

"BOWEN" arrived Cairns 0756L/24 from Townsville.

"KALGOORLIE" departed Cairns 1741L/24 to R.V. "GORGON" off Fitzroy Island
2000L/24. to escort to Merauke and return Thursday Island
E.T.A. 0900K/26.

"GEELONG" arrived Brisbane 0817L/24 from Sydney.

APC. 4 E.T.D. "BALLINA" (Richmond River) 1500L/25 for Brisbane - E.T.A.
1500K/26.

ML. 813 arrived Eden 1800L/23 from Jervis Bay.

M.L. 823 arrived Coff's Harbour 1900L/23 from Pt. Stephens.

"YANDRA" arrived Sydney 0851L/24 from Smoky Cape Patrol.

TOP SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900L/Friday, 24th March, 1944.

"BARCOO" E.T.D. Milne Bay 1500L/24 escorting B.G.65"A" ("SHAWNEE" and "SEA MARLIN") to Lae and Langemak 1500L/25.

"GRAYSON" (U.S. Destroyer) arrived Milne Bay at 1100L/22 from Brisbane.

P.C. 1120 departed Milne Bay at 1700L/22 to R.V. with "SEAWITCH" and escort to Milne Bay.

"STAWELL" departed Langemak at 1800L/21 escorting 1 L.C.T.(I) to Saidor. Arrived at 1700L/22. Departed Saidor at 1930L/22 escorting to Langemak, E.T.A. 1500L/23.

"ARARAT" arrived Langemak at 0700L/21 from Cape Gloucester.

"BOOTES" (U.S.N. Cargo Ship) departed Milne Bay at 1630L/22 for Buna and Langemak.

P.C. 1124 returned to Milne Bay at 0300L/23 after failing to R.V. with "CAPE DOUGLAS".

P.C. 1124 departed Milne Bay at 1530L/23 escorting "OREGON TRAIL" for 200 miles then to return Milne Bay.

P.C. 1122 and 1132 will R.V. with "KANIMBLA" and "MANOORA" at Dorasi Shoal at 0900L/24 and escort to Finschhafen.

P.C. 1119 and 1123 arrived Milne Bay at 1200L/21 escorting G.B.61.

YMS.316, 53, S.C. 747 and 744 departed Langemak escorting GB.63 - E.T.A. Milne Bay 1000L/23.

YMS.334 and 73 departed Buna at 1101L/22 escorting B.G. 64 - E.T.A. Langemak 0900L/23.

YMS.335 departed Goodenough at 0900L/23 escorting "DAVID D. FIELD" to Woodlark, E.T.A. 0600L/24.

"BENDIGO" and "COUCAL" departed Seeadler Harbour 2200L/22 - E.T.A. Langemak 0001L/24.

YMS.313, 314, 71 and 393 arrived Langemak at 0900L/21 escorting B.G.63.

P.C. 1134 E.T.A. Langemak 1300L/23 escorting from Cape Gloucester.

"MILDURA" arrived Port Moresby at 1040L/23 escorting T.N. 231 "A".

"POLARIS" departed Port Moresby at 0740L/23 for Thursday Island - E.T.A. 1600L/26.

M.L.819 departed Milne Bay 1400L/23 - E.T.A. Buna 0700L/24.

YP.283 arrived Langemak at 0930L/22 from Milne Bay.

"WARRECO" departed Talasea (?) area at 1730L/22 escorting L.C.T.359 and 6 LCVs. to Cape Gloucester E.T.A. 1730L/23.

"KALGOORLIE" arrived Cairns at 1836L/23 from Grafton Passage A/S Patrol.

"MORESBY" departed Cairns at 1031L/23 for Milne Bay.

"HUNDABERG" arrived Cairns at 0842L/23 from Port Moresby.

"CORONADO" } (U.S. Frigate) departed Cairns at 1701L/23 for Milne Bay.
P.C. 477 }

"BOWEN" departed Townsville at 1815L/23 - E.T.A. Cairns 0730L/24.

"HEROS" departed Townsville at 1000L/23 en route to Sydney - E.T.A. 1000K/30.

"MERKUR" departed Brisbane 28/3 - E.T.A. Milne Bay 27/3.

"GANYMEDE" (U.S.N. Cargo Ship) E.T.D. Caloundra 1700L/24 for Cairns - E.T.A. 0700K/28.

"KARANGI" E.T.D. Caloundra 1800L/24 for Cairns - E.T.A. 1800K/28.

"WHYALLA" arrived Brisbane at 0210L/23 from Sandy Cape A/S patrol.

YP. 291 E.T.D. Brisbane 1500L/23 for Palm Island thence Cairns - E.T.A. 1800K/27.

"TANGIER" (U.S. Seaplane Tender) departed Brisbane 22/3 for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 26/3.

"DOOMBA" returned Sydney at 0905L/22 from Smoky Cape A/S patrol.

M.L. 823 departed "ASSAULT" at 0610L/23 for Coff's Harbour.

"KOROWA" departed Port Phillip at 2321L/22 for Wilson's Promontory area.

"COLEBAR" E.T.D. Thursday Island noon/25 from Cape Wessel area.

"INVERELL" escorting T.D. 48 arrived Darwin at 2324L/22.

K.12 (N.E.I. Submarine) departed Fremantle at 1300L/22 for Sydney via Melbourne - E.T.A. Melbourne - P.M/31.

3 LIFE BOATS AND OIL SLICK SIGHTED by aircraft at 1020L/23 off Hood Point (50 miles S.E. Port Moresby).

At 1106L/23 N.O.I.C. Port Moresby ordered "MILDURA" to search the area.

At 1700L/23 "CASTLEMAINE" and "WAGGA" departed Milne Bay to assist in search.

"MILNE" departed Milne Bay 0600L/23 E.T.A. Darwin 1800L/22 via Longwood E.T.A. Newcastle 1800L/24.

"MILNE" departed Milne Bay 1400L/23 - E.T.A. Port Moresby 1800L/23.

"MILNE" arrived Darwin 1800L/22 from Milne Bay.

"MILNE" arrived Milne Bay 1040L/21 from Longwood.

"MILNE" departed Thursday Island 1810L/21 escorting "J.S. TOY" E.T.A. Darwin 1400L/22.

"MILNE" departed Cairns 1500L/22 to S.V. with "MILNE" and "MILNE" at Pitcairney Island at 1800L/22 and coast to Milne Bay E.T.A. Coast Guard 0700L/24.

"MILNE" departed Townsville 0600L/22 E.T.A. Sydney 0600L/23.

"MILNE" E.T.D. Cairns 1700L/23 E.T.A. Milne Bay 1000L/24.

"MILNE" departed Cairns 0800L/22 for Fremantle calling at Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, and Albany - E.T.A. Caloundra 1800L/23.

"MILNE" E.T.D. Cairns 1400L/23 E.T.A. Milne Bay 0600L/24.

To 0900L/Thursday, 23rd March, 1944.

"ARUNTA" arrived Langemak 1700L/20 escorting "NORMAN E. MACK" from Manus Island.

"WARREGO" arrived Cape Gloucester 0815L/21 escorting "HENRY J. RAINEY" from Langemak.

"GOULBURN" arrived Goodenough 1500L/20 escorting "T.M. COOLEY" arrived Milne Bay 1030L/21.

"BUNBURY" departed Saidor 1600L/21 escorting "KOONDOOLOO" E.T.A. Langemak 0700L/22.

P.C. 1120 departed Milne Bay 1600L/21 to R.V. with and escort U.S. Submarine "ELUEGILL" to Milne Bay - arrived Milne Bay 1200L/22.

P.C. 1124 departed Milne Bay 1900L/21 to R.V. with and escort "CAPE DOUGLAS" (1279 troops) to Milne Bay.

S.C. 750 arrived Kiriwina 1225L/21 escorting "MANA" from Milne Bay.

S.C. 747 departed Saidor 1600L/20 escorting "W. SHARROW" arrived Langemak 0500L/21.

U.S.S. "MESQUITE" departed Milne Bay 0400L/20 - arrived Cairns 1536L/22.

S.C. 737 } departed Milne Bay 1630L/21 E.T.A. Buna 1400L/22.
YMS. 336 }

YMS. 334 } departed Langemak 1600L/20 escorting G.M. 62 arrived
YMS. 73 } Buna 1400L/22.

"CALAMARES" (U.S. Store Carrier) departed Milne Bay 1440L/22 - E.T.A. Gladstone 000L/23.

YMS. 9, 10, 46, 48, 51 arrived Milne Bay 2000L/21 from Cairns.

YP. 278 departed Woodlark 1800L/20 E.T.A. Milne Bay 1200L/21.

HDML. 1129 arrived Milne Bay 1100L/21 from Buna.

U.S.S. "SAN PABLO" E.T.D. Milne Bay 0600L/22 E.T.A. Buna 1900L/22 thence via Langemak to Seeadler - E.T.A. Seeadler 1200L/24.

P.C. 476 departed Milne Bay 1430L/22 - E.T.A. Port Moresby 1000L/23.

"PING WO" arrived Buna 1200L/21 from Milne Bay.

"LAURABADA" arrived Milne Bay 1045L/21 from Langemak.

"PIRIE" departed Thursday Island 1835L/21 escorting "J.W. TROY" E.T.A. Darwin 1430L/25.

"ROCKHAMPTON" } departed Cairns 1546L/22 to R.V. with "KANIMBLA"
U.S.S. "SAN PEDRO" } and "MANOORA" at Fitzroy Island at 1800L/22 and
escort to Milne Bay E.T.A. Dorasi Shoal 0900L/24.

"FREMANTLE" departed Townsville 0830L/22 E.T.A. Sydney 0800L/23.

U.S.S. "CORONADO" } E.T.D. Cairns 1700L/23 E.T.A. Milne Bay 1000L/25.
P.C. 477 }

YMS. 11 } departed Cairns 0800L/22 for Fremantle calling at Brisbane,
YMS. 72 } Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, and Albany - E.T.A. Caloundra
1600L/25.

"MORESBY" E.T.D. Cairns 1030L/23 E.T.A. Milne Bay 0930L/25.

U.S. Seaplane Tender "TANGIER" E.T.D. Caloundra 1300L/22 for Palm Island E.T.A. 1000L/24.

YP. 233 arrived Brisbane 1600L/22 from Milne Bay.

"GEELONG" departed Sydney 1416L/22 E.T.A. Caloundra 0700L/24.

"PATERSON") departed Newcastle 0030L/22 arrived Sydney 1109L/22.
"SAMUEL BENBOW")

M.L. 823 departed Sydney 1037L/22 for Coffs Harbour via Port Stephens arrived Port Stephens 1725L/22.

M.L. 813 departed Sydney 1037L/22 E.T.A. Jervis Bay 1700L/22.

"YANDRA" departed Sydney 0908L/22 on A/S patrol to Smoky Cape and return.

"BINGERA" arrived Hobart 0531L/22 from Westernport.

"SAVORGNAN DE BRAZZA" (French Sloop) departed Fremantle 1015L/22 E.T.A. Sydney 1100K/30 for onward routeing to Noumea.

"MERBAHOE") Dutch Minesweepers departed Fremantle 1413L/21 for
"KINDJANI") Darwin via Carnarvon and Broome - E.T.A. Carnarvon 23/3,
"SMEFOE") Broome 28/3, Darwin 1/4 for onward routeing to Merauke.

.....

"MILNE" (on A/S Patrol Crafton Passage) to join convoy and escort Port Moresby Section.

"MILNE" (on A/S Patrol Crafton Passage) to join convoy and escort Port Moresby Section.

"MILNE" departed Cairns 0811L/21 to relieve Mildura on A/S Patrol Crafton Passage.

"MILNE" with "MILNE" (U.S. Frigate) to proceed from Cairns to Milne Bay with "MILNE" and "MILNE" at Fitzroy Island on 1800L/22 for orders to Milne Bay.

"MILNE" arrived Townsville 0808L/21 from Thursday Island.

"MILNE" arrived Townsville 1110L/21 from Thursday Island.

"MILNE" arrived Brisbane 1700L/20 from Sydney.

"MILNE" U.S. Stevedore Carrier E.T.D. Caloundra 0011L/22 - E.T.A. Milne Bay 0900L/23.

"MILNE" E.T.D. Caloundra 1700L/22 E.T.A. Milne Bay 0900L/23.

"PATERSON" and "SAMUEL BENBOW" departed Newcastle 0010L/22 for Sydney.

"MILNE" (C.F.S.) arrived Sydney 0800L/23 from Melbourne.

S.S. 722 arrived Milne Bay 1800L/22 from Cape Gloucester.

S.S. 708 arrived Milne Bay 1800L/22 from Cairns.

S.S. 722 arrived Milne Bay 1800L/22 from Langkai.

No 0900L/Wednesday, 22nd March, 1944.

"TANGIER" U.S. Seaplane Tender - E.T.D. Palm Island 1800L/24 - E.T.A. Milne Bay 1000K/28.

"MINK" U.S. Tanker departed Lae 0130L/21 to join B.G.63 for Langemak.

"BENDIGO" escorting "COUCAL" U.S. Submarine Rescue Ship and tow - departed Langemak 0030L/20. E.T.A. Seeadler Harbour 0900L/23.

"WINTER" arrived Cape Gloucester 1615L/18 from Lae.

"ARARAT" escorting "TIMOSHENKO" departed Langemak 1101L/19 - E.T.A. Saidor 1130L/20.

"BUNBURY" escorting "KOONDOOLOO" departed Langemak 1800L/20 - E.T.A. Saidor 1400L/21.

"TRIANGULUM", U.S. Store Carrier arrived Milne Bay 1830L/19 from Buna.

P.C. 1132 arrived Milne Bay 0630L/20 from escorting "J.W. VAN DYKE".

"TOWNSVILLE" escorting T.N. 230 arrived Milne Bay 0630L/21 and departed 1700L/21 - Escorting M.V. 74.

P.C. 1132 arrived Milne Bay 1145L/21 escorting U.S. Submarine "DARTER".

"BUNDABERG" escorting T.N. 230A arrived Port Moresby 0933L/21 and departed 1630L/21, escorting "ORMISTON" E.T.A. Townsville 1830L/23 to Fitzroy Island - E.T.A. "BUNDABERG" at Cairns 0730L/23.

"CASTLEMAINE", "WAGGA", "KAPUNDA" departed Cairns 0601L/21 to join T.N. 231 (Milne Bay Section).

"MILDURA" (on A/S Patrol Grafton Passage) to join convoy and escort Port Moresby Section.

"KALGOORLIE" departed Cairns 0611L/21 to relieve Mildura on A/S Patrol Grafton Passage.

"ROCKHAMPTON" with "SAN PEDRO" (U.S. Frigate) to proceed from Cairns to R.V. with "KANIMBLA" and "MANOORA" at Fitzroy Island at 1800L/22 for escort to Milne Bay.

"FREMANTLE" arrived Townsville 0846L/21 from Thursday Island.

"HEROS" arrived Townsville 1118L/21 from Thursday Island.

"KARANGI" arrived Brisbane 1728L/20 from Sydney.

"MIZAR" U.S. Store Carrier E.T.D. Caloundra 0001L/22 - E.T.A. Milne Bay 0900L/25.

"MERKUR" E.T.D. Caloundra 1700L/22 E.T.A. Milne Bay 0900L/28.

"PATERSON" and "SAMUEL BENBOW" departed Newcastle 0015L/22 for Sydney

"MARTINDALE" (C.P.B.) arrived Sydney 0830L/20 from Melbourne.

S.C. 732 arrived Milne Bay 1830L/19 from Cape Gloucester.

S.C. 703 arrived Milne Bay 1400L/20 from Cairns.

S.C. 748 arrived Milne Bay 1800L/20 from Langemak.

YMSs 335, 49(?) departed Milne Bay 1730L/21 - E.T.A. Goodenough 0630L/22.

YMSs 73 and 334 escorting B.G.62 arrived Milne Bay 1615L/20 and departed later escorting GB.62 E.T.A. Milne Bay 1200L/22.

D/F FIX.

A D/F Fix of an enemy submarine in a position within a hundred miles of 6°02'S. 153°54'E (60 miles W. of B ugainville) at 211634Z was promulgated to ships and authorities N.G. area.

A/S Message - Huon Gulf.

N.O.I.C. New Guinea made an A.F. message at 1846L/21 - Position given was in immediate vicinity of Cape Ward Hunt at 1000L/21.

Basis of the message was not disclosed.

M.L.827 launched.

M.L.827 was launched A.M./21st March at Brisbane.

ST. MATHIAS GROUP OCCUPIED.

SOPAC forces have landed in the St. Mathias Group (North of Kavieng) No opposition has been encountered).

* * * * *

to 0900L/Tuesday, 21st March, 1944.

"WESTRALIA") arrived Langemak 0730L/19 from Gladstone.
 "HENRY T. ALLEN")

"WARRAGO" arrived Langemak 1500L/19 from Milne Bay.

"GASCOYNE" arrived Milne Bay 1800L/19 from Port Moresby.

P.C. 1119 and 1123 escorting G.B.61A. departed Langemak 1700L/19.

P.C. 1120 escorting U.S. Submarine S.42 arrived Milne Bay 1300L/19.

P.C. 1133 escorting "KOORAKA" arrived Langemak 0716L/18 from Cape Gloucester.

"ARARAT" escorting 2 L.S.T. arrived Langemak 0830L/18 from Arawe.

S.C. 750 escorting "MANA" departed Milne Bay 1520L/20 for Kiriwina
 E.T.A. 1101L/21.

S.C. 741 and 746 escorting G.B.61 arrived Milne Bay 0935L/20.

"SUSQUEHANNA" departed Milne Bay 1520L/19 for Buna E.T.A. 0600L/20
 for onward convoy to Langemak.

YMS. 334 and 73 escorting B.G. 62 departed Milne Bay 0900L/19 for Lae
 and Langemak E.T.A. 0900L/20.

YP. 283 departed Milne Bay 1340L/20 for Langemak E.T.A. 1600L/22.

"FALIE" arrived Milne Bay 1400L/19 from Arawe.

"PING WO" departed Milne Bay 1100L/20 for Buna E.T.A. 1200L/21.

"PIRIE" arrived Thursday Island 1005L/20 from Cairns.

"COOLEBAR" departed Darwin 0921L/20 for Thursday Island via Wessel Island
 E.T.A. Thursday Island 1700L/24.

"GYMPIE" arrived Cairns 1746L/20 from Port Moresby.

"KAPUNDA" towing A.P.C.31 arrived Cairns 1106L/20.

"MILDURA" departed Cairns 0830L/20 for outer A/S patrol of Grafton
 Passage.

"WAGGA" arrived Cairns 1646L/20 from outer A/S patrol of Grafton Passage.

"MATAFELE" departed Townsville 1216L/20 for Sydney - E.T.A. 1600L/26.

"FREMANTLE" E.T.A. Townsville 0800L/21 from Thursday Island.

"BROOME") arrived Townsville 0616L/20 from Milne Bay for boiler cleaning.
 "BALLARAT")

"KANIMBLA") E.T.D. Gladstone 1900L/20 E.T.A. Fitzroy Island 1800L/22 -

"MANOORA") E.T.A. Finschhafen 0700L/25, escort and air cover to be
 arranged from Grafton Passage.

"MIZAR" arrived Brisbane 0225L/20 from Melbourne.

U.S. Minesweeper "WHIPPOORWILL" arrived Brisbane 0630L/20 from Melbourne.

S.C. 749 E.T.D. Caloundra 2100L/21 to relieve WHYALLA on Sandy Cape patrol at 0700L/22, on relief "WHYALLA" returning Brisbane.

"PATERSON") departed Sydney 0849L/20 on sweeping operations to
"SAMUEL BENBOW") Newcastle E.T.A. 1600L/20.

"SAMUEL BENBOW" arrived Newcastle 1605L/20.

"PATERSON" arrived Newcastle 1850L/20.

"DOOMBA" departed Sydney 0855L/20 on A/S patrol to Smoky Cape and return.

"WARRNAMBOOL" arrived Sydney 0846L/20 from Smoky Cape patrol.

"BINGERA" E.T.D. Westernport 0900L/20 for Hobart for exercises - E.T.A. 0700L/22.

K.12 E.T.D. Fremantle 1300L/22 for Melbourne and Sydney.

AIR RAID WARNING:

PORT MORESBY - Red .. 2132L/20.

No details are available. VAN DYKE" for 200 miles from Chips Strait.

arrived Milne Bay escorting "ARABELLE LYNE" from E.V.

"HILMA" departed Lat at 1600L/17 for Langsnek and Cape Gloucester - E.T.A. 0300L/19.

arrived Langsnek at 0730L/19 from Milne Bay.

"SANDINE" departed Port Moresby at 0020L/19 for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 1900L/19.

S.S. 330 and 75 E.T.A. Mass 1620L/17 from Langsnek - escorting S.S. 330.

S.S. 331 and 75 arrived Milne Bay at 16/3 escorting S.S. 330 from Langsnek.

S.S. 335 arrived Milne Bay at 1200L/19 from Goodenough.

S.C. 741 and 742 arrived Langsnek at 0200L/18 escorting S.C. 61 - departed Langsnek at 1100L/19 escorting S.C. 61 - E.T.A. Milne Bay 1030L/20.

"MOPIN" departed Port Moresby at 1800L/18 for Cairns - E.T.A. 1400L/21.

S.S. 1121 departed Port Moresby 15/3 escorting "SHEKELATY" and "ORION TRAIL" to Milne Bay - arrived at 1610L/19.

S.S. 1122 arrived Cairns at 1030L/19 from Brisbane.

S.S. 10, 47, 48 and 51 departed Cairns 1840L/18 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 1600L/21.

"LINDA" returning to Cairns today 180.15 (4x 15.30) with major engine defects and will not join convoy as escort. E.T.A. Cairns 1800L/20.

"MAYALIE" arrived Townsville at 1800L/19 from Milne Bay.

"LIMA" E.T.D. Caloundra 1800L/20 for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 1600L/24.

"KORNI" (S.S. Destroyer) departed Caloundra at 1400L/19 for Milne Bay.

S.S. 332, 333, 71 and 72 (for 400) departed Milne Bay at 1200L/19, escorting S.S. 61 - E.T.A. Langsnek 0300L/21.

To 0900L/Monday, 20th March, 1944.

"LOHU" arrived Sydney at 0850L/19 from Adelaide.

"BENIGO" } arrived Langemak at 1330L/18 from Milne Bay.
 "BUNBURY" }
 "STAWELL" }
 "GLENNELG" }
 arrived at 0500L/19 -
 to resume passage at 1200L/19.

"GOULBURN" en route to R.V. with SUSSER reported at 1840L/19
 departed Woodlark Island at 1500L/19 escorting "THOMAS M.
 COOLEY" to Goodenough - E.T.A. 1500L/20.

"ARARAT" departed Arave at 2045L/17 escorting 2 L.C.T.'s to Langemak
 E.T.A. 0835L/18.

P.C. 1133 arrived Cape Gloucester at 0755L/17 escorting "MELINGA" from
 Langemak.

"SHEPPARTON" arrived Cape Gloucester at 2000L/17 from Langemak.

P.C. 1123 arrived Langemak at 0130L/18 from Saidor.

P.C. 1131 arrived Milne Bay at 2300L/18 from Buna.

"CALAMARES" (U.S. Stores Carrier) departed Langemak at 1700L/19 for
 Milne Bay. E.T.A. 1000L/21.

P.C. 1132 departed Milne Bay at 1100L/18 escorting "J.W. VAN DYKE" for
 200 miles from China Strait.

P.C. 1122 arrived Milne Bay at 1501L/18 escorting "ADABELLE LYKES"
 from R.V..

"WINTER" departed Lae at 1600L/17 for Langemak and Cape Gloucester -
 E.T.A. 0300L/19.

S.C. 982 } arrived Langemak at 0730L/19 from Milne Bay.
S.C. 735 }

"GASCOYNE" departed Port Moresby at 0036L/19 for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 1900L/
 19.

Y.S. 335 and 73 E.T.A. Buna 1310L/17 from Langemak - escorting G.B60.

YMS. 334 and 76 arrived Milne Bay at 18/3 escorting GB.60 from Langemak.

YMS. 315 arrived Milne Bay at 1000L/19 from Goodenough.

S.C. 741 and 746 arrived Langemak at 0900L/18 escorting B.G.61 -
 Departed Langemak at 1130L/18 escorting GB.61 - E.T.A. Milne Bay
 1030L/20.

"GYMPIE" departed Port Moresby at 1903L/18 for Cairns - E.T.A. 1400L/21.

P.C. 1121 departed Port Moresby 18/3 escorting "SHIKELLAMY" and
 "OREGON TRAIL" to Milne Bay - arrived at 1610L/19.

YMS. 9 arrived Cairns at 1031L/19 from Brisbane.

YMS. 9, 10, 47, 48 and 51 departed Cairns 1654L/19 for Milne Bay E.T.A.
 1600L/21.

"KAPUNDA" returning to Cairns towing APC.13 (Ex TN.230) with major
 engine defects and will not rejoin convoy as escort. E.T.A.
 Cairns 1200L/20.

"MATAFELE" arrived Townsville at 1836L/19 from Milne Bay.

"KIAMA" E.T.D. Caloundra 1200L/20 for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 1600L/24.

"GRAYSON" (U.S. Destroyer) departed Caloundra at 1430L/19 for Milne Bay.

YMS. 313, 314, 393, 71 and M.L. 428 (for Lae) departed Milne Bay at 1030L/
 9. escorting B.G.63 - E.T.A. Langemak 0900L/21.

"GEELONG" arrived Sydney at 0650L/19 from Adelaide.

"MARTINDALE" (CPB en route to Sydney) arrived Eden at 0500L/19 - to resume passage at 1200L/19.

"MOUNT VERNON" en route to R.V. with SUSSEX reported at 1640L/19 that she would be four hours late. "SUSSEX" was advised new E.T.A. at R.V. 1430L/20.

"WILCANNIA" departed Darwin at 1033L/19 escorting D.T.45 - E.T.A. Thursday Island 0900L/23.

"SAN ANTONIA" (2,600 tons) aground off Cape Nelson - 45 miles S.E. Buna. P.D. Oro Bay has requested N.O.I.C. Milne Bay to send salvage vessel.

P.C. 1119 Arrive Langsnek 1700L/18.

S.C. 741) Dep. Buna 1200L/17 escorting HG 61 E.T.A. Lee 0200L/18

S.C. 742) Langsnek 0800L/18.

S.C. 743) Dep. Milne Bay 1813L/17 E.T.A. Langsnek 0900L/18.

S.C. 744)

S.C. 745) Dep. Langsnek 1200L/18 escorting P.A.2 and P.A.18 to Saifdor. E.T.A. 0800L/17 Dep. Saifdor 1245L/17 E.T.A. Langsnek 0700L/18.

S.C. 746) Arrive Langsnek 0800L/18 escorting HG 59.

S.C. 747) Arrive Milne Bay 1101L/18 escorting GB 58.

H.A. 425)

H.A. 426) arr. Hyams Harbour 2000L/14 with Seerlark from Langsnek.

Y.P. 253 Dep. Milne Bay 0800L/18 E.T.A. Brisbane 21/8.

Y.P. 272 Arr. Woodlark 0405L/17 from Milne Bay.

S.C. 637) Dep. Buna 0400L/17 escorting TRIANGULUM E.T.A. Langsnek

S.C. 643) 1800L/17.

Y.E.S. 534) Dep. Langsnek 1810L/17 escorting GB 60, E.T.A. Lee 2100

Y.E.S. 72) 1/17, Buna 1300L/18, Oro Bay 1800L/18, Milne Bay 1300L/18.

FALIE Arr. Arava 1413L/18 from Cape Gloucester.

LAURANAU Arr. Langsnek 1700L/18 from Arava.

BASCOYNE Arr. Port Moresby 0830L/18 escorting Tarocna from Milne Bay.

P.C. 1121 Dep. Port Moresby 1430L/18 escorting MF 17 (including U.S.S. SHIKELLARY) E.T.A. Milne Bay 1700L/19.

INVERELL Dep. Thursday Is. 1805L/18 escorting T.D.48 E.T.A. Darwin 1730L/23.

FRSANTLE Dep. Thursday Is. 0935L/18 E.T.A. Townsville 0800L/21.

MILNEBA Arr. Cairns 1631L/18 from Milne Bay.

CAPT. MAISEL

U.S.S. ALBASTER (Patrol Yacht) Arr. Cairns 1731L/17 from Bora Bora.

PIPIE Dep. Cairns 1101L/18 E.T.A. Thursday Is. 1400L/20.

DAILY NARRATIVE

TO 0900L/19TH MARCH, 1944.

AUSTRALIA. Arrive Milne Bay 1000L/18 from Cape Moreton.

U.S. Submarine Tender FULTON)
 U.S. Destroyers SMITH) Dep. Milne Bay 1125L/17 E.T.A.
FLUSSER) Pearl Harbour 26/3.

WARREGO Arrive Milne Bay 1500L/17 escorting U.S. Submarine S.47;
 dep. 0930L/18 E.T.A. Langemak 1530L/19.

ARARAT Arrive Arawe 0800L/17 escorting 2 L.C.T.'s from Langemak.

P.C.1119 Arrive Langemak 1700L/15.

S.C.741) Dep. Buna 1200L/17 escorting BG 61 E.T.A. Lae 0200L/18
S.C.746) Langemak 0900L/18.

S.C.982) Dep. Milne Bay 1615L/17 E.T.A. Langemak 0900L/18.
S.C.735) return.

S.C.748. Dep. Langemak 1200L/16 escorting F.A.2 and F.A.16 to
 Saifdor. E.T.A.0800L/17 Dep. Saifdor 1245L/17 E.T.A.
 Langemak 0700L/18.

YMS 335) Arrive Langemak 0800L/16 escorting BG 59.

S.C.737) Arrive Milne Bay 1101L/18 escorting GB 59.

M.L. 425)

H.D.M.L.1325) arr. Hyane Harbour 2000L/14 with Searlark from
 Langemak.

Y.P.233 Dep. Milne Bay 0830L/15 E.T.A. Brisbane 21/3.

Y.P.278 Arr. Woodlark 0405L/17 from Milne Bay.

S.C.637) Dep. Buna 0400L/17 escorting TRIANGULUM E.T.A. Langemak
S.C.648) 1800L/17.

Y.M.S.334) Dep. Langemak 1210L/17 escorting GB 60, E.T.A. Lae 2100
Y.M.S.73) L/17, Buna 1300L/18, Oro Bay 1500L/18, Milne Bay 1300L/19.

FALIE Arr. Arawe 1415L/16 from Cape Gloucester.

LAURABADA Arr. Langemak 1700L/16 from Arawe.

GASCOYNE Arr. Port Moresby 0950L/18 escorting Taroon from Milne
 Bay.

P.C.1121 Dep. Port Moresby 1430L/18 escorting MF 17 (including U.S.S.
 SHIKELLAMY) E.T.A. Milne Bay 1700L/19.

INVERELL Dep. Thursday Is. 1805L/18 escorting T.D.48 E.T.A. Darwin
 1730L/23.

FREHANTLE Dep. Thursday Is. 0955L/18 E.T.A. Townsville 0800L/21.

MILDURA) Arr. Cairns 1631L/18 from Milne Bay.

CASTLEMAINE)

U.S.S. ALABASTER (Patrol Yacht) Arr. Cairns 1731L/17 from Bora Bora.

PIRIE Dep. Cairns 1101L/18 E.T.A. Thursday Is. 1400L/20.

- CAPE LEEUWIN Arr. Cairns 1736L/18 from Milne Bay.
- S.C. 703 Dep. Cairns 0831L/18 E.T.A. Nth. Foreland Milne Bay 1000/20.
- TOWNSVILLE Dep. Cairns 1511L/18 to r.v. with T.N. 230.B. and escort
KAPUNDA to Milne Bay.
- KANIMBLA Arr. Gladstone 0915L/18 from Finschhafen.
- MANOORA (Destroyer Transport) arrived Milne Bay 1200L/17 from
Funa Futi.
- GRAYSON (U.S. Destroyer) E.T.D. Caloundra 1430L/19 E.T.A. Milne Bay
0900L/22.
- KAILUA Arr. Brisbane 0934L/18. GANYMEDE from Newcastle, KAILUA
GANYMEDE from Townsville.
- KIAMA Arr. Brisbane 1133L/18 from Sydney.
- DELORAIN Arr. Sydney 0852L/18 from Smoky Cape A/S patrol.
- WARRNAMLOOL Dep. Sydney 1015L/18 for A/S patrol to Smoky Cape and
return. escort to Milne Bay.
- BIRCHGROVE PARK Dep. Sydney 1403L/18 E.T.A. Townsville 1400L/25 then
to Milne Bay.
- KARANGI Dep. Sydney 1350L/18 E.T.A. Caloundra 2100L/21 thence to
Cairns.
- U.S.S. MOUNT VERNON Dep. Port Phillip 1533L/17 E.T.A. Bombay
1400L/30.
- PIG WING arrived Milne Bay 1100L/16 from Bund.
- P.C. 1180 arrived Milne Bay 1815L/18 from Goodenough.
- CAPE LEEUWIN departed Milne Bay 0730L/18 - E.T.A. Cairns 1500L/18.
- H.L. 802 arrived Milne Bay 1815L/16 from Lae.
- MOCKE) arrived Milne Bay 1100L/17 from escorting "WESTRALIA" and
BALLARAT) "HENRI L. ALLEN" (northbound) and departed China Strait
1430L/17 - E.T.A. Cairns 1200L/18.
- TOWNSVILLE escorting "ALBERT HILL" departed Milne Bay 0800L/14 to
Cairns.
- BENDIGON "BURNBURY", "STAVELAND", and "GLENEG" departed Milne Bay
0700L/17 - E.T.A. Langsack 1700L/18.
- INVERELL escorting B.T. 46 arrived Thursday Island 1822L/17.
- WILCAENIA escorting T.B. 47 arrived Darwin 1825L/17.
- DOVER escorting A.T. 74 arrived Townsville 2020L/18.
- BUNDABERG) escorting T.N. 230 (including A.P.C.'s 13 and 14)
KAPUNDA) departed Townsville 2200L/17. "BUNDABERG" to escort
TOWNSVILLE) Pt. Moresby Section.
- H.M.L. 1322 arrived Brisbane 0835L/17 from Sydney.
- GOLD STAR arrived Sydney 3210L/17 from Brisbane.
- BIRCHGROVE PARK E.T.D. Sydney P.M. 18/3 (carrying 2 P.D. Units,
Naval Armaments, Stores and Mail) for Milne Bay.
- YINORRA departed Port Phillip 0417L/17 arrived Westernport 1915L/17.
- WIGAN departed Port Phillip 1422L/17 for Brisbane - E.T.A. 0400L/20.

- To 0900L/Saturday, 18th March, 1944. Arrived Fremantle 0755L/17 from
- U.S.N.T. "MT VERNON" departed Port Melbourne 0635L/17 for Colombo (delayed 5 hrs. off Mt. Martha, reason not stated. Cleared Heads 1533L/17). ed Buna 1300L/18.
- H.M.S. "SUSSEX" to R.V. "MT. VERNON" 1036L/20 S. of Cape Leeuwin for escort to destination.
- U.S. "HERBERT" (Destroyer Transport) arrived Milne Bay 1200L/17 from Funa Futi.
- "WINTER" departed Buna 0700L/16 for Lae.
- U.S.S. "POLLUX" (Store Carrier) arrived Milne Bay 0950L/17 from Cape Sudest.
- "BENDIGO" escorting "ESSO BAYWAY" arrived Milne Bay 1400L/16 from R.V.
- "GOULBURN" departed Milne Bay 1600L/16 for Woodlark, E.T.A. 0900L/17.
- "WARRECO" departed Milne Bay 2300L/16 to R.V. U.S. Submarine 47 at 0600L/17 and escort to Milne Bay.
- "MILDURA" } escorting M.V. 73 departed Milne Bay 1640L/16.
"CASTLEMAINE" }
- P.C. (?) departed Milne Bay 1830L/16 to R.V. "ADABELLE LYKES" and escort to Milne Bay.
- M.L. 817 arrived Milne Bay 0840L/16 with T.N. 229.
- "PING WO" arrived Milne Bay 1100L/16 from Buna.
- P.C. 1120 arrived Milne Bay 1815L/16 from Goodenough.
- "CAPE LEEUWIN" departed Milne Bay 0730L/16 - E.T.A. Cairns 1500L/18.
- M.L. 802 arrived Milne Bay 1815L/16 from Lae.
- "BROOME") arrived Milne Bay 1100L/17 from escorting "WESTRALIA" and
"BALLARAT") "HENRY T. ALLEN" (northbound) and departed China Strait 1430L/17 - E.T.A. Cairns 1300L/19.
- "TOWNSVILLE" escorting "ALBERT HILL" departed Milne Bay 0800L/14 to Cairns.
- "BENDIGO", "BUNBURY", "STAWELL", and "GLENELG" departed Milne Bay 0700L/17 - E.T.A. Langemak 1700L/18.
- "INVERELL" escorting D.T. 44 arrived Thursday Island 1223L/17.
- "WILCANNIA" escorting T.D. 47 arrived Darwin 1825L/17.
- "BOWEN" escorting N.T. 74 arrived Townsville 2020L/16.
- "BUNDABERG" } escorting T.N. 230 (including A.P.C.'s 13 and 14)
"KAPUNDA" } departed Townsville 2206L/17. "BUNDABERG" to escort
"TOWNSVILLE" } Pt. Moresby Section.
- HM.L. 1322 arrived Brisbane 0833L/17 from Sydney.
- "GOLD STAR" arrived Sydney 0210L/17 from Brisbane.
- "BIRCHGROVE PARK" E.T.D. Sydney P.M. 18/3 (carrying 2 P.D. Units, Naval Armaments, Stores and Mail) for Milne Bay.
- "BINGERA" departed Port Phillip 0417L/17 arrived Westernport 1915L/17.
- "MIZAR" departed Port Phillip 1422L/17 for Brisbane - E.T.A. 0400L/20.

"DUBBO" with M.Ls. 812, 824, 826 arrived Fremantle 0755L/17 from Albany.

YMS. 335) escorting B.G. 59 (including U.S. Store Carrier
S.C. 737) "CALAMARES" departed Buna 1300L/15.

YMS. 334 and YMS. 73 escorting B.G. 60 departed Buna 1000L/17.

L.C.T. 228 departed Brisbane 1847L/16 - E.T.A. Townsville 0800L/19 en route Milne Bay.

S.Cs. 741, 746, 748) escorting B.G. 58 (Section 2) arrived Langemak
YMS. 53) 1530L/15.

S.C. 749 arrived Brisbane 0430L/17 from Sandy Cape Patrol.

YP. 278 departed Milne Bay 1900L/16 - E.T.A. Woodlark 1100L/17.

YMS 10, 47, 48, 51 arrived Cairns 0551L/17 from Brisbane.

ENEMY AIR RAIDS:

S.C. 744	DOBODURA	RED	..	..	..	1112L/17.
YMS. 53 & 518		WHITE	..	..	..	1120L/17.
S.C. 743	NADZAB	RED	..	..	..	1812L/17.
S.C. 745, 741 & 746		GREEN	..	..	..	1845L/17.
	MILNE BAY	(18 Signals Unit)	Yellow			1805L/17.

S.C. 743 & 746 escorting B.G. 58 departed Langemak 1830L/15.
P.C. 1122 arrived Milne Bay 0400L/16 "CAPE HENKLOP" having arrived independently at 1730L/15.

A.P.C. 3 departed Milne Bay 1730L/15 for Cape Sudest.
YMS. 335 and S.C. 737 escorting B.G. 59 departed Buna 1800L/15.

P.C. 1122 escorting "E.J. HENRY" arrived Milne Bay 1200L/15.
"CALAMARES" departed Oro Bay 0600L/15 for Langemak - E.T.A. 1930L/15.

"MATAFELE" departed Milne Bay 2300L/15 for Townsville - E.T.A. 0700L/19.
"MILNORA" } escorting E.S. 223 arrived Milne Bay 0840L/16.
"MUNIBUY" }
"CAPLAMARE" }
S.C. 223 }

P.C. 1131 escorting "JOHN H. HORSBETH" arrived Seider 0800L/16.
"GYMPIE" escorting T.M. 222A arrived Port Horesby 1145L/16.

P.C. 1123 arrived Port Horesby 1048L/16.
"BEMBE" departed Thursday Island 0900L/15 for Townsville - E.T.A. 1300L/20.

L.C.T. 922, "SAN NICHOLES" arrived Cairns 1317L/16 from Townsville.
"KALGOORLIE" } arrived Cairns 0225L/16 from escorting M.V. 72,
"KAPUNDA" }

"SPRIGHTLY" towing B. Barge arrived Cairns 0401L/16 for engine repair to continue passage "CALOUNDRA" Milne Bay

U.S. Tug "CHISTON" departed Cairns towing L.C.T. 922 1701L/16 for Milne Bay.
"TOWNVILLE" arrived Cairns 1418L/16 from Milne Bay.

T. 0900L/Friday, 17th March, 1944. departed Townsville 1900L/15 for Milne Bay.

"FOISE" arrived Milne Bay 1130L/15 from Sydney.

"DRAYTON" escorting "MARCUS DALY" departed Langemak 1800L/14 for Hyane Harbour.

"KANIMELA" } passed North Foreland 1300L/15 on passage Finschhafen/
"MANOORA" } Gladstone.undra 1900L/15 for Townsville - E.T.A.

P.C. 476 and 479 arrived Milne Bay 1400L/15 from escorting "KANIMELA" and "MANOORA". (Mobile Floating Dock) and "YOG"

"STAWELL" arrived Milne Bay 1400L/15 from Cairns.

"FULTON" } E.T.D. Milne Bay 1101L/17 for Pearl Harbour. "TANGIER"
"FLUSSER" } arrived Brisbane 0900L/15 from Espirito Santo.
"SMITH" }

"LEOPARD" (U.S.N. Tanker) arrived Brisbane 1025L/15 from Bora Bora
S.C. 750 } escorting G.B. 57 departed Langemak 1120L/14 -
YMS. 313 & 314 } arrived Milne Bay 0910L/16. ndy Cape Patrol until

S.C. 744 } escorting B.G. 57 arrived Langemak 0700L/14.
YMS. 53 & 316 } departed Newcastle 1345L/15 - E.T.A. Caloundra 0500L/15.

S.C. 744 escorting "COMARA" and "KOONDOOLOO" arrived Saidor 1300L/15.

S.C. 748, 741 & 746 escorting B.G. 58 including "SUSQUEHANNA" Cape departed Buna 1230L/14.

S.C. 741 & 746 escorting B.G. 58 departed Langemak 1630L/15.

P.C. 1132 arrived Milne Bay 0400L/16 "CAPE HENLOPEN" having arrived independently at 1730L/15.

"ORLONG" departed Adelaide 1025L/15 for Sydney - E.T.A. 0800L/19.
A.P.C. 3 departed Milne Bay 1720L/15 for Cape Sudest.

"ADELAIDE" arrived Fremantle 1055L/15 from Albany.
YMS. 335 and S.C. 737 escorting B.G. 59 departed Buna 1300L/15.

P.C. 1122 escorting "E.J. HENRY" arrived Milne Bay 1200L/15.

"CALAMARES" departed Oro Bay 0600L/15 for Langemak - E.T.A. 1930L/15.

"MATAFELE" departed Milne Bay 2000L/15 for Townsville - E.T.A. 0700L/19.

At 0013L/17 N.O.I.C. Fremantle advised that the
"MILDURA" } escorting T.N. 229 arrived Milne Bay 0840L/16. escorted
"BUNBURY" } the following at 1319L/8/2 - "RRR" "BEHAN" 020 22'S,
"CASTLEMAINE" } Shelled by Raider. Nothing further was heard.
S.C. 982 } Given is about 1800 miles N.W. of Fremantle.

"GUTLER" boy overdue Fremantle 5 days was routed some 220 miles
P.C. 1131 escorting "JOHN H. ROSSETER" arrived Saidor 0800L/16. well
of 7300 tons gross departed Melbourne 23/2 for Bombay at 16 knots;

"GYMPIE" escorting T.N. 229A arrived Port Moresby 1145L/16. 9 tons gross
departed Aden on February 15 for Fremantle.

P.C. 1121 arrived Port Moresby 1048L/16.

The vessels reported as possibly passing through
"HEROS" departed Thursday Island 0900L/15 for Townsville - E.T.A. 1200L/20. on the RRR position.

L.C.T. 922, "SAN MICHELE" arrived Cairns 1317L/16 from Townsville.

"KALGOORLIE" } arrived Cairns 0225L/16 from escorting M.V. 72. that
"KAPUNDA" } "AST" was broadside on reef exposed to full force of sea
and swell. On completion of temporary repairs an attempt will be

"SPRIGHTLY" towing 2 barges arrived Cairns 0401L/16 for engine repair
to continue passage "CALOUNDRA"/Milne Bay

U.S. Tug "CHETCO" departed Cairns towing L.C.T. 922 1701L/16 for Milne Bay.

"TOWNSVILLE" arrived Cairns 1418L/16 from Milne Bay.

L.C.T. 919 in tow of "NOHINDIES" departed Townsville 1920L/15 for Milne Bay.

L.C.T. (I) 360 in tow of "LEWIS L. DYCKE" departed Townsville 0820L/16 for Milne Bay.

A.P.C. 14 arrived Townsville 1748L/16 from Brisbane.

L.C.T. (I) 228 E.T.D. Caloundra 1900L/16 for Townsville - E.T.A. 0800L/19 for onward routing Milne Bay.

Tug "SCOTCH CAP" towing AFD.10 (Mobile Floating Dock) and "YOG" (Gasoline brge) departed Noumea 0900L/16 for Gladstone and Cairns.

U.S. Destroyer "GRAYSON" escorting U.S. Seaplane Tender "TANGIER" arrived Brisbane 0901L/16 from Espirito Santo.

"LEOPARD" (U.S.N. Tanker) arrived Brisbane 1025L/15 from Bora Bora

"WHYALLA" departed Brisbane 1623L/16 for Sandy Cape Patrol until 1600L/22/3.

"GANYMEDE" departed Newcastle 1343L/16 - E.T.A. Caloundra 0500L/18.

"KIAMA" departed Sydney 1729L/16 for Brisbane - E.T.A. 1100L/18.

"DELORAINE" departed Sydney 0907L/16 on A/S patrol to Smoky Cape and return.

"YANDRA" arrived Sydney 1000L/16 from Smoky Cape Patrol.

"MIZAR" E.T.D. Melbourne 1200L/17 - E.T.A. Caloundra 0400L/20.

"GEELONG" departed Adelaide 1025L/15 for Sydney - E.T.A. 0900L/19.

"ADELAIDE" } arrived Fremantle 1055L/16 from Albany.

"ORION" }

"PELIAS" }

"CHANTICLEER" }

YP. 288 arrived Exmouth Gulf 14/3 from Fremantle.

RRRR in Indian Ocean March 9.

At 0013L/17 N.O.I.C. Fremantle advised that the Master of M.V. "ROOKLEY" on arrival Fremantle from Colombo reported intercepting the following at 1519L/9/3 - "RRRR 'BEHAR' 020°32'S, 087°10'E. Shelled by Raider". Nothing further was heard. The position given is about 1800 miles N.W. of Fremantle.

"SUTLEJ" now overdue Fremantle 5 days was routed some 220 miles to the south west of the RRRR position. "BEHAR", a cargo vessel of 7840 tons gross departed Melbourne 29/2 for Bombay at 16 knots; maximum speed 17 knots. "SUTLEJ", a cargo vessel of 5189 tons gross departed Aden on February 15 for Fremantle.

The vessels reported as possibly passing through Lombok Strait at 0600L/7 would have had to travel about 1800 miles at 32 knots to reach the RRRR position.

"PRESIDENT GRANT"

At 1331L/15 N.O.I.C. New Guinea reported that "PRESIDENT GRANT" was broadside on reef exposed to full force of sea and swell. On completion of temporary repairs an attempt will be made to haul head to seaward. If this is successful, refloating

can be assured, but vessel's stability is extremely light is questionable, as all cargo has been discharged. The weather which is at present very good, is the controlling factor. Any extension of the damage will probably result in the ship's total loss.

"KANIMBLA" } E.T.D. Pischhafen area 1530L/14 escorted by P.C. 479 and
"A.F." MESSAGE IN HUON GULF. } via Milne Bay and Fitzroy Island
E.T.A. Gladstone 1050L/16.

N.O.I.C. New Guinea made an A.F. message for position
"SHEP" 07°19'S. 147°34'E at 2210L/15. Position is 35 miles S. of
Cape Cretin. E.T.A. Goodenough 1900L/16 - then to Cape Gloucester - E.T.A.
1900L/17.

P.C. 1131 } arrived Arava at 0730L/14 from Langemak escorting 2 L.C.T(L)s
P.C. 747 } departed at 1115L/14 for Langemak.

P.C. 479 arrived Langemak at 1900L/15 from Saidor.

P.C. 741 } arrived Langemak at 0930L/15 escorting E.G. 56 - departed at
MS. 535 } 1130L/15 for Buna with E.G. 56.

P.C. 1125 departed Langemak at 1900L/15 escorting "YOCROW" to Cape
Gloucester. Departed Cape Gloucester at 0900L/16 escorting
3 L.C.T(L)s for Langemak.

P.C. 1125 } arrived Langemak 1630L/15 from Buna.
P.C. 732 }

"PIRG WD" arrived Buna at 1600L/15 from Milne Bay.

"CALAMARES" arrived Buna 0600L/15 from Milne Bay.

MS. 534 } departed Milne Bay 1530L/14 - E.T.A. Buna 1230L/15.
MS. 73 }

P.C. 735 arrived Milne Bay at 1100L/14 from Buna.

"BENDIGO" departed Milne Bay at 0500L/15 to R.V. with "ESSO BAYWAY"
and escort to Milne Bay.

"CAPE LEBWEL" arrived Milne Bay at 2140L/14 from Cape Nelson area.

"WEST POINT" departed Milne Bay at 1230L/14 for San Francisco via Noumea.

"WARREGO" arrived Milne Bay at 1420L/14 from Townsville.

P.C. 737 arrived Kiriwina at 1900L/14 escorting L.C.T. 951 from Milne
Bay - Departed at 0630L/14 for Buna - E.T.A. 1200L/15.

MS. 315 E.T.A. Goodenough 1000L/15 from Kiriwina escorting "VAN OUTHORN"

P.C. 1122 E.T.D. Milne Bay 1700/14 to R.V. with "CAPE HENLOPEN" and
escort to Milne Bay.

P.C. 1121 arrived Fort Moresby at 1215L/14 escorting "OREGON TRAIL" from
Milne Bay. Departed at 1511L/15 for Milne Bay - E.T.A.
1900L/16.

M.L. 422 returned to Fort Moresby at 1042L/14 from escort duties to
China Strait.

"WAGGA" departed Cairns at 0829L/15 to relieve "ROCKHAMPTON" on outer
A/S patrol Grafton Passage.

"BALLARAT" } departed Cairns at 0945L/15 to R.V. with "H.T. ALLEN" and
"BROOME" } "AUSTRALIA" off Fitzroy Island at 1200L/15 and escort to
Milne Bay.

To JOL/Thursday, 16th March, 1944.

- "BENALLA" arrived Seeadler Harbour, Admiralty Islands at 1135L/14 from Hyane Harbour M.L.425 and HDML 1325 arrived at 2010L/14.
- "KANIMBLA") E.T.D. Finschhafen area 1530L/14 escorted by P.C.479 and
 "MANOORA") PC.476 for Gladstone via Milne Bay and Fitzroy Island
 E.T.A. Gladstone 1050L/18.
- "SHEPPARTON" E.T.D. Cape Gloucester area 1900L/15 for Salamaua then Langemak, E.T.A. 0800L/16 - then to Cape Gloucester - E.T.A. 1900L/17.
- P.C. 1131) arrived Arawe at 0730L/14 from Langemak/escorting 2 L.C.T(I)s
 S.C. 747) departed at 1115L/14 for Langemak.
- P.C. 479 arrived Langemak at 1900L/13 from Saidor.
- S.C. 741) arrived Langemak at 0230L/13 escorting B.G.56 - departed at
 YMS.335) 1130L/13 for Buna with GB.56.
- P.C. 1123 departed Langemak at 1800L/12 escorting "YOCHOW" to Cape Gloucester. Departed Cape Gloucester at 0900L/14 escorting 3 L.C.T(I)s for Langemak.
- P.C. 1133.) arrived Langemak 1630L/13 from Buna.
 S.C. 732.)
- "PING WO" arrived Buna at 1800L/12 from Milne Bay.
- "CALAMARES" arrived Buna 0800L/13 from Milne Bay.
- YMS.334) departed Milne Bay 1530L/14 - E.T.A. Buna 1230L/15.
 YMS.73)
 S.C. 735 arrived Milne Bay at 1100L/14 from Buna.
- "BENDIGO" departed Milne Bay at 0500L/15 to R.V. with "ESSO BAYWAY" and escort to Milne Bay.
- "CAPE LEEUWIN" arrived Milne Bay at 2140L/14 from Cape Nelson area.
- "WEST POINT" departed Milne Bay at 1220L/14 for San Francisco via Noumea.
- "WARREGO" arrived Milne Bay at 1430L/14 from Townsville.
- S.C. 737 arrived Kiriwina at 1900L/11 escorting L.C.T.951 from Milne Bay - Departed at 0630L/14 for Buna - E.T.A. 1200L/15.
- YMS.315 E.T.A. Goodenough 1000L/15 from Kiriwina escorting "VAN OUTHOORN"
- P.C. 1132 E.T.D. Milne Bay 1700/14 to R.V. with "CAPE HENLOPEN" and escort to Milne Bay.
- P.C. 1121 arrived Port Moresby at 1312L/14 escorting "OREGON TRAIL" from Milne Bay. Departed at 1511L/15 for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 1000L/16.
- M.L.426 returned to Port Moresby at 1041L/14 from escort duties to China Strait.
- "WAGGA" departed Cairns at 0829L/15 to relieve "ROCKHAMPTON" on outer A/S patrol Grafton Passage.
- "BALLARAT") departed Cairns at 0945L/15 to R.V. with "H.T. ALLEN" and
 "BROOME") "WESTRALIA" off Fitzroy Island at 1200L/15 and escort to Milne Bay.

