

DAILY NARRATIVES

1ST JUNE 1942

TO

30<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 1942



DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900L/Wednesday, 30th September, 1942.

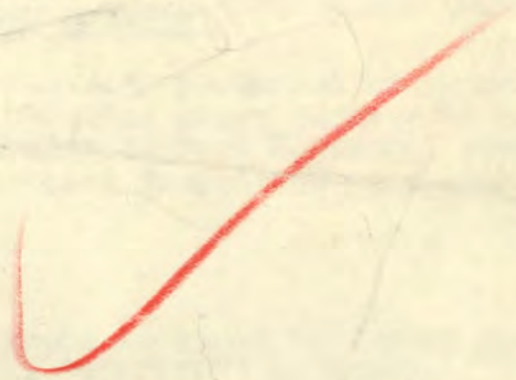
- ✓ "WRYALLA" returned Sydney escorting Sydney portion O.C.30 at 1510L/29.
- ✓ "LITHGOW" escorting "ANHUI" arrived Townsville from Port Moresby at 1029L/29.
- ✓ "MORESBY", "YANDRA" and "DUBBO" escorting convoy G.P.15 including "KURUMBA" (oiler) and "POYANG" (A.S.I.S.) departed Sydney at 1301L/29.
- ✓ "CESSNOCK" arrived Albany from Adelaide 29/9.
- ✓ "STUART" departed Townsville at 0701L/29 for Sydney and repairs - E.T.A. 1800L/1/10.
- ✓ "MARYBOROUGH" arrived Fremantle from Albany at 0335L/29.
- ✓ "CASTLEMAINE" departed Port Moresby at 1006L/29 for Thursday Island.
- ✓ "DELOBRAINE" departed Newcastle at 2002L/29 after completing duties with Newcastle portion convoy O.C.30.
- "SWAN" will depart from Townsville forthwith and sail for Brisbane docking of "SWAN" is essential. "ARMIDALE" and "LITHGOW" will remain in N.E. area for the present.
- ✓ "PERIOD" N.O.I.C. Thursday Island reported at 0935L/29 that "PERIOD" had lost tow of water lighter in vicinity Wyborne Reef (15 miles S.E. of Cape York) and unable to say whether foundered or drifting. N.O.I.C. Townsville at 1619K/29 requested Thursday Island to arrange air search and report result as "CASTLEMAINE" intends to assist.

H.M.A.S. "NYROCA" (N.A.P.) was commissioned at Adelaide on 29th September 1942.

N.O.I.C. Fall River reported at 1721L/29 to C.S.W.P.F. as follows -  
"Unable to complete discharge of ships in harbour until A.M. 1/10 and request that "COLAC" and convoy (present E.T.A. 1200L/30) does not arrive till that date."

Hospital Ship "MAUNGANUI" departed Colombo P.M. 27/9 for Fremantle E.T.A. 7/10.

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2001/Tuesday, 25th September, 1945.

Departed Townsville 0725L/27 to destinations T.F. 44 - R.T.A. C18 Harbour 1400L/28. 2.

H.M.A.S. "INVERELL".

Completed full power and acceptance, astern, steering and circling trials satisfactorily in Sydney 24/9 and was taken over.

REPORTED MINES.

At 1420K/26 N.O.I.C. Townsville advised that a fisherman reported floating mines sighted at 1100K/25 in position about 75 miles South of Grafton Passage. Weather was too rough for close investigation.

At 1440K/26 N.O.I.C. Thursday Island advised that Weipa Mission reported 4 mines ashore between Coen River and Duipken Point (eastern side of Gulf of Carpentaria) and that he intended to investigate 29/9.

ENEMY AIR RAIDS.

Darwin raided 0615 IK/26 by 3 heavy bombers. No Naval damage or casualties. Darwin raided again 0456KL/27 - all clear 0555KL/27.

ALLIED SUBMARINE FORCES

N.O.I.C. Bargin reported that one aircraft was shot down by H.R.A.S. "VOYAGER" 24/9.

ENEMY AIR RAIDS

Aircraft reported having attacked "enemy" submarine in position 12°50' S, 114°28' E (about 575 miles N. of Foveaux Gulf) at 1700L/28. At 1839L/28 A.O.R., U.A., advised that submarine had been identified as friendly and was undamaged.

ENEMY AIR RAIDS OFF PORT MELBOURNE

At 0800L/28 R.A.A.F. personnel observed shadow under water with brown object protruding above surface without such wake of Sydney Point (eastern approach to Port Melbourne), probable course 180° Graduated 4. At 1200L/28 aircraft despatched to search the area. No further details.

G.P. 15 (Delayed)

"CHRISTOPH" cannot be ready to depart Sydney before 1400L/28. G.P. 15 will not depart until "CHRISTOPH" is ready.

H.M.A.S. "MARGARET CHAMBERLAIN"

Formerly H.M.S. minesweeper commissioned at 0800L/28 at Port Melbourne.

ENEMY AIR RAIDS

Darwin - Raiding.  
All clear.  
All clear 1614/28.



To 0900L/Tuesday, 29th September, 1942.

- ✓ "MUGFORD" - departed Townsville 0725L/27 to rendezvous T.F.44 - E.T.A. Cid Harbour 1400L/28.
- ✓ "BALLARAT" } escorting "WILLIS VAN DEVENTER", "HENRY D. THOREAU",  
"ARMIDALE" } "BENJAMIN FRANKLIN", "GEORGE TAYLOR" arrived Port Moresby 1814L/28.
- ✓ "GEELONG" escorting northbound convoy departed Brisbane 1530L/28 departed Brisbane 1530L/28.
- ✓ "STUART" arrived Townsville at 0655L/28 from Cairns - at 1502L/28 Comsowespac ordered "STUART" to proceed with all convenient despatch to Sydney to boiler clean, dock and repair.
- ✓ "MANOORA" arrived Sydney 1437L/28 from Fremantle.
- ✓ "ROCKHAMPTON" - departed Sydney 1420L/28 escorting Sydney portion of C.O.31.
- ✓ "TOWNSVILLE" departed Newcastle 1013L/28 escorting Newcastle portion C.O.31.
- ✓ "PING WO" departed Sydney 0659L/28 for Port Stephens.
- "ORARA" departed Port Melbourne 1701L/28 for S.C.F. 18.
- "BINGERA" departed Port Melbourne 0859L/28 for exercises in Port Phillip.
- ✓ "CAIRNS" returned Fremantle 2125/1/27.

GENERAL.

"VOYAGER" :

N.O.I.C. Darwin reported that one aircraft was shot down by H.M.A.S. "VOYAGER" 24/9.

ALLIED SUBMARINE BOMBED:

Aircraft reported having attacked "enemy" submarine in position 12°50'S. 114°28'E (about 575 miles N. of Exmouth Gulf) at 1250/1/28. At 1838/1/28 A.O.R., W.A., advised that submarine had been identified as friendly and was undamaged.

UNDERWATER SIGHTING OFF PORT MORESBY:

At 0920L/28 R.A.A.F. personnel observed shadow under water with brown object protruding above surface without much wake off Pyramid Point (eastern approach to Port Moresby), probable course 160° Graded 4. At 1200L/28 aircraft despatched to search the area. No further details.

G.P. 15 delayed:

"ORMISTON" cannot be ready to depart Sydney before 1300L/28 G.P.15 will not depart until "ORMISTON" is ready.

H.M.A.S. "ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" :

Formerly R.N.W. minesweeper commissioned at 0800L/28 at Port Melbourne.