"KAILUA" (U.S. LOOP REPAIR SHIP) departed Townsville at 0204L/15 for Brisbane - E.T.A. 18/3.

"SAN MICHELE" (C.P.B.) departed Townsville at 1530L/15 escorting L.C.T.(I) 922 to Cairns - "SAN MICHELE" then return to Townsville.

YP.291 arrived Brisbane at 0609L/15 from Cairns.

"GANYMEDE" (U.S.N. Cargo Ship) E.T.D. Newcastle 2100L/16 for Brisbane - E.T.A. 1300L/18.

"LEOPARD" (U.S.N. Tanker) arrived Brisbane 14/3 from Bora Bora.

"OCTANS" arrived Sydney at 0730L/15 from Brisbane. (U.S. Store Carrier).

HDML.1323 arrived Sydney at 1030L/15 from Melbourne - after delay due to weather.

"NARANI" } departed Port Kembla at 0630L/14 sweeping from
"PATERSON" } Port Kembla thence to Sydney - E.T.A. 1400L/14.
"COOLGWAI" }

"KIAMA" departs Sydney P.M./16 for Milne Bay via Brisbane.

"MOUNT VERNON" arrived Melbourne from San Pablo at 1145L/15 - E.T.D. 0630L/17 for Fremantle.

"WHIPPOORWILL" (U.S. Minesweeper) departed Melbourne at 0900L/15 for Brisbane E.T.A. 0900L/20.

"HEROS" departed Thursday Island at 0900L/15 for Townsville - E.T.A. Noon 20th.

"DUBBO" departed Albany at 1416L/15 escorting M.Ls. 824, 812 and 826 E.T.A. Fremantle. 1400L/17.

"COOLEBAR" E.T.D. Darwin 19/3 for Sydney to act as Naval stores carrier between Sydney and Darwin.

AIR RAID WARNING:

HUON GULF AREA (NADZAB) Green .. 0540L/15.
Red .. 2121L/15.
White .. 2147L/15.

"BARCOO" escorting "EURYALE" (U.S. Submarine Tender) arrived Milne Bay 1310L/14 from Brisbane.

P.C. 473 arrived Saibor 0300L/15 from Langsnek.

"CLAYTON" E.T.D. Oro Bay 0300L/15 for Finschhafen E.T.A. 1930L/15.

P.C. 1132 arrived Milne Bay 1100L/14 escorting "ALCOA POLARIS" departed Milne Bay 1700L/14 to rendezvous with "CAPE HERLOPEN" and escort to Milne Bay.

YAS. 335 } departed Langsnek 1130L/15 escorting Convoy G.L.58 (3 ships)
I.S.C. } to Buna - E.T.A. 1101L/14.

"COULDERN" arrived Milne Bay 1100L/15 from Brisbane.

"HARBROO" arrived Milne Bay 1430L/14 from Cairns.

"KAILUA" arrived Townsville 0200L/14 from Thursday Island.

"AUSTRALIA" E.T.D. 3030L/15 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 0930L/18.

A.C. 751 departed Serauke 1730L/14 escorting "GORGON" E.T.A. Thursday Island 1113L/15.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

0900L/Wednesday, 15th March, 1944.

"TASK FORCE 74" is exercising south of China Strait on 14th and 15th March.

S.C. 732 } arrived Langemak 1000L/11 from Saidor. (fleet oiler).
S.C. 748 }

S.C. 746 } departed Langemak 1130L/12 with G.B. 55(4 ships) arrived
S.C. 748 } Milne Bay 1130L/14.

P.C. 1133 } arrived Buna 1030L/12 with Convoy G.B. 54A.
S.C. 732 }

M.L. 425 departed Langemak 0500L/13 towing "SEA LARK" to Hyane Harbour (Admiralty Islands).

P.C. 1131 departed Langemak 1200L/11 escorting F.A. 2 (U.S. Cargo Ship). arrived Saidor 0700L/12, departed Langemak 1700L/13 for Arawe E.T.A. 0700L/14.

"PYRO" (U.S. Ammunition Ship) arrived Buna 0930L/13 from Langemak.

P.C. 1122 departed Milne Bay 0400L/14 to rendezvous with "E.J. HENRY" (Tanker) and escort to Milne Bay.

"SUSQUEHANNA" departed Milne Bay 1446L/13 for Buna E.T.A. 1400L/14. for onward convoy to Lae.

"MINK" (U.S. Liberty Tanker) departed Milne Bay 1650L/13 for Buna, E.T.A. 1500L/14 for onward convoy to Lae.

P.C. 1134 departed Milne Bay 0905L/13 for Cape Gloucester with two merchant vessels.

"LONG BEACH" } (U.S. Frigates) departed Milne Bay 1210L/13 for
"GLENDALE" } Cape Sudest E.T.A. A.M./14/3.

"HAMILTON" } (U.S. Fast Minesweepers) departed Milne Bay 1800L/13 for
"LONG" } Espiritu Santo E.T.A. 0130L/16.

"KALGOORLIE" } arrived Milne Bay 1000L/13 from Cairns escorting
"KAPUNDA" } Convoy T.N. 228. "KALGOORLIE" and "KAPUNDA" departed
P.C. 1120 } Milne Bay 1700L/13 with Convoy M.V. 72 (2 ships) for
YMS. 393 } Townsville E.T.A. 2200L/16.

P.C. 1120 departed Milne Bay 1600L/13 for Woodlark - E.T.A. 0830L/14.

"BARCOO" escorting "EURYALE" (U.S. Submarine Tender) arrived Milne Bay 1310L/14 from Brisbane.

P.C. 479 arrived Saidor 0800L/13 from Langemak.

"CALAMARES" E.T.D. Oro Bay 0600L/15 for Pinschhafen E.T.A. 1830L/15.

P.C. 1132 arrived Milne Bay 1100L/14 escorting "ALCOA POLARIS"
departed Milne Bay 1700L/14 to rendezvous with "CAPE HENLOPEN"
and escort to Milne Bay.

YMS. 335 } departed Langemak 1130L/13 escorting Convoy G.B. 56 (3 ships)
1 S.C. } to Buna - E.T.A. 1101L/14.

"GOULBURN" arrived Milne Bay 1100L/13 from Brisbane.

"WARREGO" arrived Milne Bay 1430L/14 from Cairns.

"KAILUA" arrived Townsville 0200L/14 from Thursday Island.

"AUSTRALIA" E.T.D. 2030L/15 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 0930L/18.

S.C. 731 departed Merauke 1730L/14 escorting "GORGON" E.T.A. Thursday Island 1115L/15.

"NEVEN" E.T.D. Port Moresby 1700L/14 escorting Convoy N.T. 74 (2 ships) for Townsville.

M.L.426 arrived Port Moresby 1041L/14 from Milne Bay.

"HUNBURY" } departed Townsville 1820L/13 escorting Convoy T.N. 229
"GYMPIE" } (5 ships including U.S.S. "SHIKELLAMY" fleet oiler).
M.L.817 }

"MILDURA" } departed Cairns 0641L/14 to rendezvous with Convoy
"CASTLEMAINE" } T.N. 229 off Fitzroy Island at 0800L/14 - "GYMPIE"
S.C. 982 } is to escort the Port Moresby portion, which includes
"SHIKELLAMY" to Port Moresby, and the remaining escorts proceed with the rest of the convoy to Milne Bay

"STAWELL" departed Cairns 1731L/13 for Milne Bay.

"BROOME" } to report to "HENRY T. ALLEN" off Fitzroy Island at
"BALLARAT" } 1200L/15 for escort duty with "HENRY T. ALLEN" and
"WESTRALIA" to Milne Bay.

"OCTANS" departed Brisbane 13/3 for Sydney E.T.A. 14/3.

YMS.9 E.T.D. Caloundra 2200L/14 for Cairns E.T.A. 0600L/18 for onward routing to Milne Bay.

"NARANI" } departed Port Kembla 0635L/14 for sweep, thence
"PATERSON" } Sydney arrived Sydney 1307L/14.
"GOOLGWAI" }

"YANDRA" departed Sydney 0911L/14 for A/S patrol to Smoky Cape and return.

"DELORAINE" arrived Sydney 0953L/14 from Smoky Cape A/S Patrol.

"BINGERA" arrived Port Phillip 2200L/13 from Westernport.

"INVERELL" departed Darwin 0703L/14 with Convoy D.T. 44 (2 ships) for Thursday Island 1600L/17.

"HEROS" arrived Thursday Island 1545L/13 from Darwin.

"ORION" (U.S. Submarine tender) departed Albany 1513L/14 for Fremantle.

"PELIAS" (U.S. Seaplane Tender) departed Albany 1610L/14 for Fremantle.

"CHANTICLEER" (U.S. Submarine Rescue vessel) departed Albany 1615L/14 for Fremantle.

"ADELAIDE" departed Albany 1653L/14 for Fremantle.

"GEELONG" E.T.D. Adelaide A.M.15 th for Sydney.

"WHIPPOORWILL" (U.S. Minesweeper) E.T.D. Melbourne 0900L/15 for Brisbane E.T.A. 0900L/20.

AIR RAID WARNINGS:

"KARANGA" NADZAB Red Warning 1805L/14.

"NARANI" SAIDOR Red Warning 14/3
"PATERSON" Green " 2307L/14.
"GOOLGWAI" }

"GIPPLAND" arrived Sydney 0137L/13 from Port Stephens.

"M.L.1386" arrived Sydney 2000L/13 from Westernport.

"MISHORALE" arrived Sydney 2242L/13 from Milne Bay.

900L/Tuesday, 14th March, 1944.

"KANE" } (U.S. Destroyer Transports) arrived Milne Bay 1300L/12 from
"SCHLEY" } Guadalcanal.

"COWRA" arrived Milne Bay 0100L/12 from Brisbane.

"BENALLA" arrived Hyane Harbour (ADMIRALTY ISLANDS) 0802L/13 from Langemak.

U.S.S. "SUSQUEHANNA" arrived Milne Bay 0828L/12 from Buna.

U.S.S. "MINK" departed Milne Bay 1650L/13 E.T.A. Buna 1500L/14 for on-ward convoy to Lae.

P.C. 1124 arrived Milne Bay 1300L/12 escorting "J.W. Van Dyke" (Tanker)

P.C. 1132 departed Milne Bay 1700L/12 to R.V. with "ALCOA POLARIS" (1249 troop) and escort to Milne Bay.

S.C. 746 } departed Langemak 1130L/12 escorting G.B.55 E.T.A. Lae
S.C. 748 } 1930L/12, Buna 1101L/13 - Oro Bay 1300L/13 - Milne Bay
1900L/13.

YMS.335 } departed Buna 1130L/12 escorting BG.56 E.T.A. Lae 0130L/13 -
S.C. 741 } Langemak 0900L/13.

M.L.425 arrived Langemak 0700L/12 towing "SEALARK".

P.C.1134 } departed Langemak 1000L/12 escorting 2 ships E.T.A. Cape
S.C. 747 } Gloucester 0800L/13.

P.C. 479 arrived Langemak 1345L/11 departed 1800L/12 escorting 1 ship E.T.A. Saidor 0800L/13.

YMS.315 Kiriwina arrived 0745L/12 escorting B.G.55A from Langemak.

"BOWEN" arrived Port Moresby 1008L/13 with T.B. 228A (1 ship).

"WILCANNIA" departed Thursday Island 2046L/12 escorting T.D.47 including "BANGALOW" and "BOMBO" E.T.A. Darwin 1730L/17.

"KAILUA" arrived Cairns anchorage 0647L/13 - E.T.D. 0937L/13 for Townsville E.T.A. 0130L/14.

YMS.11 arrived Cairns 160L/13 from Milne Bay.

YMS.47, 48, 10 and 51 departed Caloundra 2200L/13 for Cairns.

"HENRY T. ALLEN" } departed Gladstone 1300L/13 - E.T.A. Fitzroy Island
"WESTRALIA" } 1400L/15 Milne Bay 1300L/17, Sudest 0600L/18.

"COPAHEE" departed Brisbane 1316L/13 E.T.A. San Diego 0400L/51.

U.S. "OCTANS" E.T.D. Caloundra 1700L/13 - E.T.A. Sydney 0600L/15.

U.S.S. "GANYMEDE" departed Sydney 1400L/13 arrived Newcastle 2007L/13.

"KARANGI" departed Port Stephens 0615L/13 for Sydney arrived 1716L/13.

"NARANI" } departed Sydney 1006L/13 arrived Port Kembla 1520L/13.
"PATERSON" }
"GOOLGWAI" }

"GIPPSLAND" arrived Sydney 0137L/13 from Port Stephens.

HMML.1326 arrived Sydney 2000L/13 from Westernport.

"BISHOPDALE" arrived Sydney 2242L/13 from Milne Bay.

13th March, 1944.
 "BINGERA" E.T.D. Westport 1630L/13 - E.T.A. Port Phillip 2000L/13.
 U.S. Destroyer "FLUSSER" with U.S. Destroyer "GIBBY" to depart Milne Bay about 16/3 for U.S.S. "WHIPPOORWILL" arrived Melbourne 1345L/13 from Fremantle.
 "DUBBO" arrived Albany 1510L/13 from Fremantle.
 U.S. Destroyer "GIBBY" to depart Milne Bay 22/3 for Port C. in C. Pac. for duty

SUBMARINE SIGHTING BY AIRCRAFT.
 An aircraft on passage from Guadalcanal to Port Moresby reported sighting a submarine at 0945L/13 400 miles east of Milne Bay. N.O.I.C. New Guinea issued A.F. message.
 temporary duty with Com, 7th Fleet.

U.S.N.T. "MT. VERNON" (E.T.D. 1600L/15) E.T.D. Fremantle 20/3 E.T.A. Sydney 23/3.
 "AUSTRALIA" arrived Brisbane 1813L/13 for exercises off Cape Moreton.
 "ADELAIDE" arrived Albany 2028L/13 from Fremantle.
 "TANGIER" U.S. Seaplane Tender escorted by U.S. Destroyer "GRAYSON" departed Espiritu Santo 1730L/12 E.T.A. Brisbane 1800L/13.
 "BENALLA" arrived Langsamak 1200L/10 from Buna on route Admiralty Islands.
 U.S. Store Carrier "POLINA" arrived Cape Sedest 0930L/10 from Milne Bay.
 U.S. Store Carrier "YANQUEEN" arrived Buna 1101L/9 from Milne Bay.
 P.C. 1155 } escorting U.S. S4A departed Langsamak 1645L/11 for Buna.
 P.C. 782 }
 "GASCOYNE" arrived Milne Bay 2800L/10 from escort "WEST POINT".
 P.C. 1152 escorting U.S. Store Carrier "BOOTS" arrived Milne Bay 1845L/11 from Cairns.
 P.L. 502 escorting "KATOOMBA" (RN) departed Mac 0601L/11 and arrived Langsamak 0800L/11.
 U.S. Store Carrier "CALDWELL" arrived Milne Bay 1030L/11 from Ft. Moresby and departed 1710L/12 for Buna.
 "WATAFEE" arrived Milne Bay 2230L/11 from Townsville.
 P.L. 426 escorting "STEPHEN G. POSTER" departed Ft. Moresby 1845L/12. E.T.A. Buna 0730L/14 - Escort to China Strait only.
 "BONBO" } E.T.D. Thursday Island with I.D. 47 2000L/12 for Darwin.
 "BYSALOV" }
 "WILCAMBIA" arrived Thursday Island 1114L/11 from Darwin.
 "DELLARAT" arrived Cairns 1931L/12 from Milne Bay.
 "WIKELLY" U.S. Tanker arrived Townsville 0557L/12 from Brisbane.
 "GEMIE" arrived Townsville 2206L/11 from Brisbane.
 "BARROO" departed Townsville 0800L/12 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 1800L/14.
 U.S. Auxiliary Airstaff Carrier "CORSEY" E.T.D. Brisbane 1800L/13 E.T.A. San Diego 0400L/31.
 "AUSTRALIA" with U.S.N.T. "HENRY T. ALLEN" arrived Brisbane 0930L/13 from Cairns 0400L/12.

0900L/Monday, 13th March, 1944.

T.G. 70.6 Comdesron 5 in U.S. Destroyer "FLUSSER" with U.S. Destroyer "FULTON" and "SMITH" to depart Milne Bay about 16/3 for Pearl Harbor. To report to C. in C. Pac. for duty on arrival.

U.S. Destroyers "DRAYTON" and "MAHON" to depart Milne Bay 22/3 for Pearl Harbor. To report C. in C. Pac. for duty

T.G.12.1 (U.S. Destroyer "STEMBEL" (2050 tons) with L.S.Ts. 243, 41, 78, 226, 478, 482) to depart Pearl Harbor 10/3 for Milne Bay. "STEMBEL" for duty with Comsopac; L.S.Ts. for temporary duty with Com, 7th Fleet.

U.S.N.T. "MT. VERNON" (E.T.A. Melbourne 0900L/15) E.T.D. Fremantle 20/3 E.T.A. Bombay 29/3.

"AUSTRALIA" arrived Brisbane 1819L/12 for exercises off Cape Moreton.

"ADELAIDE" arrived Albany 2026L/12 from Fremantle.

"TANGIER" U.S. Seaplane Tender escorted by U.S. Destroyer "GRAYSON" departed Espiritu Santo 1730L/12 E.T.A. Brisbane 1300L/16.

"BENALLA" arrived Langemak 1200L/10 from Buna en route Admiralty Islands.

U.S. Store Carrier "POLLUX" arrived Cape Sudest 0930L/10 from Milne Bay.

U.S. Store Carrier "TRIANGULUM" arrived Buna 1101L/9 from Milne Bay.

P.C. 1133 } escorting G.B. 54A departed Langemak 1645L/11 for Buna.
S.C. 732 }

"GASCOYNE" arrived Milne Bay 2230L/10 from escort "WEST POINT".

P.C. 1132 escorting U.S. Store Carrier "BOOTES" arrived Milne Bay 1345L/11 from Cairns.

M.L. 802 escorting "KATOOMBA" (BN) departed Lae 0001L/11 and arrived Langemak 0800L/11.

U.S. Store Carrier "CALAMARES" arrived Milne Bay 1030L/11 from Pt. Moresby and departed 1710L/12 for Buna.

"MATAFELE" arrived Milne Bay 2230L/11 from Townsville.

M.L. 426 escorting "STEPHEN G. PORTER" departed Pt. Moresby 1645L/12. E.T.A. Buna 0730L/14 - Escort to China Strait only.

"BOMBO" } E.T.D. Thursday Island with T.D. 47 2000L/12 for Darwin.
"BANGALOW" }

"WILCANNIA" arrived Thursday Island 1114L/11 from Darwin.

"BALLARAT" arrived Cairns 1631L/12 from Milne Bay.

"SEKELAMY" U.S. Tanker arrived Townsville 0557L/12 from Brisbane.

"GYMPIE" arrived Townsville 2206L/11 from Brisbane.

"WARREGO" departed Townsville 0800L/12 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 1300L/14.

U.S. Auxiliary Aircraft Carrier "COPAHEE" E.T.D. Brisbane 1300L/13 E.T.A. San Diego 0400L/31.

"WESTRALIA" with U.S.N.T. "HENRY T. ALLEN" arrived Brisbane 0930L/12 from Cairns 0400L/12.

U.S. Store Carrier "OCTANS" arrived Brisbane from Milne Bay E.T.D. for Sydney P.M. 13/3.

"KURUMBA" R.A.F.A. Oiler arrived Brisbane 0420L/12 from Gladstone.

"GUMLEAF" departed Port Stephens 1230L/12 E.T.A. Sydney 2130L/12.

"DELORAINE" departed Sydney 0927L/12 on A/S patrol to Smoky Cape and return.

"YANDRA" returned Sydney 0845L/12 from patrol to Smoky Cape and return.

U.S. Store Carrier "NIZAM" arrived Melbourne 1345L/12 from Brisbane.

"DUBBO" departed Fremantle 1931L/11 E.T.A. Albany 1333L/13.

S.C. 732 } escorting L.C.T. 634 departed Saidor 1100L/10 E.T.A.
S.C. 748 } Langemak 0700L/11.

YMS. 73 } escorting G.B. 53 arrived Milne Bay 1230L/11.

YMS. 334

YMS. 315 } escorting B.G. 55A departed Milne Bay 1340L/11 for Kiriwina.

S.C. 749 E.T.D. Brisbane 1700L/12 for A/S patrol Sandy Cape until 1600L/16.

S.C. 731 escorting "GORGON" E.T.D. Thursday Island 2100L/12 for Merauke.

YMS. 47, 51 and 10 with A.P.C. 14 E.T.D. Caloundra 1600L/13 E.T.A. Cairns 0600L/18. A.P.C. 14 for onward routing Milne Bay.

S.Cs. 735 and 746 escorting B.G. 55 departed Buna 1115L/11.

S.C. 744 } escorting B.G. 57 departed Milne Bay 1020L/12.
YMS. 53 and 316 }
M.L. 424 }

SUBMARINE REPORTED HUON GULF AREA.

N.O.I.C. New Guinea at 0830L/13 made an A.F. message giving an enemy submarines position as 60 miles N.E. of Buna.

.....

DAILY NARRATIVE

To 0900L/Sunday March 12, 1944.

AUSTRALIA

departed Sydney 1059L/11 for Moreton Bay E.T.A. 1900L/12.

BOISE

departed Sydney 1349L/11 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 1100L/15, via CAPE MORETON are for firings.

WEST POINT

arrived Milne Bay 1130L/10 from Noumea.

BENALLA

E.T.D. Cape Gretin 11/3 with convoy for Admiralty Is.

P.C. 1122

escorting SHAWNEE arrived Milne Bay 1300L/10.

B.G. 732

escorting K.D. WIGGIN arrived Milne Bay 0811L/10

B.G. 748

BALLARAT

escorting PYRO arrived Milne Bay 1415L/10 BALLARAT departed 1800L/10 E.T.A. Grafton Passage 1100L/12.

P.C. 1121

escorting PANDA arrived Milne Bay 1330L/11

N.L. 425

arrived Milne Bay 2200L/9 from Lae, E.T.D. Buna 0700L/11 with SEA LARK IN tow for Langemak.

CAPE LESUWIN

departed Milne Bay 0900L/10 for Cape Nelson area.

ROCKHAMPTON

escorting T.N. 227 arrived Port Moresby 1347L/10, departed 0841L/11 for Cairns, E.T.A. 2330L/12.

P.C. 1124

when relieved by GLENELG at President Grant is to proceed to rendezvous J.W. VAN DYKE at 1800L/11 about 180 miles from China Strait and escort to Milne Bay.

P.C. 1242

escorting BAYOU ST. JOHN towing AFD 16 (Mobile floating dry-dock) departed FURAFUTI 1400L/17 P.C. to detach at 159° E for Espiritu Santo, BAYOU ST. JOHN and AFD 16 E.T.A. Milne Bay 18/3.

B.G. 650

arrived Milne Bay 1200L/11 E.T.A. Grafton Passage 1200L/13.

Y.M.S. 11

departed Milne Bay 1200L/11. E.T.A. Grafton Passage 1200L/13.

P.C. 1133

escorting 2 L.C.T. arrived Langemak 0930L/11 from Arave.

PING WO

departed Milne Bay 1800L/11 from Buna E.T.A. 1830L/12.

Y.M.S. 335 &

B.G. 741

escorting B.G. 54 arrived Langemak 1015L/10.

U.S. Destroyer

Transports

SCHLEY & KANE

departed Guadalcanal 2130L/11 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 1330L/12.

FREMANTLE

departed Thursday Island 1615L/10 to assistance of Kittyhawk down via position 254° 150 miles from HORN IS. E.T.A. Thursday Island on return 1700L/11.

U.S. LOOP

REPAIR VESSEL

KALINA

departed Thursday Island 1515L/10 for Cairns E.T.A. 2300L/13 for onward routing to Brisbane.

WILCANNIA

arrived Thursday Island 1114L/11 from Townsville.

BOWEN from Grafton Passage patrol to rendezvous T.N. 228, E.T.A. Port Moresby by 1000L/13 with position A.

KALGOORLIE departed Cairns 0903L/11 to rendezvous T.N. 228, E.T.A. Milne Bay 1100L/13 with position B.
P.C. 1128 &
Y.H.S. 393

KAPUNDA escorting T.N. 228 departed Townsville 2200L/10 E.T.A. Milne Bay 1100L/13 with position B.

YP 291 departed Cairns 0731L/11 for Palm Is. and Brisbane E.T.A. 1400L/15.

ARARAT departed Cairns 1641L/11 to rendezvous KAHIMBLA and HANOORA
TOWNSVILLE and escort to FINSCHHAFFEN.

MILDURA }
BROOME } arrived Cairns 1631L/11 from Milne Bay.
WAGGA }
YMS 72 }

KURUMBA departed Gladstone 0230L/11 for Brisbane E.T.A. 0730L/12.

U.S.S. COPAHUE arrived Brisbane 0829L/11 from San Francisco.
(Escort A/C
Carrier)

U.S. Destroyer E.T.D. Espiritu Santo when ready 12/3 for Brisbane.
GRAYSON

U.S. Seaplane-
Tender TANGIER

LST 462 arrived Brisbane 0125L/11 from Cairns.

APC 14 about 12/3 when ready, is to depart Brisbane for Milne Bay.

WHYALLA arrived Brisbane 0110L/10 from Sandy Cape patrol

SHIKELLAMY departed Brisbane 9/3 for Townsville E.T.A. 11/3.

HEAR departed Brisbane 9/3 for Pt. Melbourne.

ORARA E.T.D. Sydney not later than 18/3 for Milne Bay.

HMNL 1323 departed Western Port 1200L/11 from Sydney E.T.A. 2300L/13.
& 1326

M.L. 812, 824 arrived Albany 1412L/11 from CEDUNA
& 826

ADELAIDE departed Fremantle 2322L/11 for Albany E.T.A. 2000L/12.

SUBMARINE REPORTED OFF CAPE CRETIN

N.O.I.C. NEW GUINEA at 2046L/11 made an A.F. message in a position off Cape Cretin, and passed it to Com. 7th Fleet, and H.M.A. Ships and Authorities concerned. No information has been received as to the basis of the report.

To 0900L/Saturday, 11th March, 1944.

"MILDURA" } arrived Milne Bay at 0900L/9 escorting T.N. 226 and
 "BROOME" } departed at 1650L/9 escorting "WESTTEXAS" also YMS.72
 "WAGGA" } to Cairns.

"ROE" (U.S. Destroyer) arrived Milne Bay at 1030L/10 from Brisbane.

YMS.315 arrived Milne Bay at 2310L/9 for escort duties to Kiriwina.

"POINT LOMA" (U.S. Tug) departed Milne Bay at 1101L/9 towing ARD.12 to Buna. E.T.A. 1000L/10.

P.C. 1121 escorting "OREGON TRAIL" from R.V. arrived Milne Bay at 1300L/9.

P.C. 1121 departed Milne Bay at 1800L/9 to R.V. with "PANDA" and escort to Milne Bay.

YMS.334 } departed Langemak at 1200L/9 escorting G.E.53 - E.T.A. Milne
 YMS.73 } Bay 1101L/11.

S.C. 735 } departed Milne Bay 1500L/9 - E.T.A. Buna 1100L/10.
 S.C. 741 }

P.C. 1122 arrived Milne Bay at 1100L/9 from Buna.

P.C. 1122 departed Milne Bay at 1500L/10 to R.V. with "SHAWNEE" and escort to Milne Bay.

S.C. 732 } departed Langemak at 1800L/9 escorting "K.D. WIGGIN" to
 S.C. 748 } Saidor - E.T.A. 0700L/10.

YMS.335 } departed Buna at 1015L/9 escorting B.G.54 - E.T.A. Langemak
 S.C. 741 } 1000L/10.

S.C. 737 departed Milne Bay at 1000L/10 for Kiriwina and Buna - escorting L.C.T. 951.

S.C. 743 } arrived Langemak at 0815L/9 on escort duties from Milne
 S.C. 981 } Bay.

"CALAMARES" (U.S. Stores Carrier) departed Port Moresby at 1345L/10 for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 1115L/11.

"KURUMBA" arrived Gladstone at 1230L/10 from Milne Bay.

"WESTRALIA" } arrived Cairns at 0900L/10 from Milne Bay.
 "HENRY T. ALLEN" }

"TOWNSVILLE" } will depart Cairns so as to R.V. with "KANIMELA" and
 "ARARAT" } "MANOORA" at Fitzroy Island 1900L/11 and escort to Milne Bay - E.T.A. 0900L/13.

"SAN PEDRO" } U.S. Frigates - arrived Cairns at 1001L/10 from Noumea.
 "CORONADO" }

"PIRIE" arrived Cairns at 1315L/10 from Port Moresby.

YP.291 arrived Cairns at 1257L/10 from Thursday Island - E.T.D. 0700L/11 for Brisbane calling at Palm Island. E.T.A. Caloundra 1400L/15.

"MIZAR" E.T.D. Caloundra 2359L/9 - E.T.A. Port Phillip 0700L/12.

YMS.51, 47 and 48 arrived Brisbane at 1717L/10 from Cairns.

"BARCOO" E.T.A. Brisbane 2200L/10 from Sydney, thence to Milne Bay escorting "EURYALE" (U.S. Submarine tender).

"MERKUR" arrived Brisbane at 0321L/10 from Milne Bay.

"AUSTRALIA" E.T.D. Sydney 1200L/11 for the North. "AUSTRALIA" will calibrate Radar en route and subsequently anchor in North West Channel - Moreton Bay about 1900L/12.

"STUART" arrived Sydney at 0736L/10 from Townsville.

"DELOIRINE" arrived Sydney at 0840L/10 from Smoky Cape patrol.

"YANDRA" departed Sydney at 0907L/10 on Smoky Cape A/S patrol and return.

"BOISE" E.T.D. Sydney 2130L/11 to arrive Moreton Bay afternoon 12th for gunnery practice, thence for Milne Bay.

"BINGERA" departed Devonport at 1700L/9 arrived Flinders Naval Depot 1425L/10.

S.C. 731 arrived Thursday Island at 1850L/10 from Townsville.

"FREMANTLE" escorting "KAILUA" arrived Thursday Island at 0548L/10 from Darwin.

"COOTAMUNDRA" escorting "WILLIAM PROUSE" arrived West Bay (S.W. Darwin) at 1400L/9 from Darwin.

YP.288 departed Fremantle at 1744L/10 for Exmouth Gulf.

"ORION" (U.S. Submarine Tender) arrived Albany at 1152L/10 from Fremantle

"PELIAS" (U.S. Submarine Tender) arrived Albany at 1015L/10 from Fremantle.

"CHANCICLEER (U.S. Sa Rescue Vessel) arrived Albany at 1015L/10 from Fremantle.

FREMANTLE PORT:

Until further notice Fremantle port closed between sunset and sunrise. Merchant vessels are not to approach within 25 miles of Rottnest Light during darkness or periods of poor visibility.

AIR RAID WARNING:

WESTERN AREA - Yellow 1849L/10.
All clear 1910L/10.
White 1915L/10.

To 0900L/Friday, 10th March, 1944.

P.C. 1122 } departed Langemak 1101L/7 with Convoy G.B. 52 (1 ship and
YMS. 53 } 2 L.S.T.) for Buna.
S.C. 650 }

P.C. 479 arrived Langemak 1107L/8 from Arawe.

P.C. 1123 departed Saidor 1800L/8 escorting "R.P. WARNER" and arrived Langemak 0800L/9.

YMS. 334 } departed Buna 1045L/8 for Langemak escorting Convoy B.G. 53
YMS. 73 } (11 ships).
S.C. 743 }
S.C. 981 }

1 S.C. escorting F.15 (small tug) departed Langemak 1800L/8 for Purdy Islands (50 miles S.W. of Admiralty Islands).

S.C. 738 departed Langemak 1430L/8 escorting "LAKE ORMAC" E.T.A. 2100L/10 at Hayne Harbour (eastern end of Admiralty Islands).

M.L. 801 arrived Milne Bay 1800L/8 from Langemak.

"GASCOYNE" departed Milne Bay 1616L/8 escorting "JACKSONVILLE" (American tanker bound Balboa) for 200 miles, thereafter "GASCOYNE" is to rendezvous with U.S.N.T. "WEST POINT" (7,000 troops) and escort to Milne Bay. "WEST POINT" China Strait E.T.A. 1015L/10.

"SHEPPARTON" E.T.A. Cape Gloucester 1200L/10 from survey ground.

"WESTRALIA" } departed Milne Bay 0600L/8 E.T.A. Cairns 0600L/10.
 "HENRY T. ALLEN" }

"CAPE LEEUWIN" arrived Milne Bay 2000L/8 from Cairns.

"GOLD STAR" (U.S. Store Carrier) E.T.D. Milne Bay 0700L/10 - E.T.A. Sydney 0900L/17.

"LATROBE" departed Thursday Island 0601L/9 escorting Convoy T.D. 46. (1 ship) for Darwin - E.T.A. 1630L/13.

"INVERELL" arrived Darwin 1522L/9 from Thursday Island.

"CALAMARES" arrived Port Moresby 8/3 from Sydney.

P.C. 1132 escorting U.S.S. "BOOTES" (U.S. Store Carrier) departed Cairns 1314L/9 for Milne Bay.

"BOWEN" departed Cairns 0815L/9 to relieve "TOWNSVILLE" on outer A/S patrol - Grafton Passage.

"TOWNSVILLE" arrived Cairns 1528L/9 from outer A/S patrol Grafton Passage.

"BUNDABERG" arrived Townsville 0900L/9 from Milne Bay.

"KANIMBLA" } E.T.D. From Gladstone 2000L/9 for Finschhafen E.T.A. 0700L/
 "MANCOORA" } 14.

"SPRIGHTLY" E.T.D. Caloundra 1200L/10 towing one oil barge and one steel barge - E.T.A. Milne Bay 1200L/16.

"BARCOO" departed Sydney 1330L/9 - E.T.A. Caloundra 1900L/10; escorting U.S.S. "EURYALE" (U.S. Submarine tender) E.T.D. Caloundra 1900L/10 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 1500L/13.

L.S.T. 469 E.T.D. Caloundra 1800L/9 for Townsville.

"MIZAR" E.T.D. Brisbane 1059L/10 for Melbourne - E.T.A. 0630L/12 Brisbane.

"GIBPSLAND" arrived "ASSAULT" 1718L/8 from Sydney.

"KARANGI" departed Sydney 2013L/8 and arrived Port Stephens 1045L/10.

"GRISWOLD" (U.S. Destroyer Escort) departed Sydney 1237L/9 with Comcorddiv 8 for Espiritu Santo E.T.A. A.M.13/3.

"KATOCMBA" arrived Sydney 1529L/9 from Townsville.

"YANDRA" arrived Sydney 1635L/9 from Radar exercises.

HMML.1323) departed Port Phillip 0703L/9 arrived Flinders Naval
HMML.1326) Depot 1245L/9.

"GLADSTONE" arrived Adelaide 0740L/9 from Sydney for refit.

"LEOPARD" U.S. Fleet oiler) departed Bora Bora 1300L/1 for
"ALABASTER" U.S. patrol vessel) Brisbane and Cairns respectively
E.T.A. 16/3.

"SUSSEX" arrived Fremantle 1555L/9 from Indian Ocean.

"DUBBO" arrived Fremantle 1500L/9 from Cape Leeuwin area.

RAFT ADRIFT 100 MILES N.E. THURSDAY ISLAND.

As a result timed 2229L/9 of a report from an American Bomber that a raft "containing six bodies" had been sighted in the vicinity of Murray Island (about 100 miles north east of Thursday Island), N.O.I.C. Townsville at 2312L/9 instructed N.O.I.C. Thursday Island to detail one surface craft to search the locality for survivors. N.O.I.C. Townsville also advised N.O.I.C. Thursday Island that heavy gunfire had been reported from this area at 1330L/9. No further information is to hand.

SHIP TORPEDOED IN ADDU ATTOL HARBOUR.

C. in C. E.F. has reported that "British Loyalty" (Tanker of 6993 tons gross) was torpedoed in Addu Attol Harbour on 9th March.

0900L/Thursday, 9th March, 1944.

"HENRY T. ALLEN" } departed Milne Bay E.T.A. Cairns 0900L/10.
"WESTRALIA" }

"GASCOYNE" arrived Milne Bay 2000L/7 from escorting "KLIPFONTEIN" and departed 1500L/8 escorting "JACKSONVILLE" (Tanker) for 200 miles then to R.V. with U.S.S. "WEST POINT" and escort to Milne Bay.

"HILO" } arrived Langemak from Buna 1430L/7.
YMS. 314 }

"YUNWAN" arrived Cape Sudest 7/8 from Milne Bay.

U.S.S. "OCTANS" departed Milne Bay 1740L/7 - E.T.A. Brisbane 0500L/12.

U.S.S. "TRIANGULUM" departed Milne Bay 1330L/7 E.T.A. Buna 1000L/8.

P.C. 479 departed Langemak 1800L/6 for Arawe escorting L.C.T's 259 and 921, departed Arawe 1250L/7 with same L.C.T's E.T.A. Langemak 0500L/8.

P.C. 1121 departed Milne Bay 1830L/7 to R.V. with "OREGON TRAIL" (Tanker) and escort to Milne Bay.

P.C. 1123 arrived Saider 0740L/7 escorting "HENRY BAYNE" from Milne Bay.

P.C. 1131 } arrived Langemak 1800L/6 from Cape Gloucester.
S.C. 732 }

S.C. 750 } arrived Langemak 0745L/7 escorting E.G. 52.
YMS. 313 }
M.L. 816 }

M.L. 816 departed Langemak 0830L/7 E.T.A. Lae 1300L/7.

YMS. 335 } departed Milne Bay 1500L/7 E.T.A. Buna 1200L/8.
S.C. 741 }

YMS. 334 } arrived Langemak 0830L/7 escorting E.G. 51 and arrived Buna
YMS. 71 } 1230L/8 escorting GB. 51.

U.S.S. "COUCAL" E.T.D. Dreger Harbour 0800L/9 E.T.A. Milne Bay 1000L/10.

HDML. 1325 departed Milne Bay 0500L/8 E.T.A. Buna 1400L/9.

P.C. 1122 } departed Langemak 1101L/7 E.T.A. Lae 1900L/7, E.T.A. Cape
1 YMS. } Sudest 1200L/8 - E.T.A. Milne Bay 1000L/9.
S.C. 650 }

"PIRIE" arrived Port Moresby 1001L/8 from Milne Bay and departed 1240L/8 escorting "EOTH" to Fitzroy Island E.T.A. "PIRIE" Cairns 1730L/10.

"COOTAMUNDRA" departed Darwin 0708L/8 escorting "WILLIAM PROUSE" E.T.A. WEST BAY 1200L/9.

"HEROS" departed Darwin 0926L/8 E.T.A. Thursday Island 0900L/12 for onward routeing to Sydney to refit.

"BANGALOW" arrived Thursday Island 1120L/8 from Cairns.

"BOMBEO" arrived Thursday Island 1536L/8 from Cairns.

S.C. 731 departed Cairns 1151L/8 E.T.A. Thursday Island 1700L/10.

"KALGOORLIE" arrived Cairns 1047L/8 from Port Moresby.

"ROCKHAMPTON" departed Cairns 2130L/7 to R.V. with T.N. 227 (2 ships) and escort to Port Moresby.

"WILCANNIA" departed Townsville 0910L/8 E.T.A. Thursday Island 1200L/11 for onward routeing to Darwin.

"MILDURA" } departed Cairns 0711L/7 to R.V. with T.N. 226 and
 "BROOME" } "WAGGA" and escort to Milne Bay - E.T.A. 1100L/9.

"MORESBY" arrived Cairns 0849L/8 from Buna.

U.S.S. "PYRO" departed Townsville 0700L/8.

"BALLARAT" departed Cairns 1741L/8 to R.V. with "PYRO" and escort
 to Milne Bay E.T.A. 1500L/10.

YMS.8. } departed Cairns 1402L/7 for Milne Bay.
 YMS.46 }

"MATAFELE" departed Townsville 1306L/8 - E.T.A. Milne Bay 1900L/11.

U.S.S. "BOOTES" E.T.D. Cairns 2000L/9 E.T.A. Milne Bay 1100L/11.

"KANIMBLA" } arrived Gladstone 1000L/8 from Cairns.
 "MANOORA" }

"TOOMEREE" (A.S.R.) departed Gladstone 0530L/7 E.T.A. Mackey
 1500L/9.

"GYMPIE" E.T.D. Caloundra 1300L/9 E.T.A. Townsville 0900L/12.

U.S.S. "SHIKELLAMY" E.T.D. Caloundra 1200L/9 E.T.A. Townsville
 0800L/12.

"VENDETTA" arrived Sydney 0743L/8 from Townsville.

"DELORAINE" departed Sydney 0914L/8 on A/S patrol to Smoky Cape and
 return.

"KYBRA" arrived Sydney 0758L/8 from training cruise.

"ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" arrived Sydney 0850L/8 from Smoky Cape patrol.

"CIPPSLAND" departed Sydney 0602L/8 - E.T.A. Port Stephens 1600L/8.

"BARCOO" is to be sailed from Sydney to R.V. with U.S.S. "EUPHRAE" off
 Caloundra Head at 1900L/10 and escort to Milne Bay.

"KARANGI" departed Sydney 2012L/8 E.T.A. Port Stephens 0600L/9.

HML.1323 } departed Port Melbourne 1530L/8 anchoring inside Pt.
 HML.1326 } Phillip until A.M. 9/8 to proceed to Flinders thence
 Sydney.

"BINGERA" departed Burnie 0900L/8 arrived Devonport 1600L/8.

"GAMBIA" } departed Fremantle 1700L/7 to R.V. with 2 destroyers in
 "RANEE" } position 2. 30 South 78.30 East at 1600L/15. "RANEE"
 E.T.A. Cochin 2100L/17. "GAMBIA" E.T.A. Colombo 1900L/
 16 (But both vessels now diverted).

"DUBEO" en route Fremantle to Albany ordered by N.O.I.C. Fremantle to
 return - E.T.A. Fremantle 1500L/9.

In view of the report of enemy ships in Lombok Strait C. in C. E.F. has diverted "RANEE" and "GAMBIA" well to the south of their original route. All merchant ships west of Fremantle have been diverted to the southward.

"CAMBRIAN SALVOR" (with "PRESIDENT GRANT").

"CAMBRIAN SALVOR" reported at 1830L/8 returning to Milne Bay with 2 badly injured and one dead man. Capt. Williams is one of the casualties. No further information available.

PROBABLE SUBMARINE CONTACT - FITZROY ISLAND - Reported on 6/3.

N.O.I.C. Cairns reported 7/3 that if search is negative by 0700L/8 vessels would return to normal patrols.

To 2300L/Wednesday, 8th March, 1944.

U.S.N.T. "WEST POINT" (7000 troops) departed Noumea 6/3 E.T.A. Milne Bay 9/3.

U.S.N.T. "ORIZABA" arrived Noumea 1300L/6 from Milne Bay.

HMS. Cruiser "GAMBIA" and HMS. Auxiliary A/C carrier "RANEE" E.T.D. Fremantle 1700L/7 for Cochin.

HMS. "SUSSEX" E.T.A. Fremantle 1615L/9 from Operation "SLEUTH".

P.C. 1122, 1121, YMS.72 escorting G.B. 50 (including "OCTANS" (U.S. Store Carrier) E.T.A. Caloundra 0500L/2) departed Langemak 1630L/6.

P.C. 1123 escorting "HENRY C. PAYNE" departed Milne Bay 1900L/6 - E.T.A. Saidor 0700L/7.

P.C. 1119) departed Milne Bay escorting "COMARA" and L.C.T. (I) 941
S.C. 748) to Langemak.

"WATO" arrived Milne Bay 1200L/6 from Buna.

"BUNDABERG") escorting T.N. 225 arrived Milne Bay 0850L/6.
"PIRIE")

"YUNNAN" departed Milne Bay 1410L/6 E.T.A. Cape Sudest 1700L/7.

"BUNDABERG" escorting M.V. 71 including "BISHOPDALE" for Sydney - departed Milne Bay 1730L/6 - E.T.A. Grafton Passage 2200L/8.

U.S. Frigates "LONG BEACH" and "GLENDALE" arrived Milne Bay 1200L/6 from Cairns.

"PIRIE" departed Milne Bay 0630L/7 - E.T.A. Port Moresby 0600L/8.

S.C. 744 escorting "OZARK" arrived Milne Bay 0955L/7 from Port Moresby.

"KALGOORLIE" escorting "ORMISTON" to Fitzroy Island departed Port Moresby 1229L/6; "KALGOORLIE'S" E.T.A. Cairns 0330L/8.

"BALLARAT" escorting "KURUMBA" arrived Cairns 2327L/6 from Port Moresby and departed to assist in submarine search vicinity Fitzroy Is.

"LATROBE" arrived Thursday Island 0635L/7 from Wyborn Reef (assisting "CITY OF HOUSTON").

"INVERELL" escorting T.D. 45 departed Thursday Island 0410L/4 - E.T.A. Darwin 1600L/8.

"CASTLEMAINE", "MILDURA", "BROOME" and "ROCKHAMPTON" returned to Cairns 0111L/7 from submarine search vicinity Fitzroy Passage. "MILDURA" and "BROOME" later departed to R.V. T.N. 226 off Fitzroy Island at 0900L/7 and escort to Milne Bay. "ROCKHAMPTON" later departed to R.V. T.N. 227 off Fitzroy Island at 0100L/8 and escort to Port Moresby.

"WILCANNIA" arrived Townsville 1956L/6 from Sydney en route Thursday Is.

"STUART" arrived Townsville 0248L/7 from Cairns and departed 1000L/7 - E.T.A. Sydney 0500L/10 for refit.

"WAGGA" departed Townsville 1836L/6 to R.V. T.N. 226 off Fitzroy Island at 0900L/7.

"MATAFELE" arrived Townsville 1840L/7 from Sydney - E.T.D. for Milne Bay 1200L/8 E.T.A. 1900L/11.

U.S.S. "PYRO" (Ammunition Carrier) arrived Townsville 1321L/7 from Brisbane.

"MIZAR" arrived Brisbane 1055L/7 from Milne Bay.

"GOULBURN" arrived Brisbane 0814L/7 from Sydney - E.T.D. for Milne Bay 1500L/8 E.T.A. 0900L/13.

HDML.1322 arrived Sydney 0308L/7 from Melbourne.

"BARCOO" to be sailed from Sydney to arrive Brisbane 1/3 - Then to escort U.S.S. "EURYALE" (S/M Tender) to Milne Bay.

"YANDRA" departed Sydney 0938L/7 on Radar Exercises between Sydney and Newcastle - E.T.A. Sydney 1700L/9.

"BURRABRA" arrived Jervis Bay 0030L/7 from Sydney.

"BINCERA" arrived Burnie 0945L/7 from Westernport.

U.S. M/S "WHIPPOORWILL" arrived Albany 1640L/7 from Fremantle to land sick man and departed 1740L/7 for Melbourne - E.T.A. 1000L/13.

"DUBBO" departed Fremantle 1508L/7 for Albany to escort M.L.812, 824 and 826. to Fremantle - E.T.A. 1000L/9.

YMS.71 departed Milne Bay 0500L/6 - escorting "VAN DER LIJN" - E.T.A. Buna 1800L/7 for onward convoy to Langemak.

YMS 8 } E.T.D. Cairns 1400L/7 for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 1500L/9
YMS 46 } (To be employed on M.S duties in forward area by C.T.F.76)
YMS.72 - arrived Milne Bay 1100L/7 from Langemak.

YMS 334, 73 escorting G.B.51 departed Langemak 1530L/5.

"CITY OF HOUSTON"

Divers succeeded in freeing the hawser from CITY OF HOUSTON's propellers and she proceeded to Milne Bay. "LATROBE" returned to Thursday Island.

SUBMARINE SEARCH VICINITY FITZROY ISLAND.

The search, so far without result, is proceeding with 4 A.M.S's and 3 M.L's.

ARGOSY LEMAL.

At 1031L/6 - N.O.I.C. Port Moresby reported "ARGOSY LEMAL" refloated. She was expected to proceed to Port Moresby later in the day. H.M.A. Tug "WAREE" was standing by.

ENEMY SHIPS REPORTED SOUTHBOUND THROUGH LOMBOK STRAIT.

A submarine reported it possible that two or more large enemy ships passed southbound through Lombok Strait (between Bali and Lombok) at 0600L/7.

.....

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900L/Tuesday, 7th March, 1944.

"SHEPPARTON" departed Langemak 1000L/3 arrived Cape Gloucester 1800L/3.

"MORESBY" departed Buna 1800L/5 for Cairns - E.T.A. 1300L/8.

"FALIE" arrived Cape Gloucester 0900L/5 from Langemak.

S.C. 741 arrived Milne Bay 1700L/5 from Port Moresby.

"GASCOYNE" arrived Milne Bay 1000L/6 from Langemak - E.T.D. Milne Bay 1400L/6, escorting "KLIPFONTEIN" (bound Brisbane) for 200 miles.

P.C. 1123 and 1133, YMS. 72 escorting G.B. 50A departed Langemak 1630L/5, P.C's for Buna - E.T.A. 2030L/6 - YMS. for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 1600L/7.

S.C. 744 escorting "BOTH" arrived Port Moresby 0826L/6 - S.C. 744 departed 0827L/6 to overtake "OZARK" which departed Milne Bay 0815L/6 and escorted to Milne Bay - E.T.A. 1515L/7.

YMS. 71 departed Milne Bay 1845L/4 for Woodlark - E.T.A. 1500L/5.

YMS. 334 and 73 escorting B.C. 51 departed Buna 1145L/5.

"KALGOORLIE" arrived Port Moresby 0922L/6 from escorting T.N. 225.

"BUNGARIE" arrived at surveying ground in Torres Strait 1059L/5 from Thursday Island.

"FREMANTLE" } departed Darwin 0843L/6 escorting M.V. "MILDURA"
"KAILUA" (U.S. } to Cape Wessel, "MILDURA" to Melville Bay -
Loop Repair Vessel) } "FREMANTLE" and "KAILUA" to Thursday Island -
E.T.A. 0800L/10.

"LATROBE" departed Thursday Island 0943L/6 for Wyborn Reef to assist "CITY OF HOUSTON".

"STUART" departed Cairns 1501L/6 for Townsville, thence Sydney.

U.S. Frigates "CORONADO" and "SAN PEDRO" departed Noumea 1500L/5 for Cairns via Gladstone.

YMS. 47, 48 and 51 departed Cairns 0700L/6 for Brisbane - E.T.A. 0800L/9.

LST. 462 E.T.D. Trinity Beach, Cairns 2100L/6 for Brisbane.

"CAPE LEEUWIN" departed Cairns 1403L/6 for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 2359L/8.

"EUNBURY" arrived Townsville 0200L/6 from Brisbane.

"WAGGA" escorting T.N. 226 including 2 L.C.I's E.T.D. Townsville 1800L/6 for Milne Bay.

E.T.A. 1100L/9.

"MILDURA" } with A.P.C. 2 to R.V. T.N. 226 off Fitzroy Island at 0900L/7.
"BROOME" }

"ROCKHAMPTON" to R.V. T.N. 227 (1 ship) off Fitzroy Island 0100L/8 and escort to Port Moresby E.T.A. 1300L/10.

"WARREGO" on completion of boiler cleaning at Townsville is to be sailed Milne Bay to be operated and administered by NOIC. New Guinea on arrival.

U.S. Destroyer "ROE" E.T.D. Caloundra 1200L/7 for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 1600L/9.

U.S. Submarine Tender "EURYALE" - E.T.D. Brisbane 12/3 for Milne Bay.

"COWRA" E.T.D. Caloundra 1500L/7 for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 1400L/11.

L.S.T. 469 towing L.C.T(1) 943 E.T.D. Caloundra 1300L/7 for Townsville
E.T.A. 0800L/11 for onward routing to Milne Bay.

"ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" departed Sydney 0906L/6 on A/S patrol to Smoky
Cape and return.

"COLAC" returned Sydney 0853L/6 from Smoky Cape patrol.

"NARANI") departed Sydney 0718L/6 for Port Kembla - E.T.A. 1500L/6 -
"PATERSON") but returned Sydney 1110L/6 as weather unsuitable for
operations.

"KYBRA" departed Twofold Bay 2200L/5 for Jervis Bay - E.T.A. 1600L/6.

HM.L. 1322 E.T.A. Sydney 1300L/7 from Melbourne.

"BURRABRA" departed Sydney 1505L/6 for Jervis Bay - E.T.A. 0100L/7.

"BINGERA" departed Westernport 1600L/6 for Burnie - E.T.A. 7/3 -
Devonport E.T.A. 8/3.

"GEELONG" on completion of refit in Adelaide due 9/3/44 is to be
sailed to Brisbane.

M.L. 824, 812 and 826 departed Ceduna 1915L/6 for Albany - E.T.A. 1545L/11

U.S. Minesweeper "WHIPPOORWILL" departed Fremantle 2200L/5 for Brisbane
via Melbourne, E.T.A. 1000L/13.

HMS. "RANEE" arrived Fremantle 1456L/6 from Wellington.

"SUSSEX" E.T.A. Fremantle 1615L/9 from Indian Ocean.

"OMAHA" REFLOATED - E.T.A. Fremantle 1615L/9 from Indian Ocean

"OMAHA" was refloated 6/3 and is being towed
to Cairns by "ST. GILES" - E.T.A. 0800L/7.

"PRESIDENT GRANT" =

P.C. 1124 has relieved P.C. 476 standing by
"PRESIDENT GRANT" - Captain Williams hoped to lay beach gear by 7/3 and
discharge cargo other than frozen, and to prepare for attempt to
tow by 9/3 - This programme is dependent upon an improvement in the
weather.

FITZROY ISLAND PROBABLE SUBMARINE CONTACT.

Search by 7 AMS vessels, 3 M.L.'s and aircraft
has been negative but is continuing.

.....

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900L/Monday, 6th March, 1944.

"MANOORA" } en route Cairns to Milne Bay with U.S. Frigates LONGBEACH
"KANIMELA" } and GLENDALE were ordered by Com. 7th Fleet at 1323L/5 to
reverse course and proceed to Gladstone to embark troops
for New Guinea.

"GASCOYNE" escorting U.S. Submarine "SCAMP" arrived Langemak at 0900L/4 from
Milne Bay.

P.C. 1119, S.C. 748 departed Langemak at 1730L/3 escorting "WATCHER" and
L.C.T. (1) 941 to Saidor - Arrived at 1200L/4.

P.C. 1131 and S.C. 732 departed Langemak at 2330L/4 escorting "FALIE" -
L.S.T. 170 and L.S.T. 467 to Cape Gloucester - E.T.A.
0700L/5.

"LAURABADA" arrived Arawe at 0830L/3 from Langemak.

P.C. 479 and P.C. 1134 arrived Milne Bay at 1110L/4 escorting G.B. 48

YMS. 334 and YMS. 373 arrived Milne Bay at 1000L/5 escorting G.B. 49.

S.C. 750 } departed Milne Bay at 0700L/5 escorting B.G. 52 for Buna and
YMS. 313 } Langemak.
YMS. 314 }
H.L. 816 }

S.C. 732 and S.C. 748 arrived Langemak at 0800L/2 from Milne Bay.

"MERKUR" departed Milne Bay at 1400L/4 for Brisbane - E.T.A. 0200L/10.

P.C. 1121 arrived Milne Bay at 1500L/4 escorting U.S. Submarines
"FLOUNDER" and "BLACKFISH" from R.V.

P.C. 1122 } arrived Langemak at 0030L/4 from Arawe.
S.C. 747 }

M.L. 802 departed Milne Bay at 1500L/5 for Buna and Lae - E.T.A. 1800L/6.

S.C. 737 } departed Langemak at 1300L/4 escorting G.B. 50 - E.T.A. Milne
S.C. 746 } Bay 1200L/6.

"GLEWELG" relieved "BENDIGO" on China Strait patrol 6/5 - "BENDIGO"
to return Milne Bay.

Y.P. 291 arrived Thursday Island at 0740L/5 from Cairns.

"STUART" E.T.D. Cairns 1500L/6 for Townsville - E.T.A. 0300L/7 - thence
onward routing to Sydney - E.T.A. P.M/10.

YMS. 51, 47 and 48 will depart Cairns at 0700L/6 for Brisbane - E.T.A.
0800L/9.

"BOOTES" (U.S. Cargo ship) arrived Cairns at 1915L/5 from Brisbane.

"BANGALOW" departed Cairns at 0646L/5 for Thursday Island.

"CASTLEMAINE" arrived Cairns at 2131L/5 for Milne Bay to boiler clean.

"LATROBE" escorting "BUNGAREE" arrived Thursday Island at 0910L/5 from
Cairns.

"VENDETTA" departed Townsville at 0730L/5 for Sydney - E.T.A. 0700L/9.

"WARREGO" arrived Townsville at 1020L/5 from Thursday Island to boiler
clean.

"PIRIE" en route Townsville to Milne Bay with T.N. 225 - will detach at
Baumer Island and proceed to Port Moresby to escort "BOTH"
to mainland.

"KATOOMBA" departed Townsville at 0816L/5 for Sydney - E.T.A. 2200L/9.

"KALGOORLIE" detached from T.N. 225 at 1315L/5 and proceeding to Port Moresby - E.T.A. 0800L/6 - then to escort "ORMISTON" to Townsville.

"TOWNSVILLE" departed Townsville at 2040L/4 for A/S patrol Grafton Passage.

"BOMBO" departed Cairns at 1900L/5 for Thursday Island.

S.C. 749 arrived Brisbane at 1555L/5 from Sandy Cape A/S patrol.

"MIZAR" (U.S. Stores Ship) E.T.A. Brisbane 1600L/7 from Grafton Passage and Milne Bay.

"ROE" (U.S. Destroyer) with "EURYALE" (U.S. Sub Tender) arrived Brisbane at 1041L/5 from Bora Bora.

"PYRO" (Ammunition carrier) departed Brisbane at 0855L/5 for Townsville - E.T.A. 1800L/7.

"MESQUITE" (U.S. Coastguard cutter) E.T.D. Caloundra 2000L/6 for Townsville - E.T.A. 1600L/9 for onward routing to Milne Bay.

"GLADSTONE" departed Sydney at 0944L/5 for Adelaide - E.T.A. 0700L/9.

"GOULEBURN" departed Sydney at 0944L/5 for Adelaide - E.T.A. 0700L/9.

"GOULEBURN" departed Sydney at 1422L/5 for Brisbane - E.T.A. 0630L/7 thence to Milne Bay.

L.C.I's 222, 62, 328, 334 and 336 departed Sydney at 1124L/5 for Noumea - E.T.A. 0700L/9.

"GANYMEDE" (U.S.N. Cargo ship) arrived Sydney at 0102L/5 from Melbourne.

M.Ls. 824, 812 and 826 arrived Ceduna at 1630L/5 from Adelaide.

"CITY OF HOUSTON" (2600 gross tons) - en route Townsville to Milne Bay towing two barges via Great North Eastern Channel) reported -

at 0920L/5 that light hawser had fouled propeller - ship anchored off Wyborn Reef and requires assistance of diver.

at 2113L/5 - N.O.I.C. Thursday Island advised despatching "LATROBE" with divers and equipment - E.T.A. 1030L/6.

PROBABLE SUBMARINE CONTACT REPORTED:

M.L.805 on inner A/S Grafton Passage patrol reports attacking very probable submarine 7 miles N.W. Fitzroy Island at 0304L/6. Contact then lost.

"CASTLEMAINE", "BOWEN", "MILDURA", M.L.811 and M.L.804 ordered by N.O.I.C. Cairns at 0401L/6 to proceed with despatch to assist in search.

Information passed to A.I.G's 364 and 365.

FURTHER TO "PRESIDENT GRANT".

At 1832L/5 Captain Williams reported that prospect of salvage not good and if weather continues vessel may be total loss. A request has been made to N.O.I.C. New Guinea for 4 L.C.T(1) and cargo vessel of 1000 tons for 2 weeks to salvage stores. The L.S.T. now standing by cannot be berthed with safety as "PRESIDENT GRANT" has driven further on reef.

To 0900L/Sunday, 5th March, 1944.

- INVERELL Departed Thursday Is. 0410L/4 with Convoy T.D. 45 (3 ships) for Darwin E.T.A. 1600L/8
- VARREGO Departed Thursday Is. 2400L/2 escorting DUNTROON for Townsville.
- GASCOYNE Departed Milne Bay 1200L/3 escorting USS SCAMP (Submarine) ETA Langemak 0700L/5
- YMS 334
YMS 73 Departed Langemak 1115L/3 for Buna and Milne Bay ETA 1000L/5
- PC 479
PC 1134 Departed Langemak 1200L/2 with Convoy CB 48 (3 ships) for Buna; PC 479 arrived Milne Bay with Convoy CB 48
PC 1134 remaining at Buna.
- GOLD STAR
(U.S. STORE SHIP) Departed Buna 1800L/3 arrived Milne Bay 1615L/4.
- WATO Arrived Buna 0900L/3 from Milne Bay.
- SC 737
SC 746 Departed Buna 1115L/3 escorting Convoy BG 50 (3 M.V.'s and OCTANS (U.S. store ship), to Lae and Langemak.
- DOBBIN
(US DESTROYER TENDER) Departed Milne Bay 1530L/4; ETA Buna 1200L/5
- GILMER
(U.S. DESTROYER) Arrived Milne Bay 1115L/3 from Sydney.
- MIZAR (U.S. STORE SHIP) Arrived Milne Bay 1800L/3 from Buna; departed 1150L/4 for Brisbane ETA 1600L/7.
- P.C. 1121 Departed Milne Bay 1700L/4 to rendezvous with BLACKFISH and FLOUNDER (both U.S. submarines) and escort to Milne Bay.
- M.L. 431 Arrived Milne Bay 1000L/3 from Lae.
- M.L. 427 Arrived Milne Bay 1200L/4 from Buna.
- PING WO Arrived Milne Bay 1800L/3 from Buna.
- BROOME Departed Milne Bay 1210L/4 escorting EMPIRE SILVER to Townsville. ETA 2400L/6.
- GLENELG Is to relieve BENDIGO on 5th March - standing by PRESIDENT GRANT.
- SUSQUEHANNA (U.S. NAVAL TANKER) Departed Milne Bay 2350L/3 for Buna.
- ML 816 To depart Milne Bay 0900L/5 to relieve ML 425 now at Langemak. ML 425 is then to report to H.M.A.S. MORESBY for hydrographic duties.
- BALLARAT Departed Port Moresby 1915L/4 escorting KURUMBA to Cairns ETA 0815L/6.
- S.C. 731 Departed Townsville 1704L/3 and arrived Cairns 0851L/4.
- BOMBO ETD 1100L/5 for Thursday Island ETA 1600L/8.
- CAPE LEEUWIN ETD from Cairns 1000L/6 for Milne Bay ETA 2000L/8.
- KATOOMBA Arrived Cairns 0516L/4 from Grafton Passage Patrol. ETD 0800L/5 for Townsville and Sydney ETA 2200L/9 for annual refit.
- BOWEN Arrived Cairns 1947L/4 from Thursday Island.
- KANIMBLA
MANOORA Escorted by LONG BEACH and GLENDALE (both U.S. Frigates) departed Cairns 1816L/4 for Milne Bay ETA 0830L/6.

BANG'LOW ETD Cairns 0630L/5 for Thursday Is. ETA 1400L/8 for onward routing to Darwin.

PIRIE) Departed Townsville 0110L/4 escorting Convoy TN 225 (4 ships) to Milne Bay.

HUNDABERG) Departed Cairns 1147L/4 to rendezvous off Fitzroy Island with Convoy TN 225 (4 ships) and escort to Milne Bay.

KALCOORLIE) Carrying out Grafton Passage A/S Patrol, is to rendezvous with Convoy TN 225 1400L/4 and escort to Milne Bay.

TOWNSVILLE To depart Townsville 1900L/4 to assume A/S patrol Grafton Passage. at 1000L/5.

HONBURY Which is on passage Brisbane to Milne Bay is proceeding to Townsville ETA 0900L/6 to obtain fresh water and remedy distiller defect.

WHYALLA ETD Caloundra 2100L/4 to relieve SC 749 on Sandy Cape A/S patrol.

COLAC Departed Sydney 0910L/4 for A/S patrol to Smoky Cape and return.

ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN Arrived Sydney 0858L/4 from Smoky Cape A/S patrol.

ML 813 Arrived Sydney 1248L/4 from Coff's Harbour.

H.D.M.L. 1322 Departed Port Phillip 0800L/4 E.T.A. Sydney. 2100L/6.

M.L. 824) Departed Adelaide 0632L/4 for Ceduna E.T.A. 2000L/5,
M.L. 813) en route for Fremantle.
M.L. 826)

PORCUPINE (U.S. UNCLASSIFIED AUXILIARY) Departed Balboa 0800L/25/2 for Milne Bay via Noumea; E.T.A. Noumea 17/3.

SMALL CRAFT AGROUND

ARGOSY LEMAL (U.S. ARMY SMALL CRAFT OF 250 TONS GROSS) grounded in position 12 miles north west of Port Moresby on night of 3rd March. BALLARAT, which was at Port Moresby was instructed to render assistance. H.M.A. tug WAREE has been despatched from Port Moresby to arrive at daylight 5th March. Aircraft was sent to search the area.

SUBMARINE WARNING

N.O.I.C. New Guinea issued an A.F. message in respect of a submarine in Huon Gulf, 20 miles north east of Salamua, at 1915L/4.

AIR RAID WARNINGS

Goodenough	Yellow Warning	2052L/4
	White	" 2152L/4

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE

T 3900L/4th March, 1944, Saturday.

"VENDETTA" departed Milne Bay 1600L/2 escorting "CAPE PERPETUA" E.T.A. Grafton Passage 0100L/4. "VENDETTA" then to proceed to Sydney for condenser repairs.

"WESTRALIA" arrived Milne Bay. 1130L/2 from Sydney.

"CASTLEMAINE" } arrived Milne Bay escorting T.N. 224 (less "DONTEKOE").
S.C. 744 }

"CASTLEMAINE" departed Milne Bay 0525L/3 escorting "WICHITA FALLS" E.T.A. Grafton Passage 1000L/5.

"BROOME" arrived Milne Bay 0900L/3 escorting "DONTEKOE" (ex T.N. 224). E.T.D. 1000L/4 escorting "EMPIRE SILVER" to Townsville.

"GLENELG" departed Milne Bay 1700L/3 to R.V. with U.S. Submarine "FLOUNDER" (now delayed) and escort to Milne Bay.

"WIZAR" departed Buna 0700L/3 E.T.A. Milne Bay 1800L/3.

"SUSQUEHANNA" departed Milne Bay 0735L/3 E.T.A. Buna 2030L/3.

"OCTANS" arrived Buna 0700L/3.

"HILO" departed Milne Bay 1500L/2 E.T.A. Buna 1500L/5 (anchoring at night).

P.C. 479 } departed Langemak 1200L/2 escorting G.B. 48 E.T.A. Buna
P.C. 1134 } 0900L/3.

YMS. 334 } departed Buna 1115L/3 escorting B.G. 49 E.T.A. Lae 0330L/3.
YMS. 73 } E.T.A. Langemak 0700L/3.

YMS. 313 } arrived Milne Bay 1030L/3 from Buna.
YMS. 315 }

"WARRAGO" departed Thursday Island anchorage escorting "DUNTRON" en route from Darwin E.T.A. Townsville 1500L/5.

"KANIMBLA" } E.T.D. Cairns 1800L/4 escorted by U.S. Frigates "LONGREACH"
"MANOORA" } and "GLENDALE" E.T.A. Milne Bay 0830L/6.

"LATROBE" arrived Townsville 1510L/1 from Sydney.

"BUNGAREE" } departed Townsville 1800L/2 - "BUNGAREE" from Normanby Island
"LATROBE" } "LATROBE" for Thursday Island - E.T.A. 0930L/5 thence Darwin

"PIRIE" arrived Townsville 0936L/3 from Milne Bay.

"PIRIE" E.T.D. Townsville 2359L/3 escorting T.N. 225
and

"BUNDABERG" } to R.V. off Fitzroy Island at 1400L/4 and escort to
"KALGOORLIE" } Milne Bay E.T.A. 1100L/6.

"KALGOORLIE" departed Cairns 1403L/3 to relieve "KATOOMBA" on outer A/S patrol Grafton Passage.

S.C. 731 departed Townsville 1704L/3 E.T.A. Cairns 0900L/4 thence to Thursday Island.

"BANGALOW" arrived Cairns anchorage 1412L/3 from Townsville.

S.C. 745 arrived Brisbane 0245L/3 from Sandy Cape patrol.

"PYRO" E.T.D. Caloundra 1400L/4 E.T.A. Townsville 0700L/7 to await escort to Milne Bay.

"ADSTONE" - E.T.D. Sydney A.M. 5/3 for Adelaide to refit.

M.L. 810 arrived Jervis Bay 1700L/3 E.T.A. Sydney 1400L/4.

H.D.M.L. 1322 departed Port Melbourne 1710L/3 for Sydney.

U.S.S. "CHILD" arrived Fremantle 1500L/3 from Exmouth Gulf.

"YUMA" (U.S. Tug) } arrived Fremantle 1635L/3 from Melbourne.
ARD. 10 }

Y.P. 286 departed Exmouth Gulf 2/3 E.T.A. Fremantle A.M. 6/3.

"OMAHA" AGROUND EGRET REEF.

"HOWEN" reported at 0915L/3 "OMAHA" pounding heavily 8 feet water in aft hold. Will probably sink if towed off. One barge on reef. Tug "ST. GILES" proceeded from Cairns 2114L/2 with Captain Gaby.

POSSIBLE SUBMARINE SIGHTING BY AIRCRAFT:

Bomber pilot whilst a passenger in an aircraft reports sighting a submarine in position 257 degrees 32 miles from Port Moresby course 250 at 0945L/3. Report unconfirmed. N.O.I.C. New Guinea issued A/S warning at 1430L/3 - "BALLARAT" S.C. 741 and M.L. 426 are investigating until daylight 4/3.

N.O.I.C. NEWGUINEA intends to sail in M.L. 430 at 1400L/4 to visit Port Directorates at Oro Bay, Buna, Lae, Langemak, Saidor, Cape Gloucester and Arawe.

AIR RAID WARNING.

HORN ISLAND - Red 0150L/4.
White 0312L/4.

.....

"BALLARAT" arrived Port Moresby 1115L/2 escorting E.S. 283 including "MORNING" and departed escorting "MORNING" 1510L/3 - "MORNING" E.T.A. Melbourne 0100L/3 "BALLARAT" E.T.A. Cairns 1200L/4.

"MORNING" escorting "WILLIAM STUBBS" arrived Darwin 2040L/1 from Thursday Island.

"MORNING" arrived Townsville 0800L/3 from Brisbane and departed 2730L/3 E.T.A. Cairns 1900L/3.

"MORNING" arrived Cairns 0400L/3 from Thursday Island.

"MORNING" arrived Cairns 0811L/3 from Milne Bay.

"MORNING" arrived Townsville 1200L/3 from Milne Bay for boiler cleaning.

"MORNING" (U.S. Store Carrier) E.T.D. Cairns 1900L/3 E.T.A. Cairns 1010L/3. For onward routing to Milne Bay.

"MORNING" (U.S. Store Carrier) departed Sydney 1900L/3 E.T.A. Pt. Moresby 0300L/3.

"MORNING" arrived Sydney 0800L/3 from A/S patrol Sassy Gaps.

"MORNING" departed Sydney 0900L/3 on A/S patrol.

"MORNING" departed Sydney 1700L/3 for Thursday Island via Townsville E.T.A. 1800L/3.

"MORNING" arrived Sydney 1800L/3 from Radar exercises.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900L/Friday, 3rd March, 1944.

U.S. Destroyer "LAMSON" and "CONYNGHAM" departed Milne Bay 1130L/28.
E.T.A. Lunga Pt. (Guadalcanal) 0900L/30.

U.S.S. "ALABASTER" (Tanker) departed Bora Bora 1055L/1 - E.T.A. Bustard
Head 16/3.

U.S.S. "LEOPARD" (Tanker) departed Bora Bora 1055L/1 - E.T.A. Brisbane
16/3.

"NIZAM" arrived Buna 1845L/29 from Milne Bay.

"PING WO" arrived Buna 1400L/29 from Milne Bay.

"GASCOYNE" departed Milne Bay 1700L/1 to R.V. U.S. Submarine "BASHAW" and
escort to Milne Bay.

"BENDIGO" departed Milne Bay 0900L/1 to relieve "GLENELG" (standing by
"PRESIDENT GRANT") then to A/S patrol China Strait.

"GLENELG" arrived Milne Bay 2100L/1 from "PRESIDENT GRANT".

"GOLDSTAR" (U.S. Store Carrier) arrived Buna 1000L/1 from Milne Bay.

"VENDETTA" escorting "CAPE PERPETUA" (U.S.A.T.) E.T.D. Milne Bay 1500L/2
E.T.A. Brisbane 1400L/3 - "VENDETTA" has both condensers
leaking and was to be sailed for Sydney on 2nd March.

"POLLUX" (U.S. Store Carrier) arrived Milne Bay 1150L/1 from San
Francisco.

U.S.N.T. "ORIZABA" arrived Milne Bay 1630L/1 from Goodenough and departed
1530L/2 for San Francisco via Noumea E.T.A. 1500L/6.

"KANIMELA" } E.T.D. Cairns for Milne Bay 1800L/4.
"MANOORA" }

"BALLARAT" arrived Port Moresby 1112L/2 escorting T.N. 223 including
"KURUMBA" and departed escorting "KURUMBA" 1510L/2 -
"KURUMBA" E.T.A. Caloundra 0130L/3 "BALLARAT" E.T.A. Cairns
1530L/4.

"COOTAMUNDRA" escorting "WILLIAM PROUSE" arrived Darwin 2044L/1 from
Thursday Island.

"BANGALOW" arrived Bowen 0800L/30 from Brisbane and departed 0750L/2
E.T.A. Cairns 1800L/3.

"CAPE LEEUWIN" arrived Cairns 0425L/2 from Thursday Island.

"BUNDABERG" arrived Cairns 2031L/2 from Milne Bay.

"KAPUNDA" arrived Townsville 1826L/2 from Milne Bay for boiler cleaning.

"BOOTES" (U.S. Store Carrier) E.T.D. Caloundra 1930L/2 E.T.A. Cairns
1010L/6. for onward routing to Milne Bay.

"CALAMARES" (U.S. Store Carrier) departed Sydney 1359L/2 E.T.A. Pt.
Moresby 0800L/3.

"DELORAINÉ" arrived Sydney 0833L/2 from A/S patrol Smoky Cape.

"ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" departed Sydney 0909L/2 on A/S patrol.

"WILCANNIA" departed Sydney 1725L/2 for Thursday Island via Townsville
E.T.A. 1600L/7.

"YANDRA" arrived Sydney 1550L/2 from Radar exercises.

"GAL MEDE" (U.S. Store Carrier) departed Melbourne 1500L/2 - E.T.A. Sydney 1900L/4.

"BINGERA" departed Pt. Phillip 0830L/3 E.T.A. Westernport 0830L/3.

YMS. 335, 313 escorting G.B. 45 departed Langemak 1230L/28.

S.C. 749 departed Brisbane 2011L/1 to relieve S.C. 745 on A/S patrol Sandy Cape.

YMS. 335 ex G.B. 45 arrived Milne Bay 1700L/1.

S.C. 737, S.C. 746 escorting B.G. 47 arrived Langemak 0700L/1 and departed 1200L/1 escorting G.B. 47.

S.C. 731 arrived Thursday Island 1500L/2 from Brisbane.

YMS. 71) arrived Milne Bay 1000L/2 escorting G.B. 46.
S.C. 750, 755)

S.C. 745 DAMAGED:

S.C. 745 returning to Brisbane from A/S patrol Sandy Cape area reported at 0915L/2 that her intermediate shaft was broken and her rudder fouled. She was making 3 knots against heavy seas.

"OHAMA" GROUNDING:

"BOWEN'S" attempt to refloat "OHAMA" A.M./2.3 was not successful. The tow line parting in a rising sea. A further attempt will be made A.M. 3/3 if weather conditions permit.

"PRESIDENT GRANT"

At 1536L/2 N.O.I.C. New Guinea, reported that "PRESIDENT GRANT" was making water in deteriorating weather, and expressed doubt that the ship could be got off. He has no facilities for transporting cargo or salvable ships gear. 6 L.C.M(I)'s provided had been of little use, and had left the ship because of weather conditions.

The Salvage Officer considered that little buoyancy existed and again asked for 4 L.C.T.(I)'s. The local representative of C.T.F. 76 was advised of his request. The L.C.T.'s would have to come from Buna.

At 1945L/2 the circulating pump and main engine had broken down. Up to this time engine-room leakage had been controlled. Leakage was reported in No. 4 Hold, and the ship was being pounded by heavy seas endangering the hull. The Salvage Officer requested an air winch and urgent despatch of the "CALEDONIAN SALVOR" with fixed Donkey Boiler. The vessel had been moved about 80 feet on 1st March and, with the above aids, he thought it possible to float her again. P.C. 476 was searching for the L.C.M's the positions of which were unknown. At 2317L/2/ 5 of 6 L.C.M's were reported aground on Barrier Reef (1), Long Reef (3) and vicinity Imbert Island (1) in positions 60 to 120 miles S.E. of Milne Bay. "BENDIGO", P.C. 476, YMS. 316 and a tug from "PRESIDENT GRANT" (if available) are proceeding to assist, and air search for the sixth L.C.M. will be made. The L.C.M's have mail but no personnel from "PRESIDENT GRANT" aboard.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 1900L/Thursday, 2nd March, 1944.

"GAMBIA" E.T.A. Fremantle 1830L/2 from Eastern Fleet.

"ARUNTA" arrived Milne Bay at 0730L/1 from Sydney. E.T.A. 0600L/2 for Cape Sudest - E.T.A. 1700L/2.

"THORN" (U.S. Destroyer) E.T.D. Milne Bay 0700L/2 for Cape Sudest E.T.A. 1700L/2.

"PANDA" (U.S. Fleet Oiler) E.T.A. Milne Bay 6/3 from Balboa

"SHEPPARTON" arrived Cape Gloucester at 1745L/29. from Long Island area.

P.C. 1133 } departed Milne Bay 0600L/1 from Langemak - E.T.A. 1600L/2.
S.C. 747 }

"KAPUNDA" departed Milne Bay at 1430L/29 for Grafton Passage E.T.A. 0500L/2.

YMS. 73 departed Milne Bay at 0730L/1 - E.T.A. Buna 0600L/2.

YMS. 314 arrived Milne Bay at 1400L/29.

YMS. 72 } arrived Langemak at 0930L/29 escorting B.946.
YMS. 53 }
S.C. 650 }

S.C. 737 } E.T.A. Langemak 0700L/1 from Buna escorting B.947.
S.C. 746 }

"ORIZABA" (U.S.N.T.) departed Goodenough at 0700L/1 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 1420L/1.

"WATO" departed Milne Bay at 1500L/1 E.T.A. Buna 1900L/2.

"STUART" arrived Cairns at 2145L/1 from Milne Bay.

P.C. 1132 arrived Cairns at 1407L/1 from Milne Bay.

YP. 291 E.T.D. Cairns 0700L/2 for Thursday Island - E.T.A. 1100L/6.

"BUNGAREE" arrived Townsville at 0702L/1 from Brisbane.

"SPRIGHTLY" E.T.D. Caloundra P.M/7 for Townsville for onward passage to Milne Bay - towing 3.80 U.S.A. steel barges.

"BUNBURY" E.T.D. 1400L/3 from Caloundra for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 1800L/7.

"BOOTES" (U.S. Cargo) arrived Brisbane 29/2.

"MATAFELE" departed Sydney at 1657L/1 for Milne Bay via Townsville - E.T.A. Townsville 1400L/7.

"KYBRA" departed Sydney at 1045L/1 on training cruise to Twofold Bay - E.T.A. 2200L/2.

"GLADSTONE" arrived Sydney at 0555L/1 from Townsville.

"GUMLEAF" departed Sydney at 0714L/1 - E.T.A. Newcastle 1930L/1.

M.L. 807 departed Sydney at 1028L/1 for Port Stephens and Coff's Harbour. E.T.A. Pt. Stephens 1730L/1.

M.L. 822 departed Sydney at 1100L/1 for Jervis Bay and Eden - E.T.A. Jervi Bay 1800L/2.

FURTHER TO GROUNDING OF OMAHA ON EGRET REEF OF COOKTOWN:

At 0750L/1 "CALEDONIAN SALVOR" departed Cairns to assist E.T.A. 1500L/1.. At 2142L/1 "BOWEN" reported that an attempt to refloat "OMAHA" will be made daylight 2nd. There is no apparent hull damage - end the ship is aground on the port side only. Diver is working to clear propeller of towing wires and rope. "BOWEN" will stand by till "OMAHA" is afloat.

.....

"DANABARA" (U.S. Store Ship) arrived Goodenough 1245L/27 from Milne Bay.

"BOYARD" arrived Cape Sudest 1200L/28 from Milne Bay.

"BROOK" (U.S. Store Ship) arrived Cape Sudest 0700L/28 from Milne Bay.

A.S. 732 } arrived Milne Bay 1900L/28 from Cairns.

A.S. 921 }

"PINE" } arrived Milne Bay 1800L/28 with convoy T.N. 222 departed
"SUNBURN" } Milne Bay 0800L/28 with H.V. 89 (3 ships) E.T.A. Grafton
Passage 1700L/2/3.

"WIZARD" (U.S. Store Ship) departed Milne Bay 0340L/29 for Buna E.T.A. 2000L/29.

"STUART" departed Milne Bay 0800L/28 escorting H.V. 70 (2 ships) E.T.A. Grafton Passage 1200L/1/3. "STUART" reported at 0800L/1/3 that owing to engine room defects she had dropped out of convoy and that as she could only make good 12 knots, she would not be able to rejoin convoy before it reached Grafton Passage.

"HOGAN" (U.S. Destroyer) arrived Milne Bay 1350L/29 from Noumea.

"PUNG WU" departed Milne Bay 1400L/29 for Buna.

P.C. 1122 departed Milne Bay 1711L/29 for Cairns E.T.A. Grafton Passage 0700L/1/3.

"KAPUNDA" arrived Milne Bay 1635L/29 escorting "WEST TEXAS" from Port Moresby.

"VATO" leaving "GERARD" arrived Milne Bay 1600L/29.

P.C. 4701 detailed to relieve "GASCOINE" at 1800L/29 on China Strait.

"BRIDGES" at 1800L/1/3 is to relieve "CLINELC" A/S patrol which is acting as A/T guard for "PRESIDENT GRANT".

"LAWSON" } (U.S. Destroyers) departed Milne Bay 1100L/29 for Lunga
"CONVERSE" } Point E.T.A. 0900L/1/3.

Y.S. 264 departed Milne Bay 1500L/29 for Lae E.T.A. 1800L/1/3.
Y.S. 73 E.T.A. at Lae early A.M. 2/3 from Milne Bay.

A.S. 732 } departed Milne Bay 1800L/29 for Langenak E.T.A. 0700L/2/3.
A.S. 731 }

"DUNBAR" arrived Cairns 1117L/29 from Brisbane.

"BALLARAT" departed Cairns 2420L/29 to rendezvous with Convoy T.N. 223 (1 ship) and escort to Port Moresby.

"CASTLEMAINE" } departed Cairns 0705L/29 to rendezvous with Convoy
"BONNIE" } T.N. 24 (2 ships) and escort to Milne Bay.
"TOWNVILLE" }

A.S. 744 departed Cairns 0740L/29 to join convoy T.N. 224 and escort to Milne Bay

TS 0900L/Wednesday, 1st March, 1944.

"SHEPPARTON" arrived Cape Gloucester 1745L/29 from survey area (Tuam Is.)

YMS. 314) arrived Langemak 0945L/27th escorting Convoy B.G.44.
S.C. 737)
S.C. 746)

YMS. 335) arrived Langemak 0800L/28 escorting Convoy B.G. 45.
YMS. 313)
YMS. 315)

"ORIZABA" (U.S. Store Ship) arrived Goodenough 1345L/27 from Milne Bay.

"POYANG" arrived Cape Sudest 1200L/28 from Milne Bay.

"ETAMIN" (U.S. Store Ship) arrived Cape Sudest 0700L/28 from Milne Bay.

S.C. 742) arrived Milne Bay 1600L/28 from Cairns.
S.C. 981)

"PIRIE") arrived Milne Bay 1807L/28 with convoy T.N. 222 departed
BUNDABERG) Milne Bay 0600L/29 with M.V. 69 (3 ships) E.T.A. Grafton
 Passage 1700L/2/3.

"MIZAR" (U.S. Store Ship) departed Milne Bay 0540L/29 for Buna E.T.A.
 2000L/29.

"STUART" departed Milne Bay 0800L/29 escorting M.V. 70 (2 ships) E.T.A.
 Grafton Passage 1600L/1/3. "STUART" reported at 0600L/1/3
 that owing to engine room defects she had dropped out of
 convoy and that as she could only make good 12 knots, she
 would not be able to rejoin convoy before it reached Grafton
 Passage.

"THORN" (U.S. Destroyer) arrived Milne Bay 1350L/29 from Noumea.

"PING WO" departed Milne Bay 1400L/28 for Buna.

P.C. 1132 departed Milne Bay 1711L/28 for Cairns E.T.A. Grafton
 Passage 0730L/1/3.

"KAPUNDA" arrived Milne Bay 1055L/29 escorting "WEST TEXAS" from
 Port Moresby.

"WATO" towing "GERARD" arrived Milne Bay 1600L/28.

P.C. 476 detailed to relieve "GASCOYNE" at 1200L/29 on China Strait.

"BENDIGO" at 1200L/1/3 is to relieve "GLENELG" A/S patrol which is acting
 as W/T guard for "PRESIDENT GRANT".

"LAMSON") (U.S. Destroyers) departed Milne Bay 1130L/28 for Lunga
CONYNGHAM) Point E.T.A. 0900L/1/3.

YMS. 334 departed Milne Bay 1500L/29 for Lae E.T.A. 1300L/1/3.
YMS. 73 E.T.A. at Lae early A.M. 2/3 from Milne Bay.

S.C. 732) departed Milne Bay 1400L/29 for Langemak E.T.A. 0700L/2/3.
S.C. 748)

"BOMBO" arrived Cairns 1117L/29 from Brisbane.

"BALLARAT" departed Cairns 0420L/29 to rendezvous with Convoy T.N. 223 (1
 ship) and escort to Port Moresby.

"CASTLEMAINE") departed Cairns 0705L/29 to rendezvous with Convoy
BROOME) T.N. 24 (2 ships) and escort to Milne Bay.
TOWNSVILLE)

S.C. 744 departed Cairns 0749L/29 to join convoy T.N. 224 and escort to
 Milne Bay

"KKIMELA" and "MANOORA" both at Cairns, will be ready on 2nd and 3rd March respectively, are awaiting orders from C.T.F. 76.

S.C. 741 escorting "KURUMBA" arrived Pt. Moresby 1624L/29 from Milne Bay.

YMS. 393 arrived Cairns 1912L/29 from Gladstone.

M.L. 817 arrived Townsville 0700L/29 from Brisbane.

"WHYALLA" arrived Brisbane 0240L/29 from Sandy Cape A/S patrol.

"DARTER" (U.S. Submarine) arrived Brisbane 0655L/29 from patrol.

"BOOTES" (U.S. Store ship) arrived Brisbane 1845L/29 from Milne Bay.

"BOISE" (U.S. Cruiser) arrived Sydney 0632L/29 from Milne Bay.

"DOOMBA" arrived Sydney 0950L/29 from Smoky Cape A/S patrol.

"DELORAINE" departed Sydney 0920L/29 for A/S patrol to Smoky Cape and return.

"YANDRA" departed Sydney 1035L/29 for Radar exercises between Sydney and Newcastle.

"GIPPSLAND" arrived Sydney 1927L/28 from Newcastle.

"GUMLEAF" arrived Sydney 2024L/28 from Newcastle.

"CALAMARES" (U.S. Store Ship) E.T.D. A.M./3rd March from Sydney for Milne Bay

"PATHFINDER" (U.S. Survey Ship) departed Sydney 1351L/29 for Noumea
E.T.A. 1200L/4/3.

"GANYMEDE" (U.S. Store Ship) E.T.D. 1300L/2/3 from Melbourne for Sydney.

"MOUNT VERNON" (U.S. Naval transport) departed San Pablo 0300L/28 for
Melbourne E.T.A. 13/3.

"INVERELL" arrived Thursday Island 1043L/29 from Darwin.

"WARREGO" arrived Darwin 1635L/28 escorting "DUNTROON" - departed Darwin
1421L/29 escorting "DUNTROON" E.T.A. Thursday Island 2330L/2/3.

GROUNDING OF "PRESIDENT GRANT"

"CAMBRIAN SALVOR" (Salvage Tug) arrived A.M. 28th February to assist "PRESIDENT GRANT" (U.S. Troop Transport) which is aground on Uluma Reef, south of Milne Bay. Weather conditions were slight to moderate. During 28th, the tugs "CAMBRIAN SALVOR", "RESERVE" and "SOMONA" were lying off the stranded vessel, and in the afternoon jettisoning of the cargo was commenced, but later ceased. Work continued on the vessel during the night of the 28th. It is reported that the double bottom forward has been punctured, but damage to the inner bottom has not yet been ascertained. It is not known how long the vessel will remain semi-buoyant.

"OCTANS" AGROUND:

U.S. "OCTANS" (U.S. Store Ship) of 7,000 tons is aground on Margaret Shoal, off Buna and is in need of a tug. N.O.I.C. Milne Bay is endeavouring to obtain the use of the tug which is standing by "PRESIDENT GRANT". No further information is yet to hand.

GROUNDING OF "OMAHA" :

H.M.A.S. "BOWEN" en route from Thursday Island to Cairns has been ordered to investigate and report on the grounding of the "OMAHA" (U.S. 2114 tons gross), which grounded on Egret Reef at 1500L/26. "BOWEN" is due to reach the "OMAHA" early morning of 1st March.

At 1350L/29 "OMAHA" reported that she was pounding heavily on the reef.

The Naval Board has ordered the Salvage Tugs - "ST. GILES" and "CALEDONIAN SALVOR" at present at Bowen and Cairns respectively, to proceed with all despatch to render assistance to the stricken vessel. "ST. GILES" is to take her a diver and diving gear.

SUSPECTED SUBMARINE OFF CAPE WARD HUNT:

N.O.I.C. New Guinea has issued an A.F. message in respect of an enemy submarine reported in vicinity of Cape Ward Hunt at 1600L/29 and has ordered YMS.335, 313 and 315 to be sailed forthwith (2201L/29) from Buna to carry out a search.

- U.S.S. 335 } departed Milne Bay 1600L/27 escorting B.G. 45 R.T.A. Langsack 0700L/28.
- U.S.S. 313 }
- U.S.S. 315 }
- A.S. 12 departed Buna 1400L/28 - S.T.A. Langsack 1800L/1/3.
- A.S. 13 and A.S. 14 in tow of Point Lons (DAG) departed Buna 1800L/27 - S.T.A. Milne Bay 5/3.
- "KAPURUMBA" arrived Port Moresby 1800L/27 from Townsville and departed 1800L/28 escorting "WEST TEXAS" S.T.A. Milne Bay 1800L/28.
- "WINDY" arrived Darwin 1800L/28 escorting "DUSTROON" from Townsville.
- "SCOTSMUNDA" departed Thursday Island 1800L/27 escorting "WILHELM FROUSE" S.T.A. Darwin 1800L/1/3.
- "DOLBY" arrived Thursday Island 2000L/28 escorting "GEOFFCO" from Waraku.
- "KANGAROO" arrived Cairns 1800L/28 for exercises.
- "WARRIOR" departed Cairns 1800L/28 for exercises Trinity Beach 2000L.
- "WARRIOR" arrived Townsville 0400L/28 from Port Moresby to clean boilers.
- "WEST WARRIOR" arrived Cairns 1800L/28 from Milne Bay.
- "WEST WARRIOR" } to depart Cairns as as to S.V. off Fitzroy Island Light
- "WARRIOR" } at 0800L/28 with S.T. 234 (2 ships) and escort to Milne Bay - S.T.A. 1800L/3/3.
- "WARRIOR" arrived Cairns 1800L/28 from A/S patrol Grafton Passage. To depart as as to S.V. off Fitzroy Island at 0800L/28 with S.T. 234 (2 ship) and escort to Port Moresby - S.T.A. 1800L/3/3.
- "WARRIOR" departed Cairns 1800L/28 to relieve "WARRIOR" on outer A/S patrol Grafton Passage.
- E.G. 1120 arrived Cairns 1800L/28 from Milne Bay.
- E.G. 741 departed Cairns 0800L/28 - S.T.A. Milne Bay 1800L/1/3.
- H.M.A.S. "BOWEN" (Overland Tug) arrived Mackay 1700L/27 from Townsville.
- "WARRIOR" arrived Brisbane 0400L/28 from Melbourne.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

Tc 0900L/Tuesday, 29th February, 1944.

U.S. Cruiser "PHOENIX" arrived Milne Bay 1200L/27 from Sydney.

U.S. Destroyer Tender "DOBBIN" arrived Milne Bay 1500L/27 from Sydney.

"BENALLA") arrived Dreger Harbour 0745L/27 from Saidor - arrived Buna
HDML.1129) 0900L/28.

"GLENELG" is to relieve P.C. 1121 on A/S patrol vicinity "PRESIDENT GRANT"

"POYANG" departed Milne Bay 1200L/27 - E.T.A. Cape Sudest 1000L/28.

"HILO") arrived Milne 1900L/27 from Kiriwina.
M.L.819)

"WATCHER") for Saidor) departed Milne Bay 1200L/27 - E.T.A.
"LAURABADA") for Arawe) Buna 1900L/28 E.T.A. Langemak 2000L/29
"FALIE") for Cape Gloucester) thence to respective destinations with
Port Directors and Staffs.

S.C. 741 departed Milne Bay 0800L/28 escorting "KURUMBA" to Pt. Moresby
E.T.A. 1200L/29.

YMS.335) departed Milne Bay 0900L/27 escorting B.G. 45 E.T.A. Langemak
YMS.313) 0700L/28.
YMS.315)

A. .C. 13 departed Buna 1400L/28 - E.T.A. Langemak 1600L/1/3.

ARD 12. and Y.O.24 in tow of Point Loma (Tug) departed Santo 1600L/27
E.T.A. Milne Bay 5/3.

"KAPUNDA" arrived Port Moresby 1934L/27 from Townsville and departed
1135L/28 escorting "WEST TEXAS" E.T.A. Milne Bay 1530L/29.

"WARREGO" arrived Darwin 1400L/28 escorting "DUNTROON" from Townsville.

"COOTAMUNDRA" departed Thursday Island 1800L/27 escorting "WILLIAM
PROUSE" E.T.A. Darwin 1600L/1/3.

"DOWEN" arrived Thursday Island 0903L/28 escorting "GORGON" from Merauke.

"KANIMBLA" arrived Cairns 1231L/28 from exercises.

"MANOORA" departed Cairns 1321L/28 for exercises Trinity Beach area.

"WAGGA" arrived Townsville 0425L/28 from Port Moresby to clean boilers.

"CASTLEMAINE" arrived Cairns 1223L/28 from Milne Bay.

"CASTLEMAINE") to depart Cairns so as to R.V. off Fitzroy Island Light
"BROOME") at 0900L/29 with T.N. 224 (2 ships) and escort to
Milne Bay - E.T.A. 1600L/2/3.

"BALLARAT" arrived Cairns 1641L/28 from A/S patrol Grafton Passage.
To depart so as to R.V. off Fitzroy Island at 0600L/29 with
T.N. 223 (1 ship) and escort to Port Moresby - E.T.A.
1100L/2/3.

"KATOOMBA" departed Cairns 1221L/28 to relieve "BALLARAT" on outer
A/S patrol Grafton Passage.

P.C. 1120 arrived Cairns 1347L/28 from Milne Bay.

S.C. 743 departed Cairns 0801L/28 - E.T.A. Milne Bay 1000L/1/3.

U.S.S. "HERON" (Seaplane Tender) arrived Mackay 1700L/27 from Townsville.

"BUNBURY" arrived Brisbane 0438L/28 from Melbourne.

S. Destroyer "GILMER" departed Sydney 1826L/28 E.T.A. Milne Bay 2000L/2/3.

"PATHFINDER" (U.S. Survey Vessel) E.T.D. Sydney 1400L/29 for Noumea.

"BIRCHGROVE PARK" arrived Sydney 0923L/28 from Port Stephens.

"GIPPSLAND" departed Port Stephens 0630L/28 for Sydney.

"SAVORGNAN DE BRAZZA" (French Sloop) arrived Fremantle 2114L/27 from Mauritius.

H.M.S. "GAMBIA" E.T.A. Onslow 2/3 to fuel and to proceed to Fremantle to act as ocean escort for "RANEE".

S.S. "OMAHA" AGROUND ON EGRET REEF

"OMAHA" (U.S. 2114 tons gross) departed Townsville 1500L/26 for Milne Bay via Great North East Channel. Reported aground on Southern part of Egret Reef (9 miles East of Cooktown) 28/2 - N.O.I.C. Townsville at 1702L/28 ordered N.O.I.C. Thursday Island to sail "BOWEN" to investigate and report.

QUEENSTOWN HEIGHTS PERISCOPE SIGHTING 26/2.

When in position 260 miles East of Gabo Island at 0615L/26/2 "Queenstown Heights" (Tanker) bound from San Pedro to Melbourne recorded in log, sighting a periscope twice on starboard beam. Vessel arrived Melbourne 27/2. S.O.(L) Melbourne has been instructed to interrogate Master and report.

"PRESIDENT GRANT" (Aground Uluma Reef) -

N.O.I.C. New Guinea reports vessel stuck fast. Two unsuccessful attempts have been made to tow vessel off. No immediate danger unless weather deteriorates when she is expected to break up. Prospect of salvage is yet indefinite. Captain Fant of Salvage Board in charge of operations assisted by diving parties from U.S.S. "FULTON" (Submarine Tender) and "CAMBRIAN SALVOR". All personnel except one company and ships complement disembarked. Discharge of 1300 tons valuable cargo proceeding using 5 L.C.M(I)s. One Liberty Ship standing by. "GASCOYNE" and P.C. 1121 maintaining A/S patrol in vicinity.

TIME:

Naval crew will be withdrawn from S.S. "TIME" Melbourne 1200L/29th.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

TV 0900L/Monday, 28th February, 1944.

H.M.S. "RANEE" (Auxiliary A/C Carrier) departed Wellington 2030L/26 -
E.T.A. Fremantle 6/3.

U.S. Destroyer "BEALE" arrived Milne Bay 0930L/27 from Sydney.

U.S. Seaplane Tender "HEBON" departed Townsville 1940L/26 - E.T.A. Mackay
1500L/27.

U.S. Destroyer "THORN" escorting "STEPHEN WHITE" E.T.D. Guadalcanal
1500L/26 for Milne Bay E.T.A. China Strait 1000L/29.

U.S. Destroyer "ABNER READ" arrived Milne Bay 1345L/27 from Purvis Bay
Guadalcanal.

"MANOORA" arrived Cairns 1131L/27 from local exercises.

"BENALLA" arrived Saidor 0700L/26 from Buna and departed 1055L/26 - towing
HDML.1129 to Dreger Harbour.

"VENDETTA" arrived Milne Bay 1000L/25 escorting "EVANGELINE" from R.V.

U.S.N.T. "ORIZABA" escorted by "VENDETTA" arrived Milne Bay 1700L/26 from
Townsville and departed 0600L/27 unescorted for Goodenough.

P.C. 476 departed Milne Bay 1207L/26 escorting "JACKSONVILLE" and arrived
Pt. Moresby 1515L/27.

P.C. 1120 departed Milne Bay 1600L/26 for Cairns - E.T.A. Grafton
Passage 0900L/28.

P.C. 1133 arrived Milne Bay 1000L/26 from escorting "JACKSONVILLE".

P.C. 476 departed Pt. Moresby 1615L/27 escorting "PHILLIP T. DODDERIDGE"
E.T.A. Milne Bay 1830L/28.

"BOWEN" escorting "GORGON" departed Merauke 1630L/27 for Thursday Island.

"COOTAMUNDRA" escorting "BURWAH" arrived Thursday Island 0525L/27 from
Millingimbi.

M.L. 817 towed by YMS.393 departed Gladstone 0730L/27 for Townsville.

"MILDURA" arrived Cairns 1401L/27 from escorting N.T. 73.

"KATOOMBA" arrived Cairns from Milne Bay 1847L/27.

"ROCKHAMPTON" arrived Cairns 2057L/27 from escorting M.V. 68.

"GLADSTONE" arrived Townsville 1755L/26 from Cairns and departed 2300L/26 -
E.T.A. Sydney 1600L/1.

"TOWNSVILLE" arrived Townsville 1150L/27 from Sydney.

"BUNGAREE" departed Brisbane 1050L/27 E.T.A. Townsville 1200L/1.

"KIAMA" departed Sydney 1153L/26 for Kiama and return - E.T.A. Sydney
1100L/28.

"BIRCHGROVE PARK" arrived Pt. Stephens 1015L/27 from Maryborough.

"ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" arrived Sydney 0907L/27 from A/S patrol Sandy Cape.

"DOOMBA" departed Sydney 0859L/27 on A/S patrol to Smoky Cape.

M.L. 426 escorting "EMPIRE SILVER" arrived Milne Bay 1500L/26 from P.M. and
arrived Port Moresby on return at 1648L/27.

AMS. 314
S.C. 737, 746

} escorting B.G. 44 departed Milne Bay 0715L/26.

S.C. 743 E.T.D. Cairns 0700L/28 for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 1600L/29.

M.L. 801
YMS. 53
S.C. 650

} escorting B.G. 46 departed Milne Bay 0725L/27.

"GREY LAG" - ENGINE DEFECT.

At 0500L/27 "CASTLEMAINE" reported having taken in tow "GREY LAG" (Cargo Steamer 3312 tons - operated by U.S.A.S.O.S.) approximately 150 miles N.E. of Grafton Passage because of an engine defect. At 1400L/27 temporary repairs having been effected, the vessel was proceeding under its own power - E.T.A. Grafton Passage 0900L/28 - "GREY LAG" departed Milne Bay 1630L/25 in convoy M.V. 68 due Townsville 0300L/29.

OIL WHARF GILI GILI, MILNE BAY, RAMMED.

N.O.I.C. New Guinea reported at 2311L/26 that a "patrol vessel" has rammmed and badly damaged the oil wharf at Gili Gili - 300 feet of pier was carried away - Repairs are being effected.

[Faint, mostly illegible text follows, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page. Some legible fragments include:]
... E.T.D. ... from Thursday Island escorting ...
... arrived Port ... at ... from Townsville.
... (U.S. Steamer) ... to ... with ...
... departed Cairns ... for ... in vicinity ...
... arrived ... from Grafton Passage ...
... to ... at ... with ...
... arrived Cairns ... escorting ...
... departed Cairns ... for Townsville ...
... to ... with ...
... departed Cairns ... for Milne Bay ...
... (U.S. Steamer) departed Cairns ... for ...
... arrived ... from ...
... departed Cairns ... for ...
... arrived ...
... arrived ... from ...
... arrived ... from ...

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900L/22nd February, 1944. Tuesday.

"BEHALLA" departed Saidor at 1700L/19 for Umboi Island.

YMS. 334 } departed Langemak 1600L/20 escorting Convoy G.B.39 (1 ship)
YMS. 73 } to Buna.

YMS. 11 } departed Buna at 1345L/21 with Convoy B.G.40 (3 ships) and
YMS. 316 } "OYSTER BAY" for Langemak.
S.C. 698 }

"PING WO" arrived Buna 0900L/20 from Milne Bay.

"GASCOYNE" escorting "CAPE WEDDICK" (U.S. Army Transport) arrived Milne Bay at 1735L/20.

"STUART" departed Milne Bay 1730L/21 to R.V. "ESSE BAYONNE" (Tanker) and escort to Milne Bay.

"WILKES" (U.S. Destroyer) with Comdesdiv 26 arrived Milne Bay 1300L/21 from Noumea.

"FUNDABERG" } escorting Convoy T.N. 219 arrived Milne Bay at 1055L/21,
"KAPUNDA" } and departed at 1630L/21 escorting convoy M.V. 67 - E.T.A.
"PIRLE" } Grafton Passage 0200L/24.

"FREMANTLE" E.T.D. 0700L/22 from Thursday Island escorting "MILDURA" to Cape Rotham and Darwin.

"KALGOORLIE" arrived Port Moresby at 2149L/20 from Townsville.

"HUTCHINS" (U.S. Destroyer) is to rendezvous with "OCTANS" (U.S. Store Carrier) A.M. 22nd off Fitzroy Island and escort to Milne Bay.

"KANINELA" departed Cairns 1811L/21 for exercises in vicinity Trinity Bay area.

"CASTLEMAINE" arrived Townsville 0725L/21 from Grafton Passage Patrol. E.T.D. 2359L/21 with T.E. 221 (5 ships and 1 APC towing 2 P.T. boats) E.T.A. Milne Bay 1100L/25.