ENEMY AIR RAID:

Darwin - Warning.  
Air Raid.  
All clear 1814/KL/28.



DAILY NARRATIVE.

"STUART" after completing operations - returned to Fall River with enemy prisoners (number uncertain) from Cape Pierson, Normanby Island at 2100H/23. "STUART" reported that an enemy destroyer and an escort type vessel were sighted near Cape Pierson between 2320K/22 and 0150K/23, endeavouring to communicate with Japanese survivors. Enemy bombers with fighter escort flew over area at 1250K/23.

At 2230K/23 "STUART" reported that main lubricating oil coolers need require re-tubing at an early date. Reported serious fracture in steering engine cylinder. Returning to Fremantle by hand starting 22/27. S.S. "EMERIL" will continue passage to Diego Garcia.

GENERAL.

"WAREE" (Tug) departed Sydney at 1723Z/23 for Newcastle en route to Port Moresby.

"KINCHELA" (Boom gate vessel) to have sailed with "WAREE", will not depart Sydney until weather is suitable and escort available.

Port Moresby N.O.I.C. Advised C.S.W.P. that after convoy "S" on 24/9 no further cargo ships will be accepted until 30/9 at the earliest.

H.M.A.S. "BRISBANE" is to be renamed H.M.A.S. "MORETON" as from 1/10/42.

"AUSTRALIA" } Due Sid Harbour at 0620K/23 for fuel and provisions.  
"HULL" } Expect to sail 0600K/23 for operation area, via  
"HOBART" } Garton Pass..... E.T.A. 1200H/23. If no operations  
"HULL" } undertaken force will again require fuel on 10th October.  
"HULL" }  
"HULL" }  
"HULL" }

U.S. Destroyer "MUGGER" arrived Townsville 1813K/27.

"BONICA" arrived Sydney at 0837K/27 from Melbourne.

"WILKIN" returned Brisbane at 081K/27 from escort duties.

"SPLASH" escorting "S.J. FIELD" and "KASSIX" arrived Townsville from Brisbane at 0600K/27. At 1200K/27 "SPLASH" departed Townsville for Fall River, escorting "SPLASH" and "KASSIX" E.T.A. 1200H/28.

"MUGGER" arrived Sydney at 2411K/27 from escort duties.

"MUGGER" arrived Diego Garcia Saturday 28th September.

"KINCHELA" returned Sydney at 1541K/27 after escorting "KINCHELA" to Newcastle.

"WILKIN" (U.S. Trawler) departed Newcastle at 0601K/27 escorting "KINCHELA" (Boom Gate Vessel) en route to Brisbane.

"WILKIN" returned Brisbane at 1200K/27 from escort duties with northbound convoy.

U.S. Auxiliary Tug "SPRING" arrived Fremantle from South Gulf at 1828K/27.

U.S. "WILKIN" arrived Sydney from Melbourne at 1102K/28.

U.S. "WILKIN" escorting "SPLASH" and "KASSIX" (en route Noumea to Tahiti) arrived Vila at 1102K/28 and departed at 1400K/28.



To 0900K/Monday, 28th September, 1942.

✓ "STUART" en route Fall River to Townsville arrived Cairns at 0901K/27 for fuel. Departed Townsville at 1750K/27 - E.T.A. 0500K/28.

✓ "CAIRNS" and "BURNIE" in company with tanker "EGERO" departed Fremantle at 1030K/27 for Kilindini calling at Diego Garcia for fuel en route. "EGERO" will detach at Diego Garcia and proceed to Abadan. At 1821K/27 "CAIRNS" reported serious fracture in steering engine cylinder. Returning to Fremantle by hand steering gear. E.T.A. 2300H/27. "BURNIE" will continue passage to Diego Garcia and with "EGERO".

✓ "WAR NAMBOOL" and "KALGOORLIE" arrived Darwin at 1054K/27 from Betano Bay, with personnel of "VOYAGER".

"MARYBOROUGH" departed Albany at 1808K/27 for Fremantle - E.T.A. 0800K/28.

✓ "TOWNSVILLE" arrived Newcastle from Sydney at 1753K/27.

"DOOMBA" arrived Melbourne at 1759K/27 having completed escort duties with C.O.30.

✓ "BENDIGO" escorting "HANYANG" arrived Townsville from Fall River at 1006K/27.

<u>"AUSTRALIA"</u>	} Due Cid Harbour at 0630K/28 for fuel and provisions. Expect to sail 0600K/30 for operation area, via Grafton Passage - E.T.A. 2000K/30. If no operations undertaken force will again require fuel on 10th October.
<u>"PHOENIX"</u>	
<u>"HOBART"</u>	
<u>"HEMLEY"</u>	
<u>"HELM"</u>	
<u>"SELFRIDGE"</u>	

✓ U.S. Destroyer "MUGFORD" arrived Townsville 1815K/27.

✓ "ECHUCA" arrived Sydney at 0837K/27 from Melbourne.

✓ "GOULBURN" returned Brisbane at 0815K/27 from escort duties.

✓ "COLAC" escorting "S.J. FIELD" and "KARSIK" arrived Townsville from Brisbane at 0601K/27. At 1630K/27 "COLAC" departed Townsville for Fall River, escorting "TASMAN" and "KARSIK" E.T.A. 1200L/30.

✓ "MORESBY" arrived Sydney at 2041K/26 from escort duties.

"WOLLONGONG" arrived Diego Garcia Saturday 26th September.

✓ "YANDRA" returned Sydney at 1341K/27 after escorting "KINCHELA" to Newcastle.

✓ "GOOLGWAI" (M.S. Trawler) departed Newcastle at 0601K/27 escorting "KINCHELA" (Boom Gate Vessel) en route to Brisbane.

✓ "GEELONG" returned Brisbane at 1228K/27 from escort duties with northbound convoy.

✓ U.S. Seaplane Tender "PRESTON" arrived Fremantle from Exmouth Gulf at 1526K/27.

U.S. "MIZAR" arrived Sydney from Melbourne at 1102K/28.

✓ F.S. "CHEVREUIL" escorting "CAP DES PALMES" (en route Noumea to Tahiti) arrived Vila at 1105K/26 and departed at 1405K/26.



GENERAL.REPORT NARRATIVE.

At 1600K/27 QQQQ received from "KEKERANGU" (Cargo - 3125 tons - en route Adelaide to Hobart) reporting a suspected vessel in position 39°00'S. 141°15'E. 185 miles from Cape Nelson. (Western end Bass Strait).

"SINGON" - escorting "AMHUI" to Palm Island (33 miles North of

Action taken: 0801 E.T.A. Brisbane P.M./2/10,

"SINGON" E.T.A. Townsville 0100L/29.

1. B.A.M.S. to all ships in area 5B.

"BRAN" - escorting "JASON 150" departed Port Moresby 1600E/25,

2. A.O.R. instructed to institute air search from Mount Gambier.

"SCOUT" will be required to arrive Thursday Island P.M./29th

At 1830K/27 "KEKERANGU" cancelled QQQQ report. "CITY OF GLASGOW" was in vicinity and may have been the cause of the report. B.A.M.S. message cancelled.

Japanese ship (approximately 500 tons - believed to be wireless ship) sunk by aircraft at 1035K/26 off MADAU ISLAND 140 miles E.E. of Milne Bay. by via Grafton Passage, E.T.A. Port Moresby

1800K/26.

Mine reported ashore 5 miles south of Robe, S.A. R.M.S. party being despatched from Torrens.