"ROCKHAMPTON" } to depart Cairns A.M./22 to rendezvous at 1900L/22 with
"KATOOMBA" } convoy T.N. 221 off Fitzroy Island and escort to Milne Bay

"MILDURA" } arrived Cairns 1001L/21 escorting Convoy M.V. 66 from Milne
"BROOME" } Bay. "BROOME" departed Cairns 1357L/21 for Townsville
"BALLARAT" } to boiler clean. E.T.A. 0800L/22. "MILDURA" and "WAGGA"
to depart Cairns A.M. 22nd to rendezvous with Convoy T.N. 22
(3 ships) off Fitzroy Island and escort to Pt. Moresby.

P.C. 1134 departed Cairns 1511L/21 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 0900L/23.

"ORIZABA" (U.S. Store carrier) departed Caloundra 1023L/21 for Gladstone.

"ECHUCA" arrived Brisbane 0215L/21 from Sandy Cape Patrol. E.T.D. 1300L/22 Sydney for refit E.T.A. 0600L/24.

"HOWBO" E.T.D. 1500L/23 from Caloundra for Cairns E.T.A. 1500L/23 for on route routing to Thursday Is. ultimate destination is Darwin.

YMS. 8 } E.T.D. Caloundra 1900L/22 for Cairns E.T.A. 0700L/26.
YMS. 46 }

LST. 469 arrived Sydney 1335L/21.

"ELIAMA" arrived Sydney 0736L/21 from working up at Broken Bay.

"TOWNSVILLE" arrived Sydney 0605L/21 from Brisbane - E.T.D. 23/2 for Townsville.

"PARANI" } departed Sydney 0712L/21 and arrived Newcastle
"PATERNON" } 1459L/21.

"BROOKS" (U.S. Destroyer) which departed Sydney 2243L/20 now gives her E.T.A. at Milne Bay as 1600L/24.

"YANDRA" departed Sydney 0906L/21 for A/S patrol to Smoky Cape and return.

L.C.I. 25, 224, 226 departed Sydney 1213L/21 for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 1000L/28.

"GANNABED" (U.S. Store Carrier) arrived Melbourne 1555L/21 from Townsville.

"ADELAIDE" departed Melbourne 1445L/21 for Fremantle - E.T.A. 0730L/23

"SUSSEX" (H.M.S.) escorting "RUYS" from Colombo has given her E.T.A. at Fremantle as 1245L/22.

"WANAKA" off Eden Reef:

"WANAKA" R.A.A.F. Supply Ship, which went aground on Eden Reef (35 miles west of Cape Melville) on the night of 15th December 1943, and turned on her side was refloated on 20th February, 1944.

ARMY BARGES ADRIET:

"TANCRED" (Salvage tug) which was towing three army barges from Sydney to Thursday Island reported at 1048L/21 that two of the barges had broken/adrift 5 miles off Crowdy Head Inlet. "TANCRED" proceeded to Trial Bay where she made the remaining barge secure, and then returned to search for the missing barges which were reported at 2150L/21 as drifting slowly in a north easterly in rough weather bearing 075° five miles from Harrington Inlet (3 miles south of Crowdy Head Inlet. H.M.A.S. "YANDRA" on A/S patrol between Smoky Cape and Sydney was ordered to render whatever assistance was necessary. Shipping in the vicinity was warned that the barges were a danger to navigation.

.....

[Faint, mostly illegible text continues on the page, including various ship names and dates.]

DAILY NARRATIVE

SECRET

To 0900L/SUNDAY, 27TH FEBRUARY 1944.

- VENOETTA Departed Milne Bay at 1625L/25 to R/V with U.S.N.T. ORIZABA and escort to Milne Bay.
- KATOOMBA Departed Milne Bay at 1545L/25 escorting ALBERT HILL from Townsville E.T.A. 0900L/28.
- CASTLEMAINE } Departed Milne Bay at 1630L/25 escorting MV68 (2 ships)
ROCKHAMPTON } E.T.A. Townsville 0300L/29.
- MIZAR Arrived Milne Bay at 1313L/26 from San Francisco.
- YP.283 Departed Milne Bay at 1455L/25 from Langemak E.T.A. 1200L/27.
- YMS.11 } Arrived Milne Bay at 1110L/26 escorting GB.42.
YMS.316 }
- YMS.335 } Departed Langemak at 1600L/25 E.T.A. Buna 1059L/28.
YMS.315 } Milne Bay 0900L/27.
YMS.313 }
- SHEPPARTON E.T.D. Tuam Is. 1000L/27 from Long Island then returning to Cape Gloucester area E.T.A. 1000L/29.
- BENALLA Departed Saidon at 1055L/26 towing HML.1129 (damaged by machine gun fire) to Dreger Harbour E.T.A. 0800L/27.
- WATO Towing GERARD. Arrived Dreger Harbour at 1720L/24.
- HIL0 (U.S. Gunboat) escorted by ML.819 arrived Kiriwina at 2000L/24 from Milne Bay.
- HALF MOON (U.S. Seaplane Tender) arrived Langemak at 1600L/24 from Milne Bay.
- M.L.426 Departed Port Moresby at 1630L/26 escorting EMPIRE SILVER to Milne Bay E.T.A. 1830L/26. ML.426 detaches at China Strait and returns to Port Moresby.
- BALLARAT Departed Cairns at 1421L/26 to relieve GLADSTONE on outer A/S patrol Grafton Passage.
- STAWELL Arrived Cairns at 0505L/26 from Milne Bay.
- HUNDABERG } Departed Cairns at 0600L/26 to R/V with TN.222 (2 ships) (Also
PIRIE } off Fitzroy Is. and escort to Milne Bay, { VILLA-LABOS
SC.742 } { and LCT.918).
SC.981 }
- YMS.8 } Arrived Cairns at 0903L/26 from Brisbane.
YMS.46 }
- YMS.48 Arrived Cairns at 1831L/25 towing PC.477 - damaged when having grounded on Atkinson Reef (near Flinders Is.) on 22/2.
- SC.745 E.T.D. Caloundra 2100L/27 to relieve WHYALLA on Sandy Cape A/S patrol - WHYALLA to return to Brisbane.
- YMS.47 Arrived Cairns at 1550L/26 from M/S duty Grafton Passage.
- GLADSTONE E.T.D. Townsville 2200L/28 for Sydney, thence to Adelaide.
- SHIKELLANY (U.S.N. Tanker) Arrived Brisbane at 1751L/26 from Milne Bay.
- ARUNTA Departed Sydney at 1653L/26 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 0600L/1/3.

2 - 1944

WESTRALIA Departed Sydney at 1054L/26 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 1000L/2.

LATROBE Departed Sydney at 1450L/26 for Darwin via Townsville E.T.A. Townsville 0030L/1/3.

FREMANTLE Arrived Darwin at 1448L/26 escorting MILDURA from Thursday Is.

ML.824 } Arrived Adelaide at 1315L/26 from Melbourne.
ML.812 }
ML.826 }

HAMILTON (U.S.Minesweeper) Departs Noumea at 2100L/25 for Cape Sudest E.T.A. AM/28.

ADELAIDE Arrived Fremantle at 1008L/26 from Melbourne.

U.S. Store Carrier departed Milne Bay 1800L/24 for Buna arrived 1200L/25.

U.S. Cruiser E.T.A. 0800L/24 from Milne Bay for Sydney E.T.A. 0500L/25.

U.S. T-ESB arrived Milne Bay 1800L/24 from Buna.

U.S. E.T.A. Tender and E.T.A. Minelayer departed Milne Bay 0700L/24 for Loran.

U.S. T-ESB arrived Milne Bay 1800L/24 from Buna.

U.S. T-ESB departed Milne Bay 0400L/25 to rendezvous with and escort FREMANTLE (U.S. Transport) to Milne Bay.

U.S. T-ESB arrived Milne Bay 1800L/24 from Buna.

U.S. T-ESB departed Milne Bay 1800L/24 for Buna - E.T.A. 1200L/25.

U.S. T-ESB arrived Milne Bay 1800L/24 from Buna.

U.S. T-ESB arrived Milne Bay 1800L/24 from Buna.

U.S. T-ESB departed Thursday Island 0400L/25 escorting MILDURA to Milne Bay arrived 1000L/25.

U.S. T-ESB departed Cardwell 1200L/25 escorting MILDURA to Thursday Is. E.T.A. 1200L/25.

U.S. T-ESB departed Millingham 0800L/25 escorting MILDURA E.T.A. Thursday Island 0800L/25.

U.S. T-ESB departed Port Moresby 1800L/25 escorting U.S. T-ESB (3 ships) E.T.A. 1200L/27.

U.S. T-ESB departed Townsville 1800L/25 escorting U.S. T-ESB (3 merchant ships, 1 L.C.T. and U.S.S. TIL MORGAN (Tender) to Milne Bay - E.T.A. 1200L/25.

U.S. T-ESB departed Milne Bay to rendezvous off Fitzroy Island at 0400L/25 with Convoy T-ESB and escort to Milne Bay E.T.A. 1200L/25.

U.S. T-ESB departed Milne Bay 1800L/24 for exercise in Trinity Reach Area.

To 00L/Saturday, 26th February, 1944.

"SAN PAMLO" (U.S. Seaplane Tender) E.T.D. 0730L/25 from Langemak for Buna and Samarai - E.T.A. 1800L/26.

"BENALLA" departed Buna 0840L/25 for Saidor - E.T.A. 0800L/26.

"SHEPPARTON" departed Buna 0947 for Salamaua and Tuna Island.

2 YMS. departed Langemak 1615L/24 escorting convoy G.B.42 (3 ships) for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 1500L/26.

YMS.315 departed Buna 1645L/24 escorting Convoy B.G. 43 (2 ships) for Lae and Langemak.

"HUMPHREYS" } U.S. Destroyers with Com Trans Div 16 in "HUMPHREYS"
 "SANDE" } arrived at Milne Bay 1330L/24 from Sydney.
 "BROOKS" }

"STEPHENSON" } U.S. Destroyers with Com Des Div 19 in Stephenson arrived
 "STOCKTON" } Milne Bay 1145L/24 from Noumea.

"OCTANS" (U.S. Store Carrier) departed Milne Bay 1800L/24 for Buna arrived 1000L/25.

"FOISE" (U.S. Cruiser) E.T.D. 0600L/26 from Milne Bay for Sydney E.T.A. 0515L/29.

"PING WO" arrived Milne Bay 1700L/24 from Buna.

"HILO" (U.S. M.T.B. Tender) and M.L.819 departed Milne Bay 0700L/24 for Langemak.

M.L.430 arrived Milne Bay 1303L/24 from Lae.

P.C. 1121 departed Milne Bay 0415L/25 to rendezvous with and escort "PRESIDENT GRANT" (U.S. Transport) to Milne Bay.

S.C. 698 arrived Milne Bay 1314L/24 from Buna.

YMS.314 } departed Milne Bay 1500L/24 for Buna - E.T.A. 1300L/25.
 S.C. 737 }
 S.C. 746 }

YMS.324 } arrived Milne Bay 1000L/24 from Buna.
 YMS.73 }

"BOWEN" departed Thursday Island 0423L/24 escorting "GORGON" to Merauke - arrived 1515L/25.

"INVERELL" departed Darin 1101L/25 escorting "ALLARA" to Thursday Is. E.T.A. 1600L/28.

"COOTAMUNDRA" departed Hillingimbi 0800L/25 escorting "BURJAH" E.T.A. Thursday Island 0800L/27.

"MILDURA" } departed Port Moresby 1830L/25 escorting N.T. 73 (2 ships)
 "WAGGA" } to Cairns - E.T.A. 1101L/27.

"KAPUNDA" departed Townsville 1556L/25 escorting Convoy T.N. 22 (2 merchant ships, 1 L.C.T. and U.S.S. "VIL ALOPOS" (Tanker) to Milne Bay - E.T.A. 1500L/28.

"BUNDABERG" } to depart Cairns so as to rendezvous off Fitzroy Island
 "PIRIE" } at 0800L/28 with Convoy T.N. 22 and escort to Milne Bay
 S.C. 742 } E.T.A.1500L/28.
 S.C. 981 }

"KAWIMELA" } departed Cairns 1039L/24 for exercise in Trinity Beach area
 "MANOORA" }

"PHOENIX" (U.S. Cruiser) arrived Brisbane 0803L/25 from Sydney -
departed Caloundra 2100L/25 for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 1300L/27

"HUNGARRE" arrived Brisbane 1625L/25 from Brisbane.

"COWRA" arrived Brisbane 0320L/25 from Sandy Cape A/S patrol.

"BANGALOW" E.T.D. CALOUNDRA 1500L/26 for Bowen - E.T.A. 0700L/1/3 -
thence Thursday Island and Darwin.

"SPRIGHTLY" (Tug) E.T.D. Brisbane 28/2 for Milne Bay.

"ALATNA" arrived Fraser Island 2031L/24 from Sydney.

Y.P. 291 E.T.D. Caloundra 1730L/25 for Palm Island - E.T.A. 1400L/26.

YMS. 393 arrived Gladstone 1915L/24 from Espiritu Santo.

"BARCOO" arrived Sydney 0702L/25 from working up in Jervis Bay.

"ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" departed Sydney 0900L/25 for A/S patrol to Sandy
Cape and return.

"COLAC" arrived Sydney 0840L/25 from Sandy Cape patrol.

"INNISFAIL" arrived Sydney 1013L/25 from Brisbane.

"GUNBEAR" departed Sydney 0820L/25 for Port Keabla arrived 1515L/25.

"SUSSEX" (H.M.S. Cruiser) departed Fremantle 1700L/25 to rendezvous
with H.M.S. "ILLUSTRIOUS" (H.M. Aircraft Carrier) in
Indian Ocean at 1701L/28.

K.15 (Dutch Submarine) now at Exmouth Gulf is to depart for Fremantle
E.T.A. daybreak 28/2.

COMMANDER SOUTH WEST PACIFIC SEA FRONTIERS TO ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY
FOR NEW BRITAIN.

As from 1st March, C.S.W.P.S.F. will assume
responsibility for routeing and protection of shipping to Arawe,
Cape Gloucester and Saidor. From the same date U.S.A.S.C.S. will
relieve COMTASKFOR 76 of the responsibility of supply to these
places.

H.D.M.L.1129 DAMAGED BY MACHINE GUN FIRE AT SAIDOR.

Further information regarding H.D.M.L.1129 which
was reported badly damaged at Saidor on 24th February, 1944, reveals
that the vessel was damaged by machine gun fire. The engines and
rudders are out of order but the vessel is being kept afloat by her
own pumps. N.O.I.C. New Guinea, has ordered Port Director Langemak
to despatch an M.L. to endeavour to tow the damaged vessel to
Dreger Harbour, where it can be docked and temporary repairs effected.
"BENALLA" is standing by to assist as practicable.

H.D.M.L.1129 is one of the vessels comprising
Task Group 70.5 (Surveying Group).

.....

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 1130L/Friday, 25th February, 1944.

TASK FORCE 74 will exercise south west of China Strait 25-26/2.

U.S. Destroyer "HUTCHINS" arrived Milne Bay 1130L/23 from Cairns.

"SHEPPARTON" departed Milne Bay 1000L/23 E.T.A. Buna 0700L/24.

U.S.S. "COUCAL" E.T.D. Milne Bay 0700L/25 E.T.A. Langemak 0900L/26.

U.S.S. "SUSQUEHANNA" arrived Milne Bay 1930L/23 from Buna.

U.S.S. "BOOTES" departed Milne Bay 1900L/23 E.T.A. Brisbane 0700L/28.

P.C. 1133 arrived Milne Bay 0830L/23 from Langemak and departed 1800L/23 to R.V. with "JACKSONVILLE" (Tanker) and escort to Port Moresby ordered at 0555L/25 to reverse course and return to Milne Bay.

P.C. 1121 after completion of exercise with U.S. Submarine "SCAMP" is to R.V. with "PRESIDENT GRANT" and escort to Milne Bay - "GASCOYNE" is to escort "SCAMP" to Milne Bay.

YMS.11) arrived Buna 1430L/22 from Langemak.

YMS.316)

S.C. 698)

YMS.11) departed Milne Bay 1830L/23 escorting B.G. 42 - E.T.A. Lae

YMS.316) 0900L/24 E.T.A. Langemak 1500L/24.

YMS.313)

S.C. 750) arrived Langemak 0900L/22 escorting B.G. 41.

YMS.71)

S.C. 735)

YMS.53 arrived Milne Bay 1500L/22 from Langemak.

M.L.427 departed Milne Bay 1600L/23 E.T.A. Buna 1000L/24.

"MILDURA" arrived Pt. Moresby 0910L/24 escorting T.N. 220 (less West Texas).

"WAGGA" arrived Port Moresby 1430L/24 escorting "WEST TEXAS".

"MILDURA") E.T.D. Port Moresby 1800L/25 escorting N.T. 73.

"WAGGA")

"POWEN" departed Thursday Island 1902L/24 escorting GORGON E.T.A. Merauke 1130L/25.

"CAPE LEEUWIN" E.T.D. Thursday Island 0700L/24 - E.T.A. Cairns 1900L/1/3. will examine lights en route.

"KANIMFLA") arrived Cairns 0945L/24 from exercises.

"MANOORA")

"WARREGO" departed Cairns 0515L/24 to R.V. with "DUNTROON" and escort to Darwin - E.T.A. 2359L/27.

"BUNDABERG" arrived Cairns 2111L/23 from Milne Bay.

"ARARAT" arrived Cairns 0435L/24 with "POTRERO" in tow from Milne Bay.

"KAPUNDA" arrived Townsville 0630L/24 from Milne Bay.

U.S. Destroyer Tender "DOBBIN" departed Brisbane 23/2 E.T.A. Milne Bay 27/2.

"COWRA" E.T.A. Caloundra 0300L/25 from A/S patrol off Sandy Cape.

L.S.T.462 E.T.D. Caloundra 1200L/25 - E.T.A. Cairns 1900L/28.

"BIRCHGROVE PARK" departed Maryborough 1000L/24 E.T.A. Port Stephens 0800L/26 E.T.A. Sydney 0600L/27.

U.S. Cruiser "PHOENIX" } departed Sydney 1108L/24 "PHOENIX" E.T.A.
 U.S. Destroyer "BEALE" } Brisbane 0800L/25 - "BEALE" and "MULLANY"
 " " "MULLANY" } detach off Cape Moreton and proceed Milne
 Bay - E.T.A. 0800L/27.

"ARUNTA" E.T.D. Sydney 1600L/26 will carry out A.A. and Surface firings
 off Cape Moreton P.M.27/2 - E.T.A. Milne Bay 0600L/1/3.

U.S.S. "CALAMARES" arrived Sydney 1124L/24 from Brisbane.

"BARCOO" departed Jervis Bay 2300L/24 - E.T.A. Sydney 0730L/25.

"ECHUCA" arrived Sydney 0638L/24 from Brisbane.

"INNISFAIL" (en route Brisbane to Sydney) anchored Broken Bay 1920L/24
 until weather moderates.

"BUNEURY" departed Port Phillip 0953L/24 - E.T.A. Brisbane 1800L/28.

M.L.824 } departed Port Phillip 1243L/24 - E.T.A. Adelaide 1200L/26.
 M.L.812 }
 M.L.826 }

H.M.S. "SUSSEX" is to be sailed from Fremantle as soon as ready for sea
 to join H.M.S. "ILLUSTRIOUS" in Indian Ocean.

H.D.M.L.1129 at Saidor surveying - reported badly damaged and making
 water rapidly - "BENALLA" (at Buna) ordered to her
 assistance P.M.25/2.

.....

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE

To 000L/24th February, 1944, Thursday.

U.S. "COPAHEE" (Aux. A/C Carrier) departed San Francisco 0500L/23 - E.T.A. Brisbane 11/3.

"STUART" after R.V. "ESSO BAYONNE" and escort to China Strait to R.V. with "MEXICO" at approximately 1800L/24 and escort to Milne Bay.

U.S. Destroyer "SANDS" arrived Cairns 0917L/23 from Sydney and departed 1017L/23 - E.T.A. Milne Bay 1200L/24.

"COMD SRON 24" in U.S. Destroyer "DALY" with U.S. Destroyer "AMMEN" and "BACHE" arrived Milne Bay 0945L/23 from Sydney.

U.S.N.T. "ORIZABA" (1,500 troops) departed Gladstone 1910L/23 - E.T.A. Townsville 2359L/24 for onward routing and escort to Goodenough Island.

H.M.S. "CEYLON" arrived Trincomalee 1400L/23 from Fremantle.

"VENDETTA" departed Milne Bay 1600L/23 to R.V. with "EVANGELINE" and escort to Milne Bay.

U.S. S/M Tender "EURYALE" escorted by U.S. Destroyer "ROER" departed Bora Bora 0919L/23 - E.T.A. Brisbane 5/3.

M.L.425) escorting H.G. 41 arrived Lae 0400L/22.
M.L.431)

P.C. 1133) escorting convoy of L.C's and Y.P's and Picket boats of
YMS.53) 3rd Engineer Brigade arrived Langemak 0800L/21 from Oro Bay.

YMS.334) escorting G.B. 39 arrived Buna 1630L/21.
YMS.73)

U.S. Submarine "SCAMP" with "CASCOYNE" P.C. 1121 and P.C. 1124 - E.T.D. Milne Bay 0700L/23 for training exercises vicinity Normanby Island until 1900L/24.

"GLENELG" departed Milne Bay 1230L/22 to relieve "STAWELL" A/S patrol China Strait.

"STAWELL" arrived Milne Bay 1745L/22.

YMS.72 escorting "SAMUEL BRANNON" arrived Milne Bay 1750L/22 from Kiriwina.

M.L.801 arrived Milne Bay 1600L/21 from Lae.

U.S. "GOLD STAR" (Store Carrier) departed Milne Bay 1530L/22 for Buna and onward convoy to Langemak.

YMS.313, 315, 335 arrived Milne Bay 1620L/22 with "THOMAS CORWIN" from Goodenough.

U.S. "HALF MOON" (Seaplane Tender) departed Milne Bay 0900L/23 - E.T.A. Langemak 1500L/24.

U.S. "OCTANS" (Store Carrier) arrived Milne Bay 1040L/23 from Sydney.

P.C. 1134 arrived Milne Bay 1030L/23 from Cairns.

"EOWEN" departed Cairns 1811L/22 to R.V. "GORGON" and escort to Thursday Island - E.T.A. 1600L/24.

"KALGOORLIE" arrived Cairns 1217L/23 from Port Moresby.

"PIRIE" arrived Cairns from Milne Bay at 1935L/23.

YMS.48 returned Cairns 1533L/23 from M/S duties Grafton Passage and departed 0450L/24 to meet and tow P.C. 477 to Cairns.

"WARRECO" escorting "DUNTROON" E.T.D. Townsville 1900L/23 - E.T.A. Darwin. 2359L/27.

S.C. 749 arrived Brisbane from A/S patrol Cape Moreton area.

"NARANI" arrived Sydney 1956L/23 from Newcastle.

"COLAC" departed Sydney 0900L/23 for A/S patrol to Smoky Cape and return.

"PATERSON" departed Newcastle 0415L/23 for Sydney and arrived 1323L/23.

"TOWNSVILLE" departed Sydney 1015L/23 for Townsville - E.T.A. 1400L/27.

"EUNGAREE" departed Sydney 1138L/23 for Brisbane.

"YANDRA" arrived Sydney 0907L/23 from A/S patrol Sandy Cape.

"BINGERA" arrived Port Melbourne from Westernport 1600L/23.

H.M.A.S. "SPRIGHTLY" (Tug) Commissioned:

N.O.I.C. Brisbane reports that H.M.A.S. "SPRIGHTLY" was commissioned A.M./23/2.

.....

[Faint, mostly illegible text continues on the page, including various ship names and dates.]

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To O OOL/Wednesday 23rd ^{Feb.} September, 1944.

"WILKES" (U.S. Destroyer with COMDES DIV 26) arrived Milne Bay at 1230L/21.

"TASK FORCE 74" will be exercising in Eastern end Milne Bay on 22/2.

"BUSH" (U.S. Destroyer) arrived Milne Bay at 1230L/22 from Sydney.

P.C. 1124 arrived Milne Bay at 1100L/21 escorting "CAPE FLATTERY" from R.V.

S.C. 741) arrived Milne Bay at 1131L/21 escorting G.B. 39.

S.C. 650)

S.C. 748)

"SHEPPARTON" - arrived Milne Bay at 1130L/22 from Cairns E.T.A. Buna 0700L/24.

"GLENELG" will relieve "STAWELL" on A/S patrol China Strait area at 1800L/22.

YMS. 72 arrived Kiriwina at 1200L/20 escorting "SAMUEL BANNON".

YMS. 11) departed Langemak at 1620L/21 for Buna - Lae - Milne Bay -

YMS. 316) E.T.A. Milne Bay 1200L/23.

S.C. 698)

"MANOORA" departed Cairns at 1851L/22 for exercises at Trinity Beach area.

"HUTCHINS" (U.S. Destroyer) departed Cairns at 2021L/21 to R.V. with "OCTANS" in vicinity Fitzroy Island A.M/22 and provide escort to Milne Bay.

"MILDURA") departed Cairns at 0933L/22 to R.V. with T.N. 220 (3 ships)

"WAGGA") off Fitzroy Island and escort to Pt. Moresby.

"GLADSTONE" departed Cairns at 1527L/22 to relieve "KATOOMBA" on outer A/S patrol from Grafton Passage.

"ERDOME" arrived Townsville at 0702L/22 from Cairns for boiler cleaning.

"ROCKHAMPTON" departed Cairns at 1831L/22 to R.V. with "CASTLEMAINE" and T.N. 221 (5 ships) off Fitzroy Island at 1900L/22 and escort (1.APC.) to Milne Bay - E.T.A. 1100L/25. (2.P.T.)

"WHYALLA" with M.L. 817 in tow will depart Caloundra at 1300L/23 - at Fitzroy Island M.L. 817 proceeds independently to Gladstone E.T.A. 1900L/24, and "WHYALLA" relieves "COWRA" and Sandy Cape A/S patrol - "COWRA" then returns to Brisbane.

"HORIZABA" arrived Gladstone 21/2 from Brisbane.

"ECHUCA" departed Caloundra at 1300L/22 for Sydney to refit.

"DOBBIN" arrived Brisbane at 0628L/22 from Sydney - E.T.D. 1400L/23 for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 1900L/27.

"CALAMARES" E.T.D. Caloundra 0400L/23 for Sydney - E.T.A. 1300L/24.

"NARANI" departed Newcastle at 0735L/22 for Sydney.

"KYNRA" d arrived Sydney at 1035L/22 for training exercises.

"YANDRA" departed Sydney 22/2 on A/S patrol to Smoky Cape.

"BINGERA" departed F.N.D. at 1115L/22 for exercises in Pt. Phillip.

"SUSSEX" escorting "RUYS" arrived Fremantle at 1520L/22.

K.15 (N.E.I. Submarine) E.T.A. Exmouth Gulf 1130L/24 from Eastern Fleet.

"COOLEBAR" E.T.A. Darwin 1600L/23 from local operation.

"FREMANTLE" departed Thursday Island at 0730L/22 escorting "MILDURA" to Darwin - E.T.A. 1230L/26.

"CAPE LEEUWIN" arrived Thursday Island at 1154L/22 from Cairns with tow.

P.C. 477 AGROUND AND REFLOATED:

At 0045L/22 P.C. 477 (escorting "GORGON" to Thursday Island and Merauke) reported having grounded on Atkinson Reef (off Flinders Island) and refloated without apparent damage.

N.O.I.C. Townsville has requested N.O.I.C. Cairns to sail "BOWEN" to Thursday Island to escort "GORGON".

FURTHER TO ARMY BARGES ADRIPT:

At 1040L/22 "YANDRA" reported that "TANCRED" had picked up barges (1 holed) and proceeding to Trial Bay.

"CATALINA" forced landing 160 miles East of Cooktown at 1700L/22. At 2145L/22 N.O.I.C. New Guinea advised that "BUNDABERG" and "KAPUNDA" (ex T.N. 221) are to search.

At 0400L/23 "BUNDABERG" reported. Am with aircraft - his fuel supply rectified - intend embarking 20 - after which pilot will attempt to take off at dawn.

P.C. 1123 } Departed New Bay 0615/23 escorting convoy of L.C.M's,
L17's and Flinder boats of 3rd Engineers Special Brigade
to Finakhafoa.

P.C. 741 } Arrived Longman 1830/23 escorting L.S. 23.
P.C. 124 } departed 1730/23 " G.R. 23 T.T.A. Milne
P.C. 221 } Bay 1400/21.

"MILNE" arrived Milne Bay 1100L/23 escorting "RANGEL BRASSON"

"TANGLIS" arrived Port Moresby 1915L/23 from Milne Bay.

P.C. 742 } Departed Milne Bay 1400L/23 escorting R.G. 41 - E.T.A.
P.C. 743 } Longman 1030L/23.

"TANGLIS" arrived Darwin 0100L/23 escorting T.S. 44 including
L.S. 23, "KALISA" and L.S. 200.

"BUNDABERG" departed Darwin 0800L/23 escorting "BUNGAN" E.T.A.
Millington 1900L/21.

"BUNDABERG" arrived Cairns anchorage 0600L/23 from Sydney.

"TANGLIS" arrived Cairns anchorage 1600L/23 from exercises.

"TANGLIS" departed Cairns 0900L/23 for Rango trials and to
patrol "CASTLEBAIRD" A/S patrol Grafton Passage.

"BUNGAN" departed Townsville 1000L/23 towing 2 army barges to
Milne Bay.

"BUNDABERG" departed Cairns 0815L/23 for Milne Bay.

L.S. 23, L.S. 200, "BUNDABERG" arrived Townsville 2200L/23 from Brisbane

P.C. 477 departed Cairns 0800L/21 to G.V. Gorge vicinity Mithro
Is. and escort to Merauke.

To 0900L/Monday 21st February, 1944.

"VENDETTA" arrived Milne Bay 1045L/19 escorting "SEA SCAMP".

U.S. Destroyers "STOCKTON") E.T.D. Suva 1700L/19 for Milne Bay
"STEVENSOR") E.T.A. 1100L/24.

"BENALLA" arrived Saidor 1615L/19 - departed 1700L/20 for Umboi Is.

U.S.S. "SUSCUHANNA" arrived Milne Bay 17/2 from Buna.

U.S.S. "OYSTER BAY" arrived Buna 18/2 from Milne Bay.

U.S.S. "COUCAL" E.T.D. Langemak 2000L/20 E.T.A. Milne Bay 2200L/21.

U.S.S. "HALF MOON" arrived Samarai 1700L/19 from Townsville.

P.C. 1124 arrived Milne Bay 1000L/19 escorting "BSSO PITTSBURG".

YMS. 314) arrived Milne Bay 1300/18 escorting G.E. 37.
S.C. 737)
S.C. 746)

YMS. 11) arrived Langemak 1130L/18 escorting E.G. 38.
YMS. 315)

YMS. 315) arrived Buna 1430L/19 escorting G.E. 38.
S.C. 698)

P.C. 1133) departed Oro Bay 0943L/20 escorting convoy of L.C.M's,
YMS. 53) LCVF's and Picket boats of 3rd Engineers Special Brigade
to Finschhafen.

S.C. 741) arrived Langemak 1330/19 escorting E.G. 39.
S.C. 748) departed " 1730L/19 " G.E. 39 E.T.A. Milne
S.C. 850) Bay 1400L/21.

YMS. 72 arrived Kiriwina 1100L/20 escorting "SAMUEL BRANNON"

"POLARIS" arrived Port Moresby 1910L/20 from Milne Bay.

S.C. 750) departed Milne Bay 1425L/20 escorting E.G. 41 - E.T.A.
S.C. 735) Langemak 1030L/22.
YMS. 71)
M.L. 425)
M.L. 431)

"INVERELL" arrived Darwin 0108L/20 escorting T.D. 44 including
U.S.S. "KAILUA" and M.L. 809.

"COOTAMUNDRA" departed Darwin 0822L/20 escorting "BURWAH" E.T.A.
Millingimbi 1930L/21.

"MANOORA" arrived Cairns anchorage 0655L/20 from Sydney.

"KANIMELA" arrived Cairns anchorage 1401L/20 from exercises.

"KATOOMBA" departed Cairns 0909L/20 for Radar trials and to
relieve "CASTLEMAINE" A/S patrol Grafton Passage.

"SONOMA" departed Townsville 1046L/20 towing 2 army barges to
Milne Bay.

"SHEPPARTON" departed Cairns 0813L/20 for Milne Bay.

U.S.N. Tanker "VILLALOBOS" arrived Townsville 2200L/20 from Brisbane

P.C. 477 departed Cairns 0025L/21 to R.V. Gorgon vicinity Fitzroy
Is. and escort to Merauke.

U.S. Destroyer "HUSH" arrived Brisbane 0800L/20 from Sydney
departed Brisbane 1200L/20 for Milne Bay.

U.S.S. "CALANARES" arrived Brisbane 0620L/20 from Port Moresby.

U.S.S. "ORIZABA" E.T.D. Brisbane 0600L/21 for Gladstone E.T.A.
0900L/22.

"INNISFAIL" departed Brisbane 1349L/20 for Sydney.

"HOMBO" arrived Brisbane 2111L/20 from Sydney.

S.C. 731 arrived Brisbane 1328L/20 from Gladstone.

U.S. Destroyers "HUMPHREYS", "SANDS" departed Sydney 1417L/20
E.T.A. Milne Bay 0800L/24.

U.S. Destroyer "BROOKS" departed Sydney 2243L/20 E.T.A. Milne Bay
0200L/23.

U.S. Destr ver Tender "DOBRIN" departed Sydney 1306L/20 E.T.A. Calound-
ra 0600L/22.

"ORARA" arrived Sydney 1016L/20 from Melbourne.

"KYBBA" departed Twofold Bay northbound 2110/20.

L.C.I(L) 222, 62, 63, 328, 334, 336 arrived Sydney 0518L/20 from

"BIRCHGROVE PARK" departed Sydney 0759L/20 E.T.A. Maryborough
1400L/24.

"ALATHA" departed Sydney 1540L/19 E.T.A. Coffs Harbour 1150L/20 - E.T.A.
"MARY RIVER FRASER ISLAND 1100L/22.

U.S.N. Tug "YUMA" departed Pt. Phillip 1750L/20 towing Floating
Dock ARD 10. E.T.A. Fremantle about 1200L/2/3.

HM.L. 1322 arrived Melbourne 2301L/19 from Hobart.

.....

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900L Sunday, 20th February, 1944.

COMDESRON 24 in U.S. Destroyer "DALY" with U.S. Destroyers "BUSH", "BACHE" and "AMMEN", E.T.A. Milne Bay 0900L/22.

BENDIGO departed Milne Bay 1430L/18 to R/V "O.M. BERNUTH" and escort to Milne Bay.

MILDURA)
BALLARAT) escorting T.N. 218 arrived Milne Bay 1123L/18 and departed
BROOME) 0700L/19 escorting M.V. 66.

U.S.S. "HILO" arrived Milne Bay 1730L/18 from Brisbane.

PING WO departed Milne Bay 1700L/19 E.T.A. Buna 1800L/20.

H.D.M.L. 1321 arrived Milne Bay 1030L/19.

GASCOYNE escorting CAPE CLEAR arrived Milne Bay 1030L/19 and departed 1700L/19 to R/V CAPE WEDDICK and escort to Milne Bay.

BUNDABERG)
KAPUNDA) departed Cairns 0743L/19 to escort T.N. 219.
PIRIE)

WARREGO arrived Cairns 1917L/19 from Port Moresby.

U.S.S. TRY SONOMA arrived Townsville 0640L/19 from Brisbane E.T.D. for Milne Bay 1000L/20, towing two Army barges.

COWRA departed Brisbane 1904L/19 for A/S Patrol Sandy Cape area.

VELLALOBOS (Tanker) departed Brisbane 17/2 E.T.A. Townsville 20/2.

TOWNSVILLE) escorting G.P. 110 arrived Brisbane 0614L/19. TOWNSVILLE
WHYALLA) departed 0713L/19 for Sydney E.T.A. 0900L/21.

DOBBIN E.T.D. Sydney 1200L/20 for Milne Bay.

M.L. 823 arrived Sydney 1239L/19 from Jervis Bay.

GANYMEDE arrived Sydney 1009L/19, towing S.S. SEA STAR from Townsville and departed 1114L/19 E.T.A. Port Phillip 1200L/21.

U.S.S. PATHFINDER arrived Sydney 0814L/19 from Noumea.

KYBRA arrived Twofold Bay 2000L/19 from Sydney.

YUMA towing A.R.D. 10 E.T.D. Melbourne A.M. 20/2 for Fremantle.

S.C. 749 departed Caloundra 1143L/19 for A/S Patrol Cape Moreton area until 23/2.

S.C. 741, 748, 650, escorting B.G. 39 departed Buna 1530L/18.

S.C. 698) escorting G.B. 38 departed Langemak 1645L/18.
Y.M.S. 315)

UNCONFIRMED REPORT OF GROUNDINGS.

At 2154L/19 N.O.I.C. Darwin signalled A.C.N.E. as follows:-

"FOLLOWING RECEIVED AT 1029Z/19 ON 4600 KC/S R/T BEGINS: VESSELS GROUND ON GREYSTONE REEF ATMOSPHERICS BAD. ENDS. ADDRESSEES AND ORIGINATOR NOT KNOWN."

No further details have been received.

ENEMY AIR RAIDS.

Nadzab. Yellow 2205L/19.
 White 2220L/19.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900L/Saturday, 19th February, 1944.

"HUMPHREYS" } with Comtransdiv 16 will depart Sydney about 1300L/20
"SANDS" } for Milne Bay.
"GILMER" }

"WILKES" (U.S. Destroyer with COMDESDIV 26) at 0800L/18 departed Noumea for Milne Bay E.T.A. 21/2.

"DALY" } With COMDESRON 24 in "DALY" will depart Sydney about
"EACHE" } 2300L/19 - E.T.A. Milne Bay 1900L/22. On arrival
"EUSH" } off Brisbane "EUSH" will detach and proceed independently.
"AMMER" }

"STEVENSON" } U.S. Destroyer with COMDESRON 19 in "STEVENSON" will
"STOCKTON" } depart Suva 19/2 for Milne Bay.

M.L. 451 departed Milne Bay at 1430L/18 for Oro Bay, Buna and Lae - E.T.A. Lae A.M./20.

P.C. 1183, YMS. 53 arrived Oro Bay at 1000L/17.

YMS. 314, S.C. 737 and S.C. 746 departed Langemak at 1630L/17 escorting C.B. 37 - E.T.A. Milne Bay 1000L/19.

"STUART" escorting "KLIPFONTRIN" arrived Milne Bay at 1500L/18.

P.C. 1184 departed Milne Bay at 1530L/17 to R.V. with "ESSO PITTSBURGH" and escort to Milne Bay.

"GASCOYNE" on completion escort duties with "ESSO MORRISBURG" to R.V. with "CAPE CLEAR" and escort to Milne Bay - E.T.A. China Strait 0700L/19.

"OYSTER BAY" (U.S. Seaplane Tender) departed Milne Bay 0630L/18 for Buna then Langemak.

"COUCAL" departs Milne Bay at 0800L/18 for Dreger Harbour E.T.A. 1000L/19.

"ARARAT" arrived Milne Bay at 1700L/17.

"LAURABADA" (Reserve Tug) arrived Milne Bay at 1830L/17 arrived Milne Bay at 1615L/18 from Goodenough Island.

"WARREGO" departed Port Moresby at 1000L/18 escorting "ETOLIN" en route to Brisbane. E.T.A. "WARREGO" at Cairns 2100L/19.

"HALF MOON" departed Palm Island at 0600L/18 for Samarai - E.T.A. 1700L/19.

"SHEPPART N" E.T.D. Cairns 0900L/20 - E.T.A. Milne Bay 1230L/22.

"CASTLEMAINE" departed Cairns 0831L/18 for exercises - then to relieve "PIRIE" on outer A/S patrol Grafton Passage.

P.C. 477 arrived Cairns at 1611L/18 from Milne Bay.

"KANIMBLA" departed Cairns at 0851L/18 for exercises in Bramston Beach area.

"PIRIE" arrived Cairns at 1903L/18 from A/S patrol.

YMS. 47, YMS. 48 arrived Cairns at 1659L/18 from M/S duties in Grafton Passage.

"HUNDABERG" } to depart Cairns to R.V. with T.M. 219 (6 ships) off
"PIRIE" } Fitzroy Island at 0800L/19 and escort to Milne Bay
"KAPUNDA" } E.T.A. 0900 1100L/21.

"KALGOORLIE" will depart Townsville with T.N. 219 and detach at Euston Reef and proceed independently to Pt. Moresby E.T.A. 0200L/21.

"WILCANNIA" } arrived Sydney at 1917L/18 escorting P.G. 109.
"COLAC" }

"KYBRA" departed Sydney at 1240L/18 for Twofold Bay E.T.A. 1800L/19.

"VARCOO" departed Sydney at 1005L/17 for working up exercises at Jervis Bay.

"ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" departed Sydney and 0843L/18 on daylight A/S patrol to Newcastle and return.

"BOMBO" departed at 1713L/17 for Brisbane.

"BINGERA" arrived Westerport at 0843L/18 from Pt. Phillip.

"ORARA" departed Port Phillip at 1207L/18 for Sydney - E.T.A. 0900L/20.

"COOMBAR" arrived Hobart at 1535L/18 fer from Sydney.

"SONOMA" (towing "KARAGA" ferry hull Brisbane to Townsville) reported. That when in position 22° 45' S, 151° 08' E (40 miles N.N.E. of Rockhampton) "KARAGA" sank in 28 fathoms.

VMS. 393 departs Espiritu Santo at 1100L/18 escorting U.S.A.T. H.11 to Cairns.

To 0900L/Friday, 18th February, 1944.

"CROTAMUNDRA" arrived Darwin 2115L/17 escorting "BURWAH" from West Bay.

"WARRAMUNGA" arrived Buna 1035L/17 from Lae.

"STUART" departed Milne Bay 1510L/16 to rendezvous with and escort "KLIPPONSTEIN" to Milne Bay.

"VENDETTA" departed Milne Bay 1510L/16 to rendezvous with and escort "SEA SCAMP" to Milne Bay.

"GASCOYNE" departed Milne Bay 1500L/16 to rendezvous with and escort "ESSO HARRISEBURG" to Milne Bay.

"ETOLIN" departed Milne Bay 16th February for Port Moresby.

"TRIANGULUM" E.T.D. Milne Bay 17th for Cairns where she is to load with stores and return to Milne Bay.

"WARRECO" departed Milne Bay 1600L/16 for Port Moresby - arrived there 1246L/17.

"RESERVE" departed Milne Bay 0640L/17 for Goodenough Island - E.T.A. 1430L/17.

"HENALLA" departed Buna 2000L/16 for Tobunk Island.

"POLARIS" departed Buna 0930L/17 for Pt. Moresby E.T.A. 1500L/20.

P.C. 477 departed Milne Bay 0600L/17 for Grafton Passage E.T.A. 1500L/18.

M.L. 431 arrived Milne Bay 1000L/16 from Buna.

YMS. 314 }
S.C. 737 }
S.C. 746 } departed Buna 1300L/16 escorting Convoy B.G. 37
 arrived Lae 0830L/17 - E.T.A. Langemak 1030L/17.

S.C. 750 }
YMS. 315 }
YMS. 325 } arrived Milne Bay 1030L/17 with convoy G.B. 25.

P.C. 1133 }
YMS. 55 } departed Milne Bay 1500L/17 for Oro Bay - E.T.A. 1200L/18, for escort duty with 3rd Engineers Brigade and Convoy of L.C.M.'s and L.C.V.P.'s - due to depart for Finschhafen A.M. 18th.

"CALANARES" departed Port Moresby 16th for Brisbane - E.T.A. 20th.

Y.P. 285 departed Milne Bay 1430L/16 for Langemak.

Y.P. 278 arrived Milne Bay 1330L/17.

"HUNDABERG" }
"KAPUNDA" } arrived Cairns 1029L/17 from Port Moresby escorting H.T. 72.

"CAPE LERUWIN" departed Townsville 0930L/17 towing light vessel No. 3 to Thursday Island.

"KALGOOLIE" arrived Townsville 0732L/17 from escorting convoy M.V. 65 from Milne Bay.

"ORIZABA" arrived Brisbane 1200L/16 from Port Moresby.

"GOLD STAR" E.T.D. Brisbane 1100L/16 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 1900L/21.

"ECHUCA" departed Caloundra at 1400L/16 escorting convoy Q.L. 56 (2 ships) for Gladstone. "ECHUCA" is to leave convoy at Bustard Head and carry out A/S patrol off Sandy Cape until relieved by "COWRA" at 1200L/20.

"COWRA" arrived Brisbane 0500L/17 escorting Convoy L.Q. 55 from Gladstone.

M.L. 817 en route to Milne Bay arrived Brisbane 1854L/17 from Sydney.

"OCTANE" departed Sydney 1642L/17 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 2000L/23. routed via Lady Elliot Island and Grafton Passage.

"TOWNSVILLE" } departed Sydney 0849L/17 escorting Convoy G.P. 110
"WHYALLA" } (2 ships) for Brisbane - E.T.A. 2300L/19.

M.L. 812 departed Sydney 1154L/17 to provide extra escort to convoy G.P. 110 until A.M. 19th and then to proceed to Coff's Harbour.

H.D.M.L. 1322 departed Hobart 1237L/17 for Melbourne E.T.A. 1501L/9.

AIR RAIDS:

The following air raid warnings were made by U.S.B.

"SAN PABLO" (seaplane tender) somewhere in New Guinea waters.

Red warning	1516L/17.
White "	1535L/17.
Red "	2047L/17.
White "	2053L/17.
Red "	2030L/17.
White "	2039L/17.

.....

"WARRIOR" (L.S. 1000) arrived Cairns 1700L/14.

"WARRIOR" departed Thursday Island 2010L/15 escorting T.O. 45 (including U.S.S. "WALLA" and M.L. 800) E.T.A. Darwin 1900L/16.

"WARRIOR" arrived Thursday Island 2000L/15 escorting T.O. 45 from Darwin.

M.L. 812 departed Townsville 1200L/15 for vicinity of Carr Island (south west Papua, north of Thursday Island) E.T.A. 1200L/16.

"WARRIOR" arrived Cairns 1200L/15 from Thursday Island.

"WARRIOR" arrived Cairns 2000L/15.

"WARRIOR" E.T.A. Townsville 0700L/17 having light vessel No. 3 in Thursday Island - E.T.A. 1100L/16.

"WARRIOR" departed Cairns 1000L/15 escorting T.O. 45 (2 ships).

"WARRIOR" departed Caloundra 1400L/15 escorting T.O. 45 - E.T.A. Darwin 1200L/16.

M.L. 812 arrived Brisbane 0010L/16 from Pt. Moresby.

M.L. 812 E.T.A. Caloundra 1400L/15 for Fitzroyhafen via Milne Bay - E.T.A. Milne Bay 1200L/16.

"WARRIOR" } departed Caloundra 1100L/15 escorting T.O. 100 E.T.A. Darwin
"WARRIOR" } 1200L/15.

"WARRIOR" departed Rockhampton 0610L/15 - E.T.A. Cairns 0700L/16.

To 0900L/Thursday, 17th February, 1944.

"WARRAMUNGA" (with C.S.S. on board) arrived Langenak 0930L/15 from Buna then was to proceed to Lae P.M.15th where C.M.S. was to disembark.

"VENETTA" arrived Milne Bay 0900L/15 from Sydney.

U.S. Destroyers "NICHOLSON" } arrived Milne Bay 1000L/15 escorting
 "SHARON" } Morkasea from Guadalcanal.

"WARRENO" arrived Milne Bay 1058L/16 escorting T.M. 217 - departed 1800L/18 rer Port Moresby - E.T.A. 1300L/17.

"MORESBY" departed Milne Bay 1630L/15 - E.T.A. Buna 1000L/16.

"BENALLA" arrived Buna 1430L/14 departed 1930L/15 for survey ground.

"STAWELL" departed Milne Bay 0800L/16 to relieve "BENDIGO" on China Strait A/S patrol.

"BENDIGO" arrived Milne Bay 1445L/15 from patrol.

P.C. 1121 arrived Milne Bay 1345L/16 escorting "TEXAS SUN" from Pt. Moresby.

P.C. 477 arrived Milne Bay 1400L/16 escorting "HENRY T. ALLEN" from Townsville.

S.C. 730) departed Langenak 1830L/15 escorting C.B. 35.
 YMS. 313)
 YMS. 335)

YMS. 72 departed Milne Bay 1715L/15 for Goodenough - Departed Goodenough 0900L/16 escorting "SAMUEL BRASHON" to Woodlark - E.T.A. 0800L/17.

"LAURIANA" (A.S.R. Vessel) arrived Kiriwina 1700L/14.

"INVERELL" departed Thursday Island 2015L/15 escorting T.D. 44 (including U.S.S. "KAILUA" and M.L.809) E.T.A. Darwin 1500L/20.

"FREMANTLE" arrived Thursday Island 1036L/16 escorting D.T. 43 from Darwin.

U.S.S. "HEGON" departed Townsville 1535L/15 for vicinity of Daru Island (South coast Papua, North of Thursday Island) E.T.A. 1600L/18.

"GLADSTONE" arrived Cairns 1924L/15 from Thursday Island.

"WAGGA" arrived Cairns 2031L/16.

"CAPE LEBUWIS" E.T.D. Townsville 0700L/17 towing light vessel No. 3 to Thursday Island - E.T.A. 1100L/21.

"COWRA" departed Gladstone 1900L/15 escorting L.C. 55 (3 ships).

"ECHUCA" departed Caloundra 1400L/16 escorting Q.L.56 - E.T.A. Bustard Head 2100L/17.

U.S.S. "OFIZABA" arrived Brisbane 0545L/16 from Pt. Moresby.

U.S.S. "GOLDSTAR" E.T.D. Caloundra 1400L/16 for Finschhafen via Milne Bay - E.T.A. Milne Bay 1900L/21.

"WILCANNIA") departed Caloundra 1142L/16 escorting P.G. 109 E.T.A.
 "COLAC") Sydney 1800L/18.

"MANOORA" departed Newcastle 0916L/16 - E.T.A. Cairns 0700L/20.

"KYRRA" arrived Sydney 0743L/16 from Broken Bay.

"DOOMBA" departed Sydney 0852L/16 for daylight anti-submarine patrol to Newcastle and return.

"MATAPELLA" arrived Sydney 1015L/16 from Brisbane.

"BONEO" E.T.D. Sydney 17/2 for Darwin.

U.S.S. "OCTANS" E.T.D. Sydney 1500L/17 for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 1100L/24.

"STEADY HOUR" (CBP) departed Port Kembla 0700L/16 arrived Sydney 1129L/16.

"PATROLLER" arrived Wellington 0605L/16 from Fremantle.

AIR RAID WARNING -

NADZAB Red 2205L/16.
White 2212L/16.

[Faint, mostly illegible text continues, including various ship names and dates]

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900L/Wednesday, 16th February, 1944.

"WESTRALIA" arrived Sydney 1421L/15 from Milne Bay.

U.S. Seaplane Tender "HERON" arrived Townsville 0630L/15 from Mackay.

U.S. Frigates "LONGREACH" and "GLINDALE" departed Gladstone 0830L/15 -
E.T.A. Cairns P.M./16/2.

"WRYALLA" and "YANDRA" escorting P.C. 108 arrived Sydney 1037L/15.

"WILCANNIA" and "COLAC" arrived Brisbane 1036L/15 escorting G.P.109.

"BALLARAT" arrived Cairns 1316L/14 from A/S Patrol Grafton Passage and
departed with "BROOME" to escort T.N. 218 at 1611L/15.

"LITHCOW" arrived Melbourne from Sydney 0733L/15 - towing M.L.'s 824 and
826.

"WAGGA" and "KALGOORLIE" departed Milne Bay 1600L/14 escorting N.V. 65.

"BUNDABERG" and "KAPUNDA" escorting N.T. 72 departed Pt. Moresby 1900L/
15.

"COWRA" escorting L.Q. 55 departed Gladstone 1900L/15.

P.C. 1121 escorting "TEXAS SUN" departed Port Moresby 1315L/15 -
E.T.A. Milne Bay 1300L/16.

"LAURABADA" departed Port Moresby 1931L/15 - E.T.A. Milne Bay 1800L/17.

P.C. 477 departed Cairns 0655L/15 to R.V. "H.T. ALLEN" vicinity
Fitzroy Island.

"CAPE LEMUWIN" arrived Townsville 1337L/14 from Brisbane.

"PATERSON" and "NARANI" arrived Newcastle 1626L/14 from Sydney.

M.L. 817 departed Sydney 0927L/15 for Milne Bay via Brisbane and
Townsville.

M.L. 822 arrived Sydney 1407L/15 from Twofold Bay.

YMS. 47 and 48 departed Cairns 0721L/15 for 4 days' M/S duties Grafton
Passage.

S.C. 743 arrived Cairns 0615L/15 from Milne Bay.

S.C. 741, 650, 748 escorting G.B. 33 arrived Buna 1615L/14.

YMS. 314 } escorting E.C. 34 arrived Langemak 1100L/14.
S.C. 743 and 737 }

YMS. 11, 316 } departed Milne Bay 1630L/15 - E.T.A. Buna 1100L/16.
S.C. 698 }

YMS. 334, 73 } escorting "JOHN B. KENDRICK" departed Milne Bay
S.C. 747, M.L. 420 } 0300L/14 - E.T.A. Langemak 1000L/15.

"CALAMARES" arrived Port Moresby 0755L/15 from Oro Bay.

"HENRY T. ALLEN" departed Townsville 1922L/14 for Milne Bay.

U.S. Tug "SONOMA" departed Brisbane 1411L/15 towing "KARAGA" - E.T.A.
Townsville 1400L/19.

"SUSQUEHANNA" arrived Buna 0915L/14 from Milne Bay.

• • • • •

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE

To 0900L/Tuesday, 15th February, 1944.

"PHOENIX" arrived Sydney 0805L/14 from Milne Bay.

"WARRAMUNGA" departed Milne Bay 0636L/14 - E.T.A. Buna 1500L/14 -
Langemak 0800L/15 - Lae PM/15.

"WAGGA" } escorting T.N. 218 including "MERKUR" arrived Milne Bay
"KALGOORLIE" } 1250L/14.

"MORESEY" arrived Milne Bay 0705L/13.

P.C. 1121 departed Milne Bay 1330L/13 for Port Moresby - arrived 1711L/14.

"FALIE" arrived Milne Bay 1600L/13 from Langemak.

S.C. 741, 650 & 748 escorting B.G. 33 arrived Langemak 1425L/13;
escortng G.B. 33 to Buna departed Langemak 1700L/13.

YMS. 314, S.C. 746 and 737 escorting B.G. 34 including YP.280 departed
Buna 1400L/13.

"CALAMARES" departed Oro Bay 180⁰L/13 for Port Moresby - E.T.A. 1000L/15.

"MUNDABERG" } escorting T.N. 216A, arrived Port Moresby 0855L/14.
"KAPUNDA" }

"INVERELL" escorting "KAILUA" and "ALLARA" towing M.L.809 E.T.D. Thursday
Island 2000L/15 for Darwin.

U.S.S. "KAILUA" arrived Thursday Island 0810L/14 from Milne Bay

U.S. Frigates "SAN PEDRO" and "CORONDO" departed San Pedro 8/2 for
Cairns via Noumea for fuel.

"WILDURA" departed Cairns 0725L/14 to relieve "BALLARAT" on outer A/S
patrol of Grafton Passage.

YMS. 47 and 48 E.T.D. Cairns 0700L/13 for 4 days' M/S in Grafton Passage.

"WARREGO" escorting "KATCOMBA" departed Townsville 0029L/14 for Milne Bay.

P.C. 1134 departed Townsville 0645L/14 for Cairns - arrived 2045L/14.

"HENRY T. ALLEN" E.T.D. Townsville 1900L/14 for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 1733L/
16.

P.C. 477 to rendezvous "HENRY T. ALLEN" off Fitzroy Island 0800L/15 and
escort to destination.

"WILDURA" } to R.V. T.N. 218 including P.T. 354 and 355 in tow off
"BALLARAT" } Fitzroy Island P.M/15 and escort to Milne Bay.
"BROOME" }

"PIRIE" E.T.D. Townsville 0200L/15 with T.N. 218 - escorting to
vicinity of Euston Reef, then assuming A/S patrol.

U.S.S. "HERON" departed Mackay 1030L/14 for Townsville - E.T.A. 0430L/15.

S.C. 731 escorting "WEST TEXAS" towing L.C.T. 918 departed Caloundra
1400L/14 L.C.T. 918 for Townsville, thence Milne Bay
S.C. 731 after arrival Bustard Head proceeds Gladstone.

S.C. 745 escorting "PERIOD" arrived Brisbane 0155L/14 from Port Curtis.

"HALF MOON" departed Brisbane 14/2 for Palm Island - E.T.A. 16/E.

"MARCOORA" departed Sydney 2357L/13 for Newcastle - arrived 0635L/14.

"WESTRALIA" E.T.A. Sydney 1500L/15 from Milne Bay.

U.S.S. "PATHFINDER" E.T.D. Noumea about 1100L/15 for Sydney - E.T.A.A.M/19

"DCOMBA" departed Sydney 0855L/14 for A/S patrol to Newcastle and return.

"KYBRA" departed Sydney 1134L/14 for Broken Bay for A/S trial exercises.

"KARANI" } departed Sydney 0900L/14 for Newcastle arrived 1826L/14.
"PATERSON" }

"BIRCHGROVE PARK" arrived Sydney 0442L/14 from Maryborough.

"BURRABRA" arrived Sydney 1441L/14 from Jervis Bay.

"COOMBAR" departed Sydney 1840L/14 - E.T.A. Hobart A.M./18.

"SUSSEX" departed Colombo 2012L/13 to relieve "QUALITY" escorting "BUYS" in position 08°15'S, 072°10'E at 1730L/14 and escort to Fremantle.

"CEYLON" escorting "SHAH" departed Fremantle 1700L/13 - "SHAH" E.T.A. Cochin 1730L/23.

F.F.S. "SAVORGNAN DE BRAZZA" departed Mauritius 0200L/14 for Fremantle E.T.A. P.M./26.

POSSIBLE SUBMARINE CONTACT IN CORAL SEA.

P.C. 1121 obtained an underwater sound contact at 0330L/14 about 70 miles S.E. of Port Moresby and made 3 attacks with results unknown. The target was stated to be moving on first 2 and stationary on the third. Ships and authorities concerned were informed. H.O.I.C. New Guinea made an A.F. message. "BUNDABERG" and "KAPUNDA" departed Port Moresby 1803L/14 for the scene. P.C.1121 "BUNDABERG" and "KAPUNDA" arrived Port Moresby 1711L/14. No report on the result of the search has been received.

AIR RAID WARNINGS:

PORT MORESBY - Yellow - White 1730L/14.

CAIRNS - Red 1140L/14, White 1152L/14.

NADZAB - x Red 0048L/15. White.

U.S.S. "SAN PAOLO" (in New Guinea waters).

Red 0659L/14 - White 0648L/14.

Red 0014L/15. White 0050L/15.

.....

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0000L/Monday, 14th February, 1944.

"SHROPSHIRE" with C.T.F. 74 arrived Milne Bay 1000L/13 from Sydney.

"WARRAMUNGA" with C.N.S. on board - E.T.D. Milne Bay 0630L/14 - E.T.A. Buna 1500L/14, E.T.D. Buna P.M/14 for Langemak - E.T.A. 0800L/15, whence C.N.S. departs by air and "WARRAMUNGA" returns Buna.

U.S. Destroyer "CONYNGHAM" arrived Milne Bay 1330L/13 from Brisbane.

U.S.S. "WISH" (Miscellaneous Aux.) E.T.A. Milne Bay 12/3 from Canal Zone.

S.C. 741, 650, and 748 escorting B.G. 38 departed Buna 1515L/12.

YMS. 314, S.C. 737 and 746 arrived Buna 1440L/12 from escorting G.P. 32.

YMS. 71 and 72 escorting "FRANCIS G. NEWLANDS" arrived Milne Bay 1015L/12 from Hagemak.

M.L. 430 arrived Milne Bay 1625L/12 from Kiriwina.

S.C. 743 departed Milne Bay 1600L/12 for Cairns.

Y.P. 263 departed Milne Bay 1630L/12 for Buna - E.T.A. 1600L/13 for onward convoy to Langemak.

Y.P. 278 arrived Buna 0600L/11 arrived Langemak 0700L/13.

"CLEVELG" escorting "FRANK LEMERSON" departed Woodlark 1900L/12 for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 1200L/13.

"BENDIGO" departed Milne Bay 0900L/13 to relieve "ARARAT" on A/S patrol China Strait.

"ARARAT" returned Milne Bay 1600L/13.

U.S.N.T. "ORIZABA" departed Port Moresby 1130L/12 for Brisbane - E.T.A. 0700L/13.

"MILDURA" arrived Cairns 1019L/13 from Port Moresby.

P.C. 1134 escorting "HENRY T. ALLEN" arrived Townsville 1816L/13 from Brisbane.

P.T. 344 and 347 arrived Townsville 1615L/13 from Gladstone.

P.T. 348 in tow of "PAHUD" arrived Townsville 1125L/13 from Brisbane.

P.T. 354 and 355 arrived Townsville 2306L/13 from Brisbane.

U.S.S. "FANSHAW BAY" departed Brisbane 0725L/13 for Noumea.

U.S.S. "HILO" E.T.D. Caloundra 1500L/13 for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 0800L/13.

U.S.S. "PYRO" arrived Brisbane 1010L/13 from Milne Bay.

Y.P. 226 arrived Brisbane 0716L/12 from Cairns.

"ECHUCA" escorting L.C. 54 arrived Brisbane 0816L/13.

"BANGALOW" arrived Brisbane 0004L/13 from Sydney

"WHYALLA" } escorting G.P. 108 including "GOLDSTAR" arrived Brisbane
"YANDRA" } 2343L/12 - escorting P.G. 108 departed 1118L/13.

"COWRA" } escorting G.L.55 departed Brisbane 1512L/13.
S.C. 749 }

U.S. Frigates "LONG BEACH" } arrived Brisbane 13/2 from San Diego.
"GLENDALE" }

"MATAFFE" departed Caloundra 1930L/13 for Sydney.

"WILCANNIA" } escorting G.P.109 departed Sydney 0911L/13.
"COLAC" }

"GUNBAR" arrived Sydney 1304L/13 from Port Kembla.

U.S.S. "WILLIAM B. PRESTON" departed Fremantle 1230L/13 for the north.

HMS. "SHAH" arrived Fremantle 1230L/13 for the north.

Y.P.286 arrived Fremantle 1218L/13 from Exmouth Gulf.

"FREMANTLE" escorting D.T. 43 departed Darwin 0723L/13.

TWO A.F. MESSAGES.

1. Submarine in position 06°25'S. 149°07'E (about 20 miles N.E. of Cape Cretin) course north at 2005L/13.
2. Submarine in position 5 miles 150 from Gasmata. The time of this report (which was received corrupt) is being checked.

... with "..." escorting ...
 ... to Milne ...
 ... to Port Moresby ...
 ... to Milne Bay ...
 ... at 2000L/11 recording ...
 ... at 0800L/13 for daylight A/S patrol to ...
 ... at 0800L/13 from Brisbane. Departed at 1245L/13 ...
 ... arrived Port Moresby at 1200L/11 from Darwin.
 ... arrived Thursday Island at 1100L/13 escorting D.T. 43.
 ... at 1200L/13 escorting "HMSY ..."
 ... departed Port Curtis at 1000L/13 for ...
 ... at 1400L/11 escorting D.T. 43.
 ... at 1200L/11 recording ...
 ... and 23 arrived Milne Bay at 1400L/11 ...
 ... at 0700L/13 from Darwin.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

TO 0900 C/SUNDAY 13TH FEBRUARY, 1944.

- "VENDETTA" Arrived Brisbane at 0632L/12 from Sydney. E.T.D. 2000/12 for Milne Bay. E.T.A. 0900L/15.
- H.M.S. "QUALITY" Departed Bombay at 1700L/10 escorting "RUYS" to M.O.M.P. with "SUSSEX" in position 002° 15' S. 072° 10' E. at 1730L/14. "SUSSEX" then escorts "RUYS" to Fremantle E.T.A. 22/E. "QUALITY" proceeds to Trincomalee from M.O.M.P.
- "NICHOLSON" U.S. Destroyers. E.T.D. Lunga prior 1400L/12 escorting "SWANSTON" "MORMACSEA" to Milne Bay.
- "GLENELG" Arrived Woodlark Island at 1930L/11 escorting "FRANK C. EMERSON" from Milne Bay.
- "MILDURA" Departed Port Moresby at 1800L/11 escorting "ROBERT J. WALKER" enroute to Brisbane. "MILDURA" detaches at Fitzroy Island and proceeds Cairns E.T.A. 1200L/13.
- "MORESBY" Departed Mainbare Bay (20 miles S.E. Morobe) at 2115L/11 for Milne Bay.
- "ROCKHAMPTON" Arrived Cairns at 2052L/12 escorting M.L.64.
- "BROOME"
- "BUNDABERG" Departed Cairns at 0655L/12 to R/V with "WAGGA" escorting "KALGOORLIE" T.N.216 (5 ships) off Fitzroy Island at 0800L/12.
- "KAPUNDA" "WAGGA" and "KALGOORLIE" will escort Section "B" to Milne Bay E.T.A. 1300L/14. "BUNDABERG" and "KAPUNDA" to escort Section "A" to Port Moresby E.T.A. 1300L/14.
- "WARREGO" E.T.D. Townsville 000L/14 escorting T.N.217 to Milne Bay E.T.A. 1100L/16.
- "ECHUCA" Departed Gladstone at 2000L/11 escorting L. 54 (1 ship).
- "DOOMBA" Departed Sydney at 0850L/12 for daylight A/S patrol to Newcastle and return.
- "LITHGOW" Arrived Sydney at 0914L/12 from Brisbane. Departed at 1848L/12 towing M.L.824 and M.L.826. E.T.A. Port Phillip 0700L/15.
- "COOTAMUNDRA" escorting "BURWAH" arrived West Bay at 1250L/11 from Darwin.
- "INVERELL" Arrived Thursday Island at 1158L/12 escorting D.T.42.
- M.L.806 Arrived Langemak at 2300L/11 escorting "HENRY DODGE" from Lae.
- S.C.745 Escorting "PERIOD" departed Port Curtis at 1000L/12 for Brisbane E.T.A. 14/2.
- Y.M.S. 71) Arrived Buna at 1430L/11 escorting G.B.31.
Y.M.S. 72)
- Y.M.S. 314) Arrived Langemak at 1230L/11 escorting B.G.32.
S.C. 737)
S.C. 743)
- P.C.1123) Towing P.T.S.340, 341, and 21 arrived Milne Bay at 1400L/11
Y.M.S. 316) from Cairns.
- Y.P. 236 Arrived Brisbane at 0716L/12 from Cairns.

"KIAMA" Departed Sydney at 1401L/12 for working up at Broken Bay.

"HALF MOON" E.T.D. Caloundra 1930L/14 for Palm Island E.T.A. 1800L/16.

"PANSHAW BAY" Departs Brisbane at 0730L/13 for Noumea E.T.A. 1200L/15.

"LUCY STAR" Towing target arrived Cairns at 1321L/12 from Townsville.

"WATO" Towing M.L.802 arrived Milne Bay at 1530L/11 from Port Moresby.

"GIPPSLAND" Arrived Newcastle at 0922L/12 from Sydney.

"GANYMEDE" (USN Cargo) Departed Townsville at 1826L/12 towing "SEA STAR" E.T.A. Sydney 1130L/19.

"YUMA" (US Fleet Tug) Arrived Melbourne at 1915L/12 towing A.R.D.10.

ENEMY SUBMARINE ACTIVITIES

- At 0400L/12 Large object resembling submarine surfaced in position 20 miles N.W. of Port Moresby. Reported sighting by 2 officers of Australian Water Transport Group. Graded D.5.
- At 1823L/11 Aircraft reported unsuccessful attack on submarine 40 miles S.E. of Gasmata.
- At 0729L/12 N.O.I.C. New Guinea reported a submarine in position 10 miles S.E. of Gasmata -- an A/F message was originated.

To 0900L/Saturday, 12th February, 1944.

U.S. Cruiser "PHOENIX" departed Milne Bay 0710L/11 - E.T.A. Sydney 0820L/14.

"VENDETTA" departed Sydney 0620L/11 for Brisbane - E.T.A. 1800L/12.

"ADELAIDE" arrived Port Phillip 0549L/11 from escorting "MARIPOSA".

"WESTRALIA" arrived Milne Bay 0900L/10 from Langemak and departed 1530L/10. E.T.A. Sydney 1700L/16.

"MANCORA" E.T.D. Newcastle 16/2 for training exercises; Cairns till 1/3 thence Milne Bay.

"KANIMBLA" departed Townsville 2036L/10 arrived Cairns 0937L/11.

U.S.N.T. "ORIZABA" arrived Port Moresby 1200L/11 from Oro Bay.

"GLADSTONE" departed Milne Bay 1615L/10 escorting "KAILUA" to Thursday Island thence Townsville, Sydney, Adelaide.

"ROCKHAMPTON" } escorting M.V. 64 departed Milne Bay 1647L/10.
"FROOME" }

"BALLARAT" departed Cairns 0727L/11 to relieve P.C. 477 A/S patrol Grafton Passage.

"STAWELL" arrived Milne Bay 1730L/10 escorting M.F. 16 from Port Moresby.

"GLENELG" escorting "ROSEVILLE" arrived Milne Bay 1325L/10 and departed 0440L/11 for Woodlark escorting "FRANK C. EMERSON".

"COLAC" } escorting P.G. 107 arrived Sydney 1348L/11.
"A. CRUIJSSSEN" }

"BENDIGO" arrived Milne Bay 1830L/11 from Brisbane.

"ECHUCA" escorting L. 54 departed Gladstone 2000L/11.

HMML. 1325 arrived Milne Bay 1000L/10 from Mambare Bay.

P.C. 477 arrived Cairns 1555L/11 from A/S Patrol Grafton Passage.

P.C. 1121 arrived Milne Bay from Dreger Harbour.

"LUCY STAR" (CPE) towing 50' target, departed Townsville 0900L/11 - E.T.A. Cairns 0700L/13.

U.S. "HILO" arrived Brisbane 1205L/11 from Sydney.

YMS. 314 } escorting B.G. 32 departed "BUNA" 1600L/10.
S.C. 737, 746 }

YP. 278 arrived Langemak from Buna 1600L/9 and departed on return 1800L/10.

S.C. 741, 748, 650, departed Milne Bay 1700L/10 - E.T.A. Buna 1200L/11.

YMS. 71 and 72 escorting B.G. 31 arrived Langemak 1430L/10 and departed 1700L/11 escorting GB. 31.

PT. 354 and 355 in tow of "THOMAS CORWIN" departed Gladstone 0800L/11 E.T.A. Townsville 0400L/13.

YMS. 314 and S.C. 737 and 746 departed Buna 1600L/10 escorting B.G. 32.

YMS. 335 arrived Langemak 1800L/10 from Milne Bay.

"OCEANS" arrived Sydney 0800L/11 from Milne Bay.

"SUSQUEHANNA" arrived Milne Bay 0700L/11 from Buna.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0800L/Friday, 11th February, 1944.

"SHROPSHIRE" with C.T.F. 74 departed Sydney 1811L/9 for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 0800L/13.

"PHOENIX" E.T.D. Milne Bay 0700L/11 for Sydney.

"WESTRALIA" departed Milne Bay 1500L/10 for Sydney - E.T.A. 0700L/16.

U.S.S. "POLLUX" departed San Francisco 9/2 for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 2/3.

YMS. 53 and 334 } escorting G.B. 30 arrived Milne Bay 1130L/10.
1 S.C. }

S.C. 747 arrived Milne Bay 1115L/10 from Cairns.

"WIZAR" departed San Francisco 1800L/9 for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 26/2.

"BROOME" } escorting T.N. 215 arrived Milne Bay 0900L/10.
"ROCKHAMPTON" }

"GLADSTONE" E.T.D. Milne Bay 1800L/10 escorting U.S.S. "KAILUA" to Thursday Island. "GLADSTONE" thence to Townsville, Sydney and Adelaide.

U.S.N.T. "ORIZABA" departed Oro Bay 0400L/10 for Port Moresby - E.T.A. 1500L/11.

"GASCOYNE" arrived Milne Bay 1100L/10 from Sydney.

S.C. 698 arrived Milne Bay 1900L/9 from Buna.

YMS. 71 and 72 escorting B.G. 31 departed Buna 1800L/9.

"MINJAK TANAH" departed Merauke 1505L/10 for Thursday Island - E.T.A. 1600L/11.

"MILDURA" arrived Port Moresby 0806L/10 from Cairns.

"STAWELL" escorting M.F. 16 departed Port Moresby 2015L/9 - "STAWELL" E.T.A. Milne Bay 1945L/10.

"WATO" towing M.L. 802 departed Port Moresby 0816L/10 for Milne Bay. E.T.A. 1900L/11.

YMS. 47 and 48 returned Cairns 1631L/10 from M/S duties.

"KAPUNDA" } arrived Cairns 0130L/10 from escorting M.V. 63.
"KALGOORLIE" }
S.C. 744 and 982 }

"SHEPPARTON" arrived Cairns 1426L/10 from Milne Bay.

"KANIHLA" } arrived Townsville 0640L/10 from Port Moresby.
"WARREGO" }

"WAGGA" arrived Townsville 2140L/9 from Sydney.

"BIRCHGROVE PARK" arrived Maryborough 1340L/9 from Wide Bay and Sydney - departed 2000L/9 for Wide Bay and Sydney.

P.T. 344 and 347 in tow of "JOHN CARROLL" departed Gladstone 1830L/10 for Townsville - E.T.A. 1430L/12.

P.C. 1134 } E.T.D. Caloundra 1700L/11 - "H.T. ALLEN" to Townsville
"HENRY T. ALLEN" } P.C. 1134 thence Milne Bay.

"CONYNGHAM" departed Caloundra 0125L/10 for Buna - E.T.A. 2000L/13.

"WITGOW" E.T.D. Caloundra 1630L/10 for Sydney - E.T.A. 0830L/12.

"SPRIGHTLY" E.T.D. Caloundra 1900L/10 with L.C.M. in tow to recover oil barge aground on Sandy Cape.

"MATAFELE" E.T.D. Caloundra 1800L/13 for Sydney - E.T.A. 0600L/16.

YMS.8 and 46 arrived Brisbane 1113L/10 from Cairns.

HMS. "RANEE" departed San Francisco 0400L/9 for Wellington - E.T.A. 25/2.
(Escort A/C Carrier) Melbourne and Cochin.

"VENDETTA" E.T.D. Sydney 0800L/11 for Brisbane and Milne Bay.

"GILMER" arrived Sydney 0802L/10 from Townsville

"HUMPHREYS" } arrived Sydney 0950L/10 from Milne Bay.

"BROOKS" }

"SANDS" }

"KYBRA" returned Sydney 0907L/10 from training cruise.

M.L.810 arrived Twofold Bay 1700L/9 from Je vis Bay and Sydney.

"BANGALOW" departed Sydney 1155L/10 for Brisbane - E.T.A. Caloundra
2300L/12.

"WHYALLA" } escorting G.P.108 including "GOLD STAR" departed Sydney
"YANDRA" } 1045L/10.

Y.P.286 departed Exmouth Gulf 1900L/9 - E.T.A. Fremantle 1101L/13.

"COOTAMUNDRA" escorting "BURWAH" departed Darwin 0405L/10 for West
Bay - E.T.A. 1230L/11 thence Drysdale and Darwin.

CONVOYS SOUTH OF GLADSTONE TO CEASE.

After the sailing of G.P.110 (17/2) P.G. 109 (16/2), Q.L.56 (16/2) and L.Q.55 (15/2) convoys between Sydney and Gladstone are to be discontinued. Air and surface patrols are to be maintained off focal points and air and surface striking forces will be available if required.

AIR RAID WARNINGS:

PORT MORESEY - Red 1610L/10.
White 1711L/10
Red 0246L/11.

UNIDENTIFIED SIGHTING BY TASMAN ISLAND LIGHT.

N.O.I.C. Hobart reported that Tasman Island Light sighted a vessel, course S.W. at 0915L/10 which altered course to S.E. at 1145L/10. No description of the vessel has been obtained and the sighting cannot be identified. AORSA arranged a search by two Ansons for first light/11.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900L/Thursday, 10th February, 1944.

U.S.S. "OYSTER" BAY - arrived Milne Bay 1310L/9 from Brisbane.

"MIZAR" E.T.D. San Francisco 9/2 for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 26/2.

YMS.315 returned Milne Bay 1500L/8 from escorting B.G. 30 for repairs.

YMS.335 departed Milne Bay 1000L/9 as relief for YMS.315.

YMS.71 and 72 } escorting B.G. 29 arrived Langemak 1300L/7; escorting
S.C. 698 } G.B.29 departed "LANGEMAK" 1715L/7, arrived Buna 1700L/8

M.L.801 and 806 escorting B.G. 30 arrived Lae 0730L/8.

S.C. 750 } escorting B.G. 30 arrived Langemak 1330L/8.
YMS.313 }

"GLENELG" departed Milne Bay 0930L/9 to R.V. ROSEVILLE about 2100L/9 and escort to Milne Bay.

YMS.314 } departed Milne Bay 1700L/8 for Buna - E.T.A.
S.C. 737 and 746 } 1500L/9.

"SUSQUEHANNA" departed Milne Bay 1500L/8 arrived Buna 0700L/9.

U.S.N.T. "ORIZABA" arrived Goodenough 1400L/8 from Milne Bay -
E.T.D. 0700L/9 for Oro Bay - arrived 1650L/9; E.T.D.
0400L/10 for Pt. Moresby.

YMS.534 and 53 } escorting G.B. 30 departed Langemak 1745L/8.
1 S.C. }

"ETAMIN" arrived Langemak 1000L/9 from Buna.

"CALAMARES" arrived Buna 0955L/9 from Milne Bay.

YP.278 departed Buna 1820L/8 for Langemak E.T.A. 1400L/9.

"STAWELL" escorting M.F. 16 E.T.D. Port Moresby 1700L/9, "STAWELL"
escort to North Foreland.

"ECHUCA" escorting Q.L.54 departed Brisbane 1625L/9.

U.S. Frigates "LONGBEACH" and "GLENDALE" E.T.A. Gladstone 1300L/13 from
vicinity south of New Caledonia.

"COWRA" escorting L.Q. 53 departed Gladstone 2100L/8, arrived Brisbane
1755L/9.

"BONYNGHAM" E.T.D. Cape Moreton 0400L/10 for Buna E.T.A. 2000L/13.

"FANSHAW BAY" arrived Brisbane 0012L/9 from Townsville.

"LITHGOW" arrived Brisbane 0204L/9 from Townsville.

P.C. 1134 escorting "HENRY T. ALLEN" E.T.D. Caloundra 1700L/11 for
Milne Bay - E.T.A. 1700L/15.

"ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" } escorting G.P.107 arrived Brisbane 0135L/9;
"COLAC" } with "TOWNSVILLE" escorting P.G. 107 departed
1247L/9.

"DOBBIN" E.T.D. Sydney 13/2 for Milne Bay.

U.S. Destroyer "WOODWORTH" departed Sydney 2104L/9 for Port Purvis
Florida Island.

"GOLDSTAR" E.T.D. Sydney in G.P.108 0900L/10 for Brisbane.

"DOOMBA" departed Sydney 0850L/9 on A/S patrol to Newcastle and return.

U.S.S. "YUMA" towing A.R.D. 10 (floating dry dock) departed Sydney 1008L/9 for Melbourne. - E.T.A. 0900L/12.

L.C.I. 25, 224, 225, and 226 arrived Sydney 1105L/9.

M.L.810 departed Sydney 1245L/8 for Twofold Bay via Jervis Bay E.T.A. Jervis Bay 2000L/8.

"HILO" departed Sydney 1810L/9 for Brisbane - E.T.A. 1200L/11.

"SWAN" DELAYED:

Information received that H.M.A.S. "SWAN" which started conversion on November 1st and was expected to complete by end of January is now delayed until end of March.

U.S.S. "ALBATROSS" departed Sydney 1000L/9 for Brisbane
 "ALBATROSS" arrived Milne Bay 1500L/7 from Sydney.
 U.S.S. "ALBATROSS" departed Milne Bay 0700L/8 for Bell Belland Goodenough
 "ALBATROSS" departed Milne Bay 1200L/8 for Port Moresby - E.T.A. 0800L/10 for return escort duty.
 "ALBATROSS" arrived Cairns 1400L/8 from Port Moresby.
 "ALBATROSS" departed Cairns 1148L/8 to rendezvous E.S. 212.
 "ALBATROSS" departed Darwin carrying D.T. 42 0942L/8.
 "ALBATROSS" arrived Milne Bay 0900L/7 from Lee and departed 1200L/8 for Cairns.
 "ALBATROSS" arrived Sydney 1300L/8 carrying P.S. 100.
 "ALBATROSS" with P.L. 212 arrived Port Phillip 0800L/7 from Sydney.
 "ALBATROSS" arrived Darwin 1400L/8 - carrying L.S. 40.
 "ALBATROSS" departed Milne Bay 1200L/8 to relieve P.C. 070 A/S patrol Cairns S.I.
 "ALBATROSS" arrived Townsville 0800L/8 from A/S Patrol Southern Passage
 "ALBATROSS" carrying L.S. 50 E.S. 212. 0800L/8.
 "ALBATROSS" departed Milne Bay 0800L/8 for Goodenough and Rindiana.
 P.S. 100 arrived Milne Bay 0800L/8 from A/S Patrol Cairns S.I.
 P.S. 100 carrying Cape Mendocino arrived Milne Bay 1000L/8 from S.V.
 P.S. 100 and P.S. 101 leaving P.C. 070. 101. 102. departed Cairns 1300L/8 - E.T.A. Milne Bay 1100L/11.
 M.L.810 departed Sydney 1245L/8 for Twofold Bay.
 P.S. 100 towing oil barge arrived Cairns 1200L/8 from Sandy Cape
 "ALBATROSS" departed Milne Bay 1200L/8 - E.T.A. Brisbane 0800L/12.
 "ALBATROSS" arrived Milne Bay 0800L/8 from Lee.
 P.S. 100 and 101 in for "ALBATROSS" departed Brisbane 1200L/8 E.T.A. Milne Bay 1100L/11.

MGST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900L/Wednesday, 9th February, 1944.

H.M.S. "SHAH" - departed Melbourne 1005L/8 - E.T.A. Fremantle 1000L/13.

"COMDESRON 24" - in U.S.S. "DALY" with U.S. Destroyers "BEALE", "BACHE", "BUSH", "MULLANY", "AMMEN" arrived Sydney 1341L/8 from Milne Bay area.

DESDIV 38 consisting of U.S. Destroyers "KALK", "HOBBY", "GILLESPIE", "WELLES" arrived Milne Bay 1719L/7 from Funa Futi.

U.S. Destroyer "FIELD" - departed Milne Bay 1630L/7 - E.T.A. Oro Bay 1400L/8.

U.S. Destroyer "GILMER" departed Townsville 030L/8 - E.T.A. Sydney 0800L/10.

"KANIMBLA" escorted by "WARRECO" departed Port Moresby 1126L/8 - E.T.A. Townsville 0600L/10.

U.S. Seaplane Tender "HERON" arrived Mackay 0955L/8 from Brisbane.

"WARRAMUNGA" arrived Milne Bay 1630L/7 from Sydney.

U.S.N.T. "ORIZABA" departed Milne Bay 0700L/8 for Belli Beli and Goodenough

"MILDURA" departed Cairns 1206L/8 for Port Moresby - E.T.A. 0800L/10 for return escort duty.

"CASTLEMAINE" arrived Cairns 1439L/8 from Port Moresby.

"BROOME" departed Cairns 1146L/8 to rendezvous T.N. 215.

"INVERELL" departed Darwin escorting D.T. 42 0943L/8.

"SHEPPARTON" arrived Milne Bay 0930L/7 from Lae and departed 1200L/8 for Cairns.

"WARRNAMBOOL" arrived Sydney 1005L/8 escorting P.G. 106.

"BINGERA" with M.L. 812 arrived Port Phillip 2159L/7 from Sydney.

"COOTAMUNDRA" arrived Darwin 1422L/8 - escorting T.D. 43.

"ARARAT" departed Milne Bay 1300L/8 to relieve P.C. 476 A/S patrol China St.

"PIRIE" arrived Townsville 0016L/8 from A/S Patrol Crafton Passage

"COWRA" escorting L.Q. 53 E.T.D. Gladstone 2100L/8.

M.L. 430 departed Milne Bay 0501L/8 for Goodenough and Kiriwina.

P.C. 476 arrived Milne Bay 2030L/8 from A/S Patrol China Strait.

P.C. 1124 escorting Cape Mendicino arrived Milne Bay 1000L/8 from R.V.

P.C. 1123 and YMS. 316 towing P.T.'s 340, 341, 342, departed Cairns 1601L/8 - E.T.A. Milne Bay 1100L/11.

M.L. 810 departed Sydney 1245L/8 for Twofold Bay.

U.S. Tug "CHETCO" towing oil barge arrived Cairns 1231L/8 from Sandy Cape Light.

"PYRO" departed Milne Bay 1200L/8 - E.T.A. Brisbane 0200L/13.

"SUSQUEHANNA" arrived Milne Bay 0930L/8 from Buna.

P.T. 354 and 355 in tow "THOMAS CORWIN" departed Brisbane 1234L/8 E.T.A. Milne Bay 0400L/11.

P.T. 344 and 347 departed Brisbane 0745L/7 for Milne Bay in tow "JOHN CARROLL".

YMS. 47 and 48 departed Cairns 0711L/8 for 3 days' M/S duty Grafton Passage.

Y.P. 236 departed Cairns 0700L/8 - E.T.A. Caloundra 0600L/12.

S.Cs. 882 and 713 towed by "LORINNA" departed Milne Bay 1005L/8 to join B.G. 31.

ENEMY AIR RAIDS:

SALAMAUA (H/F D/F Station) Red 2133L/8.
White 2150L/8.

NADZAB Red 2134L/8.
White 2157L/8.

"KORONA" departed by "PACIFIC" 1100L/7 from Langkok.

"KORONA" carrying "PACIFIC" from rendezvous arrived Milne Bay 1200L/7.

"KORONA" arrived Milne Bay 1200L/8 from rendezvous carrying "PACIFIC" and "KORONA" towing A.B.S. 2.

"KORONA" departed Townsville 0100L/7 for Melbourne - (E.T.A. 2.4/10/8) via Brisbane.

"KORONA" arrived Darwin 1200L/7 from Millingford.

"KORONA" arrived from Island (10 miles S. of Rocke Island) at 0447L/7 from Darwin area.

"KORONA" carrying submarine "KORONA" arrived Milne Bay 1100L/8 from S.V.

"KORONA" carrying T.M. 214 arrived Milne Bay 1200L/7 and departed "KORONA" at 1200L/7 with S.A. 704 and 882, carrying E.P. 45.

"KORONA" departed Sydney 0300L/7 for A/S patrol Newcastle and return.

"KORONA" departed Sydney Bay for Milne Bay 1200L/7.

"KORONA" arrived Milne Bay 0300L/7 to relieve "VIRIX" on A/S patrol outer Grafton Passage.

"KORONA" arrived Milne Bay 0300L/8 from Darwin area.

"KORONA" (Sydney Bay/Melbourne) to turn around in approximately position 10 deg. 40' S on Green route and proceed Townsville.

"KORONA" arrived Milne Bay 1700L/8 from Darwin.

"KORONA" departed Darwin 1400L/7 for Langkok.

"KORONA" (Sydney) arrived Milne Bay 1000L/8 from Sydney.

"KORONA" departed Cairns 1200L/7 for Brisbane - E.T.A. Caloundra 1200L/10.

"KORONA" departed Cairns 1200L/7 for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 1200L/10.

"KORONA" arrived Cairns 1200L/7 from Milne Bay.

"KORONA" (Sydney) arrived Sydney 1200L/8 from Darwin area.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900L/Tuesday, 9th February, 1944.

H.M.S. "PATROLLER" - departed Fremantle 1100L/7 for Wellington - E.T.A. 0480L/15.

U.S. "FANSHAW BAY" departed Townsville 0650L/7 - E.T.A. Brisbane 0500L/9.

U.S.D. "BUSH" arrived Brisbane from Milne Bay 0705L/7 and departed 1138L/7 to conduct leave transportation Desron 24 Moreton Island/Brisbane, thence Cape Sudest via Milne Bay.

U.S.N.T. "MONTICELLO" departed Milne Bay 1900L/6 - E.T.A. Noumea 8/2.

"ADELAIDE" departed Melbourne 1415L/6 - escorting "MARIPOSA", bound Wellington, until 1930L/8 thence Melbourne.

COMTRANSDIV 16 in U.S.D. "HUMPHREYS" with U.S.D's "SANDS" and "BROOKS" departed Milne Bay 1400L/6 for Sydney via Grafton Passage.

U.S.D. "GILMER" en route Milne Bay/Cairns arrived Townsville 1642L/7 for fuel.

"KANIMELA" escorted by "WARREGO" arrived Port Moresby 1106L/7 from Langemak.

"STUART" escorting "SEA SNIPE" from rendezvous arrived Milne Bay 1030L/7.

"GLADSTONE" arrived Milne Bay 1500L/6 from rendezvous escorting "BOOTES" and "MATAGORDA" towing A.R.D. 9.

"LITHOON" departed Townsville 0130L/7 for Melbourne - (E.T.A. A.M/16/2) via Brisbane.

"INVERELL" arrived Darwin 1340L/7 from Millingimbi.

"BENALLA" arrived Tuan Island (10 miles S. of Rooke Island) at 2047L/7 from Buna area.

"GLENELG" escorting submarine "SCAMP" arrived Milne Bay 1100L/6 from R.V.

"KAPUNDA" } Escorting T.N. 214 arrived Milne Bay 1245L/7 and departed
"KALGOORLIE" } 1800L/7 with S.C. 744 and 982, escorting H.V. 83.

"DOOMBA" departed Sydney 0851L/7 for A/S patrol Newcastle and return.

HML.1325 departed Membere Bay for Milne Bay 1600L/7.

P.C. 477 arrived Cairns 0821L/7 to relieve "PIRIE" on A/S patrol outer Grafton Passage.

"RESERVE" arrived Milne Bay 2200L/6 from Buna area.

"GANYMED" (Milne Bay/Melbourne) to turn around in approximately position 32 S. on Green route and proceed Townsville.

"PING WO" arrived Milne Bay 1730L/6 from Buna.

FP.278 departed Buna 1430L/7 for Langemak.

"LAURIANA" (ASR). arrived Milne Bay 1600L/6 from Goodenough.

MS.8 and 46 departed Cairns 1300L/7 for Brisbane - E.T.A. Caloundra 2000L/10.

S.C. 747 departed Cairns 1500L/7 for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 1000L/10.

S.C. 703 arrived Cairns 1546L/7 from Milne Bay.

MS.71 & 72, S.C. 698 escorting S.C.29 departed Buna 1515L/6.

1944

AIR ATTACK ON "EULIAMA"

A single Zero machine-gunned "EULIAMA" (739 tons cargo steamer) 35 miles north of Oro Bay 1345L/5. No damage or casualties.

ENEMY AIR RAIDS:

SAMARAI Yellow 1535L/7.
Red 1610L/7, 1650L/7, 1900L/7, 2000L/7, 2038L/7.
White 1909L/7, 2010L/7, 2043L/7.

DOBODURA Yellow T.O.R. 1532L/7. White no time shown.

GOODENOUGH Yellow T.O.R. 1530L/7.

PORT MORESBY Yellow T.O.R. 1529L/7.

.....

[Faint, mostly illegible text continues, including various ship names and dates]

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

0900L/Monday, 7th February, 1944.

"GILMER" departed Milne Bay 1200L/6 for Cairns - E.T.A. 1100L/7.

U.S.N.T. "MONTICELLO" departed Milne Bay 1730L/5 for Noumea and San Francisco.

"STUART" departed Milne Bay 0500L/6 to rendezvous "SEA SNIP" and escort to Milne Bay.

"KANIMBLA" arrived Langenak 0810L/5 from Townsville.

"PYRO" E.T.D. Milne Bay A.M/8 for Brisbane.

P.C. 1133 returned Milne Bay 2000L/5 from A/S patrol China Strait.

P.C. 1121 arrived Milne Bay 1030L/6 from Lae.

"POLARIS" departed Milne Bay 0700L/6 to join H.M.A.S. "MORESBY".

"GLENELG" departed Milne Bay 1730L/5 to rendezvous U.S. Submarine "SCAMP" and escort to Milne Bay.

P.C. 1124 departed Milne Bay 1600L/6 to rendezvous "CAPE MENDOCINO" and escort to Milne Bay.

YMS. 315 and 313 } escorting B.G. 28 departed Milne Bay 1300L/6.
S.C. 750 and M.L. 801 }

"CASTLEMAINE" escorting "MACEDON" departed Port Moresby 1245L/6 -
"CASTLEMAINE" E.T.A. Cairns 1245L/8.

"STAWELL" escorting "TEXAS SUN" arrived Port Moresby 0806L/6 from Milne Bay.

YMS. 316 arrived Cairns 0916L/6 from Brisbane.

YMS. 47 and 48 E.T.D. Cairns 0700L/6 for 3 days' M/S in Grafton Passage.

P.C. 1123 arrived Cairns 1133L/6 from Brisbane.

"BROOME" } arrived Cairns 1501L/6 from escorting M.V. 62.
"BALLARAT" }
"MILDURA" }

S.C. 747 E.T.D. Cairns 1500L/7 for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 1000L/10.

"LITHCOW" arrived Townsville 0630L/6 from A/S patrol of Grafton Passage.

U.S. Seaplane Tender "OYSTER BAY" - departed Brisbane 5/2 for Milne Bay -
E.T.A. 8/2.

"COWRA" escorting Q.L. 53 departed Brisbane 1524L/6.

"ECHUCA" escorting L.Q. 52 arrived Brisbane 0512L/6.

"WARRENBOOL" } escorting G.P. 106 arrived Brisbane 1905L/6.
"TOWNSVILLE" }

"WARRENBOOL" escorting P.G. 106 departed Caloundra 1430L/6.

"BENDIGO" } departed Brisbane 1654L/6 for exercises -
U.S. Submarine "BALAO" } "BENDIGO" to proceed 0600L/6 for Milne Bay.

"ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" } escorting G.P. 107 departed Sydney 0840L/6.
"COLAC" }

"SHAH" arrived Melbourne 1115L/6 from San Francisco - E.T.D. P.M/7 for
"COCHIN".

M.L. 815 escorting "BURWAH" arrived Darwin 1215L/6 from Millingimbi.

"INVERRELL" on passage Millingimbi/Darwin diverted to Croker Island (about 70 miles E. of Melville Island) on A.S.R. duty.

AIR RAID WARNING -

SAMARAI - Red 0152L/7.

White 0226L/7.

departed Milne Bay departed Longman 1000L/5.
 departed Milne Bay 0500L/5 for Goodenough, Oru Bay, Longman, Lee, and ...
 departing N.W. including "GUYANA" departed Milne Bay 1000L/5.
 departed Milne Bay 1700L/4 to A.V. "VEGAS" and "STANLEY" via ... (via ... Bay area) and return to Milne Bay.
 according to N.W. Submarine "GUYANA" arrived Milne Bay 1010L/4.
 U.S. Destroyer "GUYANA" departed Milne Bay 1010L/4 for Brisbane A.V.A. 0800L/7.
 arrived Milne Bay 1500L/5 from Woodlark.
 arrived Milne Bay 1700L/4 from ...
 departed Milne Bay 0700L/5 for ... A.V.A. 0700L/5.
 arrived ... 1500L/5 from ... Passage patrol.
 departed Milne Bay 1100L/5 to A.V. ... off Pitcairn Island ... to Milne Bay.
 and ... returned Milne Bay 1700L/5 from N/S duties in ... Passage.
 departed ... 1000L/5 to relieve "LINDA" on outer N/S patrol of ... Passage.
 U.S. Submarine Tender "GUYANA" departed ... 4/5 for Brisbane ...
 arrived Brisbane 1000L/5 from Sydney.
 U.S. ... 1000L/5 for ... between Jarvis and ... Days, ... Sydney 0800L/5.
 arrived ... Bay 1700L/4 from Jarvis Bay.
 arrived Sydney 1000L/5 from Brisbane.
 according to P.S. ... arrived Sydney 1000L/5.
 departed Sydney 0700L/5 for ... Bay.
 departed Sydney 1000L/5 for Milne Bay ...
 departed Sydney 1000L/5 for ...
 U.S. ... departed Sydney 1100L/5 for St. Phillip A.V.A. ...
 arrived ... Bay ...
 to ... until ...
 U.S.A. ...
 "GUYANA" (reported around ...
 was ... and arrived ...
 - Yellow 1500L/5, Red 1000L/5, Green 1000L/5.

0900L/Sunday, 5th February, 1944.

- P.C.478 departed Milne Bay 1500L/5 to relieve P.C.1133 on A/S patrol China Strait.
- Y.M.S.11 and 335 } escorting G.E. 27 to Milne Bay departed Langemak 1800L/5.
S.C.748 }
- S.C.708 departed Milne Bay 0600L/5 for Cairns E.T.A. 2300L/7.
- M.L.431 departed Milne Bay 0800L/5 for Goodenough, Oro Bay, Langemak, Lae, and Buna.
- "BROOME" } escorting M.V.62 including "OCTANS" departed Milne Bay 1600L/4.
"BALLARAT" }
"MILDURA" }
- "GLADSTONE" departed Milne Bay 1700L/4 to R.V. "BOOTES" and "MATAGORDA" towing ARD 9 (floating dry dock) and escort to Milne Bay.
- "ARARAT" escorting U.S. Submarine "DARTER" arrived Milne Bay 1515L/4.
- U.S. Destroyer "BUSH" departed Milne Bay 1445L/4 for Brisbane E.T.A. 0800L/7.
- S.C.982 arrived Milne Bay 1630L/4 from Woodlark.
- Y.M.S. 75 } arrived Milne Bay 1530L/4 from Buna.
S.C.650 and 741 }
- "SUSQUE HANNA" departed Milne Bay 0945L/5 for Buna E.T.A. 0700L/6.
- P.C.477 arrived Cairns 1349L/5 from Grafton Passage patrol.
- "KAPUNDA" } departed Cairns 1146L/5 to R.V. T.H.214 off Fitzroy Island
"KALGOOLIE" } and escort to Milne Bay.
- Y.M.S.8 and 46 returned Cairns 1758L/5 from M/S duties in Grafton Passage.
- "PIRIE" departed Cairns 1201L/5 to relieve "LITHGOW" on outer A/S patrol of Grafton Passage.
- U.S. Submarine Tender "EURYALE" departed Balboa 4/2 for Brisbane ETA 28/2.
- "BENDIGO" Arrived Brisbane 1255L/5 from Sydney.
- "KYBRA" E.T.D. Sydney 0808L/6 for exercises between Jervis and Broken Bays, returning Sydney 0800L/10.
- M.L.823 arrived Twofold Bay 1700L/4 from Jervis Bay.
- "WHYALLA" arrived Sydney 1316L/5 from Brisbane.
- "ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" } escorting P.C.105 arrived Sydney 1043L/5.
"YANDRA" }
- "BIRCHGROVE PARK" departed Sydney 0753L/5 for Wide Bay.
- "GASCOYNE" departed Sydney 1611L/5 for Milne Bay E.T.A.1300L/10.
- "WAGGA" departed Sydney 1348L/5 for Townsville.
- "BINGERRA" towing M.L.812 departed Sydney 1123L/5 for Pt.Phillip E.T.A. 1500L/7.
- "ADELAIDE" escorting "MARIPOSA" arrived Port Melbourne 0831L/5; E.T.D. Port Phillip about 2300L/6, "MARIPOSA" for Wellington, "ADELAIDE" to escort until nightfall 8 then return Melbourne.
- "CAVYMEDE" E.T.A. Melbourne 1500L/9.
- "DAVID F. BARRY" REFLOATED. - "DAVID F. BARRY" (reported aground 5 miles N.W. of Buna at 1947L/5) was refloated and arrived Buna 1300L/3.
- AIR RAID - Port Moresby - Yellow 1327L/5, Red 1343L/5, Green 1350L/5.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900L/Saturday, 5th February, 1944.

U.S.D. "PRINGLE" departed Sydney 1245L/4 - E.T.A. Noumea A.M/6/2.

U.S.D. "DENT" escorting "PAWNER" departed Sydney 1325L/4 - E.T.A. Bulari (Noumea) 1700L/7.

"WARRAHUNGA" departed Sydney 1837L/4 - E.T.A. Milne Bay 1930L/7.

"AHUNTA" arrived Sydney 2034L/4 from Milne Bay.

"WESTRALIA" arrived Milne Bay 1000L/3 from Langemak and departed 0830L/4 - E.T.A. Cape Sudest 2100L/4 - E.T.A. Cape Cretin 0700L/5.

US.

Auxiliary Aircraft Carrier "FANSHAW BAY" arrived Townsville 1526L/4 from Gladstone.

U.S. Seaplane Tender "HERON" departed Brisbane 3/2 E.T.A. Mackay 5/2.

"STAVELL" departed Milne Bay 1745L/3 to R.V. "TEXAS SUN".

"COOTAMUNDRA" escorting T.D. 43 departed Thursday Island 0915L/4.

"BOWEN" arrived Cairns 0915L/4 from escorting N.T. 71.

"BENALLA" departed Milne Bay 0930L/3 - E.T.A. Buna 1030L/4.

"KATOOMBA" arrived Cairns 1444L/4 for boiler cleaning.

"CASTLEMAINE" escorting T.N. 213A arrived Port Moresby 1415L/4.

"MILDURA" } escorting T.N. 213B arrived Milne Bay 1107L/4 and departed
"BROOME" } 1600L/4 escorting M.V. 62.
"BALLARAT" }

"ARARAT" departed Milne Bay 1700L/3 to rendezvous submarine "DARTER" at 0800L/4 and escort to Milne Bay.

"ECHUCA" escorting L.Q. 52 departed Gladstone 1830L/4.

"HUNDABERG" } escorting M.V. 61 arrived Cairns 1321L/4.
"KALGOORLIE" }
"PIRIE" }

"DELORAINÉ" arrived Sydney 2231L/4 from Brisbane (exercises).

P.C. 477 departed Milne Bay 1200L/3 for M/S duties Crafton Passage.

P.C. 1121 arrived Langemak 1130L/3 escorting submarine "GATO".

M.L.823 departed Sydney 0600L/4 for Twofold Bay.

5 L.C.I. departed Milne Bay 1630L/3 E.T.A. Sydney 0600L/11.

11 L.C.I.'s arrived Milne Bay 1000L/3 from Townsville.

YMS.11. 335 and S.C. 748 B.G. 27 arrived Langemak 1200L/3.

"ETAMIN" arrived Buna 1200L/3 from Milne Bay.

"OCTANS" departed Buna 1700L/2 arrived Milne Bay 0735L/3.

"SUSQUEHANNA" departed Buna 0700L/3 - arrived Milne Bay 0730L/4.

U.S. TUG "CHETCO" departed Sandy Cape Light 1615L/4 for Cairns with 1 Oil barge in tow.

To 0900L/Friday, 4th February, 1944.

"STUART" escorting U.S.N.T. "MONTICELLO" from rendezvous arrived Milne Bay 1100L/3.

"VAN GALEN" } departed Geraldton 1915L/2 for Colombo.
"TJERK RIDDES" }

"ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" detached P.G. 105 (departed Brisbane 1155L/2) to escort S.S. "CARDROSS" (unable maintain convoy speed) to Newcastle.

"DELORAIN" departed Brisbane 1115L/3 for Cape Moreton submarine area - E.T.A. 2000L/4.

"WARRNAMBOOL" } escorting G.P.106 departed Sydney 0814L/3 E.T.A.
"TOWNSVILLE" } Caloundra 2230L/5.

"BOWEN" escorting N.T. 71 departed Port Moresby 1745L/2.

"BEHALLA" arrived Milne Bay 1030L/2 from Cairns.

"WARREGO" departed Cairns 1507L/2 to rendezvous "KANIMELA" for escort Fitzroy Island to Finschhafen and return Cairns.

"COOTAMUNDRA" escorting "ARICKAREE" arrived Thursday Island 1147L/3 from Darwin.

"BENDIGO" departed Sydney 1759L/3 E.T.A. Milne Bay 0700L/8.

P.C. 477 escorting U.S.N.T. "ORIZABA" arrived Milne Bay 1615L/2.

M.L. 809 arrived Thursday Island 2110L/3 from Cairns.

"BURRABRA" arrived Jervis Bay from Port Kembla 1530L/2.

M.L. 823 departed Sydney 1132L/3 for Jervis Bay - E.T.A. 1830L/3.

"DOBBIN" arrived Sydney 1021L/3 from Milne Bay.

"YUMA" (U.S. Tug) arrived Sydney 1758L/2 with ARD.10 from Melbourne.

U.S.S. "PANSHAW BAY" (U.S. Auxiliary A/C carrier) arrived Gladstone 1131L/3 from San Francisco, and departed 1715L/3 for Townsville - E.T.A. 1700L/4.

"GRELKA" } with S.S. "GLENSTABE" departed Adel. 1301L/3 - E.T.A. Fremantle
"HYROCA" } 8/2.

S.C. 732, 743 } arrived Milne Bay 0600L/3 from Langemak.
YMS. 314 }

S.C. 749 escorting L.C. 51 arrived Brisbane 0903L/3.

YP. 510 arrived "YAMBA" (N.S.W.).

YMS. 314 } escorting G.B. 25 arrived Buna 1700L/2.
S.C. 732, 743 }

YMS. 3 and 46 departed Cairns for M/S duty Grafton Passage.