Air raid at Darwin reported at 0515K/27 no further details. - E.T.A. Cairns 1000L/27 from Pall River, to refuel, thence Townsville E.T.A. 0800L/28.

"SINGON" - is to escort northbound Convoy from Brisbane, E.T.D. Pine Light 2800L/28.

"SINGON" - escorting P.C.14 arrived Sydney 2101K/28.

"SINGON" - arrived Newcastle 1800K/28 from Sydney. (Room Gate Vessel)

"SINGON" - ordered to rendezvous off Sydney at 2000E/26 with "MORSEBY" escorting G.C.28, "MORSEBY" to detach with Sydney portion, "SINGON" to continue escort to Newcastle.

"SINGON" - escorting G.C.28, departed Port Phillip 2100E/26

"SINGON" - departed Sydney 1007K/26 for working up at Broken Bay.

"SINGON" - returned Fremantle 0735H/25 from exercises and patrol.

G.S. Seaplane Tender "PRESTON" - departed Emu Gulf 1300H/25 for Fremantle, E.T.A. A.M./28.

GENERAL.

At 0200K/27, summer time (1 hour ahead of ordinary zone time) was introduced throughout Australia.

FREMANTLE LOOP CROSSING.

At 1825E/26 H.C.I.C. Fremantle reported a doubtful unidentified crossing on Number 1 Loop. A.M.S. on patrol obtained A/S contact and dropped depth charges. Further patrol vessels and three aircraft were assisting in search.

At 1845H/26 H.C.I.C. Fremantle reported that search was negative - considered non-submarine.



DAILY NARRATIVE.

SECRET.

TO 0900L/SUNDAY, 27TH SEPTEMBER, 1942.

- ✓ "LITHGOW" - escorting "ANHUI" to Palm Island (35 miles North of Townsville), "ANHUI" E.T.A. Brisbane P.M./2/10, "LITHGOW" E.T.A. Townsville 0100L/29.
- ✓ "SWAN" - escorting "JASON LEE" departed Port Moresby 1600K/25, for Townsville E.T.A. 0100L/28.
- "CASTLEMAINE" - will be required to arrive Thursday Island P.M./29th from Port Moresby, to escort "VAN EHUTZ" to Darwin.
- ✓ "ARMIDALE" - escorting Convoy "U" - "HENRY D. THOREAU", "BENJAMIN FRANKLIN", "WILLIS VAN DEVENTER" and "GEORGE TAYLOR" - departed Townsville 0820K/26 to rendezvous "BALLARAT" 5 miles off Fitzroy Island at 2100K/26, thence Port Moresby via Grafton Passage, E.T.A. Port Moresby 1600K/28.
- ✓ "BALLARAT" - departed Cairns 1825K/26 to rendezvous "ARMIDALE" and Convoy "U".
- "STUART" - E.T.A. Cairns 1000L/27 from Fall River, to refuel, thence Townsville E.T.A. 0800L/28.
- "GEELONG" - is to escort northbound Convoy from Brisbane, E.T.D. Pile Light 2500L/28.
- ✓ "DUBBO" - escorting P.G.14 arrived Sydney 2101K/26.
- ✓ "KINCHELA" - arrived Newcastle 1238K/26 from Sydney. (Boom Gate Vessel)
- ✓ "YANDRA" - ordered to rendezvous off Sydney at 2000K/26 with "MORESBY" escorting O.C.29, "MORESBY" to detach with Sydney portion, "YANDRA" to continue escort to Newcastle.
- "DOOMBA" - escorting O.C.30, departed Port Phillip 2130K/26.
- ✓ "BROOME" - departed Sydney 1007K/26 for working up at Broken Bay.
- ✓ "ADELAIDE" } - returned Fremantle 0755H/25 from exercises and  
"TROMP" } patrol.
- ✓ U.S. Seaplane Tender "PRESTON" - departed Exmouth Gulf 1300H/25 for Fremantle, E.T.A. A.M./28.

GENERAL.

- ✓ At 0200K/27, summer time (1 hour ahead of ordinary zone time) was introduced throughout Australia.

FREMANTLE LOOP CROSSING.

- ✓ At 1229H/26 N.O.I.C. Fremantle reported a doubtful unidentified crossing on Number 1 Loop. A.M.S. on patrol obtained A/S contact and dropped depth charges. Further patrol vessels and three aircraft were assisting in search.
- ✓ At 1445H/26 N.O.I.C. Fremantle reported that search was negative - considered non-submarine.



H.M.A.S. "INVERELL". /27 0000 received from "KARRARANGU" (Cargo - Adelaide to Sydney) reporting a suspected vessel. Completed full power and acceptance, astern, steering and circling trials satisfactorily in Sydney 24/9 and was taken over.

Action taken:

REPORTED MINES. As all ships in area SB.

At 1420K/26 N.O.I.C. Townsville advised that a fisherman reported floating mines sighted at 1100K/25 in position about 75 miles South of Grafton Passage. Weather was too rough for close investigation. "CITY OF GLASGOW" in vicinity and may have been the cause of the report.

At 1440K/26 N.O.I.C. Thursday Island advised that Weipa Mission reported 4 mines ashore between Coen River and Duipken Point (eastern side of Gulf of Carpentaria) and that he intended to investigate 29/9. at 1055K/26 off SARAU ISLAND 140 miles East of Milne Bay.

ENEMY AIR RAIDS. reported ashore 5 miles south of Robe, S.A. party being despatched from Torrens.

Darwin raided 0615 IK/26 by 3 heavy bombers. No Naval damage or casualties. Darwin raided again 0456KL/27 - all clear 0555KL/27.



GENERAL.

"YANUKA" reporting "KIKERANGU" (boom gate vessel) departed Sydney at 1715K/25 for Newcastle. "YANUKA" to return Sydney at 1600K/27 QQQQ received from "KEKERANGU" (Cargo - 3148 tons - en route Adelaide to Hobart) reporting a suspected vessel in position 39°00'S. 141°15'E. 185° 39 miles from Cape Nelson. (Western end Bass Strait).

Action taken:

1. B.A.M.S. to all ships in area 5B.
2. A.O.R. instructed to institute air search from Mount Gambia.

At 1830K/27 "KEKERANGU" cancelled QQQQ report. "CITY OF GLASGOW" was in vicinity and may have been the cause of the report B.A.M.S. message cancelled.

Japanese ship (approximately 500 tons - believed to be wireless ship) sunk by aircraft at 1035K/26 off MADAU ISLAND 140 miles N.E. of Milne Bay.

Mine reported ashore 5 miles south of Robe, S.A. R.M.S. party being despatched from Torrens.

Air raid at Darwin reported at 0515K/27 no further details.

"CAP DES PANDRES" and "CHERNOG" will depart Noumea 23/27 for Tahiti via Wallis Island.

"WIZAR" departed Melbourne at 1101K/25 - R.T.S. Sydney 1100K/27.

"SERAFUS", "SHERBAC" and "GURCER" departed Albany at 1842K/26 for Brisbane.

GENERAL.

Ship "YANUKA" departed Brisbane for Fall River at 1548K/25 - R.T.S. 2000K/26.

Ship "YANUKA" departed Suez 17/25 for Fremantle via Colombo.





To 0900K/26th September, 1942.

"YANDRA" escorting "KINCHELA" (boom gate vessel) departed Sydney at 1712K/25 for Newcastle. "YANDRA" to return Sydney on completion. After coaling and when weather suitable "KINCHELA" will proceed Brisbane.