YP. 286 departed Fremantle 1641L/2 for Exmouth Gulf.

YMS. 47 and 48 arrived Cairns 1731L/2 from M/S duties Grafton Passage.

YMS. 11, 335 } escorting G.B. 24 arrived Buna 1630L/1 and departed,
S.C. 743 } escorting E.G. 27 1615L/2 - E.T.A. Langemak 1200L/3.

YMS. 314 } escorting G.B. 25 arrived Milne Bay 1050L/3.
S.C. 732, 743 }

U.S. TUG "CHETCO" - Oil Barges Adrift -

Southbound from Brisbane U.S. "CHETCO" lost 2 of 3 oil barges in tow in vicinity Sandy Cape during night 2/3. YP.291 and "SPRIGHTLY" were despatched to search for and attempt to recover the barges. Ships and authorities in S.A.M.S. area 5B, were warned of the danger to navigation.

EDWARD H. WESTCOTT - AIR ATTACK. -

YMS11 at 0045L/3, engaged a single enemy fighter plane in vicinity Morobe, whilst it was attacking "EDWARD H. WESTCOTT" (7,178 tons, departed Milne Bay 1300L/1 for Buna). Results were unobserved and no damage to either vessel is reported.

S.S.S.S. FROM MORMACWREN -

At 0337L/4 from position 14°S. 176°50'E (265 miles N.W. Suva) "MORMACWREN" (8,177 tons) signalled "S.S.S.S. Sighted torpedo fired". The signal was passed to Com. 3rd Fleet. Details of movements and cargo are not known to us.

DAVID BARRY AGROUND -

"DAVID BARRY" (7178 tons Liberty, arrived Buna 1502L/1 from Milne Bay) was reported aground 5 miles N.W. Buna at 1047L/3. H.M.A.S. "RESERVE" (Tug) was detailed to assist.

ENEMY AIR RAIDS -

SAMARAI - Red (Time not stated).
White 2204L/3.

NADZAB - Closing down 2017L/3.
White 2034L/3.

.....

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0000L/Thursday, 3rd February, 1944.

U.S.N.T. "MOUNT VERNON" - departed Milne Bay 0845L/2 for San Francisco
E.T.A. 18/2.

COMDESDIV 38 - in U.S. Destroyer "HOBBY" with DESDIV 38 and 5 troop ships
departed FUNAFUTI 1800L/31 for Milne Bay.

P.C. 1181 escorting U.S. Submarine "GATO" departed Milne Bay 0715L/2.
E.T.A. Vicinity DREGER BAY 1100L/3.

"ARARAT" departed Milne Bay 1000L/1 for exercise S.E. of China Strait with
U.S. Submarine, returning Milne Bay 2000L/2.

"SUSQUEHANNA" arrived Buna 1000L/1 from Milne Bay.

YMS. 73 } escorting G.B. 23 arrived Buna 1800L/31.
S.C. 550 and 741 }

HML. 1321 - departed Milne Bay 2203L/1 for Langemak - E.T.A. 2200L/2.

"BUNDABERG" } escorting M.V. 61 departed Milne Bay 0600L/2.
"KALGOORLIE" }
"PIRIE" }

"RESERVE" departed Milne Bay 0830L/2 for Buna - E.T.A. 1300L/3 for onward
convey to Cape Cretin.

YMS. 314 } escorting G.B. 25 to Buna departed Langemak 1700L/1.
S.C. 732 and 748 }

"DOWEN" escorting T.N. 212A. arrived Pt. Moresby 1705L/1; escorting
N.T. 71 - E.T.D. Port Moresby 1700L/2.

"LITHGOW" returned Cairns 2057L/1 from Grafton Passage for repairs to 4"
guns, departed Cairns 1137L/2 for outer A/S patrol of Grafton
Passage.

U.S. Seaplane Tender "HERON" E.T.D. Caloundra 1900L/3 for Mackay E.T.A.
1800L/5.

"ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" } escorting P.G. 105 departed Brisbane 1155L/2.
"YANDRA" }
"WRYALLA" }

"ECHUCA" } escorting Q.L. 52 departed Brisbane 1802L/2.
YMS. 318 }

"COWRA" escorting "JOHN CARROLL" arrived Brisbane 0125L/2.

P.C. 1123 E.T.D. Caloundra 1200L/3 for Cairns. - E.T.A. 1400L/5 for onward
passage to Milne Bay.

YP. 291 arrived Brisbane 1201L/2 from Cairns.

U.S. DESTROYER "WOODWARD" - arrived Sydney 0710L/2 from Espiritu Santo

"DOOMBA" departed Sydney 0852L/2 on A/S patrol to Newcastle and return.

"BINGERA" arrived Sydney 1520L/2 from Westernport.

M.L. 815 escorting "BARINDA" arrived Darwin 2226L/2 from Millingimbi.

"CEYLON" arrived Fremantle 2115L/1 from escort duty with "MARIPOSA"

"PATROLLER" arrived Fremantle 1235L/2 from Cochin.

"VAN GALEN" } departed Fremantle 0130L /2 arrived Geraldton 1215L/2
"TJERK HIDDES" } and are to proceed to rendezvous R.F.A. "EAGLESDALE" in
08° 50'S, 080° 50'E at 1500L/10 thence to Trincomalee
"TJERK HIDDES" has leak in asdic directing gear and may
be ordered by CINCEP. to proceed Fremantle for docking.

F.A.S.

"CAMBRIAN SALVOR" arrived 1320L/1. "KATOOMBA" departed 0830L/2 for Cairns to boiler clean.

H.M.A.S. "PLATNA"

Commissioned E/2 as a tender to "RUSHCUTTER".

UNIDENTIFIED LOOP CROSSING AT FREMANTLE.

There was an unidentified loop crossing at Fremantle at 1045L/2. Visibility was less than 2 miles. A search by an A/S vessel and A/C proved negative.

P.C. 373 returned Milne Bay 1500L/1 (via A/S patrol of China Strait).

"RESEARCHER" departed for Base E.T.A. 1130L/2.

P.C. 374 returning R.C.M. arrived Langkok 0845L/31.

P.C. 375 } departed Milne Bay 1900L/1 for Base, E.T.A. 1200L/2.

P.C. 376 } returning R.C.M. arrived Lae 0430L/31.

P.C. 377 } returning G.R.M. to Base departed Langkok 1800L/31.

P.C. 378 arrived Milne Bay 1800L/1 from Port Moresby.

"RESEARCHER" } returning T.R. 2120 arrived Milne Bay 1300L/1.

"RESEARCHER" departed Cairns 1845L/1 for exercises and to relieve "RESEARCHER" on outer A/S patrol.

"RESEARCHER" returned Cairns 0815L/1; is to R.V. "KAMIKAZE" off Fitzroy Is. 0100L/2, to escort to Finschhafen and return to Cairns.

P.C. 379 departed Cairns 0830L/2 to R.V. "KAMIKAZE" off Fitzroy Is. and escort to Milne Bay.

"RESEARCHER" returning T.R. 212 departed Townsville 0800L/31.

"RESEARCHER" } with U.S.S. "TERRAPIN" with P.V. 530 and 503 in tow
departed Cairns 1845L/1 to R.V. T.R. 212 off Fitzroy Is.
0800L/1. "RESEARCHER" and Portion "A" E.T.A. Pt.
Moresby 1000L/4, remainder and portion "B" E.T.A. Milne
Bay 1100L/4.

P.C. 380 departed Cairns 0815L/1 to R.V. T.R. 212 (ex Townsville) and
proceed Milne Bay E.T.A. 1200L/2.

P.C. 381 returning tug "RESEARCHER" towing A.T.B. 10 (floating dry dock)
and 100 25 (gasoline barge) departed Milne Bay 0100L/2 for
Base Base and Cairns, P.C. 381 for duty 3rd Fleet on arrival
Cairns or relief as escort.

P.C. 382 returning L.C.M. departed Gladstone 1800L/1.

"RESEARCHER" } returning G.P. 103 arrived Brisbane 0800L/1.

"RESEARCHER"

To 0900L/Wednesday, 2nd February, 1944.

"ARUNTA" departed Milne Bay 0915L/1 for Sydney - E.T.A. 1800L/4.

"STUART" departed Milne Bay 1840L/31 to R.V. "SEA FLASHER" and escort to Milne Bay.

U.S. Destroyer Transports } arrived Milne Bay 2200L/31 from Sydney.
 "HUMPHREYS", "SANDS", "BROOKS")

"GLADSTONE" returned Milne Bay 0930L/1 having departed 1600L/29 to R.V. KOTA AGOENG.

YMS. 73 } escorting G.B. 23 to Buna departed Langemak 1700L/30.
 S.C. 650 and 741 }

P.C. 476 returned Milne Bay 1900L/31 from A/S patrol of China Strait.

"SUSQUEHANNA" departed Milne Bay 1740L/31 for Buna E.T.A. 1130L/1.

YMS 11 and 335 escorting B.G. 24 arrived Langemak 0845L/31.

S.C. 698 } departed Milne Bay 1700L/1 for Buna, E.T.A. 1300L/2.
 YMS. 71 and 72 }

S.C. 748 escorting B.G. 24 arrived Lae 0430L/31.

YMS. 11, 335 } escorting G.B. 24 to Buna departed Langemak 1645L/31.
 S.C. 748 }

P.C. 1124 arrived Milne Bay 1300L/1 from Port Moresby.

"MUNDABERG" } escorting T.N. 212B arrived Milne Bay 1330L/1.
 "KALGOORLIE" }
 "PIRIE and P.C. 1133 }

"LITHGOW" departed Cairns 1231L/1 for exercises and to relieve "WARREGO" on outer A/S patrol.

"WARREGO" returned Cairns 2101L/1; is to R.V. "KANIMELA" off Fitzroy Is. 0100L/2, to escort to Finschhafen and return to Cairns.

P.C. 477 departed Cairns 2353L/31 to R.V. "ORIZABA" off Fitzroy Is. and escort to Milne Bay.

"CASTLEMAINE" escorting T.N. 213 departed Townsville 2005L/31.

"MIDULRA" } with U.S.S. "TRIANGULUM" with P.T. 339 and 343 in tow
 "BROOME" } departed Cairns 1241L/1 to R.V. T.N. 213 off Fitzroy Is.
 "BALLARAT" } 1600L/1. "CASTLEMAINE" and Portion "A" E.T.A. Pt. Moresby 1000L/4, remainder and portion "B" E.T.A. Milne Bay 1100L/4.

L.C.I. 344 departed Cairns 0611L/1 to R.V. 9 L.C.I. (ex Townsville) and proceed Milne Bay E.T.A. 1200L/3.

P.C. 1136 escorting tug "SCOTCHCAP" towing A.F.D. 10 (floating dry dock) and YOG 23 (gasoline barge) departed Balboa 0130L/29 for Bora Bora and Cairns, P.C. 1136 for duty 3rd Fleet on arrival Cairns or relief as escort.

S.C. 749 escorting L.Q. 51 departed Gladstone 1830L/1.

"ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" } escorting G.P. 105 arrived Brisbane 2058L/1.
 "YANDRA" }

"NARANI", "PATERSON", } arrived Sydney 1838L/1 from Port Kembla.
"SAMUEL BENFOW"

"DOOMPA" departed Sydney 0855L/1 on A/S patrol to Newcastle and return.

"WARRNAMBOOL" } escorting P.G. 104 arrived Sydney 0805L/1.
"WILCANNIA"
"KIAMA"

U.S. Destroyer "SAMPSON" departed Sydney 1810L/1 for Noumea E.T.A. 1000L/4.

"ADELAIDE" departed Fremantle 1400L/31 to R.V. "CEYLON" escorting "MARIPOSA" in 34 52'S, 111 28'E at 1101L/1. "ADELAIDE" and "MARIPOSA" E.T.A. Port Phillip 0530L/5, "CEYLON" E.T.A. Fremantle 2100L/1.

F.A.3.

"CAMBRIAN SALVOR" arrived to assist F.A.3 1320L/1. "KATOOMBA" E.T.D. 0630L/2 for Cairns.

FLAG OF C.T.F. 74

Flag of C.T.F. 74 will be hauled down in "AUSTRALIA" and hoisted in "SHROPSHIRE" 7/2.

M.L.825

Commissioned at Sydney 800L/1.

"STEPHEN CRANE" near missed at Langemak.

1455L/31 at Jan.

Single bomb fell within 10 yards of "STEPHEN CRANE" (Liberty Ship) in entrance to Langemak Bay at 1455L/3, causing about 15 Shrapnel holes on port side all above waterline. One was killed and 2 injured.

"SEA STAR'S" engine defects.

At 0244L/1 N.O.I.C. Townsville reported that "SEA STAR" (cargo vessel of 7590 tons gross) was returning Townsville with engine defects and would not proceed with T.M. 213. "SEA STAR" has stripped her turbines and is anchored off Palm Island. Tug "ST. GILES" (due Bowen 0700L/1 from Townsville) has been ordered to proceed to her assistance and tow to Townsville.

AIR RAID WARNINGS.

SAMARAI - Red. All Clear 1512L/1.

MILNE BAY - Raid 0654L/1. All clear 0713L/1.

.....

To 0900L/Tuesday, 1st February, 1944.

U.S. COM. DESTROYER SQUADRON 5 arrived Milne Bay 1500L/30 from Sydney in U.S.D. "FLUSSER" with U.S.D's "REID", "LAMSON", "SMITH", "MAHAN", "DRAYTON".

U.S. Destroyers "MUGFORD" and "BAGLEY" arrived Milne Bay 1230L/31 from Brisbane.

"ARUNTA" arrived Milne Bay 2030L/31 for fuel preparatory to departing for Sydney for overhaul.

"KANIMELA" arrived Townsville 0550L/30 from Cairns.

"STUART" arrived Milne Bay 1300L/31, escorting "MONTEREY" from R.V.

OCEAN TUG "SCOTCH CAP" towing YXN 23 and 10 escorted by P.C. 116 departed Balbae 0130L/29 - E.T.A. Cairns 13/3 via Bora Bora.

"COOTAMUNDRA" departed Darwin at 1132L/31 escorting "ARICKAREE" - E.T.A. Thursday Is. 0830L/3.

"BALLARAT" arrived Cairns from Port Moresby 1411L/31.

"BENALLA" departed Cairns 1113L/31 for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 1100L/2.

"MILDURA" arrived outside anchorage Cairns from Townsville for exercises with Commander (D).

"COWRA" (escorting Q.L. 51) after arrival Lady Elliot Is. to proceed Jenny Lind Buoy. E.T.A. 0200L/1 and escort "JOHN CARROLL" to Brisbane.

"DELORAINE" arrived Brisbane 1105L/31 from Sydney for submarine exercises Cape Moreton area.

"DOOMBA" departed Sydney 0855L/31 on A/S patrol to Newcastle and return.

"ARARAT" arrived Milne Bay 1100L/30 from Townsville.

"WARREGO" departed Cairns 1341L/31 to relieve P.C. 477 on A/S patrol Grafton Passage.

"GLENELG" departed Milne Bay 1145L/31 to relieve P.C. 476 on A/S Patrol China Strait.

"INVERELL" departed Melville Bay escorting "BURWAH" 0930L/30 arrived Millingimbi 1100L/31.

"FREMANTLE" arrived Darwin 1948L/31 escorting T.D. 42.

P.C. 1124 arrived Port Moresby 0901L/31 from Milne Bay and depart on return at 1501L/31, E.T.A. 1400L/1.

M.L. 815 departed Millingimbi 1431L/31 escorting "BABINDA" to Darwin E.T.A. 1750L/2.

M.L. 814 arrived Darwin 1747L/31 from operation "BULDOZER".

P.C. 477 arrived Cairns from A/S Patrol Grafton Passage area.

"NARANI", "PATERSON", and "SAMUEL BENBOW" departed Sydney 0735L/31 and arrived Port Kembla 1345L/31.

S.C. 735 arrived Milne Bay 0230L/29 from Townsville.

YMS. 47 and 48 departed Cairns 1407L/31 to conduct routine sweep Grafton Passage and approaches.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

MOST SECRET.

To 200L Monday, 31st January, 1944.

SHROPSHIRE arrived Sydney 0545L/30 from Milne Bay.

STUART (ex escort MT. VERNON) returned Milne Bay 1145L/30 to disembark sick ratings and departed 1200L to R.V. with MONTEREY, (originally departed 0515L/30).

WESTRALIA arrived Milne Bay 1000L/29 from Langemak and departed 1400L/30 for Cape Gretin E.T.A. 0730L/1.

KANIMBLA departed Cairns 1333L/30 for Townsville E.T.A. 0600L/31.

USNT MOUNT VERNON (5284 troops) arrived Milne Bay 1730L/29 from San Francisco.

USNT ORIZABA departed Gladstone 1330L/30 E.T.A. Grafton Passage 0800L/1 thence Milne Bay.

ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN } escorting G.P.105 departed Sydney 0757L/30
YANDRA } E.T.A. Caloundra 2300L/1.

GLADSTONE departed Milne Bay 1600L/29 to R.V. KOTA AGOENG.

ROCKHAMPTON arrived Townsville 2359L/29 from Cairns for boiler clean.

WARNAMEPOOL } arrived Brisbane 0010L/30 with G.P.104.
WILCANNIA }

DELORAINÉ departed Sydney 1922L/29 for Cape Moreton S/M exercise area for exercises with PETO and PC 1134 till 1800L/1.

BALLARAT departed Port Moresby 1800L/29 escorting STEPHEN G. PORTER (approximately 1250 troops) to Townsville E.T.A. 0600L/1.

MILDURA to sail Townsville/Cairns E.T.A. 1400L/31 for exercises with Commander (D).

ECHUCA escorting ALLARA departed Sydney 1820L/30 E.T.A. Caloundra 1400L/2.

WARNAMEPOOL } escorting P.G.104 departed Brisbane 1100L/30.
WILCANNIA }
KIAMA }

COWRA escorting Q.L.51 departed Brisbane 1555L/30.

STAWELL departed Milne Bay 0700L/30 for exercises S.E. of China Strait with USS GATO returning Milne Bay PM/31.

HDML 1129 departed Milne Bay 1330L/30 E.T.A. Cape Sudest 1800L/31.

ML.802 arrived Port Moresby 1545L/29 from Milne Bay.

USNT ORIZABA arrived Gladstone 29/1 from Brisbane and departed for Milne Bay 30/1.

SPRINGDALE arrived Sydney 1800L/30 from Brisbane.

YUNNAN arrived Milne Bay 1030L/30 from Cape Sudest.

VICTORIA arrived Milne Bay 1200L/30 from Buna.

LUCY STAR arrived Townsville 0940L/31 from Cairns.

SC 731 escorting L.Q.50 arrived Brisbane 1502L/29.

LCI 448 arrived Townsville from Brisbane 1306L/29.

YMS 11 } escorting Section B. of B.G.22 arrived Langemak 1130L/28
YMS 335 } and departed 1815L/28 with G.B.22.
SC 748)

YMS 313 } arrived Buna 1615L/29 escorting G.B. 21.
 SC 744 }
 YP 291 departed Cairns 0804L/30 for Brisbane.

NEAR MISS - "GEORGE S. STIRLING"

"GEORGE S. STIRLING" (Libert Ship 7176 tons departed Buna 1059L/12 arrived Megum Island 0830L/13) was damaged by a near miss at Megum Anchorage, Langemak, at 1600L/29. Her hull was punctured aft and Gasoline in Nos. 4 and 5 holds ignited. N.O.I.C. New Guinea reported at 0918L/30 that the holds had been flooded and the fire was under control. The ship carried 520 bags of mail.

D/F FIX.

One D/F fix of an enemy submarine in the Bismarck Sea A.M./31 was passed to ships and authorities N.G. area.

F.A.3 GROUNDING.

At 1330L/30 H.M.A.S. "KATOOMBA" arrived Dove Island where F.A.3 has been aground since 1448L/28. The vessel has suffered no structural damage and "KATOOMBA" will attempt to tow her off on 31/1.

E.L. 509 - Departed Cairns 1507L/29, E.T.A. Thursday Is. 1700L/29.
 "KATONARA" } arrived Cairns 1130L/29 from Pt. Moresby.
 "KATONARA" }
 "KATONARA" } arrived Cairns 1000L/29 from Townsville.
 P.L. 477 - Departed Cairns 0815L/29 to relieve "KATONARA" as
 outer A/S patrol Western Passage.
 "KATONARA" - when relieved by P.L. 477 to proceed to Townsville for
 better clearing.
 "KATONARA" - escorting Y.B. 21 departed Townsville 1200L/29.
 "KATONARA" } departed Cairns 0804L/29 to N.Y. E.S. 113 off Milne
 "KATONARA" } Is. 1700L/29 - "KATONARA" and portion "A" E.T.A. Pt.
 "KATONARA" } Moresby 1000L/1, remainder and portion "B" including
 P.L. 477 and P.L. 482, 483, 484, 485 and 486 and
 "KATONARA" E.T.A. Milne Bay 1300L/1.
 P.L. 482 & } returned Cairns 1015L/29 on Y.B. 21 due to approaching
 483 } bad weather.
 Y.P. 291 - E.T.A. Cairns 0804L/30 for Brisbane - E.T.A. 1000L/1.
 E.L. 509 - Departed Brisbane 1000L/29 for the Elgin.
 E.L. 509 - E.T.A. Gladstone 1000L/30 for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 1000L/1.
 E.L. 509 - arrived Brisbane 0700L/29 from Townsville.
 "KATONARA" - E.T.A. Solomon 1000L/29 for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 1000L/1.
 "KATONARA" - departed Cairns 1200L/29 for Sydney - E.T.A. 0800L/31.
 "KATONARA" - departed Brisbane 0800L/29 for Thursday Island.

MOST SECRET

DAILY NARRATIVE for Milne Bay - E.T.A.
TO 0900L/SUNDAY, 30th JANUARY, 1944.

- "STUART" - departed Milne Bay 1800L/28 to R.V. "MOUNT VERNON" and escort to Milne Bay.
U.S. 110 - towing 2 oil barges - E.T.A. Caloundra, 1800L/1
- "SHEPPARTON" - arrived Lee 0920L/28
- "ARARAT" - escorting M.V. 60 departed Milne Bay 1600L/28, and was relieved by "BROOME" (ex Pt. Moresby) in position 13° 49' S. 148° 46' E. at 1530L/29; "ARARAT" returning Milne Bay - E.T.A. 1030L/30.
- M.L. 802 - departed Milne Bay 1500L/28 for Pt. Moresby - E.T.A. 1400L/29.
- "YUNNAN" - E.T.A. Milne Bay 1700L/30 from Cape Sudest.
- P.C. 1124 - escorting F.M. 1 departed Milne Bay 1247L/29 for Pt. Moresby - E.T.A. 0700L/30.
- Y.M.S. 11 & } - escorting G.E. 22 including "GANYMEDE" departed
335 } Langemak 1815L/28. town 1832L/29 from Hobart.
S.C. 748 } - arrived 47 miles 0730L/29 from South Gulf.
- "KATOOMBA" - departed Pt. Moresby 1545L/29 to assist F.A. 3 aground about 55 miles N.E. of Thursday Is.
- M.L. 809 - departed Cairns 1527L/29, E.T.A. Thursday Is. 1200L/4.
- "KANIMBLA" } - arrived Cairns 1123L/29 from Pt. Moresby.
"KAPUNDA" }
- "BENALLA" - arrived Cairns 1021L/29 from Townsville. Barge
P.C. 477 - departed Cairns 0917L/29 to relieve "ROCKHAMPTON" on outer A/S patrol Grafton Passage.
- "ROCKHAMPTON" - when relieved by P.C. 477 to proceed to Townsville for boiler cleaning.
- "BOWEN" - escorting T.N. 212 departed Townsville 2133L/28.
- "BUNDABERG" } - departed Cairns 0954L/29 to R.V. T.N. 212 off Fitzroy
"KALCOORLE" } Is. 1700L/29 - "BOWEN" and portion 'A' E.T.A. Pt.
"PIKIE" } Moresby 1000L/1, remainder and portion 'B' including
P.C. 1133 } L.C. 1. 447 and P.T. 339, 340, 341, 342 and 343 and
"SHIKELLAMY" E.T.A. Milne Bay 1100L/1.
- P.T. 339 & } - returned Cairns 2011L/29 ex T.N. 212 due to approaching
343 } bad weather.
- Y.P. 291 - E.T.D. Cairns 0600L/30 for Brisbane - E.T.A. 2000L/2.
- U.S.S. "MIDWAY" - departed Brisbane 1023L/29 for San Diego.
- U.S.N.T. "ORIZABA" - E.T.D. Gladstone 1606L/30 for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 2/2
- Y.D.G. 2 - arrived Brisbane 0710L/29 from Townsville.
- "CALAMARES" - E.T.D. Caloundra 1730L/31 for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 1000L/4.
- "SPRINGDALE" - departed Caloundra 1645L/28 for Sydney - E.T.A. 0600L/31.
- "MINJAK TANAH" - departed Brisbane 0235L/29 for Thursday Island.

- U.S. DESTROYER } - departed Sydney 2348L/28 for Milne Bay - E.T.A.
- TRANSPORT } 1900L/31.
- "GILMER" } arrived Milne Bay 2348L/28 from Sydney.
- "VENDETTA" - when ready is to depart Sydney for Milne Bay.
- U.S. TUG } - towing 3 oil barges - E.T.D. Caloundra 1800L/1
- "CHETCO" } for Cairns.
- U.S. TUG } arrived Milne Bay 2348L/28 from Sydney.
- "PANNEE" - arrived Sydney 1027L/29 from Noumea.
- "DOOMBA" - departed Sydney 0900L/29 on A/S Patrol to Newcastle and return.
- "BIRCHGROVE } - departed Sydney 1031L/29 for Maryborough.
- "PAIK" } arrived Sydney 1031L/29 from Maryborough.
- M.L. 823 - departed Twofold Bay 1015L/28 for Jervis Bay and Sydney, arrived Sydney 1339L/29.
- "GIPPSLAND" - departed Pt. Stephens 0545L/29 for Newcastle.
- H.D.M.L.1326 - arrived Williamstown 1825L/29 from Hobart.
- Y.P.288 - arrived Fremantle 0730L/29 from Exmouth Gulf.
- "COOTAMUNDRA" - escorting T.D.41 arrived Darwin 1450L/29.
- M.L. 814 - departed Darwin 1151L/29.

"AUSTRALIA" NEAR MISSED BY DIVE BOMBER:

At 1500L/28 when about 38 miles S.E. of Morobe "AUSTRALIA" was near missed by a dive bomber. Damage was negligible. There was one casualty, whose identity is not yet known.

AIR RAID WARNINGS:

Woodlark Is.	Yellow	0829L/29	White	0925L/29
Pt. Moresby	Red	2042L/29	White	2118L/29

[Faint, mostly illegible text continues on the page, including mentions of ship arrivals and departures.]

To 0900L/Saturday, 29th January, 1944.

"VICTORIA" departed Milne Bay 1400L/27 for Buna - E.T.A. 1200L/28.

"SUB-UEHANNA" arrived Milne Bay 0900L/28 from Buna.

S.C. 828 and YMS. 315 escorting G.B.20 arrived Milne Bay 1115L/27.

"ETAMIN" arrived Milne Bay 1430L/28 from Cape Sudest.

"OCTANS" departed Milne Bay 1530L/26 arrived Buna 1130L/27.

"TERKA" arrived Buna 1845L/27 from Milne Bay.

"GLENNELG" } escorting T.N. 211B. arrived Milne Bay A.M./28.
"STAVELL" }

YMS. 11 and 335 } escorting E.C. 22. departed Buna 1315L/27 -
S.C. 748 } E.T.A. Lae 0700L/28, Langemak 1130L/28.

YMS. 313 } escorting E.C. 21 arrived Langemak 1045L/27, escorting
S.C. 744 } G.B. 21 to Buna departed 1706L/28.

H.L. 802 arrived Milne Bay 1801L/28 from Normanby Island.

"BROOME" } escorting T.N. 211A arrived Port Moresby 0912L/28.
"BALLARAT" }

"BROOME" departed 1840L/28 to R.V. M.V. 60 in position 13°49'S, 148°46'E
at 1800L/28 and relieve "ARARAT". as escort, "ARARAT" returning
Milne Bay.

Y.P. 291 arrived Cairns 1847L/28 from Thursday Island.

11 L.C.V. (P) arrived Cairns 0900L/28 from Townsville.

"BENALLA" arrived Townsville 1156L/28 from Sydney.

S.C. 731 escorting L.C. 50 departed Gladstone 1830L/28.

U.S.N.T. "ORIZABA" departed Brisbane 1500L/28 for Gladstone E.T.A.
1800L/28.

"BAGLEY" } arrived Brisbane 1503L/28 from Cape Moreton submarine
"MUGFORD" } training area.
"BEO" }

"BAGLEY" } departed Caloundra 1540L/28 for Townsville.
"MUGFORD" }

"SPRINGDALE" arrived Brisbane 0138L/28 from Milne Bay.

"CALAMARES" arrived Brisbane 0146L/28 from Sydney. E.T.D. about 29/1
for Milne Bay area.

P.C. 1123 returned Brisbane 0950L/28 from escorting Q.L. 50.

U.S. Destroyer Transports } departed Sydney 1136L/28 for Milne Bay
"HUMPHREYS", "SANDS", "BROOKS" } E.T.A. 1400L/31.

"GILMER" E.T.D. Sydney 1800L/28 to join "HUMPHREYS", "SANDS", AND
"BROOKS".

~~"GILMER" E.T.D. Sydney 1800L/28 to join "HUMPHREYS",~~

"YANDRA" departed Sydney 0907L/28 for A/S patrol to Newcastle and return.

"DELOIRAIN" } escorting P.G. 103 arrived Sydney 1726L/28.
"COLAC" }

"DELOIRAIN" E.T.D. Sydney to arrive in North West Channel Moreton Bay by 1800L/31 for Submarine exercises.

"ECHUCA" } detailed for G.P.105 E.T.D. Sydney 0800L/30, "ECHUCA"
"A. CRIJNSEN" } to detach at Caloundra to come temporarily under
"YANDRA" } the operational control of N.O.I.C. Brisbane.

M.L.815 escorting "BABINDA" arrived Millingimbi 1329L/27 from Darwin.

F.A.S AGROUND:

F.A.S (U.S. Army 100 ft. cargo auxiliary) passed Thursday Island 0806L/28 to Great North Eastern Channel, E.T.A. Pt. Moresby 0800L/28. At 1444L/28 vessel reported herself aground in position 10°01'S, 143°01'E (about 55 miles N.E. of Thursday Island), and requiring assistance. Master considered that with diminishing tidal ranges immediate refloating could be effected only by a powerful tow or removal of cargo. "CALEDONIAN SALVOR" (then about 35 W. of Cape Melville) and interested authorities were informed. "KATOOMBA" was ordered at 0320L/29 to proceed from Port Moresby to assist.

"KATOOMBA" departed Milne Bay 0800L/29 for Buna - E.T.A. 1800L/29.

"KATOOMBA" arrived Port Moresby 1800L/29 from Milne Bay.



"KATOOMBA" departed Port Moresby 1800L/29 for Milne Bay.

"KATOOMBA" reported Thursday Island 0800L/29 escorting P.G. 103.

"KATOOMBA" arrived Cairns 0800L/29 from Port Moresby.

"KATOOMBA" arrived Cairns 1800L/29 from Brisbane escorting P.G. 103.

"KATOOMBA" arrived Brisbane 1800L/29 from Cairns.

"KATOOMBA" arrived Brisbane 1800L/29 with P.G. 103.

"KATOOMBA" departed Sydney 0800L/29 for Brisbane.

"KATOOMBA" with lighters in tow arrived Sydney 1700L/29.

"KATOOMBA" departed Sydney 0800L/29 for Newcastle.

"KATOOMBA" arrived Port Phillip 1800L/29 from Port Adelaide.

"KATOOMBA" arrived Cairns 1800L/29.

"KATOOMBA" departed Townsville 0700L/29 for Cairns.

"KATOOMBA" arrived Townsville 1700L/29.

"KATOOMBA" arrived Cairns 1800L/29 from Newcastle.

"KATOOMBA" departed Brisbane 1800L/29 for Sydney.

"KATOOMBA" arrived Sydney 1800L/29 from Brisbane.

"KATOOMBA" departed Sydney 1800L/29 for Brisbane.

"KATOOMBA" arrived Cairns 0700L/29 from Brisbane.

"KATOOMBA" arrived Townsville 1800L/29 from Port Adelaide.

"KATOOMBA" arrived Brisbane 1800L/29 from Sydney.

"KATOOMBA" arrived Brisbane 1800L/29 from Sydney.

"KATOOMBA" arrived Brisbane 1800L/29 from Sydney.

"KATOOMBA" arrived Brisbane 1800L/29 from Sydney.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900L/Friday, 28th January, 1944.

"SHROPSHIRE" departed Milne Bay 0625L/27 for Sydney - E.T.A. 30/1.

U.S.S. "MIDWAY" (Aux. Aircraft carrier) arrived Brisbane 0812L/26 from San Francisco.

"HINGLE" arrived Sydney 0837L/27 from Noumea.

"DOBBS" departed Milne Bay 1400L/27, E.T.A. Sydney 1600L/2.

"ARARAT" arrived Milne Bay 0930L/27 from submarine search Moresby Straits.

P.C. 1124 returned Milne Bay 2250L/26 from submarine search Moresby Straits.

P.C. 1121 arrived Milne Bay 1530L/26 from A/S patrol China Strait.

M.L. 802 towing R.A.A.F. lifeboat to Puma Mission, Normanby Is. departed Milne Bay 1430L/26.

M.L. 801 and 427 arrived Lae 1550L/24 escorting B.C. 20.

"TEKA" departed Milne Bay 0800L/26 for Buna - E.T.A. 1600L/27.

"PING HO" arrived Milne Bay 1503L/27 from Buna.

"KAPUNDA" arrived Port Moresby 1926L/26 from Milne Bay.

"FRMANTLE" departed Thursday Island 0415L/27 escorting T.D. 42.

"PIRIE" arrived Cairns 0931L/27 from Port Moresby.

P.C. 1133 arrived Cairns 1356L/26 from Brisbane escorting Q.L. 49.

"BUNDABERG" arrived Cairns 1901L/27 escorting H.V. 59.

U.S.N.T. "ORIZABA" arrived Brisbane 1035L/27 from Noumea.

"WHYALLA" } arrived Brisbane 2345L/26 with L.Q. 49.

"MEKKER" }

"WARRNAMBOOL" & "WILCANNIA" escorting G.P. 104 departed Sydney 0901L/27 - E.T.A. Caloundra 0800L/29.

"COOMBAR" with lighter in tow arrived Sydney 1741L/27.

"LORNE" departed Sydney 0207L/26 for Newcastle.

HM.L. 1323 arrived Port Phillip 1301L/27 from Port Adelaide.

P.Ts. 339, 343 arrived Cairns 1011L/27.

11 L.C.VP.'s departed Townsville 0755L/26 for Cairns.

P.Ts. 340, 421, 342 arrived Townsville 1714L/26.

YMS. 3, 46, 47, 48 arrived Cairns 1726L/27 from Minesweeping duties Grafton Passage.

YMS. 313 and S.C. 744 departed Buna 1215L/26 escorting B.C. 21 which includes YP. 280 for Langgak.

"TRIANGULUM" arrived Cairns 0751L/27 from Brisbane.

"KING BAY" arrived Broome 1100L/27 from Port Hedland.

RAIDER ALARM FROM "CHARLESTOWN".

An R.R.R.R. message was received by Brisbane Radio from Charlestown (U.S. Tanker 10195 tons) stating that she was being followed by a suspicious vessel at 0903L/27 in position 24°16'S, 161°33'E (300 miles S.W. of Noumea). "CHARLESTOWN" later requested that her signal be cancelled as the suspicious vessel had turned away and left.

T o 0900L/Thursday, 27th January, 1944.

SUSSEX departed Fremantle 1200L/26 escorting "MOOLTAN" to rendezvous with H.M.S. "REDOUBT" at 1700L/4, thence Colombo or Addu Atoll as ordered by C. in C. E.F.

"AUSTRALIA" departed Milne Bay 1400L/25, E.T.A. Cape Cretin 1400L/26.

"KANIMELA" arrived Port Moresby 1106L/26 from Goodenough.

"MUGFORD" AND "BAGLEY" arrived Brisbane 1650L/26 from Sydney and departed with "PELO" for Cape Moreton Submarine Training Area.

U.S.S. "PAWNEE" (Oceangoing tug 1330 tons) departed Noumea 0600L/26 for Sydney, E.T.A. 29/1.

"KAPUNDA" departed Milne Bay 2200L/25 for escorting duty with "KANIMELA".
"KAPUNDA'S" E.T.A. Port Moresby 1800L/26.

"ARARAT" } departed Milne Bay 0030L/26 for submarine search of Pt.
P.C. 1124 } Moresby Straits.

"HUNDABERG" escorting M.V. 59 departed Milne Bay 1600L/25 for Townsville.
E.T.A. 1600L/26.

"SUSOUHANNA" arrived Milne Bay 25/1 from Buna - E.T.A. Pt. Moresby
0600L/28.

"ETAMIN" departed Cape Sudest 0830L/25 - E.T.A. Milne Bay 1300L/26.

P.C. 478 departed Milne Bay 1100L/26 to relieve P.C. 1121 on A/S
Patrol China Strait.

"PIRIE" departed Port Moresby 1430L/25 escorting "JOHN CARROL" to Cairns,
E.T.A. 1045L/27.

"INVERELL" escorting "BURWAH" arrived Melville Bay 1030L/26.

"SHIKELLAMY" arrived Townsville 2210L/25 from Cairns.

"DELOBRAINE" } escorting P.G. 105 departed Brisbane 1105L/26.
"COLAC" }

P.C. 1122 arrived Brisbane 1010L/26 escorting "VERA CRUZ" from R.V.

P.C. 1123 } departed Brisbane 1508L/26 escorting Q.L.50 P.C. 1123 to
S.C. 731 } Lady Elliot Island and return.

"DOOMBA" departed Sydney 0904L/26 on A/S patrol to Newcastle and return.

"PATERSON" and "HARANI" arrived Sydney 1701L/26 from Newcastle.

"KING BAY" departed Port Hedland 1300L/25 for Broome - E.T.A. A.K/27/1.

S.C. 737 arrived Milne Bay 1300L/26 escorting Cape Perpetua from Wood-
lark.

S.C. 743 arrived Brisbane 0547L/25 from escorting Q.L.49 with broken propeller shaft.

L.C.I. 447 arrived Townsville 1024L/26 from Brisbane.

S.C. 628 } departed Langemak 1600L/25 escorting G.E.20.
YMS. 315 }

"PYRO" arrived Milne Bay 1230L/25 from Espiritu Santo.

2. Friday, 12th July, 1944.

"CALAMARES" departed Sydney 2100L/25 for Brisbane - E.T.A. 0800L/28.

"SPRIGHTLY" arrived Brisbane 1851L/26 from search for drifting barges.

COMMISSIONING OF A.M.S.

"KIAMA" commissioned at Brisbane 26/1.

"MIRANDA" arrived Milne Bay 1800L/24 from Lae.

"MIRANDA" departed Milne Bay 1800L/24 for Lae. Escort to Milne Bay.

P.S. 121 returned Milne Bay 2118L/24 from escorting "ARIZONA".

P.S. 122 arrived Milne Bay 1018L/25 from escorting "ARIZONA".

P.S. 123 } escorting P.S. 124 departed Milne Bay 1400L/25.
P.S. 124 }

P.S. 125 } departed Milne Bay 1400L/25 for Lae - E.T.A. 1400L/28.
P.S. 126 }

"MIRANDA" departed Lae 0600L/24 for Cape Sudest E.T.A. 2300L/24.

P.S. 127 departed Milne Bay 1200L/24 for Lae.

P.S. 128 escorting "CAPT. PERCY" arrived Woodlark 1915L/25.

P.S. 129 } arrived Milne Bay 1400L/24 from Lae.
P.S. 130 }

P.S. 131 escorting "THOMAS" departed Milne Bay 1101L/25 for Lae.

P.S. 132 arrived Milne Bay 1500L/25 from Lae.

"MIRANDA" } escorting E.S. 2008 arrived Milne Bay 1500L/25.
"MIRANDA" }
"MIRANDA" }

"MIRANDA" } escorting E.S. 2104 arrived Port Moresby 0800L/26.
"MIRANDA" }

"MIRANDA" } escorting E.S. 2104 departed Thursday Island 0400L/26 for
"MIRANDA" } Lae E.T.A. 1800L/27.

P.S. 133 departed Thursday Island 0800L/26 for Cairns E.T.A. 1200L/28.

"MIRANDA" } escorting "MORNING" departed Thursday Island 0800L/26 for
"MIRANDA" } Melville Bay - Millingale and Darwin.

"MIRANDA" - departed Cairns 1801L/28 to R.V. E.S. 211.

"MIRANDA" } escorting E.S. 211 including E.S. 212 and 213 (for
"MIRANDA" } Milne Bay) departed Townsville 1800L/28. "MIRANDA", "MIRANDA"
"MIRANDA" } and portion A. for Pt. Moresby, remainder to Milne Bay.

P.S. 134 } escorting A.P.C. 2 and 3 with two departed Cairns
"MIRANDA" } 1400L/28 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 1800L/28.

"MIRANDA" departed Cairns 0801L/28 for Townsville.

"MIRANDA" departed Cairns 0801L/28 for R/S patrol "MIRANDA" "MIRANDA"
"MIRANDA" }

P.S. 135 departed Townsville 0800L/28 for Brisbane.

To 0900L/Wednesday, 28th January, 1944.

"SHR PSHIRE" E.T.A. Sydney A.M./20 from Milne Bay; C.T.F. 74
in "SHROPSHIRE" - E.T.D. 9/2 for New Guinea area.

"NASHVILLE" } departed Sydney 1547L/25 to carry out firings
"FLUSSER", "MUGFORD", } off Cape Moreton, 2 destroyers detached to R.V.
"MAHAN", "DRAYTON", } U.S. Submarine "PEHO" off Caloundra about 1730L/26
"LAMSON", "REID", } on completion of firings about 2200L/26 "NASHVILLE"
"SMITH", "BAGLEY" } proceeds to Milne Bay remaining destroyers to
Townsville.

"WESTRALIA" arrived Milne Bay 1300L/24 from Langemak.

"STUART" departed Milne Bay 0500L/25 to R.V. "NOORDAM" and escort to
Milne Bay.

P.C. 476 returned Milne Bay 2218L/24 from escorting "ARICKAREE".

P.C. 1124 arrived Milne Bay 1015L/25 from escorting "KANIMBLA".

S.C. 732, YMS. 314 } escorting B.G. 20 departed Milne Bay 1400L/25.
M.L. 801, and 427 }

YMS. 11, 335, S.C. 748 departed Milne Bay 1430L/25 for Buna - E.T.A.
1000L/26.

"ETAMIN" departed Langemak 0800L/24 for Cape Sudest E.T.A. 2000L/24.

S.C. 746 departed Milne Bay 1200L/24 for Langemak.

S.C. 737 escorting "CAPE PERPETUA" arrived Woodlark 1915L/23.

S.C. 650 } arrived Milne Bay 1400L/24 from Langemak.
YMS. 71, 72 and 73 }

1. YMS. escorting "THOMAS CORWIN" departed Milne Bay 1101L/25 for
Langemak.

YMS. 53 arrived Milne Bay 1200L/25 from Langemak.

"BUNDABERG" } escorting T.N. 210B arrived Milne Bay 1330L/25.
"KAPUNDA" }
"ANARAT", S.C. 741, }
M.L. 802 and 803 }

"KATOOMBA" } escorting T.N. 210A. arrived Port Moresby 0930L/25.
"PIRIE" }

"COOTAMUNDRA" escorting T.D. 41 departed Thursday Island 0400L/25 for
Darwin E.T.A. 1300L/27.

YP. 291 departed Thursday Island 0856L/25 for Cairns E.T.A. 1200L/26.

"INVERELL" escorting "BURWAH" departed Thursday Island 2015L/24 for
Melville Bay - Millingimbi and Darwin.

"STAWELL" - departed Cairns 1201L/25 to R.V. T.N. 211.

"BROOME" } escorting T.N. 211 including L.S.T. 467, and HDML. 1321 (for
"BALLARAT" } Milne Bay) departed Townsville 1930L/24, "BROOME", "BALLARAT"
"GLENELG" } and portion A. for Pt. Moresby, remainder to Milne Bay.

S.C. 735 } escorting A.P.C. 3 and 13 with tows departed Cairns
HDML. 1128 } 1401L/25 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 1500L/26.

"SHIKELAMY" departed Cairns 0821L/25 for Townsville.

"ROCKHAMPTON" departed Cairns 0631L/25 for A/S patrol "GRAFTON PASSAGE".

YDG. 2 departed Townsville 0906L/25 for Brisbane.

11 L.C.V.(P) departed Cairns 0900L/25 for Townsville - E.T.A. 0700L/26.

"WHYALLA" escorting L.Q. 49 departed Gladstone 2000L/25.

P.C. 1134 - arrived Brisbane 0616L/25 from Noumea.

U.S.N.T. "GRIZABA" - E.T.A. Cape Moreton 0900L/27 from Noumea.

"CAPE LEEUWIN" arrived Brisbane 0600L/25.

"DELOARINE" } escorting G.P.103 arrived Brisbane 2305L/25.

"COLAC" }

"WILCANNIA" } escorting P.G. 102 arrived Sydney 1357L/25.

"DOOMBA" }

"SPRINGDALE" E.T.A. Brisbane A.M/28 from Milne Bay.

"CALAMARES" E.T.D. Sydney 1300L/25 for Brisbane - E.T.A. 0800L/28.

HDML.1323 - departed Adelaide 1313L/25 E.T.A. Pt. Phillip 1530L/27.

"BINGERA" arrived Port Phillip 1813L/25 from Westport. for exercises.

YP.228 departed Exmouth Gulf 25/1 for Fremantle - E.T.A. 1101L/29.

M.L.815 escorting "BABINDA" departed Darwin 1142L/25 - E.T.A. Millingimbi 1130L/27.

"ARDENT" REFLOATED:

"ARDENT" (cargo vessel of 1,804 tons gross) which grounded in Port Hedland (N.E. of Exmouth Gulf) at 1615L/18 was refloated 24/1.

SUBMARINE REPORTED IN MORESBY STRAIT.

There were two independent reports of sighting a submarine in Moresby Strait in the vicinity of Mud Bay (S.E. Goodenough Island) at approximately 1700L/24. The reports, one from air and one from land were graded B2. by Port Director but N.O.I.C. New Guinea considers this grading too high. Subsequent air search was negative and a search by A.M.S. and P.C. was being arranged.

[Faint, mostly illegible text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page. Some words like "CALAMARES", "BABINDA", "ARDENT", "SUBMARINE" are visible.]

TO 0900L/Tuesday, 25th January, 1944.

"KANIMELA" departed Langemak 2300L/23 - escorted by U.S.S. "BACHE" and P.C. 1124 to Cape Ward Hunt where U.S.S. "BACHE" detaches, "KANIMELA" and P.C. 1124 - E.T.A. Goodenough 0700L/25.

"SUSQUEHANNA" arrived Buna 23/1 from Milne Bay.

YMS. 313 and 72 } escorting G.B. 17 arrived Milne Bay 1130L/23.
S.C. 744 }

"TERKA" arrived Milne Bay 1830L/23 from Townsville.

"PING WO" arrived Buna 0915L/23 from Milne Bay.

S.C. 746 arrived Milne Bay 1800L/23 from Port Moresby.

"STUART" departed Milne Bay 1815L/23 to R.V. "ALCOA PATRIOT" and escort to Milne Bay arrived 1345L/24.

S.C. 735 } escorting A.P.C. 3 and 13 towing ex ferries E.T.D. Cairns
HDML.1129 } 1400L/25 for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 1500L/28.

"WARREGO" arrived Cairns 1001L/24 from Milne Bay.

"ROCKHAMPTON" } arrived Cairns 0515L/24 from Milne Bay.
"SHIKELLAMY" }

"SHIKELLAMY" E.T.D. Cairns 0800L/25 for Townsville.

YMS. 48, 8, 46 and 47 departed Cairns 0747L/24 to carry out 4 days' sweep in Grafton Passage, anchoring near Fitzroy Island at night.

"CASTLEMAINE" } arrived Townsville 1420L/24 from Milne Bay.
"MILDURA" }

M.L.809 departed Townsville 1402L/24 for Cairns - E.T.A. 0700L/25.

S.C. 749 returned Brisbane 0700L/24 from escorting "JOHN G. BRADY" towing 2 barges to Lady Elliot Island.

P.C. 1123 departed Brisbane 1832L/24 to R.V. "VERA CRUZ" at 1600L/25 and escort to Brisbane.

"WHYALLA" } departed Caloundra 1608L/23 escorting Q.L.49, P.C. 1133 and
S.C. 745 } "TRIANGULUM" for Cairns, 6 P.T's and 1 L.C.I. for Townsville.
P.C. 1133 }

S.C. 745 returning to Brisbane with broken propeller shaft.

"BENALLA" departed Sydney 0945L/24 for Townsville and Milne Bay.

U.S.N.T. "ORIZABA" departed Noumea 0800L/24 for Sydney - E.T.A. 27/1, but is to be diverted to Brisbane.

"GASCOYNE" E.T.D. Sydney P.M./26 for Milne Bay.

"CALAMARES" E.T.D. Sydney 25/1 for Brisbane.

M.L.810 arrived Sydney 1250L/24 from Jervis Bay.

"NARANI" } departed Sydney 0750L/24 arrived Newcastle 1551L/24.
"PATERSON" }

HDML.1323 E.T.D. Adelaide 25/1 for Melbourne and Sydney.

M.L.815 - escorting "BAMINDA" arrived Darwin 1500L/24 from Drysdale.

"MANGOLA" REFLOATED: At 0857L/24 "CALEDONIAN SALVOR" reported "MANGOLA" refloated. "MANGOLA" (cargo vessel of 3352 tons gross) was driven ashore on Corbett Reef (30 miles W. of Cape Melville) 15/12.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900L/24th January, 1944.

"ADELAIDE" escorting "MOOLTAN" arrived Fremantle 1800L/23.

"SUSQUEHANNA" departed Milne Bay 1000L/23 for Buna - E.T.A. 0600L/24.

YMS. 313 } escorting G.B. 17 departed Langemak 1600L/21.
YMS. 72 }
S.C. 744 }

YMS. 11 } escorting G.B. 16 arrived Milne Bay 1530L/22.
YMS. 324 }
S.C. 748 }

S.C. 992 arrived Woodlark 0800L/20 escorting "AUGUSTUS THOMAS".

M.L. 428 arrived Langemak 1900L/20 escorting "THOMAS CALWIN".

"LITHGOW" arrived Cairns 2131L/23 from Port Moresby.

"COWRA" } arrived Brisbane 2210L/22 with L.Q. 48.
S.C. 781 }

"WILCANNIA" escorting P.G. 102 departed Caloundra 1140L/23.

"YANDRA" - returned Sydney at 1221L/23 from escorting G.P. 102 with engine defect.

"DELOIRINE" } escorting G.P. 103 departed Sydney 0808L/23.
"COLAC" }

"COOMBAR" with lighter in tow departed Hobart 0907L/23 E.T.A. Sydney P.M. 28/1.

Y.P. 291 arrived Thursday Island 1059L/23 from Cairns.

S.C. 735 arrived Cairns from Brisbane 1235L/23.

M.L. 823 arrived Twofold Bay 1700L/22.

M.L. 810 departed Twofold Bay 1130L/23 E.T.A. Jervis Bay 1730L/23.

"GOLD STAR" departed Newcastle 1525L/23 for Sydney and arrived at 2138L/23.

"MERKUR" arrived Gladstone 0945L/23 from Townsville.

"BARABARA C." (Cargo steamer, 1240 tons gross) reported being aground on Clack Island Reef at 0130L/23. The signal was cancelled 11 hours later.

Instructions given "CALEDONIAN SALVOR" by N.O.I.C. Townsville to render assistance were cancelled accordingly. "BARABARA C." towing a barge departed Townsville 2142L/23 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 1800L/29 via Great North East Channel.

.....

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE

To 0900L/Sunday, 23rd January, 1944.

"KANIMELA" arrived Milne Bay 1030L/21 from Cairns and departed 0500L/21 for Finachhafen - E.T.A. daylight hours 23/1 -escorting P.C. 1124.

"WESTRALIA" departed Milne Bay 1500L/21 E.T.A. Cape Sudest 0600L/22 for orders from C.T.F. 76 and onward passage Langemak - E.T.A. P.M. 22/1.

"CASLEMAINE" } escorting M.V. 58 departed Milne Bay 1600L/21 E.T.A.
"ROCKHAMPTON" } Grafton Passage 0700L/24 - E.T.A. Townsville 0100L/25.
"MILDURA" }

"SUBCOEHANNA" arrived Milne Bay 0830L/22 from Buna.

"KYAMIN" arrived Langemak 20/1 from Buna.

"OCTANS" escorted by "WARRECO" arrived Milne Bay 0900L/22 from Brisbane

P.C. 472 escorting "ARICKAREE" to Bramble Bay departed Milne Bay 1600L/21.