"STUART" arrives Townsville from Fall River, Monday 28/9 with 8 Japanese naval prisoners. Will also act as escort to "VAN HEUTZ" en route Fall River - Cairns.

"GAWLER" arrived Sydney from Melbourne at 1136K/25.

"DOOMBA" escorting C.O.29 arrived Port Phillip at 0555K/25.

"BENDIGO" escorting "HANYANG" departed Fall River at 1500K/24, E.T.A. Townsville 0700K/27.

"BROOME" will depart Sydney for Broken Bay at 0930K/26 for working up.

"VOYAGER" N.O.I.C. Darwin reported at 1551K/25 that reconnaissance pilot stated "VOYAGER" blew up and apparently is a total loss. No flag sighted and no personnel observed on board. At 1805K/25 N.O.I.C. Darwin ordered "KALGOORLIE" and "WARRNAMBOOL" to return to Darwin in company, for mutual A.A. support, after embarking "VOYAGER'S" personnel.

AIR RAIDS - reported from Darwin, Horn Island and Thursday Island - subsequently "All clear" reported - no information available re damage or casualties.

✓ F.F.S. "CAP DES PALMES" and "CHEVREUIL" will depart Noumea 25/9 for Tahiti via Vila and Wallis Island.

✓ U.S.S. "MIZAR" departed Melbourne at 1101K/25 - E.T.A. Sydney 1100K/27.

✓ U.S. Submarines "GRAMPUS", "GREYBACK" and "GUDGEON" departed Albany at 1842K/25 for Brisbane.

#### GENERAL.

Hospital Ship "MANUNDA" departed Brisbane for Fall River at 1548K/25 - E.T.A. 2000K/28.

Hospital Ship "MAUNGANUI" departed Suez 17/9 for Fremantle via Colombo.

"MIZAR" departed Fremantle 1200K/24 for exercises and patrol 300 miles westward, returning 28/9.

"MIZAR" - E.T.A. Fremantle 1200K/24 from Adelaide.

"MIZAR" escorting U.S. 17 arrived Darwin 1200K/25.

U.S. Supply Ship "MIZAR" arrived Port Phillip 1100K/25 from Fremantle, and is to depart for Sydney about 28/9.

U.S. Auxiliary "MIZAR" departed Brisbane 28/9 for Brisbane.

#### GENERAL.

#### STEAMER VESSELS:

"MIZAR" cargo vessel of 2001 gross tonnage, is 72 hours overdue at Port Moresby, Milne Bay from Wellington, N.Z. Agents report vessel in ballast. The delay may be explained by recent adverse weather conditions in the Tasman Sea.



0900K/Friday, 25th September, 1942.

- ✓ "BACLEY" arrived Sydney 1315K/24 from operating with T.F.44.
- ✓ "STUART" - E.T.D. Fall River, escorting "VAN HEUTZ" 1000K/25.  
"STUART" has 7 naval prisoners on board.
- ✓ "SWAN" } escorting "JOSEPH LANE", "PAINÉ WINGATE" and  
✓ "CASTLEMAINE" } "AROONA" arrived Port Moresby 1856K/24.
- ✓ "WARRNAMBOOL" departed Darwin 0859/IK/24 to assist "VOYAGER" -  
ordered to delay arrival until 2200/IK/25 as "VOYAGER"  
bombed 24/9 and further attack is expected 25/9.
- ✓ "KALGOORLIE" arrived Darwin 1214/IK/24 from escort duty; departed  
1729/IK/24 to assist "VOYAGER" - E.T.A. Betano 2200/IK/25.
- ✓ "GEELONG" returned Brisbane 0255K/24 - escorting "TJISDANE".
- ✓ "GOULBURN" arrived Brisbane 1622K/23 from escort duties.
- ✓ "GOULBURN" } departed Brisbane 2126K/24, escorting northbound  
✓ "GEELONG" } convoy, including "MERKUR" and "BRITISH SAILOR" for  
Cid Harbour.
- ✓ "COLAC" departed Brisbane 0753K/24 escorting northbound convoy -  
E.T.A. Townsville 0600K/27.
- ✓ "DUBBO" escorting P.G.14 departed Caloundra at 0929K/24 having  
arrived 0519K/24 escorting G.P.14.
- ✓ "MILDURA" escorting Newcastle portion of C.O.30 departed  
Newcastle 0728K/24 to rendezvous off Sydney, and arrived  
Sydney 1806K/24.
- ✓ "DELOIRINE" } escorting Sydney portion of C.O.30 departed Sydney  
✓ "WHYALLA" } 1455K/24 to rendezvous "MILDURA".
- ✓ "ECHUCA" departed Williamstown 1431K/24 for Sydney - E.T.A. 0730K/27.
- ✓ "MARRAWAH" departed Port Phillip 2039K/24 for operations in S.C.F. 18.
- ✓ "CESNOCK" departed Adelaide 1731/IK/24 for Albany - E.T.A. 1600H/29.
- ✓ "MARYBOROUGH" arrived Albany 1740H/24 from Adelaide.
- ✓ "WALLAROO" arrived Fremantle 0525H/24 from Adelaide.
- ✓ "ADELAIDE" } departed Fremantle 1209H/24 for exercises and patrol  
✓ "TROMP" } 300 miles westward, returning 26/9.
- ✓ "KANIMBLA" - E.T.A. Fremantle 1600H/3/10 from Colombo.
- ✓ "DEVONSHIRE" escorting U.S. 17 arrived Durban 1923K/23.
- ✓ U.S. Supply Ship "WIZAR" arrived Port Phillip 1127K/23 from  
Fremantle, and is to depart for Sydney about 26/9.
- ✓ U.S. Auxiliary "SOEDOE" departed Meranke 23/9 for Brisbane.

GENERAL.

OVERDUE VESSEL:

"KAURI" cargo vessel of 2361 gross tonnage, is 72 hours overdue at Port Thevenard, S.A., from Wellington, N.Z. Agents report vessel in ballast. The delay may be explained by recent adverse weather conditions in the Tasman Sea.



GENERAL. (Contd.)

C.P. 15. - Departure is to be delayed 24 hours to include "ORMISTON" due Sydney A.M./26. Subject to weather conditions will depart for Albany P.M. 25/25.

FALL RIVER.

N.O.I.C. Fall River has requested Comsowespac that convoy "W" ("S. JACOB", "BIDELIA", and "ISLANDER" escorted by "WARREGO") should not arrive Fall River until A.M./26. E.T.A. was 0100K/25. to Port Moresby.

ENEMY AIR RAIDS: ordered by N.O.I.C. Port Moresby at 1432K/23 to detach from convoy and proceed with "FRANK WINGATE" and "JOSEPH LANE" to Port Moresby in order to enable troops to be disembarked as quickly as possible. It is essential

Damin : these Warning - 0333/IK/25.  
All clear - 0405/IK/25.

WARRAGA arrived Newcastle at 0712K/23 having completed escort of Newcastle. Warning - 0.C. 23.  
5 minutes 0442/IK/25.

WARRAGA departed Fall River at 0514/IK/25. to assume escort duties of All clear - 0615/IK/25.

WARRAGA Townsville Warning - 1131K/24. 1300K/24 - Final adjustment All clear - 1137K/24. made before sailing.

WARRAGA Port Moresby Warning - 2243K/24. area to Sydney - E.T.A. Moresby 4. Raid in progress -

WARRAGA grounded All Clear - 2300K/24. off of Timor - 350 miles S.E. of Darwin.

At 2232K/23 report from "VOYAGER" advised that ship is heavily grounded in Retana Bay, and being washed on to shore.

Although every effort is being made regrets there is little hope of refloating ship.

Troops have been landed and ship is in contact with their party.

At 1010K/24 "VOYAGER" reported - All attempts to refloat ship failed. Ship broadside to beach. Salvage still in progress, but have jettisoned all weight. Intend wrecking ship if capture seems probable - no sign of enemy - am in contact with Australian Army ashore.

At 0155K/24. N.O.I.C. Darwin advised "VOYAGER" that "WARRAMBOOL" should arrive to assist before dusk 25/25. If salvage is definitely hopeless, destroy the ship and land men ready for transfer to "WARRAMBOOL".

Reported sighting of enemy submarine by natives presumed at entrance to Retana Bay:

N.O. Port Moresby has graded this report C.R. and advised that aircraft will search the area, commencing 1530K/23 - no results yet available.

Enemy Air Raids on Darwin and Fall River, Wednesday 23rd.

No casualties or Naval damage reported to date.



To 0900K/<sup>Thursday</sup>~~Tuesday~~, 24th September, 1942.

✓ "BALLARAT" arrived Cairns at 0940K/23 from Port Moresby.

✓ "CESSNOCK" arrived Adelaide from Sydney at 0730K/23. Subject to weather conditions will depart for Albany P.M. 25/9.

"WARREGO" departed Port Moresby at 1802K/22 to rendezvous with "SWAN" and "CASTLEMAINE" escorting convoy "S.W." 200 miles south of Port Moresby. "WARREGO" will then proceed to Fall River with "W" - remainder will proceed to Port Moresby.

"SWAN" ordered by N.O.I.C. Port Moresby at 1432K/23 to detach from main convoy and proceed with "PAINE WINGATE" and "JOSEPH LANE" to Port Moresby in order to enable troops to be disembarked as quickly as possible. It is essential that these vessels arrive by 1600K/23.

✓ "MILDURA" arrived Newcastle at 0712K/23 having completed escort of Newcastle portion O.C. 28.

"DOOMBA" departed Fawcner Beacon at 1825K/23 to assume escort duties of convoy O.C. 29.

✓ "ECHUCA" will depart Melbourne for Sydney at 1200K/24 - Final adjustments to machinery will be made before sailing.

U.S. Destroyer "BAGLEY" en route Coral Sea Area to Sydney - E.T.A. 1200K/24.

"VOYAGER" grounded in Betana Bay - S.E. Coast of Timor - 350 miles N.W. of Darwin.

At 2235K/23 report from "VOYAGER" advised that ship is heavily grounded in Betana Bay, and being washed on to shore.

Although every effort is being made regrets there is little hope of refloating ship.

Troops have been landed and ship is in contact with their party.

At 1010K/24 "VOYAGER" reported - All attempts to refloat ship failed. Ship broadside to beach. Salvage still in progress, and have jettisoned all weight. Intend wrecking ship if capture seems probable - no sign of enemy - am in contact with Australian Army ashore.

At 0154K/24. N.O.I.C. Darwin advised "VOYAGER" that "WARRNAMBOOL" should arrive to assist before dusk 25/9. If salvage is definitely hopeless, destroy the ship and land men ready for transfer to "WARRNAMBOOL".

Reported sighting of enemy submarine by natives presumed at entrance to Milne Bay:

NLO. Port Moresby has graded this report C.2. and advised that aircraft will search the area, commencing 1530K/23 - no results yet available.

Enemy Air Raids on Darwin and Fall River, Wednesday 23rd.

No casualties or Naval damage reported to date.



GENERAL NARRATIVE

"STUART" after completing operations - returned to Fall River with enemy prisoners (number uncertain) from Cape Pierson, Normanby Island at 2100H/23. "STUART" reported that an enemy destroyer and an escort type vessel were sighted near Cape Pierson between 2320K/22 and 0150K/23, endeavouring to communicate with Japanese survivors. Enemy bombers with fighter escort flew over area at 1250K/23.

At 2230K/23 "STUART" reported that main lubricating oil coolers require re-tubing at an early date.

GENERAL

"WAREE" (Tug) departed Sydney at 1723Z/23 for Newcastle en route to Port Moresby.

"KINCHELA" (Boom gate vessel) to have sailed with "WAREE", will not depart Sydney until weather is suitable and escort available.

Port Moresby N.O.I.C. advised C.S.W.P. that after convoy "S" on 24/9 no further cargo ships will be accepted until 30/9 at the earliest.

H.M.A.S. "BRISBANE" is to be renamed H.M.A.S. "MORETON" as from 1/10/42.

"E.T.D. Sydney 5/10 for Swan Island with C.O. 23.  
"C.M.S. escorting "HELMAN" and "KASIK" and "S.J. WILCO" northbound E.T.D. Brisbane 11300K/23.  
"B.M.S. arrived Sydney 0540K/23 from Noumea.  
"S.M.S. (Sydney/Australia/Frenantle) gave her K.T.A. Adelaide 1900/1K/23.  
"M.S. departed Brisbane 0834K/23.  
"H.M.S. arrived Port Melbourne 1700K/22 from operations in Pt. Phillip.  
"M.S. escorting "MARTENYCKER" from Port Moresby ordered to proceed Cairns, "MARTENYCKER" to proceed Townsville, "BALLARAT" to be prepared to leave Cairns at 1800K/24.  
"M.S. arrived Fall River 1300K/21 from Port Moresby.  
"S.S. Sealark tender "WILSON" departed Fremantle 1740K/22 for Tazewell Gulf.  
"S.S. Study ship "WILSON" expects to arrive Port Phillip 1800K/23 from Fremantle.

GENERAL

OPERATIONS OF T.F. 44

At 0815K/22 C.S.W.P. 44 reported to Consowaspac that T.F. 44 plans to retire from operations area 28/9 to fuel and provision at Old Harbour or West Bay, Middle Percy Island (about 100 miles N. of Mackay), depending on which "BRITISH SAILOR" and "WENKUN" can reach Darwin 28/9.  
"BARKLEY" Director casualty (fault?) is proceeding Sydney in lieu of "BARKLEY". "BRUNFORD" has joined T.F. 44.  
At 1557K/22 Consowaspac requested N.O.I.C. Brisbane to form a convoy composed of "WENKUN", "BRITISH SAILOR", "KATERINI COUMANTANOU", "G.L. SORENSON", "MADONNA" and any northbound shipping to depart Western Bay as soon as "BRITISH SAILOR" is ready to proceed. Two 1/8 reports should be provided. "WENKUN" and "BRITISH SAILOR" are to proceed to Old Harbour to arrive not later than dawn on 27th.



To 0200K/Wednesday 23rd September, 1942.

✓ "WARREGO" } escorting "TAROONA", "BONTEKOE", "JOHN STEELE" and  
"LITHGOW" } "ANHUI" (from Townsville) arrived Port Moresby 1737K/21.

✓ "WARREGO" is to be sailed to rendezvous "SWAN" and "CASTLEMAINE"  
 escorting Convoy "S.W." at 1600K/23. "SWAN" and "CASTLEMAINE"  
 to escort "S" to Port Moresby - E.T.A. 1900K/24 "WARREGO"  
 "W" to Fall River - E.T.A. 0100K/25.

✓ "CASTLEMAINE" escorting "JOSEPH LANE", "PAINE WINGATE", "AROONA"  
 ("S") and "BIDEIA" ("W") departed Townsville at 1704K/21  
 to rendezvous and remainder of "S.W." 5 miles off Fitzroy  
 Island Light at 1000K/22.