"WARRECO" escorting "MARCUS DALY" departed Milne Bay 110542 - E.T.A. Townsville 2130L/24.

"LITHGOW" escorting "ROBINDIES" departed Port Moresby 1730L/21 for Townsville - E.T.A. 0230L/23 - E.T.A. "LITHGOW" at Cairns 1330L/23.

HMNL.1129 arrived Cairns 1520L/22 from Townsville.

"MERKUR" departed Townsville 1830L/21 E.T.A. Gladstone 1230L/23.

"PIHLER" } departed Townsville 1400L/22 to R.V. Fitzroy Is. with
"KATOOMBA" } Pt. Moresby section T.N. 210 - E.T.A. Pt. Moresby 1000L/25.

"BURDABERG" } departed Townsville 1400L/22 to R.V. Fitzroy Is. Milne
S.C. 741 } Bay section T.N. 210 E.T.A. Milne Bay 1100L/25.
"KAPUNDA" }

"M.L. 802

"M.L. 803

"ANAHAT" }

HMNL.1321 arrived Townsville 1541L/22 from Brisbane.

"SILCANNIA" arrived Brisbane 0704L/22 with G.P. 102.

"GLENELE" arrived Townsville from Brisbane 2132L/22.

"OYSTER BAY" (1695 tons P.T. Boat Tender) arrived Brisbane 1417L/22 from Tutuila.

"DOONBA" departed Sydney 0648L/22 for daylight A/S patrol to Newcastle and return.

"WAGGA" arrived Sydney from Melbourne 1527L/22.

"ACHUCA" } escorting G.P.101 arrived Sydney 1758L/22.
"TOWNSVILLE" }

YMS.11, YMS.224, S.C. 742 arrived Langemak 211000L, escorting S.C. 16 (Portion B.).

S.C. 742 escorting "GODFREY CHARLESTOWN" from Milne Bay arrived Pt. Moresby 1445L/22 and departed on return at 1818L. E.T.A. Milne Bay 1800L/23 to Lady Elliot Island.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900L/Saturday, 22nd January, 1944.

"CASTLEMAINE" } escorting T.N. 209 arrived Milne Bay 1101L/21.
"ROCKHAMPTON" }
"MILDURA" }

P.C. 1124 escorting "YOCHOW" arrived Milne Bay 1750L/20 from Port Moresby.

"FALIE" arrived Langemak 1430L/20 from Oro Bay.

YMS. 11 and 334 } escorting B.C. 16 departed Milne Bay 1210L/19.
S.C. 748 }

"SUSQUEHANNA" arrived Buna 0800L/19 from Milne Bay.

"ETAMIN" departed Goodenough 0800L/19 - arrived Buna 1820L/19.

P.C. 1132 } escorting "ETAMIN" departed Buna 1820L/19 for Langemak -
S.C. 703 } E.T.A. 0900L/20.

M.L. 428 escorting "THOMAS CORWIN" departed Lae 1300L/20 for Langemak E.T.A. 1900L/20.

YMS. 73 and 71 } escorting G.B. 14 arrived Buna 1530L/20.
S.C. 650 }

2 YMS and 1 S.C. escorting B.G. 17 departed Milne Bay 1200L/20.

"LITHGOW" escorting T.N. 202A arrived Port Moresby 0920L/21.

"KAPUNDA" arrived Cairns 0801L/21 from Port Moresby.

M.L. 802 arrived Cairns 0731L/21 from Townsville.

APC. 3 and 13 with tows arrived Cairns 1336L/20 from Townsville.

HMML. 1129 departed Townsville 1517L/21 for Cairns and Milne Bay.

"BOWEN" arrived Townsville 0716L/21 from Milne Bay.

"MEIKUR" arrived Townsville 0632L/21 from Milne Bay.

"COWRA" } escorting L.Q. 48 departed Gladstone 2000L/21.
S.C. 731 }

YMS 9 and 10 departed Brisbane 0625L/21 to carry out daylight search in co-operation with aircraft for raft, returned 2305L/21.

"YANDRA" escorting G.P. 102 reported at 2125L/21 "Have cracked cylinder tread. Returning Sydney".

"NIEUW AMSTERDAM" arrived Sydney 0725L/22 from Auckland.

"GOLD STAR" departed Sydney 0605L/21 arrived Newcastle 1651L/21.

"WARNAHEBOOL" departed Sydney 0845L/21 for A/S patrol to Newcastle and return.

"KARANGI" arrived Sydney 0851L/21 from Townsville.

"BIRCHGROVE PARK" departed Sydney 1347L/21 for Maryborough.

"BURRABRA" arrived Jervis Bay 1540L/20 from Sydney.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900L/Friday, 21st January, 1944.

"WESTRALIA" - arrived Milne Bay 1130L/19.

U.S.S. "PYRO" departed Espiritu Santo 0800L/20 for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 25/1.

YMS. 73 and 71 } escorting H.15 arrived Lae 0745L/19.
S.C. 859 }

YMS. 335 } arrived Milne Bay 1105L/20 escorting G.B.14.
S.C. 737 and 732 }

"RESERVE" arrived Milne Bay 1130L/19 from Buna Vicinity.

"PING WO" arrived Milne Bay 2215L/19.

S.C. 982 escorting "AUGUSTUS THOMAS" departed Milne Bay 1430L/19 for Woodlark. E.T.A. 0630L/20.

M.L. 819 and 430 arrived Milne Bay 1100L/20 from Lae.

YMS. 11 and 334 } escorting G.B.13 arrived Milne Bay 0905L/19.
S.C. 748 }

"BOWEN" from escorting M.V. 57 proceeding Townsville to boiler clean.

"BUNDABERG" } arrived Cairns 1822L/20 from escorting M.V. 57.
"KALGOOLIE" }
"KATOOMBA" }
"PIRIE" }

"KANIMELA" } departed Cairns 1500L/19 for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 1100L/21.
"MILDURA" }

"WARREGO" departed Cairns 0501L/20 to rendezvous "OCTANS" and escort to Milne Bay.

"KAPUNDA" E.T.A. Grafton Passage 0430L/21 from Port Moresby.

Y.P. 291 departed Cairns 0711L/20 for Thursday Island.

S.C. 741 arrived Cairns 0854L/20 from Townsville.

P.T. 335 arrived Townsville 1400L/19 from Brisbane.

APC. 3 and 13 with tows departed Townsville 1638L/19 for Cairns. E.T.A. 1600L/20.

P.C. 1123 escorting "ZORILLA LYKES" arrived Brisbane 1253L/20.

"ECHUCA" } escorting P.G. 101 departed Brisbane 1333L/20.
"TOWNSVILLE" }

M.L. 802 in tow of F.P. BLAIR departed Caloundra 2300L/17 for Cairns E.T.A. 0600L/21.

"WHYALLA" escorting L.Q. 47 arrived Brisbane 0938L/20.

"GLENELG" arrived Brisbane 0833L/20 from Sydney - departed 1423L/20 escorting "ANTHONY RAVALLI" to Lady Elliot Island thence independently to Townsville - E.T.A. 0200L/23.

"WILCANIA" } departed Sydney 0758L/20 - escorting G.P. 102 departed
"YANDRA" } Newcastle 1245L/20.

"BENALLA" E.T.D. Sydney 0900L/24 for Townsville and Milne Bay.

"BURRABRA" departed Sydney 0532L/20 for Jervis Bay - E.T.A. 1430L/20.

"HERMITAGE" departed Melbourne 1050L/20 for Bora Bora.

"WAGGA" departed Port Phillip 1719L/20 - E.T.A. Sydney 1800L/22.

M.L. 215 escorting "BABINDA" arrived Drysdale 1304L/19.

"KING BAY" arrived Port Hedland 1842L/19 to assist "ARDENT" which is still aground but in no danger.

"BIDELIA" REFLOATED.

"CALEDONIAN SALVOR" proceeded to assistance of "BIDELIA" (aground on Pipon Island vicinity of Cape Melville) and reported that ship was refloated 0700L/20 and proceeding under her own steam to Cairns.

"SYDNEY" departed Sydney at 0645L/19 on 1/2 patrol to Newcastle and return.

.....

"SHEPHERD" arrived Adelaide at 1051L/19 for Sydney.

M.L. 214 } departed Milne Bay at 1400L/19 for Puna.

M.L. 213 } E.T.A. Milne Bay 0430L/19 for Puna.

M.L. 212 } departed Port Moresby at 1852L/19 escorting "HUGHES" to Milne Bay - E.T.A. 1830L/20.

M.L. 211 } departed Milne Bay at 2300L/19 to relieve "SHEPHERD" on 1/2 patrol outside Cairns Straits.

M.L. 210 } E.T.A. Milne Bay 2000L/19 escorting G.S. 114.

M.L. 209 } arrived Townsville at 1130L/19 from Brisbane.

M.L. 208 } departing S.S. 113 - E.T.A. Lee 0800L/19 - E.T.A. Longman 1800L/19 from Puna.

M.L. 207 } arrived Cairns at 0831L/19 from Townsville, E.T.A. 0800L/20 for Thursday Island - E.T.A. 1500L/20.

M.L. 206 } commissioned at Hobart 12/1 under command of Lieutenant Commander, R.N.V.R.

"HARRIS" E.T.A. Port Phillip 1400L/20 for U.S.A.

"HARRIS" (Dog) arrived Brisbane 1500L/19 from Cairns.

"HARRIS" arrived Brisbane from Sydney at 1052L/19.

"HARRIS" arrived Brisbane at 0430L/19 from Sydney.

"HARRIS" departed Townsville at 0500L/19 for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 0800L/20.

"HARRIS" (SURVIVAL KEMP) arrived Fremantle at 1130L/19 from Colombo.

"HARRIS" departed Wellington at 1800L/19 - E.T.A. Sydney 0700L/20.

"HARRIS" (Vice Victrola) departed Brisbane when ready 20/1 for Cairns and Milne Bay - loading barges.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900/Thursday, 20th January, 1944.

"KANIMELA" arrived Cairns at 0515L/19 from Brisbane.

"KAPUNDA" departed Pt. Moresby at 1430L/19 escorting H.T. 70 (2 ships)
E.T.A. Grafton Passage 0730L/21.

"KATOOMBA" } departed Milne Bay at 2210L/18 escorting M.V. 57
"PIRIE" } (6 ships) also "MERKUR" - E.T.A. Grafton Passage 2100L/20.
"SALCOONLIE" }
"DOWEN" }

"COWRA" } departed Brisbane at 1700L/19 escorting Q.L.48 (6 ships)
S.C. 735 } and L.S.T. 457. S.C. 735 proceeds independently from
S.C. 731 } Bustard Head to Cairns for onward routing to Milne Bay.

"DOOMBA" departed Sydney at 0845L/19 on A/S patrol to Newcastle and return.

"GWELONG" arrived Adelaide at 1031L/19 for Sydney.

YMS. 313 } departed Milne Bay at 1430L/18 for Buna.
YMS. 72 }

S.C. 744 E.T.D. Milne Bay 0430L/19 for Buna.

P.C. 1124 departed Port Moresby at 1853L/19 escorting "YOGHOW" to Milne Bay - E.T.A. 1930L/20.

P.C. 1121 departed Milne Bay at 0900L/19 to relieve "STUART" on A/S patrol outside China Strait.

YMS. 355 } E.T.A. Milne Bay 2000L/20 escorting G.B.14.
S.C. 737 }
S.C. 732 }

S.C. 741 arrived Townsville at 1124L/19 from Brisbane.

YMS. 73 } escorting B.G.15 - E.T.A. Lee 0800L/19 - E.T.A.
YMS. 71 } Langesak 1200L/19 from Buna.
S.C. 850 }

YP. 291 arrived Cairns at 0631L/19 from Townsville. E.T.D. 0600L/20 for Thursday Island - E.T.A. 1000L/24.

HML.1326 commissioned at Hobart 19/1 under command of Lieutenant Sodersteen, R.A.N.V.R.

"HERMITAGE" E.T.D. Port Phillip 1400L/20 for U.S.A.

"SPRIGHTLY" (Tug) arrived Brisbane 1945L/18. from Cairns.

"HEIMAGUL" arrived Brisbane from Sydney at 0038L/19.

"INNISFALL" arrived Brisbane at 0155L/19 from Sydney.

"TRKA" departed Townsville at 0836L/19 for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 0200L/23.

"WANGANILLA" (HOSPITAL SHIP) arrived Fremantle at 1137L/19 from Colombo.

"WILKIN AMSTERDAM" departed Wellington at 1200L/19 - E.T.A. Sydney 0700L/22.

"CHETCO" (U.S. Fleet Tug) departed Brisbane when ready 20/1 for Cairns and Milne Bay - towing barges.

"BURRABRA" arrived Sydney at 0811L/19 from Port Kemble.

"TASMAN" (Hospital Ship) departed Brisbane at 0220L/19 for Milne Bay and Oro Bay E.T.A. 22/1.

"HEIDELIA" (1364 tons gross en route Thursday Island to Cairns) Master reported ship ashore on Pipen Island (vicinity Cape Melville).

ENEMY AIR RAID - Woodlark Island - Yellow 1010L/19. White 1040L/19.

"[Faint name]" arrived Pt. Moresby at 0825L/19 escorting T.S. 408 "A".

"[Faint name]" arrived Milne Bay at 0700L/19 escorting T.S. 408 "B".

"[Faint name]" arrived [Faint name] Bay at 1620L/19 escorting T.S. 407.

Departed Cairns at 1145L/18 to rendezvous with "ROCKHAMPTON" and T.S. 409 (3 ships) also C.L.S. 12 and "FOYANG" for Milne Bay, off Hicorey Island at 1400L/18. "ROCKHAMPTON" and "ROCKHAMPTON" will escort section "B" to Milne Bay and "LINDSAY" section "A" to Pt. Moresby.

"[Faint name]" arrived Cairns at 0100L/19 from Townsville. "WARRIOR" is to depart Cairns on 22 to rendezvous with "FOYANG" off Hicorey Island at 0700L/19 and escort to Milne Bay.

"[Faint name]" arrived Brisbane at 1125L/18 escorting G.F. 111.

"[Faint name]" departed Gladstone at 1800L/18 escorting L.S. 67 (7 ships) to Pt. Brisbane 0800L/19.

"[Faint name]" departed Sydney at 1425L/18 for Townsville - E.T.A. 10/22/19.

"[Faint name]" arrived Sydney at 1425L/18 escorting P.C. 100.

Departed Longwood at 1700L/17 escorting G.S. 18. E.T.A. Pt. Moresby 1800L/18. E.T.A. Milne Bay 1800L/18.

Arrived Milne Bay at 1800L/18 escorting G.S. 18.

Arrived Brisbane at 1700L/18 from Noumea.

Arrived Townsville at 1215L/18 from Brisbane.

A.F.S. Brisbane 1600L/19 E.T.A. Townsville 1800L/19.

will relieve "SILVER" on A/S patrol south of Cape Scott at 1800/19.

Arrived Cairns at 1800L/18 from A/S patrol off Graham Passage.

Arrived Port Moresby at 1811L/18 from Milne Bay - to escort "ROCK" to Milne Bay.

Departed Gladstone at 05 M/17 escorting "ROBERT B. BAKER" and "FRANCIS P. KELLY" towing G.L. 102 (for Cairns then Milne Bay). On arrival left Hicorey Is. P.C. 1122 detached and proceeds to Pt. M. with "ZOLA LYONS" in position 1800L/18. Arr. Pt. M. at 0800L/18 and escort to Brisbane.

To 0900L/19th January, 1944.

"SUSSKI" arrived Fremantle at 1350L/18 from Trincomalee.

"BROOKS" } with CONTRASDIV 16 in "BROOKS" arrived Sydney at 0929L/
 "GILMER" } 18 from Milne Bay.
 "SANDS" }
 "HUMPHREYS" }

"WESTRALIA" E.T.A. Milne Bay 0330L/20 from Cape Sudest.

"KAPUNDA" arrived Pt. Moresby at 0825L/17 escorting T.N. 208 "A".

"BOWEN" arrived Milne Bay at 0755L/18 escorting T.N. 208 "B".

"BUNDABERG" } arrived Milne Bay at 1820L/17 escorting T.N. 207.
 "KATOOMBA" }
 "PIRIE" }
 "KALGOORLIE" }

"CASTLEMAINE" } departed Cairns at 1140L/18 to rendezvous with
 "LITHGOW" } "ROCKHAMPTON" and T.N. 209 (6 ships) also 4 L.C.I.s and
 "POYANG" for Milne Bay), off Fitzroy Island at 1400L/
 18. "CASTLEMAINE" and "ROCKHAMPTON" will escort
 section "B" to Milne Bay and "LITHGOW" Section "A"
 to Pt. Moresby.

"WARREGO" arrived Cairns at 0100L/18 from Townsville. "WARREGO"
 is to depart Cairns so as to rendezvous with "OCTANS" off
 Fitzroy Island at 0700L/20 and escort to Milne Bay.

"ECHUCA" } arrived Brisbane at 2125L/18 escorting G.P.101.
 "TOWNSVILLE" }

"WHYALLA" departed Gladstone at 1900L/18 escorting L.Q.47 (7 ships)
 E.T.A. Brisbane 0800L/20.

"GLENELG" departed Sydney at 1432L/18 for Townsville - E.T.A. 1800L/22.

"WARRNAMBOOL" } arrived Sydney at 1443L/18 escorting P.G. 100.
 "COLAC" }
 M.L.826 }

YMS.11 } departed Langemak at 1700L/17 escorting G.B.13. E.T.A.
YMS.324 } Buna 1200L/18. E.T.A. Milne Bay 1900L/19.
S.C. 748 }

YMS.73 } arrived Milne Bay at 1205L/.8 escorting G.B.12.
YMS.71 }
S.C. 316 }

YMS.316 arrived Brisbane at 1700L/18 from Noumea.

HMML.1129 arrived Townsville at 1516L/18 from Brisbane.

HMML.1321 E.T.D. Brisbane 1400L/19 E.T.A. Townsville 1600L/22.

P.C. 1121 will relieve "STUART" on A/S patrol South of China Strait
 at 1200/19.

P.C. 477 arrived Cairns at 1245L/18 from A/S patrol off Grafton Passage

P.C. 1124 arrived Port Moresby at 1231L/18 from Milne Bay - to escort
 "YOCHOW" to Milne Bay.

P.C. 1123 departed Caloundra at 2304L/17 escorting "EDWARD D. BAKER"
 and "FRANCIS P. BLAIR" towing M.L.802 (for Cairns then
 Milne Bay). On arrival Lady Elliot Is. P.C. 1123 detaches
 and proceeds to R.V. with "ZOEZIA LYKES" in position 28°01'S.
 155°30'E at 0500L/20 and escort to Brisbane.

"PATTERSON" } arrived Sydney at 1438L/18 from Port Kembla.

"NARANI" }

"TRIANGULUM" arrived Brisbane at 1631L/17 from Newcastle.

"RESERVE" E.T.A. Milne Bay 1500L/19 from Cape Sudest.

"BINGERA" arrived Port Phillip at 0137L/18 from Westernport.

"CHETCO" (U.S. Fleet Tug) arrived Brisbane at 1135L/18 towing 3 barges from Noumea.

"BERYL II." arrived Port Moresby at 0901L/18 from Cairns.

"COUCAL" E.T.A. Tulagi 0800L/20 from Milne Bay.

"GUNLEAF" arrived Port Stephens at 1930L/18 from Sydney.

"FALIE" arrived Gro Bay at 0800L/17 from Milne Bay.

"SOEDOE" arrived Brisbane at 1545L/18 from Cairns.

"ARDENT" (1804 gross tons - cargo ship) aground in Port Hedland Harbour (N.E. Exmouth Gulf) vessel grounded at 1615L/16 and unlikely to refloat before high tides on 24th or 25th
"KING BAY" (Aux. Sch.) proceeding from Broome to assist E.T.A. Wednesday 19th.

REPORTED SUBMARINE PERISCOPE SIGHTING.

"SOEDOE" (Dutch Auxiliary) reported sighting submarine periscope for one hour when in position 200⁰19 Miles from Sandy Cape at 1615L/17. Graded B.S. by N.O.I.C. Brisbane.

"COUCAL" departed Brisbane 0800L/17 - E.T.A. Fitzroy Island 0900L/20.

"MINKA" arrived Brisbane 1500L/18 from Thursday Island.

"MORNING" departed San Francisco 13/1 for Sydney - E.T.A. 1/8.

U.S. Transporter "GAMERSON" arrived Sydney 0918L/18 from escorting "SULLIVAN"

"DUNDA" departed Sydney 0648L/17 on A/B patrol to Newcastle and return.

"WARRIOR" } departed Sydney 0740L/17 for Port Kembla - E.T.A. 1400L/17.
"PATRIOT" }

"ACOLAH" escorting "SULLIVAN" arrived Hobart 2028L/18 - departed 1230L/17 - E.T.A. Fremantle 1800L/22.

U.S.S. "SARGENT" E.T.A. Melbourne 4.2/19 for Bora Bora and Los Angeles.

"MINKA" E.T.A. Westernport 1800L/17 for Port Phillip for stores, E.T.A. 2000L/17.

"MINKA" departed Fremantle 1648L/17 for Exmouth Gulf - E.T.A. 2.2/21.

U.S.S. "SARGENT" escorting "SULLIVAN" departed Darwin 1900L/17 for Daylesford - E.T.A. 1100L/18. thence Wyndham and Darwin.

U.S.A. "SARGENT" (Frigate) commissioned at Sydney 0800L/17 under command of Lieutenant-Commander A.J. Travis, U.S.N.

"MINKA" commissioned at Hobart 0800L/17.

To 000L/Tuesday, 18th January, 1944.

"MORESEY" departed Milne Bay 1925L/16 for survey ground vicinity Cape Sudest.

P.C. 1124 departed Milne Bay 1500L/17 for Port Moresby - E.T.A. 1200L/18

P.C. 477 departed Cairns 0646L/17 to relieve "LITHGOW" on Grafton Patrol.

"LITHGOW" returned Cairns 1216L/17 from Grafton Patrol.

"CASTLEMAINE" } arrived Cairns 0330L/17 from escorting M.V. 56.
 "MILDURA" }

"ROCKHAMPTON" escorting T.N. 209 including 4 L.C.I. departed Townsville 1909L/17.

"CASTLEMAINE" } to rendezvous 209 off Fitzroy Island 1400L/18 -
 "LITHGOW" } "LITHGOW" and portion "A" for Port Moresby -
 "CASTLEMAINE", "ROCKHAMPTON" and portion "B" for Milne Bay.

"BALLARAT" arrived Townsville 1636L/17 from escorting M.V. 56.

Y.P. 291 arrived Townsville 0512L/17 from Brisbane - departed 1126L/17 with provisions for Palm Island - Cairns and Thursday Is.

APC. 3 and 13 with tows, E.T.D. Gladstone 1800L/16 for Townsville - E.T.A. 1800L/19.

M.L. 802 in tow of "FRANCIS PRESTON BLAIR" departed Caloundra 2300L/17 for Townsville - E.T.A. 1500L/20.

"OCTANS" departed Brisbane 0636L/17 - E.T.A. Fitzroy Island 0700L/20.

"MINJAK TANAH" arrived Brisbane 2000L/16 from Thursday Island.

U.S.N.T. "MONTICELLO" departed San Francisco 15/1 for Sydney - E.T.A. 1/2.

U.S. Destroyer "SAMPSON" arrived Sydney 0718L/16 from escorting "MOOLTAN"

"DOOMBA" departed Sydney 0843L/17 on A/S patrol to Newcastle and return.

"NARANI" } departed Sydney 0740L/17 for Port Kembla - E.T.A. 1400L/17.
 "PATERSON" }

"ADELAIDE" escorting M"OOLTAN" arrived Hobart 2023L/16 - departed 1350L/17 - E.T.A. Fremantle 1600L/23.

U.S.N.T. "HERMITAGE" E.T.D. Melbourne A.M./19 for Bora Bora and Los Angeles.

"BINGERA" E.T.D. Westernport 1830L/17 for Port Phillip for exercises, E.T.A. 2300L/17.

Y.P. 288 Departed Fremantle 1642L/17 for Exmouth Gulf - E.T.A. A.M./21.

M.L. 815 escorting "BABINDA" departed Darwin 1701L/17 for Drysdale - E.T.A. 1130L/19. thence Wyndham and Darwin.

H.M.A.S. "BARCOO" (Frigate) commissioned at Sydney 0900L/17 under command of Lieutenant-Commander A.J. Travis, R.A.N.

HDML.1322 commissioned at Hobart 0900L/17.

To 0900L/Monday, 17th January, 1944.

"WESTRALIA" E.T.D. Cape Sudest 1800L/16 for Cape Cretin - E.T.A. 1700L/17.

"STUART" departed Milne Bay 0800L/16 to relieve "GLADSTONE"^{as}/A/S patrol in approaches to China Strait.

L.S.T. 181, L.C.I.(L) 432 and YMS 49 towing dry dock departed Milne Bay 1100L/16, E.T.A. Cape Sudest 1500L/17.

H.L.818 escorting "REIJNST", Y.14 and "POINT SAN PEDRO" arrived Milne Bay 0710L/15 from Lae.

"CAPE LEEUWIN" departed Milne Bay 1330L/16 for Brisbane - E.T.A. P.M/26.

S.C. 693, YMS.53 and 315) escorting B.G. convoy departed Milne Bay 1200L/
M.L.806 and 428) 16.

"WARREGO" proceeding Cairns with despatch from escorting T.N. 207 - to escort "OCTANS" from Grafton Passage to Milne Bay.

U.S. Destroyer "HUTCHINS" arrived Cairns 1216L/16 from Milne Bay.

YMS.48 arrived Cairns 1201L/16 from Port Moresby.

"STAWELL" arrived Cairns 1011L/16 from Milne Bay.

L.C.I.(L) 26 and 344 arrived Cairns 0016L/16.

"POYANG" arrived Townsville 1724L/15 from Bowen.

"BROOME" arrived Townsville 0618L/16 from Port Moresby.

"KARANGI" E.T.A. Gladstone 0900L/17 from Townsville.

"KANIMBLA") departed Brisbane 1301L/16 - P.C. 1123 to return Brisbane
P.C. 1123) from Lady Elliot Is. "KANIMBLA" E.T.A. Cairns 0500L/19.

U.S. Seaplane Tender "OYSTER BAY" E.T.D. Pago Pago 1300L/15 for Brisbane.

YMS.316 departed Noumea 1800L/15 for Brisbane - E.T.A. 18/1.

"COWRA" escorting L.Q. 46 arrived Brisbane 0549L/16.

"WARRENAMBOOL") escorting P.G. 100 including M.L.826 departed Brisbane
"COLAC") 1231L/16.

11 L.C.I. arrived Brisbane 0655L/16 from Milne Bay.

"OCTANS" E.T.D. Caloundra 0600L/17 for Townsville for onward routing to Milne Bay, to be escorted from "Grafton" Passage by "Warrego"

"WHYALLA") escorting Q.L.47 including P.T. 365 in tow departed Brisbane
S.C. 741) 1600L/16, S.C. 741 and P.T. 365 for Townsville.

"GIPPSLAND" (Minefield Tender) departed Sydney 0649L/16 arrived Port Stephens 1708L/16.

"TRIANGULUM" departed Newcastle 1520L/15.

"ECHUCA" and "TOWNSVILLE" escorting G.P.101 departed Sydney 0828L/16.

U.S. Destroyer "CHARLES AUSBURNE" departed Sydney 1032L/16 for Noumea E.T.A. 0800L/18.

"BERMAGUI" departed Sydney 1204L/16 - E.T.A. Caloundra 2200L/19.

NAVAL NARRATIVE

U.S.N.T. "HERMITAGE" arrived Melbourne 1351L/16 from Bombay.

HMS. "SHAH" (Aux. A/C Carrier) departed San Francisco 0830L/16 for Melbourne - E.T.A. 5/2 thence Cochin.

M.L.429 escorting "BABINDA" arrived Darwin 1821L/15 from Melville Bay.

.....

with USS "ALBATROSS" & the "MORRIS" arrived Sydney at 0845L/15 from Milne Bay.

will depart Brisbane so as to arrive Cairns January 19th.

arrived Milne Bay at 0530L/15 from same area.

departed Milne Bay at 0600L/14 escorting M.V. 10 (2 ships) E.T.A. Townsville 1600L/17.

departed Cairns at 0751L/15 to R.V. with "KALCOPOLIS" and 18 20V (18 ships and L.C.L. 489) off Fitzroy Island 0800L/15 and arrived to Milne Bay E.T.A. 0800L/17

arrived Cairns at 0701L/15 from Milne Bay.

departed Cairns at 1211L/15 to R.V. with 18 20V (16 ships) off Fitzroy Island at 1300L/15. "BABINDA" will escort section "A" to Port Moresby remainder for Milne Bay.

arrived Townsville at 1342L/15 from Brisbane.

arrived Brisbane at 1355L/15 escorting G.P. 190.

departed Sydney at 0805L/15 on daylight A/S patrol to Newcastle and return.

departed Sydney at 1852L/15 from Adelaide (to refit) E.T.A. 0800L/16.

arrived Sydney at 1611L/15 from Melbourne.

departed Port Moresby at 1831L/14 E.T.A. Cairns 1400L/15.

E.T.A. Milne Bay 1800L/16 escorting G.P. 11.

arrived Townsville at 1151L/15 from Brisbane.

departed Milne Bay at 1500L/15 from the Bay, and to Tangarak.

departed Cairns at 1600L/15 for Port Moresby E.T.A. 1600L/16

departed Milne Bay at 1600L/14 for Buna E.T.A. 1700L/15.

0900L/Sunday, 16th January, 1944.

"AUSTRALIA" (with C.T.F.74) and "NASHVILLE" arrived Sydney at 0601L/15 from Milne Bay.

"BAGLEY")
"MUGFORD")
"FLUSSER")
"MAHAN")
"DRAYTON") with COMDESRON 5 in "FLUSSER" arrived Sydney at 0645L/15 from Milne Bay.
"LAMSON")
"REID")
"SMITH")

"KANIMBLA" will depart Brisbane so as to arrive Cairns January 19th.

"MORESBY" arrived Milne Bay at 0830L/15 from Buna area.

"CASTLEMAINE")
"BALLARAT") departed Milne Bay at 0600L/14 escorting M.V.56
"MILDURA") (2 ships) E.T.A. Townsville 1500L/17.

"BUNDABERG")
"WARRECO") departed Cairns at 0731L/15 to R.V. with "KALGOORLIE"
"KATOOMBA") and TN 207 (16 ships and L.C.1.429) off Fitzroy Island
"PIRIE") 0900L/15 and escort to Milne Bay E.T.A. 0500L/17

"ARARAT" arrived Cairns at 0801L/15 from Milne Bay.

"KAPUNDA")
"BOWEN") departed Cairns at 1211L/15 to R.V. with TN 208
"YP 280") (4 ships) off Fitzroy Island at 1500L/15.
"KAPUNDA" will escort section "A" to Port Moresby remainder for Milne Bay.

"ROCKHAMPTON" arrived Townsville at 1348L/15. from Brisbane.

"WARRNAMBOOL")
"COLAC") arrived Brisbane at 2203L/15 escorting G.P.100.

"DOOMBA" departed Sydney at 0853L/15 on daylight A/S patrol to Newcastle and return.

"GEELONG" departed Sydney at 1435L/15 from Adelaide (to refit) E.T.A. 0800L/19.

"BENDIGO" arrived Sydney at 1911L/15 from Melbourne.

"YMS 48" departed Port Moresby at 1331L/14 E.T.A. Cairns 1400L/16.

"YMS 11")
"YMS 334") E.T.A. Milne Bay 1600L/16 escorting G.B.11.
"SC 748")

"ML 809" arrived Townsville at 2126L/15 from Brisbane.

"FALIE" departed Milne Bay at 1300L/15 from Oro Bay, Buna and Tangemak.

"BERYL II" departed Cairns at 1650L/15 for Port Moresby E.T.A.1000L/18

"PING WO" departed Milne Bay at 1630/14 for Buna E.T.A.1730L/15.

- "POYANG" departed Bowen at 0400L/15 for Townsville E.T.A. 1800L/15.
- "KARANGI" departed Townsville at 1926L/14 for Gladstone then Sydney E.T.A. Sydney 1200L/21.
- "IRNISPALL" departed Sydney at 0625L/15 E.T.A. Brisbane 1700L/18.
- "GERARD" arrived Milne Bay at 1600C/14 from Port Moresby.

[Faint, mostly illegible text follows, appearing to be a continuation of a log or report. Some legible fragments include:]

... departed Milne Bay at 1800L/14 for Cairns - E.T.A. ...
 (U.S. ...) 1800L/15.
 ... to depart Brisbane at ... to arrive Cairns 17/1.
 ... arrived Milne Bay ... escorting ...
 ... arrived Milne Bay at 1000L/15 escorting ... from Cairns.
 ... departed Port Moresby at 0600L/14 for Cairns E.T.A. ...
 ... departed Cairns at 0600L/14 to relieve ... on ... patrol from Grafton Passage.
 ... arrived Cairns at 1100L/14 from A/S patrol.
 ... arrived Cairns at 0800L/14 from escort ... with ...
 ... arrived Townsville at 0600L/14 from Port Moresby.
 ... detailed to escort ... to Milne Bay - ... with survey off Pitcairney Island at ... E.T.A. Milne Bay 0500L/17.
 ... detailed to escort ... with survey off Pitcairney Island ...
 ... departed Gladstone at 1000L/14 escorting ...
 ... arrived Brisbane at 1200L/15 from Townsville.
 ... arrived Sydney at 0600L/14 escorting ...
 ... departed Sydney at 0600L/14 on ... patrol to ... and return.
 ... arrived Thursday Island at 1200L/14 escorting ...
 ... arrived Cairns at 1000L/14 from Milne Bay.
 ... arrived Finchhafen at 1000L/14 escorting ...

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900L/Saturday, 15th January, 1944.

"BROOKS" } with Comtransdiv 16 in "BROOKS" departed Milne Bay at
"GILMER" } 0700L/14 for Sydney - E.T.A. 1400L/17. At 1801L/14
"HUMPHREYS" } "BROOKS" returned to port for minor engine repairs -
"SANDE" } E.T.D. 1500L/14 - E.T.A. 1000L/18.

"ADELAIDE" departed Port Phillip at 1347L/13, to rendezvous with
"MOOLTAN" escorted by U.S.S. "SAMPSON" in position
42°01'S. 159°01'E at 0700L/15 and escort to Fremantle
via Hobart.

"HUTCHINS" } departed Milne Bay at 1600L/14 for Cairns - E.T.A.
(U.S. Destroyer) } 1300L/16.

"KANIMELA" is to depart Brisbane so as to arrive Cairns 17/1.

"CASTLEMAINE" } arrived Milne Bay at 1630L/13 escorting T.N. 205.
"BALLARAT" }
"GADSTONE" }

"MILDURA" arrived Milne Bay at 1030L/13 escorting "SUSQUEHANNA" from
Cairns.

"BROOME" departed Port Moresby at 0626L/14 for Cairns E.T.A. Grafton
Passage 2030L/15.

"LITHGOW" departed Cairns at 0621L/14 to relieve "KATOOMBA" on
outer A/S patrol from Grafton Passage.

"KATOOMBA" arrived Cairns at 1117L/14 from A/S patrol.

"BUNDABERG" } arrived Cairns at 0655L/14 from escort duties with
"KAPUNDA" } M.V. 55.
"BOWEN" }

"KALGOOLIE" arrived Townsville at 0628L/14 from Port Moresby.

"BUNDABERG" } detailed to escort T.N. 207 (16 ships and L.C.I. 429)
"WARREGO" } to Milne Bay - Escorts will R.V. with convoy off
"KATOOMBA" } Fitzroy Island at 0900L/15 - E.T.A. Milne Bay
"KALGOOLIE" } 0500L/17.
"PIRIE" }

"KAPUNDA" } detailed to escort T.N. 208 (4 ships also YP.280)
"BOWEN" } Escort will R.V. with convoy at 0400L/16 off Fitzroy Island

"COWRA" departed Gladstone at 1900L/14 escorting L.Q. 46 (4 ships).

"GYMPIE" arrived Brisbane at 1331L/13 from Townsville.

"DELORAINIE" } arrived Sydney at 0843L/14 escorting P.G. 99.
"TOWNSVILLE" }
"A. CRIJNSSEN" }

"WILCANNIA" departed Sydney at 0859L/14 on daylight A/S patrol
to Newcastle and return.

"INVERELL" arrived Thursday Island at 1242L/14 escorting Y.4 from
Darwin.

S.C. 742 } arrived Cairns at 1541L/14 from Milne Bay.
S.C. 981 }

YMS. 11 } arrived Finschhafen at 1000L/14 escorting portion B.G.11.
YMS. 334 }
S.C. 748 }

Y.P. 288 arrived Fremantle 0820L/14 from Exmouth Gulf.

Y.P. 291 E.T.D. Brisbane 14/1 for Thursday Is. via Palm Island and Cairns.

M.L. 429 departed Melville Bay at 0730L/13 escorting "BABINDA" to Darwin - E.T.A. 1320L/15.

M.L. 822 arrived Twofold Bay at 1730L/12 from Sydney.

M.L. 818 E.T.A. Milne Bay 1400L/15 escorting from Lae.

H.M.L. 1321 E.T.D. Caloundra 1400L/16 for Townsville E.T.A. 1600L/19.

"GUMLEAF" arrived Sydney at 1642L/14 from Newcastle.

"KARANGI" arrived Townsville at 1110L/14 from Cairns.

"MOUNT VERNON" departed San Francisco 13/1 - E.T.A. Milne Bay 29/1.

"OCTANS" arrived Brisbane at 1724L/14 from Sydney - E.T.D. 16/1 for Milne Bay.

M.L. 71 and 72 } escorting "STEPHEN CHASE" and Y.P. 285 departed Milne Bay 1400L/13 for Lae - E.T.A. 1700L/14.

.....

"ARABAI" if rendezvous not effected with "STAVELL" by dusk/13 was to continue escort of "U.S. CHANNING" to Grafton Passage - "STAVELL" to remain on A/S patrol until relieved.

"ARABAI" escorting T.N. 236 arrived Port Moresby 0530L/13.

"ARABAI" departed Port Moresby 0732L/13 for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 1800L/14.

"ARABAI" E.T.A. Townsville 0400L/14 from escorting H.T. 48.

"ARABAI" } to escort T.N. 207 (10 merchant ships and U.C. 14419) E.T.A. Townsville 1400L/14 for Milne Bay.

"ARABAI" arrived Cairns 0054L/14 from Port Moresby.

"ARABAI" departed Cairns 1511L/13 for Sydney via Townsville - E.T.A. 1300L/14, and Gladstone.

M.L. 421 arrived Cairns 1140L/13 from Milne Bay.

M.L. 422 departed Cairns 1822L/13 with MNS party from Clock Reef (120 miles E. of Cooktown).

"ARABAI" departed Cairns 1325L/13 for Brisbane - E.T.A. 0600L/15.

P.O. 1152 } escorting L.C. 45 arrived Brisbane 0835L/13.

P.O. 1153 }

P.O. 742 and 743 arrived Brisbane 1204L/13 from Cairns.

H.M.L. 1321 E.T.A. Caloundra 1400L/16 for Townsville - E.T.A. 1600L/19.

"ARABAI" and "STAVELL" escorting G.P. 100 departed Sydney 0813L/13.

H.T.S. 544 arrived Sydney 0611L/13 from Melbourne.

"ARABAI" E.T.D. Sydney 1400L/15 for Adelaide for annual visit.

"ARABAI" arrived Sydney 0611L/13 from Melbourne.

To 0900L/Friday, 14th January, 1944.

"STUART" escorting "CAPE PERPETUA" arrived Milne Bay 1052L/13.

U.S.N.T. "MOUNT VERNON" departed San Francisco 12/1 for Milne Bay.
E.T.A. 28/1.

S.C. 744 departed Milne Bay 0630L/13 to take over A/S patrol in
China Strait from M.L.428.

YMS.53 arrived Milne Bay 1900L/12 from Port Moresby.

YMS.314 escorting "G.B.1" departed Finschhafen 0700L/12 - arrived
Milne Bay 1930L/13.

YMS.315 escorting "JAMES S. DOTY" departed Lae 2100L/11 arrived Milne
Bay 1035L/13.

"MERKUR" departed Buna 1800L/12 arrived Milne Bay 1230L/13.

S.C. 748) escorting 4 ships arrived Buna 1515L/12.
YMS.11 and 334)

YMS.71 and 73) escorting "STEPHEN CRANE" and YP.283 departed Milne
S.C.650) Bay 1400L/13 for Buna - E.T.A. 1700L/14.

"ARARAT" if rendezvous not effected with "STAWELL" by dusk/13 was to
continue escort of "W.E. CHANNING" to Grafton Passage -
"STAWELL" to remain on A/S patrol until relieved.

"BROOME" escorting T.N. 206 arrived Port Moresby 0830L/13.

"GERARD" departed Port Moresby 0721L/13 for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 1800L/14.

"KALGOORLIE" E.T.A. Townsville 0600L/14 from escorting N.T. 69.

"BUNDABERG") to escort T.N. 207 (16 merchant ships and L.C.I.429)
"WARREGO") E.T.A. Townsville 1600L/14 for Milne Bay.
"KATOOMBA")
"KALGOORLIE")
"PIRIE")

"WARREGO" arrived Cairns 0030L/14 from Port Moresby.

"KARANGI" departed Cairns 1511L/13 for Sydney via Townsville -
E.T.A. 1300L/14. and Gladstone.

L.C.I.27 arrived Cairns 1145L/13 from Milne Bay.

M.L.805 returned Cairns 1627L/13 with RMS party from Clock Reef
(110 miles N. of Cooktown).

"SOEDOE" departed Cairns 1829L/13 for Brisbane - E.T.A. 0600L/18.

P.C. 1123) escorting L.Q. 45 arrived Brisbane 0535L/13.
S.C. 731)

S.C. 745 and 749 arrived Brisbane 1304L/13 from Cairns.

YP.291 E.T.D. Caloundra 1400L/14 for Townsville - E.T.A. 1100L/17.

"WARRNAMEBOOL" and "COLAC" escorting G.P.100 departed Sydney 0810L/13.

U.S.S. "CALAMARES" arrived Sydney 0611L/13 from Melbourne.

"GEELONG" E.T.D. Sydney 1400L/15 for Adelaide for annual refit.

"BIRCHGROVE PARK" arrived Sydney 2213L/13 from Maryborough.

"INNISFAIL" E.T.D. Sydney 1300L/15 for Brisbane.

"ADELAIDE" departed Melbourne 1109L/13 to rendezvous "MOOLTAN" in 40°01'S. 159°01'E at 0700L/15 and escort to Fremantle via Hobart.

"SAMPSON" escorting "MOOLTAN" departed Wellington 1827L/12 to rendezvous "ADELAIDE".

"BENDIGO" departed Port Phillip 1720L/13 for Sydney - E.T.A. 1800L/15.

.....

[Faint, mostly illegible text continues on the page, likely containing a list of ship movements and schedules.]

To 0900L/Thursday, 13th January, 1943.

"AUSTRALIA" } departed Milne Bay 0600L/12 for Sydney
"NASHVILLE" }

"FLUSSER", "LAMSON", "REID", } departed Milne Bay 1600L/11 for
"MAHAN", "SMITH", "MUGFORD", } Sydney.
"BAGLEY" and "DRAYTON" }

"WESTRALIA" departed Milne Bay 0730L/12 for Goodenough. E.T.A.
1500L/12.

YMS. 335, } escorting B.G. 10B. arrived Cape Cretin 1538L/11.
S.C. 737 & 732 }

M.L. 424 arrived Milne Bay 0047L/12 from Woodlark.

M.L. 428 departed Milne Bay 0300L/12 to take over A/S patrol of
China Strait from P.C. 476.

S.C. 748 } escorting 4 ships departed Milne Bay 1400L/11 for Buna -
Z. YMS. } E.T.A. 1500L/12.

M.L. 430 and 819 escorting B.G. 10A. arrived Lae 0945L/11.

S.C. 688 escorting M.F. 15 arrived Milne Bay 1709L/11.

YMS. 73 escorting "NORAB" and Y.13 arrived Milne Bay 1155L/11.

P.C. 1121 arrived Milne Bay 2000L/10 from Port Moresby.

"PING WO" arrived Milne Bay 1400L/11 from Cape Sudest.

S.C. 742 and 981 departed Milne Bay 1300L/12 - E.T.A. Grafton
Passage 0700L/14.

"ARARAT" escorting "W.E. CHANNING" departed Milne Bay 1500L/12 to
rendezvous "STAWELL" 1400L/13, "ARARAT" returning Milne
Bay - "STAWELL" Cairns to boiler clean, "W.E. CHANNING"
to Townsville.

"WARREGO" escorting "EMPIRE SILVER" arrived Port Moresby 0745L/12
from Milne Bay - departed Port Moresby 1131L/12 for
Cairns - E.T.A. 2200L/13.

"GERARD" towing "HOONA" arrived Port Moresby 0806L/12 from Thursday
Island.

"MILDURA" escorting "SUSQUEHANNA" departed Cairns 0310L/12 for Milne
Bay. - E.T.A. 2000L/13.

P.C. 1123 } escorting L.Q. 45 departed Gladstone 1800L/11.
S.C. 731 }

"TOWNSVILLE" returned Brisbane 0753L/12 from escorting
"AASE MAERSK" to Lady Elliot Island.

"DELORAINÉ" } escorting G.P. 99 arrived Brisbane 1351L/12.
"ROCKHAMPTON" }
"ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" }

"DELORAINÉ" } escorting P.G. 99 departed Caloundra 1604L/12.
"ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" }
"TOWNSVILLE" }

"ROCKHAMPTON" escorting Q.L. 46 including M.L. 809 in tow and 4 L.C.I.'s
departed Brisbane 1819L/12 - "ROCKHAMPTON" E.T.A.
Townsville 1900L/13.

"GYMPIE" E.T.A. Caloundra 1400L/13 from Townsville.

HMML. 1129 E.T.D. Caloundra 1700L/14 for Townsville - E.T.A.
1700L/18.

"WARRAMUNGA" arrived Sydney 1829L/11 from Milne Bay.

"PATERSON" } departed Newcastle 0015L/12 - arrived Sydney 1048L/12.
"WARANI" }

U.S. DESTROYER TRANSPORT "DENT" arrived Sydney 1019L/12 from Milne Bay via Brisbane.

U.S.S. "OCTANS" departed Sydney 1156L/12 for Brisbane - E.T.A. 0200L/15.

"GEELONG" departed Sydney 0900L/12 for daylight patrol to Newcastle and return.

"ADELAIDE" arrived Melbourne 0915L/12 from Fremantle; E.T.D. A.M./13 to rendezvous "MOOLTAN" in 42°01'S. 159°01'E at 0700L/15 and escort to Fremantle via Hobart.

D/F FIX.

One D/F fix of a surface unit in the Solomon Sea A.M./13 was passed to A.I.C. 365.

* * * * *

To 0930L/Wednesday, 12th January, 1944.

H.M.S. "SUSSEX" departed Trincomalee at 2051L/10 - E.T.A. Fremantle 0930L/18.

"WARRAMUNGA" arrived Sydney at 1829L/11 from Milne Bay.

"ADELAIDE" arrived Port Phillip at 0629L/12 from Fremantle.

"KALGOORLIE" departed Port Moresby at 1130L/11 escorting N.T.69 (2 ships) E.T.A. "KALGOORLIE" at Cairns 1230L/13.

"BUNDABERG" } departed Milne Bay at 0620L/11 escorting M.V. 55 -
 "EOWEN" } E.T.A. Grafton Passage 1800L/13.
 "KAPUNDA" }

"WARRAGO" departed Milne Bay at 0600L/11 escorting "EMPIRE SILVER" at Port Moresby E.T.A. 0600L/12.

"STAWELL" } arrived Milne Bay at 0930L/11 escorting "PENNANT" and
 S.C. 744 } "JOHN ROSS" from Lae.

"BALLARAT" departed Cairns at 0803L/11 to rendezvous with "SEA DEVIL" then overtake and join T.N. 205.

"CASTLEMAINE" } departed Cairns at 0527L/11 to R.V. with T.N. 205
 S.C. 746 } (4 ships) off Fitzroy Island at 0700L/11 and escort to Milne Bay.

"BROOME" departed Cairns at 1201L/11 to rendezvous and escort T.N. 206 (MONTORO) to Port Moresby - E.T.A. 0800L/13.

"GYMPIE" departed Townsville at 1046L/11 to proceed to vicinity of Dome Island to search for 2 barges adrift in that area. When recovered barges are to be towed to Gladstone.

"WHYALLA" arrived Brisbane at 0840L/11 from escort duties.

"TOWNSVILLE" departed Caloundra at 0347L/11 escorting "AASE MAERSK" and "JOSIAH EARLE" en route to Townsville. "AASE MAERSK" proceeds independently from Lady Elliot Island. "TOWNSVILLE" is to be onward routed to Milne Bay.

"WILCANNIA" } arrived Sydney and 0915L/10 escorting P.G. 98
 "YANDRA" }

"ECHUCA" departed Sydney at 0900L/11 for daylight A/S patrol to Newcastle and return.

P.C. 1124 arrived Milne Bay at 0820L/10 escorting "W.E. CHANNING" from Kiriwina.

S.C. 698 departed Port Moresby at 1645L/10 escorting M.F. 15 (2 ships) E.T.A. Milne Bay 1800L/11.

YMS.53 departed Port Moresby at 1430L/11 escorting "DAVID HEWES" en route to Lae.

YMS.73 E.T.A. Milne Bay 1540L/11 escorting Y.13 and "NORAB" from Lae.

M.L.822 departed Sydney at 1028L/11 for Jervis Bay and Eden E.T.A. 1920L/12.

M.L.429 arrived Melville Bay at 1915L/10 from Darwin.

14 L.C.I's. departed Milne Bay 1000L/10 for Brisbane E.T.A. 1400L/14.

"CHETCO" (U.S. Fleet Tuf) departed Noumea at 1300L/11 for Brisbane E.T.A. 17/1.

- "PING WO" arrived Milne Bay at 1400L/11 from Cape Sudest.
- "POLARIS" arrived Milne Bay at 1425L/11 from Buna.
- "DURRAWEE" (E.T.D. Pt. Melbourne P.M/13 for S.C.F. 6 returning Pt. Phillip A.M/16.
- "CALAMARES" departed Melbourne at 0509L/11 - E.T.A. Sydney 0700L/13.
- "MIDWAY" (U.S. Auxiliary) departed San Francisco at 0600L/8 for Brisbane E.T.A. 25/1.
- "WANELLA" departed Colombo 9/1 E.T.A. Fremantle P.M/19.
- "KARANGI" E.T.D. Cairns 1200L/13 for Sydney - E.T.A. 1200L/20.
- "BIRCHGROVE PARK" E.T.D. Maryborough 2030L/10 for Sydney.
- "OCTANS" (U.S. Stores Carrier) when ready 12/1 will depart Sydney for Brisbane.

REPORTED SIGHTING OF PARTLY SUBMERGED SUBMARINE in position 11°47'S. 150°27'E (75 miles S. of Milne Bay) at approximately 2000L/11. Information passed to A.I.G. 365 and M/V. in the area.

"ARARAT", P.C.476 and A.S.V. fitted aircraft are carrying out search.

- "..." departed Sydney at 0700L/10 ...
- "..." departed Darwin at 0800L/10 ...
- "..." arrived Thursday Island at 1400L/10 ...
- "..." departed Cairns at 1500L/10 with U.S. party for ...
- "..." arrived Milne Bay at 0800L/10 ...
- "..." arrived Cairns at 1500L/10 from Milne Bay.
- "..." E.T.D. Port Moresby 1500L/10 ...
- "..." arrived Port Moresby at 1000L/10 ...
- "..." arrived Milne Bay at 0700L/10 ...
- "..." departed Milne Bay at 1100L/9 for ...
- "..." departed Langkai at 1000L/9 ...
- "..." departed Milne Bay at 1200L/9 ...
- "..." departed Milne Bay at 1800L/9 ...

Управление
882 Сигурингга уонг

To 0900L/Tuesday, 11th January, 1943.

"DENT" (U.S. Destroyer Transport) E.T.D. Brisbane 1300L/10 for Sydney. E.T.A. 1200L/12.

"WESTRALIA" arrived Milne Bay at 1100L/10 from Goodenough Island.

"BUNDABERG") arrived Milne Bay at 1230L/10 escorting T.N. 204.

"WARREGO")

"KAPUNDA")

"BOWEN")

"WARREGO" E.T.D. Milne Bay 0500L/11 escorting "EMPIRE SILVER" to Port Moresby.

"MILDURA" E.T.D. Cairns 1600L/11 escorting "SUSQUEHANNA" to Milne Bay - E.T.A. 1000L/13.

"KATOOMBA" departed Cairns at 0615L/10 to relieve "BALLARAT" on outer A/S patrol off Grafton Passage.

"BALLARAT" arrived Cairns at 2237L/10 from A/S patrol.

"CASTLEMAINE") detailed to escort T.N. 205 (42 ships). Escorts will
 "BALLARAT") rendezvous with convoy off Fitzroy Island at 0700L/11
 "GLADSTONE") and escort to Milne Bay. E.T.A. 1400L/13.