✓ "SWAN" escorting "S. JACOB" and "ISLANDER" ("W") departed Cairns  
 0848K/22 to rendezvous "CASTLEMAINE".

✓ "GAWLER" departed Williamstown 1455K/22 for Sydney - E.T.A. 1300K/25.

✓ "DELORAINÉ" escorting Sydney portion of O.C.28 arrived Sydney 2156K/22.

✓ "MILDURA" escorting Newcastle portion of O.C.28 - E.T.A. 0400K/23  
 is to remain Newcastle to escort C.O.30 to rendezvous  
 off Sydney P.M./24 with "DELORAINÉ" and "WHYALLA" who  
 are to take over escort.

"BUNGAREE" - E.T.D. Sydney 5/10 for Swan Island with C.O.33.

"COLAC" escorting "TASMAN" and "KARSIK" and "S.J.FIELD" northbound  
 E.T.D. Brisbane Pile Light 1800K/23.

✓ "ROCKHAMPTON" arrived Sydney 0540K/22 from Noumea.

✓ "CESSNOCK" (Sydney/Adelaide/Fremantle) gave her E.T.A. Adelaide 1900/K/22.

✓ "GEELONG" departed Brisbane 0934K/22.

"BINGERA" arrived Port Melbourne 1700K/22 from exercises in Pt. Phillip.

✓ "BALLARAT" escorting "MAETSUYCKER" from Port Moresby ordered to proceed  
 Cairns, "MAETSUYCKER" to proceed Townsville, "BALLARAT"  
 to be prepared to leave Cairns at 1600K/24.

✓ "BENDIGO" arrived Fall River 1300K/21 from Port Moresby.

✓ U.S. Seaplane Tender "CHILDS" departed Fremantle 1340H/22 for Exmouth  
 Gulf.

U.S. Supply Ship "MIZAR" expects to arrive Port Phillip 1030K/23 from  
 Fremantle.

#### GENERAL.

##### OPERATIONS OF T.F. 44.

At 0915K/22 C.T.F. 44 reported to Comsowespac that T.F.44  
 plans to retire from operations area 26/9 to fuel and provision at  
 Cid Harbour or West Bay, Middle Percy Island (about 100 miles N. of  
 Rockhampton), depending on which "BRITISH SAILOR" and "MERKUR" can  
 reach forenoon 28.9.

✓ "BAGLEY" director casualty (fault?) is proceeding Sydney in  
 lieu of "HENLEY". "MUGFORD" has joined T.F.44.

At 1557K/22 Comsowespac requested N.O.I.C. Brisbane to form a  
 convoy composed of "MERKUR", "BRITISH SAILOR", "EKATERINI COUMANTAROU"  
 "O.B. SORENSEN", "MACUMBA" and any northbound shipping to depart  
 Moreton Bay as soon as "BRITISH SAILOR" is ready to proceed. Two A/S  
 escorts should be provided. "MERKUR" and "BRITISH SAILOR" are to proceed  
 to Cid Harbour to arrive not later than afternoon 27th.



GENERAL (Contd.)

FALL RIVER ACTIVITIES:

"BABINDA" and "HANYANG" are being used to tranship from "VAN HEUTZ", and may be required to backload R.A.A.F. cargo. "WEST CACTUS" was to have been completed P.M./22 to be sailed at first available opportunity. New wharf is to be completed 9/10

"STUART"

At 1245K/22 "STUART" reported having returned to Fall River Normanby Island operations proceeding according to plan. "STUART" is to return to Cape Pierson, Goodenough Island - E.T.A. 1600K/23 and will depart Cape Pierson at dusk for Fall River - E.T.A. 2300K/23.

H.M.A.S. "BETH"

Commissioned in Adelaide 22/9 as full time N.A.P. boat.

FRIENDLY SUBMARINE ATTACKED BY AIRCRAFT:

N.O.I.C. Fremantle reported at 1614K/22 that submarine attacked 180 miles N.N.W. of Geraldton at 1600K/21 was K.12. There is no indication of damage to K.12.

ENEMY AIR RAIDS:

Port Moresby - All clear 1559K/22.

Fall River - Warning 1512K/22.

Horn Island - Warning 1117K/22.  
All clear 1135K/22.

SUBMARINE SIGHTING OFF ALBANY:

At 0650H/22 air patrol from Albany sighted probable submarine 35 miles E. of Bald Head (southern entrance to King George Sound). All day plane patrol of area ordered. "WALLAROO" on passage Adelaide to Albany had been ordered at 0916H/22 to proceed direct to Fremantle, and at 1101H/22 was ordered to co-operate in the search if in the vicinity. At 1956K/22 N.O.I.C. Fremantle reported that there was no confirmation of the sighting and that "WALLAROO" had been ordered to proceed to Fremantle.

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H.M.S. "TERRIBLE" arrived Auckland at 0600K/21 from Sydney.

Aircraft attacks submarine - could be Allied.

N.O.I.C. Fremantle reported that a Catalina attacked with depth charges a submarine, at present unidentified in position 18 miles N.N.W. of Geraldton at 1600K/21. Fremantle advise that both a Dutch and U.S.A. submarine are probably in this vicinity about the above time. Further information will be available after pilot has landed and furnished details.

"WARRIOR" (Tug) and "SICHELIA" (Barge) are to depart 1700K/23 for Brisbane calling at Newcastle for coal en route. "WARRIOR" will proceed from Brisbane to Port Moresby via Townsville.

"S.S. DEL PERAL" arrived Noumea at 0700K/21.

Steamer S.S. "M." arrived Colombo 21/9.



To 0900K/Tuesday, 22nd September, 1942.

- ✓ "BALLARAT" escorting "MAETSUYCKER" to Fitzroy Island departed Port Moresby at 0800K/21 - "BALLARAT" will proceed to Brisbane (E.T.A. 1800K/25) via Townsville (E.T.A. 2200K/23).
- ✓ "GRELONG" returned Brisbane from escort duties at 1200K/21. "GRELONG" will depart Brisbane and rendezvous with "TJISDANE" at 0700K/23, 210 miles E.N.E. of Brisbane and return as escort.
- ✓ "DUBBO" departed Sydney at 0932K/21 escorting G.P.14.
- ✓ "MORESBY" departed Newcastle at 0641K/21 with C.O.29.
- ✓ "STUART" will transport company of troops from Fall River to landing beach near Cape Pierson, Normanby Island - E.T.A. 0630K/22. After remaining in vicinity for 2 or 3 hours will return to Fall River - E.T.A. 1300K/22.
- (2) Will re-embark troops at same beach at 1600K/23 and return to Fall River.
- ✓ "VOYAGER" arrived Darwin from Geraldton at 0106K/21.
- ✓ "GOULBURN" departed Brisbane escorting northbound convoy at 1704K/21.
- "COLAC" anticipates sailing from Brisbane with northbound convoy, "TASMAN" and "KANSIK" P.M.23/9.
- "GAWLER" and "ECHUCA" N.O.I.C. Port Melbourne reports intention to sail "GAWLER" and "ECHUCA" to Sydney. "GAWLER" E.T.D. P.M.22/9 "ECHUCA" E.T.D. P.M.23/9. If completion of inspection is satisfactory.
- ✓ U.S. Submarine "TAMBOR" arrived Albany from Fremantle at 1036K/21.
- ✓ U.S. Cruiser "CHICAGO" departed Sydney at 1628K/21 for U.S.A.
- "GAWLER" (Boom working vessel) departed Darwin 0254/IX/20 for Brisbane and GENERAL Thursday Island - E.T.A. 0815K/23 and Townsville.
- COMSOWESPAC anticipates C.T.F. 44 will return to Townsville sometime after 28th September. "MERKUR" and "BRITISH SAILOR" are to arrive Townsville by that date.
- ✓ H.M.N.Z.S. "MONOWAI" arrived Auckland at 0050K/21 from Sydney.
- Aircraft attacks submarine - could be Allied.
- ✓ N.O.I.C. Fremantle reported that a Catalina attacked with depth charges a submarine, at present unidentified in position 180 miles N.N.W. of Geraldton at 1600K/21. Fremantle advise that both a Dutch and U.S.A. submarine are probably in this vicinity about the above time. Further information will be available after pilot has landed and furnished details.
- "WAREE" (Tug) and "KINCHELA" (Boom gate vessel) are to depart 1700K/23 for Brisbane calling at Newcastle for coal en route. "WAREE" will proceed from Brisbane to Port Moresby via Townsville.
- ✓ "CAP DES PALMES" arrived Noumea at 0700K/21.
- ✓ Convoy U.S. 16. arrived Colombo 21/9.



To 0900K/Monday, 21st September, 1942.

✓ "ROCKHAMPTON" intended to depart Noumea 1000L/18 for Sydney - E.T.A. 1200K/22.

✓ "MANOORA" departed Fremantle 1032H/20 for Sydney - E.T.A. 1400K/27.

✓ "BALLARAT" escorting "MAETSUYCKER" for Townsville - E.T.D. Port Moresby 0700K/21.

✓ "SWAN" arrived Cairns 1345K/20 from Port Moresby.

✓ "DUBBO" arrived Sydney 0646K/20 escorting O.C.27 - to be sole escort for G.P.14 - E.T.D. Sydney 0900K/21.

✓ "BENDIGO" departed Port Moresby 0903K/20 for Fall River - E.T.A. 1000K/21.

✓ "WHYALLA" arrived Sydney 0818K/20 from escorting O.C.27.

✓ "TOWNSVILLE" } to be taken in hand for urgent defects and boiler  
✓ "WHYALLA" } cleaning.

✓ "YANDRA" to be slipped immediately in Sydney.

✓ "MORESBY" departed Sydney 0501K/20 to escort Newcastle portion of O.C.27, and having completed escort of Newcastle portion of O.C.27 arrived Newcastle 1509K/20 - to be sole escort for C.O.29 - E.T.D. Newcastle 21/9.

"DOOMBA" escorting O.C.28 departed Port Phillip 2127K/19, and entered Port Phillip 2335K/20 escorting C.O.28.

✓ "GOULBURN" E.T.D. Brisbane Pile Light 1400K/21 escorting "GEORGE TAYLOR" and "BENJAMIN FRANKLIN" northbound.

✓ "PING WO" arrived Sydney 1633K/20 from Port Stephens.

✓ "KOOKABURRA" (Boom working vessel) departed Darwin 0254/IK/20 for Brisbane and refitting, via Thursday Island - E.T.A. 0815K/23 and Townsville.

U.S. Gunboat "TULSA" arrived Sydney 0816K/20 from Brisbane.

U.S. Submarine "GRENADIER" arrived Albany 1316H/20 from Fremantle.

#### GENERAL.

"ST. GILES" towing "MALAITA" arrived Cairns 1010K/20 from Port Moresby.

"WANAKA" departed Townsville 0900K/20 for Thursday Island - E.T.A. 1500K/22.

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M.A.S. "SUTLAND" (wooden steamer 143 tons) commissioned Sydney at 0800K/18, under command of Sub-Lieut. G.H. Harriot, R.N.R.(C).

M.A.S. "WARRI" (Tug) commissioned Sydney at 1200K/18, under command of Mr. E.S. McPherson, Com. R.O. R.N.R.(C).

M.A.S. "TRINITY" (A.S.S.) To carry out preliminary sea trials 25th and 26th September - tentative date for commissioning October 6th.



SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

TO 0900K SUNDAY, 20th SEPTEMBER, 1942.

"TOWNSVILLE" and "YANDRA" escorting P.G.13, also "BUNGAREE" and "KURUMBA", arrived Sydney at 1655K/19.

"ARUNTA" arrived Cairns from Townsville at 1610K/19.

"GEELONG" departed Brisbane at 0604K/19 escorting Convoy "U".

"LITHGOW" departed Townsville at 1820Z/18 escorting convoy "R" - "ANHUI", "JOHN STEELE" and "BONTEKOE" for rendezvous with "WARREGO" at 2300K/18 thence to Port Moresby via Grafton Passage E.T.A. 1600K/21.

"STUART" COMSOWESPAC has approved of G.O.C. Milne Bay's request to use "STUART" as Naval cover for allied punitive force to land east side of Normanby Island, (30 miles N.E. of entrance to Milne Bay), to mop-up survivors of Japanese Destroyer, sunk 8th September. Troops propose to land at dusk on 21/9 and re-embark at dawn on completion.

N.O.I.C. Townsville has been ordered to detail one A.M.S. to proceed Fall River for harbour A/S escort - H.M.A.S. "BENDIGO" (at Port Moresby) has been ordered to sail forthwith to Fall River for this purpose.

"MANOORA" returned to Fremantle at 1712K/19 after completion of escort duties with U.S.16 and U.S.17.

"SWAN" (en route Port Moresby to Townsville with "MONTORO") was ordered by N.O.I.C. Townsville at 1551K/19 to proceed to Cairns, and to depart at 1000K/22 for Fitzroy Island rendezvous, then escort duties to Port Moresby.

"KALGOORLIE" departed Darwin at 1012K/19 for escort duty between Cape Don and Cape Wessel.

"VOYAGER" (en route Geraldton to Darwin). N.O.I.C. Port Darwin reported that "VOYAGER" will sail from Darwin early P.M. 22/9 for operations lasting 3 days.

"PING WO" arrived Port Stephens at 1505K/18.

"DOOMBA" with O.C.28 departed Gellibrand at 1815K/19.

"MARYBOROUGH" departed Adelaide for Albany at 2030K/19 - E.T.A. 2000K/23.

U.S. Submarine "TAMBOR" departed Fremantle for Albany at 1900K/19 - E.T.A. 0800K/21.

GENERAL.

✓ H.M.A.S. "GIPPSLAND" (wooden steamer 143 tons) commissioned Sydney at 0900K/18, under command of Sub-Lieut. S.L. Heriot, R.A.N.R.(S).

✓ H.M.A.S. "WAREE" (Tug) commissioned Sydney at 1200K/18, under command of Mr. E.S. McPherson, Com. W.O. R.A.N.R.(S).

✓ H.M.A.S. "PIRIE" (A.M.S.) To Carry out preliminary sea trials 25th and 26th September - Tentative date for commissioning October 8th.



to 0300K/Saturday, 19th September, 1942.

H.M.A.S. "INVERELL" (A.M.S.) is proceeding to sea from Sydney for gun trials at 1115K/22.

H.M.A.S. "WERRUTTA" (Auxiliary Ketch) commissioned at Hobart 16th September, 1942.

"SARAWAK" escorting "BRITISH SAILOR" and "PYRMAN" from Palm Island arrived Townsville 1214K/18.

Air Raid at Port Moresby reported at 2008K/19 - All clear at 2021K/19. No further information.