"BROOME" E.T.D. Townsville 0100L/11 escorting T.N. 206 ("MONTORO") to Port Moresby - E.T.A. 0800L/13.

"GEELONG" departed Sydney at 0704L/10 from daylight A/S patrol to Newcastle and return.

"INVERELL" departed Darwin at 0816L/10 escorting Y.4. - E.T.A. 2330L/14 at Thursday Island.

"COOTAMUNDRA" arrived Thursday Island at 1400L/10 escorting D.T. 41.

M.L.805 departed Cairns at 1109L/10 with R.M.S. party for Clock Reef (110 miles N.W. Cooktown) to render mine safe.

S.C. 750) arrived Milne Bay at 0845L/10 escorting "E.N. WESTCOTT"
YMS.11) from Finachhafen.

YMS.51 arrived Cairns at 1511L/10 from Milne Bay.

S.C. 698 E.T.D. Port Moresby 1500L/10 escorting "SAMUEL BRANNON" and "SHIKELLAMY" to Milne Bay.

YMS.53 arrived Port Moresby at 1530L/10 escorting "F.G. NEWLANDS" from Milne Bay.

S.C. 744 arrived Milne Bay at 0730L/10 escorting "THOMAS JEFFERSON" from Lae.

YMS.50 departed Milne Bay at 2151L/9 for Woodlark Island - E.T.A. 0900L/10.

P.C. 1131 departed Langemak at 0900L/9 E.T.A. Buna 1930L/9.

P.C. 1132. departed Milne Bay at 1330L/9 - E.T.A. Buna 0600L/10.

S.C. 737) departed Milne Bay at 1500L/9 escorting B.G. 10 (4 ships)
YMS.335) to Lae and Cape Cretin.
S.C. 732)
M.L.430)
M.L.819)

NAVY NARRATIVE

H.D.M.Ls. 1321 and 1129 arrived Brisbane at 0355L/10 from Sydney
 YP.288 departed Exmouth Gulf at 2115L/10 E.T.A. Fremantle 1101L/14.
 S.C. 745 } departed Cairns at 0831L/10 for Brisbane.
 S.C. 749 }

"BERYL II." arrived Cairns at 2027L/10 from Townsville.

"PATERSON" } arrived Newcastle at 2059L/10 from Sydney.
 "NARANI" }

"GERARD" towing "HOONA" departed Thursday Island at 0752L/10 - E.T.A. Port Moresby 0700L/12.

"TRIANGULUM" (U.S. Stores ship) departed Newcastle at 0908L/10 - E.T.A. Newcastle 1600L/10.

"MANUNDA" (HOSPITAL SHIP) departed Brisbane at 1355L/10 - E.T.A. Sydney 0630L/12.

FOUR TORPEDO TRACKS REPORTED SIGHTED BY U.S. SUBMARINE at 1957L/9 in position 23°10'S. 122°15'E. 70 miles N. of Broome.

.....

"STANLEY" towing "JAMES W. COY" arrived Port Moresby 1100L/9 from Brisbane.
 "PATERSON" towing "EDWARD MERRITT" departed Cape Crater 1700L/9 for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 1600L/10.
 P.C. 112 towing T.A. departed Port Moresby 0700L/9 for Exmouth.
 S.C. 745 towing "TILLY" arrived Port Moresby 1340L/9 from Milne Bay.
 "CALIBURN" towing T.A. 203 arrived Port Moresby 1050L/9.
 "EDWARD" towing "MORRIS" departed 1500L/9 for Thursday Island - E.T.A. 1600L/12.
 S.C. 745 } S.T.A. Cairns 0800L/10 for Brisbane - E.T.A. 1800L/12.
 S.C. 749 }
 S.C. 747 towing Cairns 1200L/9 from Milne Bay.
 "CALIBURN" arrived Cairns 1830L/9 from Milne Bay.
 "STANLEY" arrived outside anchorage Cairns 1045L/9 from Palm Island.
 "BERYL II." S.T.A. Cairns 1900L/10 from Brisbane.
 "PATERSON" arrived Townsville 0700L/9 from Brisbane.
 "EDWARD" towing "MORRIS" } escorting L.S. 44 arrived Brisbane 0340L/9.
 S.C. 745 }
 "CALIBURN" arrived Brisbane 0600L/9 from Cape York.
 "STANLEY" arrived Brisbane 0800L/9 from Sydney - departed 1400L/9 to tow "CAPE PRINCE" and escort to Milne Bay.
 "CALIBURN" towing P.C. 25 departed Brisbane 1100L/9.
 "STANLEY" arrived Brisbane 1200L/9 from Exmouth.
 P.C. 112 towing "MORRIS" S.T.A. Moresby 0900L/10 for Brisbane.

To 0900L/Monday, 9th January, 1943.

"WARRAMUNGA" departed Milne Bay 1810L/8 for Sydney.

M.L.428 escorting "THOMAS JEFFERSON" departed Lae 2200L/8 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 1000L/10.

P.C. 1132) escorting "JUAN CABRILLO" and "JOHN S. SARGENT"
S.C. 748 & 650) arrived Milne Bay 0930L/8 from Langemak.

"GANYMEDE" arrived Oro Bay 0128L/8 from Milne Bay.

"YUNNAN" departed Milne Bay 1500L/8 for Cape Sudest - E.T.A. 1600L/9.

P.C. 1131 E.T.A. Buna P.M/9 from Langemak.

P.C. 1132 E.T.A. Buna 0500L/10 from Milne Bay.

S.C. 982 arrived Milne Bay 0900L/9 from Lae.

YMS71.) arrived Milne Bay 1100L/9 from Oro Bay.
"FALIE")

YMS.53 escorting F.G. "NEWLANDS" departed Milne Bay 1200L/9 for Port Moresby - E.T.A. 1400L/10.

MDML.1325 departed Buna 0930L/9 to join "SHEPPARTON" surveying in vicinity of Lasanga Island (35 miles S. of Lae).

"STAWELL" escorting "JAMES W. DOTY" arrived Lae 1110L/8 from Kiriwina.

YMS.11.) escorting "EDWARD WESTCOTT" departed Cape Cretin 1730L/8 for
S.C. 750) Milne Bay - E.T.A. 1400L/10.

P.C. 1121 escorting Y.4. departed Port Moresby 0700L/9 for Buna.

S.C. 698 escorting "STICKLESTAD" arrived Port Moresby 1345L/9 from Milne Bay.

"KALGOORLIE" escorting T.N.203 arrived Port Moresby 1030L/9.

"SOEDOE" departed Merauke 1600L/9 for Thursday Island - E.T.A. 1800L/13.

S.C. 745) E.T.D. Cairns 0600L/10 for Brisbane - E.T.A. 1200L/13.
S.C. 749)

S.C. 747 arrived Cairns 1335L/9 from Milne Bay.

"CASTLEMAINE") arrived Cairns 1231L/9 from Milne Bay.
"BROOME")
"LITHGOW")

"SUSQUEHANNA" arrived outside anchorage Cairns 2055L/9 from Palm Island.

"BERYL II." E.T.A. Cairns 1900L/10 from Brisbane.

"POYANG" arrived Bowen 0700L/9 from Brisbane.

"TOWNSVILLE") escorting L.Q. 44 arrived Brisbane 0947L/9.
S.C. 741)

"CONYNGHAM" arrived Brisbane 0910L/9 from Cape Sudest.

"STUART" arrived Brisbane 0535L/9 from Sydney - departed 1415L/9 to rendezvous "CAPE PERPETUA" and escort to Milne Bay.

"WILCANNIA") escorting P.G. 98 departed Brisbane 1155L/9.
"YANDRA")

L.C.I.447 arrived Brisbane 1226L/9 from Noumea.

U.S. FLEET TUG "CHETCO" E.T.D. Noumea 0900L/10 for Brisbane.

"WHYALLA" } escorting Q.L.45 departed Brisbane 1539L/9.
S.C. 751 }

U.S.S. "PYRO" departed Sydney 0931L/9 for Noumea.

"DELORAINÉ" } escorting G.P.99 departed Sydney 0844L/9.
"ROCKHAMPTON" }
"A. CRIJNSSSEN" }

"TRIANGULUM" E.T.D. Sydney A.M/10 for Newcastle.

"OCTANS" arrived Sydney 1647L/9 from Melbourne.

TANKER "BEAU". REFLOATED" -

At 0945L/9 "BEAU" reported "Tug no longer required. Vessel off and proceeding in".

A/C report of possible Submarine.

Aircraft reported sighting at 0745L/9 "possible surfaced submarine" about 20 miles S.E. of Wilson's Promontory. Aircraft was at 5,000 feet and made sighting at range of 1,000 yards. Visibility was good and sea calm. A second aircraft investigated with negative results.

UNIDENTIFIED SIGHTING AT WILSON'S PROMONTORY.

Sighting by Wilson's Promontory of a vessel course west, speed 12 to 15 knots, at 2303L/9 has not been identified. One aircraft was to search from first light/10.

- 22.00L Departed Milne Bay 1200L/7 STA Grafton Passage 1200L/8.
- 23.00L Escorting BG 5 arrived Cape Curtin 1100L/8.
- 23.00L Departed Milne Bay 0700L/7 STA Cape Sidest 1200L/8.
- 23.00L Arrived Bada 1200L/7.
- 23.00L Arrived Port Moresby 2700L/7 from Milne Bay; escorting 2300L/8 departed 1200L/8, MAC 31 STA Cairns 1200L/10.
- 23.00L Escorting 2300L/8 departed Port Moresby 1200L/8, 2300L/8 to Townsville 2300L/11.
- 23.00L Arrived Thursday Island 1200L/8 from Cairns.
- 23.00L Departed Cairns 1200L/8 to relieve 2300L/8 on a/c patrol of Grafton Passage.
- 23.00L Departed Cairns 1200L/8 to join 2300L/8.
- 23.00L Arrived Cairns 1200L/7 from Milne Bay.
- 23.00L Arrived Cairns 1200L/7 from Milne Bay.
- 23.00L STA Cairns 1200L/8 from Palm Is. and Townsville.
- 23.00L Escorting 2300L/8 arrived Brisbane 2300L/8.
- 23.00L Escorting 2300L/8 to 2300L/8 arrived Brisbane 1200L/8.
- 23.00L Arrived Sydney 0817L/8 from London.
- 23.00L ETA Sydney 2300L/8 with 2300L/8, thence to Townsville.
- 23.00L Arrived Townsville 1200L/8 from Brisbane.

D

To 0900L/SUNDAY JANUARY 9TH, 1944

WARRAMUNGA

ETD Milne Bay 1800L/8 for Sydney, ETA 1515L/11.

CASTLEMAINE
BROOME
LITHGOW

Escorting TN 202B arrived Milne Bay 0810L/7, departed Milne Bay 1400L/7, ETA Grafton Passage 1400L/9.

PC 476

Departed Milne Bay 0900L/8 to take over A/S patrol of China Strait from ARARAT.

ARARAT

Will R/V ARICKAREE at 1700L/10 and escort to Milne Bay.

STAWELL

Arrived KIRIWINA 0815L/7, escorting JAMES D. DOTY departed 1705L/7 for Lae, ETA 1600L/8.

POLARIS

ETD Buna AM/9 for Milne Bay ETA 1700L/10, to refit.

ML 818

Escorting JOEL PALMER arrived LANGEMAK 0915L/8.

PC 1132
SC 748 & 650

Escorting JUAN CABRILLO & JOHN D. SARGENT departed LANGEMAK 1600L/8 for Milne Bay ETA 1400L/8.

SC 698

Escorting STICKLESTAD departed Milne Bay 0800L/8 for Port Moresby, ETA 0800L/9.

ML 428

Escorting JOHN ROSS arrived Lae 2000L/6 from Milne Bay.

ML 430

Arrived Milne Bay 1145L/7 from Woodlark.

1 YMS

Arrived Milne Bay 1101L/7 escorting ROBERT STEWART.

SC 747

Departed Milne Bay 1130L/7 ETA Grafton Passage 1200L/9.

PC 1131
ML 428

Escorting BG 9 arrived Cape Cretin 1100L/6.

PING WO

Departed Milne Bay 0730L/7 ETA Cape Sudest 1000L/8.

MERKUR

Arrived Buna 1200L/7.

YMS 51

Arrived Port Moresby 1723L/7 from Milne Bay, escorting NORLAGO departed 1330L/8, YMS 51 ETA Cairns 1930L/10.

GYMPIE

Escorting WILLIAM HUME departed Port Moresby 1900L/8, GYMPIE ETA Townsville 2300L/11.

GERARD

Arrived Thursday Island 1420L/8 from Cairns.

BALLARAT

Departed Cairns 1355L/8 to relieve WARREGO on A/S patrol of Grafton Passage.

BUNDABERG

Departed Cairns 1212L/8 to join TN 204.

APC 2

Arrived Cairns 1631L/7 from Milne Bay.

YP 236

Arrived Cairns 1642L/7 from Milne Bay.

SUSQUEHANNA

ETA Cairns 1900L/9 from Palm Is. and Townsville.

WILCANNIA
YANDRA

Escorting GP 98 arrived Brisbane 2305L/8.

PC 1133

Escorting MONTAUR towing ARD 12 arrived Brisbane 1630L/8.

US DESTROYER
CHARLES AUSBURNE

Arrived Sydney 0817L/8 from Noumea.

ROCKHAMPTON

ETD Sydney 0800L/9 with GP 99, thence to Townsville.

GLADSTONE

Arrived Townsville 1436L/8 from Brisbane.

Monday, 28th January, 1944. 2.

STUART Departed Sydney 0914L/8 for Brisbane ETA 0630L/9.

COOMBAR Departed Sydney 1312L/8 for Hobart ETA PM/11.

TASK UNIT 35.3.6 Arrived Sydney 0638L/8 from Guadalcanal.
(8 LCI's)

GEELONG Departed Sydney 0900L/8 on A/S patrol to Newcastle and return.

USS PYRO ETD Sydney AM/9 for Noumea.

US MINESWEEPER LARK Arrived Fremantle 0555L/8 from Exmouth Gulf.

INVERELL Escorting Y4 arrived Darwin 1643L/8 from Thursday Is.

ML 429 Departed Darwin 1220L/8 for Melville Bay ETA 2000L/10.

TANKER AGROUND AT BRISBANE

Tanker BEAU which arrived Brisbane 2305L/8 in GP 98 reported herself aground at 0651L/9 off West Bank Buoy (approaches to Brisbane) and requested NOIC Brisbane to send a tug.

AIR RAID WARNING

Goodenough Yellow 2239L/8 White 2259L/8

D/F FIXES

Two S/M D/F FIXES in Bismark/Solomon Sea Areas AM/9 were passed to AIG 365.

16 0900L/Saturday, 8th January, 1944.

- "CONYNGHAM" (U.S. Destroyer) en route Cape Sudest - Buna to Sydney, was ordered by Com. 7th Fleet at 1559L/7 to proceed Brisbane for docking.
- "ADELAIDE" departed Fremantle at 1307L/7 - E.T.A. Pt. Phillip Heads 0600L/12.
- "GYMPIE" arrived Port Moresby by 1230L/7 escorting T.N. 202 "A".
- "ARARAT" will rendezvous with "CAPE GRIG" (en route San Francisco to Milne Bay) in position 10° 55' S. 150° 34' E - 90 miles S. of Milne Bay on 7/1 and escort towards Milne Bay. P.C. 476 will relieve "ARARAT" at 1200L/8.
- "SHEPPARTON" departed Buna at 1600L/5 for Dampier Strait survey ground.
- "MILDURA" } arrived Cairns at 1616L/7 escorting M.V. 54.
 "PIRIE" }
- "KALGOORLIE" departed Cairns at 1410L/7 to rendezvous with "SHIKELLAMY" (T.N. 203) off Fitzroy Island at 1600L/7 and escort to Port Moresby. E.T.A. 0900L/9.
- "TOWNSVILLE" } departed Gladstone at 1800L/7 escorting L.Q. 44.
 S.C. 741 }
- "BOWEN" arrived Townsville at 0548L/7 from Bowen.
- "BUNDABERG" } detailed to escort T.N. 204 (10 ships also L.S.T. 458 and
 "KATOOMBA" } L.S.T. 245. Escorts will rendezvous with convoy off
 "KAPUNDA" } Fitzroy Island at 1400L/8. E.T.A. Milne Bay 1100L/11.
 "BOWEN" }
- "ECHUCA" } arrived Sydney at 0010L/7 escorting P.G. 97.
 "GEELONG" }
- "GASCOYNE" returned Sydney at 0543L/6 from working up exercises.
- "ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" departed Sydney at 0831L/7 on daylight A/S patrol to Newcastle and return.
- "HORSHAM" returned Fremantle at 1814L/7 from escort duties.
- HDML.1325. departed Milne Bay at 1500L/7 to rendezvous with "MORESBY" off Cape Sudest-Buna at 1230L/8.
- S.C. 744 arrived Lae at 0700L/5 escorting "PENNANT" and "THOMAS JEFFERSON" from Milne Bay.
- P.C. 1124 arrived Kiriwina at 2125L/5 escorting "W.E. CHANNING" from Milne Bay.
- YMS.50 arrived Milne Bay at 2200L/6 from Langemak.
- YMS.335 E.T.A. Milne Bay 1000L/7 escorting "ROBERT STUART" from Lae.
- YMS.46 and 47 arrived Cairns at 1245L/6 from Port Moresby.
- YMS.53 E.T.A. Milne Bay 0200L/9 escorting Y.19 from Lae.
- S.C. 735 arrived Brisbane at 1430L/7 for escort duties.
- YMS.315 E.T.A. Lae 0200L/9 escorting Y.13 from Milne Bay.
- P.C. 1132 } E.T.A. Langemak 1400L/8 escorting 2 M/Vs.
S.C. 748 }
S.C. 650 }

S.C. 982 arrived Lae at 1630L/6 on escort duties.

M.L.822 E.T.D. Sydney 0900L/9 for Eden via Jervis Bay.

YMS.51 arrived Port Moresby at 1723L/7 from Milne Bay.

P.C. 1121 arrived Port Moresby at 1930L/7 escorting "ALBERT HILL" from Milne Bay.

"CAPE LEEUWIN" arrived Milne Bay at 1630L/6 from Buna survey grounds.

"BUNGAREE" arrived Sydney at 2047L/6 from Townsville.

"CALAMARES" (U.S. Stores Ship) arrived Melbourne at 0829L/7 from Sydney.

U.S. "OCTANS" departed Melbourne at 1435L/7 for Sydney - E.T.A. 1900L/9.

"GANYMEDE" (U.S. Cargo Ship) departed Milne Bay at 0630L/7 - E.T.A. Oro Bay 2359L/7.

FRANCE Departed Milne Bay at 1630L/6 for Zirconia E.T.A. 0800L/7.

HARRISON Departed Cairns at 0800L/8 to relieve BALLARAT on A/S patrol off Grafton Passage.

BALLARAT Arrived Cairns at 1415L/6 from A/S patrol off Grafton Passage.

KALOGONIE Arrived Cairns at 0900L/7 from Port Moresby. E.T.A. Cairns 0900L/7 escorting WILKINSON to Port Moresby. E.T.A. 0800L/9.

ELDONIA Departed Caloundra at 1800L/6 escorting S.P.44 (3 ships). E.T.A. 0800L/9.

WILKINSON } Departed Sydney at 0800L/6 escorting S.P.25 (3 ships) E.T.A. Caloundra 1800L/6.
YANPA }

LATONE Arrived Sydney at 1115L/6 from Townsville.

SPRINGMOUNT Departed Darwin at 0800L/6 escorting S.P.41 (3 ships) E.T.A. Thursday Island 1800L/6.

S.C. 757 Arrived Milne Bay at 0800L/6 escorting FREMONT OLIVER from Lae.

Y.M.S. 50 } Arrived Langkok at 1115L/6 escorting WILKINSON from Milne Bay.
Y.M.S. 51 }

Y.P. 201 Arrived Brisbane at 1825L/6 from Cairns.

Y.M.S. 51 Departed Milne Bay at 0800L/6 for Port Moresby E.T.A. 1800L/7.

Y.M.S. 52 Arrived Cairns at 1800L/6 from Port Moresby.

S.36 (U.S. Submarine) with L.C.145 arrived Brisbane at 0800L/6 from Noumea.

M.L. 510 E.T.A. Finschaven 1800L/7 escorting JOHN PALMER from Milne Bay.

M.L. 511 Arrived Cairns at 1100L/6 from Townsville.

M.C.I. 441 Departed Noumea at 1800L/6 for Brisbane.

WILKINSON arrived Townsville at 0800L/6.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900L/Friday, 7th January, 1944.

CONYNGHAM (U.S. Dest.) Departed Cape Sudist - vicinity Buna - for Sydney
E.T.A. 1800L/9.

WALLER (with Comdesron 22) Departed Sydney at 1147L/6 for Noumea E.T.A.
Bulari Passage 0700L/8.

STUART E.T.D. Sydney 0900L/8 for Brisbane to fuel - then to depart,
E.T.D. 0630L/9 so as to r/v with CAPE PERPETUA in position
24° 15' S, 155° 35' E (240 miles N.E. Brisbane) at 0900L/10
and escort to Milne Bay.

HUTCHINS) U.S. Destroyers with U.S. Destroyer Transports STRINGHAM,
NOA) KILTY, CROSBY, and WARD, arrived Milne Bay at 1220L/6.

RIGEL (U.S. Destroyer Tender) Departed Milne Bay at 2200L/3 for Cape
Sudist - Buna.

CHARLES F. AUSBURNE (U.S. Destroyer) Departs Noumea prior dark 6th for
Sydney E.T.A. prior dark 8th.

STAWELL Departed Milne Bay at 1630L/6 for Kiriwina E.T.A. 0800L/7.

WARREGO Departed Cairns at 0907L/6 to relieve BALLARAT on A/S patrol
off Grafton Passage.

BALLARAT Arrived Cairns at 1415L/6 from A/S patrol off Grafton Passage.

KALGOORLIE Arrived Cairns at 0031L/7 from Port Moresby. E.T.D. Cairns
0200L/7 escorting SHIKELLAMY to Port Moresby. E.T.A.
0900L/9.

GLADSTONE) Departed Caloundra at 1905L/5 escorting Q.L.44 (6 ships).
S.C. 735)

WILCANNIA) Departed Sydney at 0850L/6 escorting G.P.98 (5 ships) E.T.A.
YANDRA) Caloundra 2100L/8.

LATROBE Arrived Sydney at 1118L/6 from Townsville.

COOTAMUNDRA Departed Darwin at 0848L/6 escorting D.T.41 (3 ships) E.T.A.
Thursday Island 1830L/10.

S.C. 737 Arrived Milne Bay at 0642L/6 escorting FREMONT OLDER from Lae.

Y.M.S. 50) Arrived Langemak at 1315L/5 escorting TECUMSEH from Milne Bay.
Y.M.S. 313)

Y.P. 291 Arrived Brisbane at 1829L/6 from Cairns.

Y.M.S. 51 Departed Milne Bay at 0840L/6 for Port Moresby E.T.A. 1200L/7.

Y.M.S. 8 Arrived Cairns at 1529L/6 from Port Moresby.

S. 38 (U.S. Submarine) with L.C.148 arrived Brisbane at 0805L/6 from Noumea.

M.L. 818 E.T.A. Finschaven 1300L/7 escorting JOEL PALMER from Milne Bay.

M.L. 811 Arrived Cairns at 1103L/6 from Townsville.

L.C.I. 447 Departed Noumea at 1400L/6 for Brisbane.

SHIKELLAMY Arrived Townsville at 2140L/5.

MERKUR E.T.A. Buna 1200L/6 from Milne Bay.

POYANG Departed Caloundra at 1314L/6 (for Bowen) escorted by P.C.1123 to Lady Elliot Island.

BURRA BRA Arrived Port Kembla at 2055L/6 from Sydney.

COOMBAR Arrived Sydney at 1000L/6 towing concrete lighter from Hobart.

PING WO Arrived Milne Bay at 1530L/5 from Buna.

MINJAK TANAH E.T.D. Merauke 0900L/6 for Cairns via Thursday Island.

LARK (U.S. M/S) Departed Exmouth Gulf at 1530L/4. E.T.A. Fremantle noon/7th.

TASMAN (Hospital Ship) Departed Milne Bay at 1200L/6 E.T.A. Brisbane 0900L/10.

D/F fix of enemy submarine north of Cape Gloucester at 1942L/6. Information passed to A.I.G. 365.

U.S.S. "ALBATROSS" departed Milne Bay 0835L/6 for Buna.

"KALAMUNG" departed Port Moresby 0800L/6 for Buna.

"KALAMUNG" - E.T.A. Townsville 1130L/7, "KALAMUNG" - E.T.A. Cairns 0900L/9.

"KALAMUNG" arrived Cairns 1811L/6 from Milne Bay.

"KALAMUNG" departed Cairns 1811L/6 for Milne Bay via Thursday Island.

"KALAMUNG" arrived Townsville 1130L/5 from Brisbane.

"KALAMUNG" departed Sea Bluff 0800L/5 for Townsville - E.T.A. 10L, 10L, 10L, Brisbane.

"KALAMUNG" / escorting U.F. 27 arrived Brisbane 1800L/5, escorting "KALAMUNG" / P.C. 27 departed 1300L/5.

"KALAMUNG" - returned Brisbane 1840L/5 from escorting "KALAMUNG".

"KALAMUNG" returned Brisbane 1800L/5 from escorting "KALAMUNG".

"KALAMUNG" departed Brisbane 1800L/5 for Pala Island E.T.A. 1700L/5.

"KALAMUNG" arrived Sydney 1400L/5 from escorting "KALAMUNG".

"KALAMUNG" E.T.D. Sydney 11 - L/S for Bowen.

"KALAMUNG" arrived Sydney 0800L/5 from Jarvis Bay.

"KALAMUNG" departed Sydney 0800L/5 for A/S patrol to Newcastle and return.

"KALAMUNG" departed Sydney 0800L/5 for Melbourne. E.T.A. 0700L/7.

"KALAMUNG" arrived Sydney 0800L/5.

"KALAMUNG" arrived Port Melbourne 1410L/5.

"KALAMUNG" E.T.D. Melbourne 0800L/7 for A.C.P. 2.

"KALAMUNG" arrived Melbourne 2100L/5 from Sydney.

"KALAMUNG" arrived Fremantle 1150L/5 from Brisbane.

TOP SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900L Thursday, 6th January, 1943.

"WESTRALIA" arrived Goodenough 1500L/4 from Milne Bay.

"ARARAT" departed Milne Bay 0630L/5 to take over A/S patrol China Strait from "STAWELL"

M.L.431 arrived Milne Bay 0800L/4 from Woodlark.

HM.L.1325 arrived Milne Bay 0530L/4 from Townsville.

"MORESBY" passed North Foreland 0330L/4, E.T.A. Buna 0600L/5.

P.C. 1131 } escorting B.G. 9 departed Milne Bay 1731L/4.
YMS.73 }
M.L.428 }

S.C. 744 escorting "PENNANT" and "THOMAS JEFFERSON" departed Oro Bay 1617L/4 for Lae E.T.A. 0700L/5.

YMS.334 escorting "FREMONT OLDER" departed Lae 2200L/4 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 100 L/6.

S.C. 698 escorting "D.D. FIELD" arrived Milne Bay 0810L/5 from Lae.

P.C. 1124 escorting "W.E. CHANNING" departed Milne Bay 0635L/5 for Kiriwina - E.T.A. 0600L/6.

"KALGOORLIE" escorting "CANBERRA" departed Port Moresby 0930L/5, "CANBERRA" - E.T.A. Townsville 1130L/7, "KALGOORLIE" - E.T.A. Cairns 0300L/7.

S.C. 745 and 749 arrived Cairns 1631L/5 from Milne Bay.

"GERARD" departed Cairns 1857L/5 for Milne Bay via Thursday Island.

M.L.811 arrived Townsville 1130L/5 from Brisbane.

U.S. Seaplane Tender "OYSTER BAY" - departed San Diego 0500L/3 for Tutuila - E.T.A. 14/1, thence Brisbane.

"ECHUCA" } escorting G.P.97 arrived Brisbane 1006L/5, escorting
"GEELONG" } P.C. 97 departed 1305L/5.

P.C. 1123 - returned Brisbane 1943L/5 from escorting "ETOLIN".

"COWRA" returned Brisbane 1856L/5 from escorting "JAPARA".

U.S.S. "SUSQUEHANNA" departed Brisbane 1946L/5 for Palm Island E.T.A. 1730L/9.

"VENDETTA" arrived Sydney 1435L/5 from escorting "COPAHEE".

U.S. Destroyer "WALLER" E.T.D. Sydney 110 L/6 for Noumea.

M.L.817 arrived Sydney 0605L/5 from Jervis Bay.

"DOOMBA" departed Sydney 0833L/5 for A/S patrol to Newcastle and return.

U.S. Store Ship "CALAMARES" departed Sydney 0654L/5 for Melbourne. E.T.A. 0700L/7.

U.S. Store Ship "TRIANGULUM" arrived Sydney 0859L/5.

U.S. Store Ship "OCTANS" arrived Port Melbourne 1419L/5.

"DURRAWEEEN" E.T.D. Melbourne 0830L/7 for S.C.F. 6.

"BUNBURY" arrived Melbourne 2107L/5 from Sydney.

U.S.S. "ORION" arrived Fremantle 1154L/5 from Brisbane.

"PATROLLER" } departed Fremantle 1300L/4 - "TROMP" for Colombo
"TROMP" } "PATROLLER" for Colombo and Cochin.

REGULAR CONVOYS FROM BUNA NORTH.

N.O.I.C. New Guinea intends to sail approximately 4 convoys a week between Buna and Northern Ports. Escorts will turn round at Finschhafen as soon as possible to escort south-bound convoys. A/S patrols will be maintained off harbours by small craft specially allocated for the purpose.

SUBMARINE D/F FIXES.

In Bismarck Sea/Vitiaz Strait area A.M/6 were passed to A.I.G. 365.

S.S. 538 departed Milne Bay 1400L/4 - E.T.A. 1500L/4 to proceed Cairns for

.....

S.S. 538 departed "S.S. FIVE" departed Lae 1200L/4 for Milne Bay -

"MILNE" departed 1200L/4 - E.T.A. 1300L/4 - S.S. 743 and 749 to proceed Cairns for

"KALING" departed 1200L/4 - E.T.A. 1300L/4 - S.S. 743 and 749 to proceed Cairns for

S.S. 538 departed "S.S. FIVE" departed Lae 1200L/4 for Milne Bay -

"MILNE" departed 1200L/4 - E.T.A. 1300L/4 - S.S. 743 and 749 to proceed Cairns for

"KALING" departed 1200L/4 - E.T.A. 1300L/4 - S.S. 743 and 749 to proceed Cairns for

S.S. 538 departed "S.S. FIVE" departed Lae 1200L/4 for Milne Bay -

"MILNE" departed 1200L/4 - E.T.A. 1300L/4 - S.S. 743 and 749 to proceed Cairns for

"KALING" departed 1200L/4 - E.T.A. 1300L/4 - S.S. 743 and 749 to proceed Cairns for

S.S. 538 departed "S.S. FIVE" departed Lae 1200L/4 for Milne Bay -

"MILNE" departed 1200L/4 - E.T.A. 1300L/4 - S.S. 743 and 749 to proceed Cairns for

"KALING" departed 1200L/4 - E.T.A. 1300L/4 - S.S. 743 and 749 to proceed Cairns for

S.S. 538 departed "S.S. FIVE" departed Lae 1200L/4 for Milne Bay -

"MILNE" departed 1200L/4 - E.T.A. 1300L/4 - S.S. 743 and 749 to proceed Cairns for

"KALING" departed 1200L/4 - E.T.A. 1300L/4 - S.S. 743 and 749 to proceed Cairns for

S.S. 538 departed "S.S. FIVE" departed Lae 1200L/4 for Milne Bay -

"MILNE" departed 1200L/4 - E.T.A. 1300L/4 - S.S. 743 and 749 to proceed Cairns for

"KALING" departed 1200L/4 - E.T.A. 1300L/4 - S.S. 743 and 749 to proceed Cairns for

S.S. 538 departed "S.S. FIVE" departed Lae 1200L/4 for Milne Bay -

"MILNE" departed 1200L/4 - E.T.A. 1300L/4 - S.S. 743 and 749 to proceed Cairns for

"KALING" departed 1200L/4 - E.T.A. 1300L/4 - S.S. 743 and 749 to proceed Cairns for

To 000L/Wednesday 5th January, 1947.

U.S. Repair Ship "RICEL" departed Milne Bay 1100L/3 for Cape Sudest (4 miles S.E. of Buna) E.T.A. 1800L/4.

"WESTRALIA" departed Milne Bay 0630L/4 for Goodenough - E.T.A. 1500L/4.

"MIZAR" departed Milne Bay 1540L/3 for San Francisco.

YMS.11 and YMS.53 escorting "EDWARD WESTCOTT" arrived Cape Cretin 1930L/3.

P.C. 1121 departed Milne Bay 1430L/2 to rendezvous "ROBERT F. HAND" and escort to Milne Bay.

M.L.816 arrived Milne Bay 1030L/4 from Buna.

S.C. 745 and 749 escorting M.V. 53 departed Milne Bay 1407L/3 - E.T.A. Townsville 1500L/6. S.C. 745 and 749 to proceed Cairns for docking.

S.C. 698 escorting "D.D. FIELD" departed Lae 2200L/3 for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 1000L/5.

"MILDURA" } escorting T.N. 201B arrived Milne Bay 0855L/4 - escorting M.V.54
"PIRIE" } departed 1400L/4 - E.T.. Grafton Passage 1900L/6.

"KALGOORLIE" escorting T.N. 201A. arrived Port Moresby 0842L/4.

YMS.8, 46 and 47 escorting "CORIO" departed Port Moresby 1400L/4 for Cairns - E.T.A. 2000L/6.

"BOWEN" arrived Bowen 0830L/4 from Townsville.

"LITHGOW" escorting T.N. 202 departed Townsville 1930L/3.

"CASTLEMAINE" } departed Cairns 1203L/4 to rendezvous T.N. 202 off Fitzroy
"GYMPIE" } Island 1400L/4, "GYMPIE" and portion "A" E.T.A. Port Moresby
"BROOME" } 1000L/7 - "CASTLEMAINE", "BROOME" and "LITHGOW" and portion B - E.T.A. Milne Bay 1100L/7.

M.L.811 E.T.A. Townsville 1030L/5 from Brisbane.

"BERYL II." E.T.D. Caloundra 1500L/5 for Townsville.

S.C. 751 arrived Brisbane 1820L/4.

"WARRNAMEBOOL" } escorting P.G. 96 arrived Sydney 1538L/4.
"DELORAINÉ" }

U.S. Destroyer "Ausburne" E.T.A. Sydney P.M/8 from Noumea.

M.L.817 E.T.D. Jervis Bay 2100L/4 for exercises - proceeding Sydney on completion.

"BIRCHGROVE PARK" departed 1459L/4 for Maryborough.

U.S.S. "PYRO" arrived Sydney 1137L/4 from Milne Bay.

"DOOMBA" departed Sydney 0906L/4 on A/S patrol to Newcastle and return.

U.S. STORES SHIP "CALAMARES" - E.T.D. Sydney 0600L/5 for Melbourne - E.T.A. 0700L/7.

"HORSHAM" escorting "ONDINA" arrived Geraldton 0935L/4 from Exmouth Gulf - departed 1815L/4.

To 0900L/Tuesday, 4th January, 1944

"TROMP" E.T.D. Fremantle 1101L/4 escorting "PATROLLER" bound for Cochin. ("PATROLLER" will call at Colombo with "TROMP" en route).

"VENDETTA" departed Caloundra at 1633L/3 escorting "COPAHEE" (bound from San Francisco) "VENDETTA" parts company at 1200L/4 and proceeds to Sydney - E.T.A. 1700L/5.

"WHYALLA" arrived Brisbane at 0938L/3 escorting "DENT" (U.S. Destroyer Transport) from Milne Bay.

"COWRA" departed Brisbane at 1325L/3 escorting "JAPARA" towing two barges. On arrival Bustrard Head. "COWRA" returns to Brisbane.

"EUNBURY" departed Sydney at 0925L/3 for Melbourne - E.T.A. 0600L/5.

"INVERELL" departed Thursday Island at 1510L/3 escorting Y.4. to Darwin E.T.A. 1800L/8.

"FREMANTLE" arrived Thursday Island at 1230L/3 escorting D.T. 40.

YMS. 335 arrived Milne Bay at 0725L/3 escorting "MERKUR" from Buna.

YMS. 50) departed Milne Bay at 0600/3 escorting "TECUMSEH" to Lae
YMS. 313) E.T.A. 0600L/5.

P.C. 476) arrived Milne Bay 1035L/3 escorting "ANHUI" from Dreger
S.C. 732) Harbour.

P.C. 1123 departed Brisbane at 1626L/3 to rendezvous with "ETOLIN" at 0900L/4 in position 25°23'S. 157°21'E (260 miles N.E. Brisbane) and escort to Lady Elliot Island.

P.C. 1124 departed Milne Bay at 1500L/2 to rendezvous with "ALBERT HILL" in position 13°45'S. 152°20'E (210 mile S. of Milne Bay) at 1000L/3 and escort to Milne Bay.

YMS. 71 arrived Finschhafen escorting "FALIE" from Milne Bay.

M.L. 811 E.T.A. Cairns 0900L/6 in tow of "JOHN NOLAN" from Brisbane.

M.L. 428 arrived Port Moresby at 1301L/3 from Milne Bay and departed at 1615L/3 escorting "JOHN ROSS" to Lae.

M.L. 822 arrived Sydney at 2359L/from Port Kembla.

YP. 291 arrived Cairns at 1109L/3 from Port Moresby and departed for Brisbane at 1820L/3 - E.T.A. 1400L/7.

S.C. 744 arrived Buna at 0600L/2 escorting "BISHOPDALE" from Milne Bay.

YMS. 315 arrived Milne Bay at 0755L/2 escorting Y.19 from Lae.

S.C. 749 arrived Milne Bay at 0730L/2 escorting "R.P. WARNER" from Lae.

YMS. 11 and YMS. 53 departed Milne Bay at 0905L/2 escorting "EDWARD N. WESTCOTT" to Cape Cretin - near Finschhafen - E.T.A. 0600L/4.

M.L. 427 E.T.A. Milne Bay 1600L/2 escorting "GEO. H. FLANDERS" from Woodlark.

S.C. 750 arrived Dreger Harbour at 1900L/1 escorting "KOONDOOLOO" from Milne Bay.

"MINJAK TANAH" arrived Merauke at 1600L/2 from Thursday Island.

"PING WO" arrived Buna at 1200L/2 from Milne Bay.

D/F FIX OF ENEMY SUBMARINE of Cape Goulcester at 0014L/4.
Information passed to A.I.G. 365.

Monday, 22 January 1944.

- 1. Arrived Milne Bay at 1720L/1.
- 2. U.S. Destroyer Departed Sydney at 1050L/2.
- 3. Arrived Fremantle at 140L/2 from Melbourne.
- 4. Departed Milne Bay at 0700L/2 to relieve 1st Lt. on the Gona Strait A/S patrol.
- 5. Departed Milne Bay at 1400L/1 to R/V with 1st Lt. on patrol in position 230 miles S.E. Milne Bay at 140L/2 and report to Milne Bay.
- 6. Arrived Milne Bay at 0800L/2 from Port Moresby.
- 7. Arrived Gona at 0700L/2 from Milne Bay.
- 8. Departed Milne Bay at 0800L/2 to relieve 1st Lt. on patrol off Gona Strait.
- 9. Arrived Gona at 1400L/2 from A/S patrol duties.
- 10. Arrived Samarai at 1400L/2 from Gona.
- 11. Departed Samarai at 1400L/2 for Sydney N.T.A. 1400L/2.
- 12. Departed Milne Bay at 1400L/2 escorting 1st Lt. to Milne Bay via Gona Strait.
- 13. Departed Milne Bay at 1400L/2 escorting 1st Lt. to Milne Bay via Gona Strait.
- 14. Departed Milne Bay at 0800L/2 escorting 1st Lt. to Milne Bay via Gona Strait.
- 15. U.S.D. Sydney at 1400L/2 for Melbourne.
- 16. U.S.D. Sydney at 1400L/2 for Townsville.
- 17. U.S.D. Sydney at 1400L/2 escorting 1st Lt. to Milne Bay via Gona Strait.
- 18. Arrived Gona at 0800L/2 escorting 1st Lt. to Milne Bay via Gona Strait.
- 19. Arrived Gona at 0800L/2 escorting 1st Lt. to Milne Bay via Gona Strait.
- 20. U.S.D. Sydney at 1400L/2 escorting 1st Lt. to Milne Bay via Gona Strait.
- 21. Arrived Gona at 0800L/2 escorting 1st Lt. to Milne Bay via Gona Strait.
- 22. U.S.D. Sydney at 1400L/2 escorting 1st Lt. to Milne Bay via Gona Strait.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900L/Monday, 3rd January, 1944.

- "AUSTRALIA" (with C.T.F.74)) Arrived Milne Bay
"SHROPSHIRE") at 1730L/1.
- "TALBOT" (U.S. Destroyer) Departed Sydney at 1053L/2.
E.T.A. Noumea a.m./5.
- "PATROLLER" Arrived Fremantle at 1421L/2 from Melbourne.
- "STAWELL" Departed Milne Bay at 0700L/2 to relieve P.C.1121
on the China Strait A/S patrol.
- "ARARAT" Departed Milne Bay at 1700L/1 to R/V with STICKLESTAD
(tanker) in position 220 miles S.S.E. Milne Bay at
1700L/2 and escort to Milne Bay.
- "CASTLEMAINE" arrived Cairns at 0857L/2 from Port Moresby.
- "HUNDABERG" arrived Cairns at 0700L/2 from Milne Bay.
- "BALLARAT" departed Cairns at 0810L/2 to relieve BROOME on A/S
patrol off Grafton Passage.
- "BROOME" arrived Cairns at 1405L/2 from A/S patrol duties
- "LITHGOW" arrived Townsville at 0440L/2 from Cairns.
- "LATROBE" departed Townsville at 1430L/2 for Sydney E.T.A. 1400L/6.
- "TOWNSVILLE")
S.C. 741) Departed Brisbane at 1707L/2 escorting QL43
S.C. 731) (6 ships also SHIKELLAM/and 2 LSTs)
- "WARRNAMBOOL") Departed Brisbane at 1600L/2 escorting PG96
"DELOIRINE") (4 ships) E.T.A. Sydney 0500L/5.
- "ECHUCA") Departed Sydney at 0826L/2 escorting GP97 (4 ships)
"GEELONG") to Brisbane E.T.A. Caloundra 2359L/4.
- "BUNBURY" E.T.D. Sydney am/3 for Melbourne.
- "ROCKHAMPTON" E.T.D. Sydney P.M./8 for Townsville.
- "INVERELL" E.T.D. Thursday Island 1500L/3 escorting Y4 to Darwin
E.T.A. 1800L/8
- "COOTAMUNDRA" Arrived Darwin at 1923L/2 escorting T.D.40.
- YMS 335 Arrived Lae at 0830L/30 escorting Y19 from Milne Bay.
- YMS334 Arrived Lae at 0730L/1 escorting Y13 from Milne Bay.
- Task Unit 35.3.6 (8.L.C.1s) Will depart Guadalcanal at 1600L/1
for Sydney E.T.A. 1200L/7.
- PC 1123) Arrived Brisbane at 0225L/2 escorting L.Q.42.
SC 735)
- L.C.1 448 and S.38 (Submarine) will depart Noumea at 1200L/2
for Brisbane. E.T.A. Cape Moreton 0900L/6.

PC 1121 will depart Milne Bay so as to R/V with ROBERT F. HAND (Tanker) in position 12° 31'S 151° 36'E (150 miles S.S.E. Milne Bay.) at 1700L/4 and escort to Milne Bay.

ML 431 E.T.A. Kiriwina 1200L/2 from Goodenough.

SC 747 Arrived Milne Bay at 0900L/2 from Langemak.

ML 816) Arrived Dreger Harbour at 0700L/1 escorting MALCOLM M.
YMS 72) STEWAT from Milne Bay.

"EUNGAREE" Departed Townsville at 2000L/2 E.T.A. Sydney 2300L/6.

"POYANG" Departed Sydney at 0109L/3 for Brisbane thence to Townsville and Milne Bay.

"CAROO" arrived Buna at 1300L/1 from Milne Bay.

"BERYL II" arrived Brisbane at 0831L/2 from Sydney.

"HERMITAGE" departed Bombay at 1830L/31. E.T.A. Melbourne 0700L/16.

"TULSA" departed Milne Bay at 1700L/1 for Cape Sudest

ATTACK ON POSSIBLE SUBMARINE by PC 476 at 1431L/2 in position 07° 47'S 148° 05'E (off Morobe). Information passed to A.I.G. 365.

ENEMY AIR RAID.

Goodenough Is. Yellow 2340L/2
White 2346L/2.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE

TO 0900L/SUNDAY, 2nd JANUARY, 1944

- U.S.S. "POLLUX" - departed Milne Bay 1155L/31 for San Francisco
- "ARARAT" - E.T.D. Milne Bay 1700L/1 to R.V. "STICKLESTAD" in position 13° 54' S. 152° 18' E. 1700L/2 and escort to Milne Bay.
- Y.M.S. 313 - escorting one ship, departed Lae 2200L/30, arrived Milne Bay 0756L/1.
- S.C. 982 - escorting "F.J. IRWIN" departed Lae 0230L/30, arrived Langemak 1030L/30.
- M.L. 816)
Y.M.S. 72) - escorting "MALCOLM M. STEWART" departed Milne Bay 1500L/30 for Dreger Harbour E.T.A. 0600L/1.
- M.L. 818 - arrived Milne Bay 1011L/31 from escort duty with "MOBILOIL".
- "PING WO" - departed Milne Bay 0830L/1 for Buna E.T.A. 1100L/2.
- S.C. 744 - escorting "BRITISH COLONY" departed Milne Bay 0800L/1 for Buna E.T.A. 0700L/2.
- "ETAMIN" - arrived Goodenough 1240L/31 from Milne Bay.
- S.C. 749 - escorting "WHITE PLAINS" departed Lae 2100L/31 for Milne Bay E.T.A. 1101L/2.
- Y.P. 291 - departed Pt. Moresby 1236L/1, E.T.A. Grafton Passage 0700L/3.
- "CASTLEMAINE" - departed Pt. Moresby 1501L/31 escorting "BUNGAREE" to Fitzroy Island whence "BUNGAREE" proceeds Townsville and "CASTLEMAINE" Cairns.
- "MINJAK TANAH" - departed Thursday Is. 1022L/1 for Merauke.
- "MILDURA")
"KALGOORLIE") - escorting T.N. 201 inc. L.S.T. 181, and L.C.I. 432 departed Townsville 2022L/31, "KALGOORLIE" and portion 'A' E.T.A. Pt. Moresby 1000L/4, "MILDURA" and "PIRIE" with portion 'B', E.T.A. Milne Bay 1100L/4.
- "ERIE" - departed Cairns 1201L/1 to R.V. T.N. 201 off Fitzroy Is. 1400L/1.
- "MORESBY" - arrived Townsville 0602L/1 from Sydney.
- "MORESBY")
H.D.M.L. 1325) - departed Townsville 1720L/1, H.D.M.L. 1325 for Milne Bay, "MORESBY" for Buna.
- "GERARD" - departed Townsville 1906L/31, arrived Cairns 1630L/1.
- "WHYALLA")
S.C. 735) - escorting L.Q. 42 departed Gladstone 1900L/31, P.C. 1123 to relieve "WHYALLA" vicinity Lady Elliot Is.
- "VENDETTA" - escorting "COPAREE" arrived Brisbane 0849L/1.
- "WARRNAMEOOL")
"DELOIRINE") - escorting G.P. 96 arrived Brisbane 1700L/1.

P.C. 1133

- escorting "MONTAUK POINT" towing A.F.D. 12
departed Tongatabu 0945L/30 for Brisbane
E.T.A. 8/1.

U.S. Destroyer
"TALBOT"

- E.T.D. Sydney 1100L/2 for Noumea.

"GEELONG"

- returned Sydney 1855L/31 from A/S Patrol to
Newcastle.

"YANDRA"

- departed Sydney 0902L/1 on A/S patrol to Newcastle
and return.

"COOMBAR"

- towing lighter departed Hobart 1008L/31 for
Sydney E.T.A. PM/7.

"ADELAIDE"

- is to R.V. "ORION" at 1101L/4 in 35° 56' S.
117° 01' E. and escort to Fremantle.

"HORSHAM"

- E.T.A. Rottneest 0500L/5 from Exmouth Gulf.

POSSIBLE S/M OFF FINSCHAVEN:

At 0149L/2 N.O.I.C. New Guinea reported "Following
received by 'LANGEMAK' from P.C. 1132 begins - 'May have S/M
3 miles off Dreger Harbour. Am attacking.'" N.O.I.C. New Guinea
informed Port Directors.

GRAFTON PASSAGE SWEEP NEGATIVE:

"LITHGOW" completed a 50% searching sweep of reported
possible minefield in vicinity of Grafton Passage with negative
result. "LITHGOW" proceeding Townsville.

POSSIBLE MINE S.E. OF BACKSTAIRS PASSAGE:

Lookout in M/V "MUNDALLA" sighted what appeared to be
a submerged mine in position 36° 30' S. 138° 56' E. at 1850L/30.
Position is about 65 miles S.E. of Backstairs Passage. W.F.
message issued, and N.O.I.C. Adelaide advised.

M.L. 826:

Commissioned at Brisbane 1st January.

T 0900L/Saturday, 1st January, 1944.

U.S. Cruiser "BOISE" arrived Milne Bay 1700L/30 from Suva.

"SHEPPARTON" departed Milne Bay 1700L/31 for survey ground vicinity Oro Bay - E.T.A. 0700L/1.

"BUNDABERG" escorting T.N. 200B. arrived Milne Bay 0930L/31.
Departed Milne Bay 1500L/31 - E.T.A. Grafton Passage 0600L/2.

P.C. 1124 arrived Milne Bay 115L/31 from Langemak.

M.L. 431 arrived Langemak 0800L/31 from Buna

M.L. 424 escorting "GEORGE H. FLANDERS" arrived Woodlark 1300L/29.

S.C. 732) escorting "ANHUI" arrived Dreger Harbour 0130L/30 from Lae.
P.C. 476)

S.C. 750 escorting "KOONDOLOO" departed Goodenough 0600L/30 for Cape Gretin - E.T.A. 0600L/1.

S.C. 745) escorting "AMBROSE PIERCE" arrived Milne Bay 0750L/30
1 YMS.) from Lae.

"STELLA" arrived Oro Bay 1200L/29 from Buna.

YMS. 315) escorting B.G. 7B. arrived Lae 0720L/30.
S.C. 749)

S.C. 698 escorting B.G. 7C. arrived Finschhafen 1130L/30.

"ETAMIN" departed Milne Bay 0400L/31 for Goodenough. E.T.A. 1400L/31.

P.C. 1121 departed Milne Bay 1213L/31 to relieve "ARARAT" on A/S patrol at entrance to China Strait.

"CASTLEMAINE" escorting T.N. 200A. arrived Port Moresby 1040L/31.

Y.P. 291 arrived Port Moresby 0902L/31 from Thursday Island.

"KATOOMBA" arrived Cairns 0821L/31 from Port Moresby.

"KARANGI" arrived Cairns 0827L/31 from Thursday Island.

"TANCRED" departed Cairns 1030L/31 for Corbett Reef (35 miles of Cape Melville, where "MANGOLA" is aground) to join "CALEDONIAN SALVOR" who reported at 1115L/30 "Work proceeding at Wanaka with fair amount of success. "MANGOLA" doubtful and stores being removed".

"GERARD" arrived Townsville 1235L/31 from Brisbane.

"MORESBY" E.T.A. Townsville 0700L/1 from Sydney.

"WHYALLA" E.T.D. Gladstone A.M/2 to relieve "BOWEN" as escort for U.S. Destroyer "DENT" off Bustard Head at 1500L/2 and escort to Brisbane, "BOWEN" to return Townsville.

P.C. 1123 departed Caloundra 1146L/31 to R.V. L.Q.42 south of Lady Elliot Island 0700L/1 and escort to Brisbane.

"COWRA" returned Brisbane 1738L/31 from escorting 2 ships to Lady Elliot Island.

"WILCANNIA") escorting P.G. 95 arrived Sydney 1405L/31.
"A. CRIJNSSSEN")

"BEELONG" departed Sydney 0857L/31 on patrol to Newcastle and return.

SUBMARINE D/F FIXES.

A series of D/F fixes of enemy submarines in the Solomon and Bismarck Seas P.M/31 and AM/1 were passed to A.I.G. 365.

POSSIBLE MINEFIELD VICINITY GRAFTON PASSAGE.

N.O.I.C. Townsville at 1448L/31 ordered "LITHCOW" (Port Moresby/Cairns escorting) to proceed with despatch to vicinity of Grafton Passage and carry out M/S search for possible minefield. This order was the result of a report by "GYMPIE" to Commander (D), Cairns, of an echo obtained 29/12.