H.M. Destroyer "MUCEDON" arrived Brisbane 0750K/18 from Sydney, and departed Brisbane 1600K/18.

"LITHGOW" escorting convoy "R" - E.T.D. Townsville 1800K/18.

"LITHGOW" ordered by M.C.I.C. Townsville to rendezvous with "LITHGOW" escorting convoy "R" in position about 45 miles N. of Townsville at 2300K/18 and provide additional escort to Port Moresby.

"MUCEDON" returned Brisbane 1145K/18 from escorting convoy "R"

"MALLACOA" departed Adelaide 1800/1K/17 for Albany - E.T.A. 0630H/22.

"MURRESA" departed Port Melbourne 1001K/18, arrived P.A.D. 1824K/18.

"MURRESA" arrived Fremantle 0830K/18 from Albany.

"MURRESA" departed Newcastle 1000K/18 for Port Stephens.

"MURRESA" entered Port Phillip 0915K/18 from S.C.F. 18.

"MURRESA" } detailed to convoy G.P.14 - E.T.D. Sydney 0900K/21.  
"MURRESA" }

"MURRESA" } detached to convoy C.O.29 - E.T.D. Newcastle 21/9.  
"MURRESA" }

H.S. Supply Ship "MIZAN" departed Fremantle 1130H/18 for Melbourne, E.T.A. 1800K/23.

H.S. Submarine "ORCADIAN" departed Fremantle 1415K/18 for Albany.

H.S. Submarine "TULSA" departed Brisbane 1215K/18 for Sydney - E.T.A. 1300K/23.

GENERAL

H.M.A.S. "INVERELL" (A.M.S.) commissioned in Sydney 17/9 under command of Lieut. J.R. Saffren, R.A.N.R. (S).

H.M.A.S. "QUICKMATCH" ("Q" Class Destroyer) commissioned at Cowes 14/9 under command of Lieutenant-Commander Rhodes, D.S.C., R.A.N.



To 0900K/Saturday, 19th September, 1942.

"ARUNTA" escorting "JAPARA" arrived Townsville 0533K/18 from Fall River.

"STUART" E.T.D. Fall River 1800K/18 for Port Moresby - E.T.A. 1400K/19 to refuel (See General).

"CASTLEMAINE" escorting "BRITISH SAILOR" and "YUNNAN" from Palm Island arrived Townsville 1214K/18.

"JEELONG" escorting convoy "U" - E.T.D. Pile Light, Brisbane 0300K/19.

U.S. Destroyer "MUGFORD" arrived Brisbane 0750K/18 from Sydney, and departed Brisbane 1607K/18.

"LITHGOW" escorting convoy "R" - E.T.D. Townsville 1800K/18.

"WARRECO" ordered by N.O.I.C. Townsville to rendezvous with "LITHGOW" escorting convoy "R" in position about 45 miles N. of Townsville at 2300K/18 and provide additional escort to Port Moresby.

"GOULBURN" returned Brisbane 1145K/18 from escorting convoy "S"

"WALLAROO" departed Adelaide 1800/IK/17 for Albany - E.T.A. 0630H/22.

"BINGERA" departed Port Melbourne 1001K/18, arrived F.N.D. 1824K/18.

"BENGAL" arrived Fremantle 0830H/18 from Albany.

"PING WO" departed Newcastle 1003K/18 for Port Stephens.

"MARRAWAH" entered Port Phillip 0915K/18 from S.C.F. 18.

"YANDRA" } detailed to convoy G.P.14 - E.T.D. Sydney 0900K/21.  
"TOWNSVILLE" }

"MORESEY" } detached to convoy C.O.29 - E.T.D. Newcastle 21/9.  
"DUBBO" }

U.S. Supply Ship "MIZAR" departed Fremantle 1132H/18 for Melbourne. E.T.A. 1600K/23.

U.S. Submarine "GRENADIER" departed Fremantle 1718H/18 for Albany.

U.S. Gunboat "TULSA" departed Brisbane 1315K/18 for Sydney - E.T.A. 1300K/20.

GENERAL.

H.M.A.S. "INVERELL" (A.M.S) commissioned in Sydney 17/9 under command of Lieut. J.R. Suffren, R.A.N.R.(S).

H.M.A.S. "QUICKMATCH" ("Q" Class Destroyer) commissioned at Cowes 14/9 under command of Lieutenant-Commander Rhoades, D.S.C., R.A.N.



GENERAL (Cont.)

MINE SIGHTING:

"ORMISTON" (cargo-passenger vessel, 5832 tons, Sydney/Melbourne - E.T.A. 0530K/19) reported having sighted a floating mine about 80 miles S. of Gabo Island at about 0900K/18. "ORMISTON" used machine gun fire with uncertain result. Position is about 8 miles N. of Green Route (off shore route Sydney/Melbourne, for vessels whose speed is greater than 12 knots).

"STUART'S" PROGRAMME:

At 1155K/18 Comsowespac ordered "STUART" to escort "WEST CACTUS", "VAN HEUTZ", "HANYANG", "MULIAMA", and "BANINDA" to Grafton Passage. At 1730K/18 "STUART" reported that unloading could not be completed before 1500K/23, and that G.O.C. Milne Bay desired naval escort for force to land east side of Normanby Island (about 45 miles N.E. of Samarai) to mop up survivors of Japanese destroyer sunk 8/9. Force is to land at dusk 21/9. "STUART" requested Comsowespac's permission to co-operate.

ENEMY AIR RAID:

PORT MORESBY: Raid in progress. All clear.

HORN ISLAND: Warning 1033K/18. All clear 1100K/18.

"STUART" arrived Sydney at 1700K/17 escorting Newcastle portina of C.O.23.

"WILSON", "WILSON" and "WILSON" departed Sydney at 1645K/17 and will escort Newcastle and Sydney portina of C.O.23. "WILSON" leaves convoy in Bass Strait and proceeds to Adelaide/Fremantle.

"WILSON" and "WILSON" escorting "WILSON" and "WILSON" arrived Port Moresby at 1700K/17.

S.S. "WILSON" sails direct from Fremantle to Sydney - E.T.A. 10/9.

S.S. "WILSON" departed Sydney at 1600K/17 for London - E.T.A. 23/9/21.

S.S. "WILSON" arrived Fremantle from Sydney at 1600K/17.

S.S. "WILSON" (for London) and S.S. "WILSON" departed Sydney at 1045K/17 - E.T.A. 23/9/21.

"WILSON" departed Sydney for London at 1830K/17 - E.T.A. 0800K/21.

GENERAL

"WILSON" (A.S.S.) see trials completed and satisfactory.

Air Raids at Fall River and Port Moresby:

Fall River: reported air raids at 1855K/17 and 1400K/17 - no further details.

Port Moresby: reported air raids at 1855K/17 and later All Clear.



To 0900K/Friday, 18th September, 1942.

"AUSTRALIA" ) At 1235K/17 C.T.F. 44 advised intention to depart  
 "PHOENIX" ) Palm Island at 0900K/18 and Grafton Passage 1700K/18 -  
 "HOBART" ) thence to operation area.  
 "SELFRIDGE" ) To avoid unexpected contact with friendly forces  
 "HELM" ) "STUART" and "ARUNTA" ordered to inform C.T.F. 44 if  
 "HENLEY" ) they leave China Straits - Milne Bay areas other than  
 "BAGLEY" ) in accordance with scheduled movements.

"DOOMBA" arrived Port Melbourne at 1807K/17 having completed escort duties with C.O.27.

"YANDRA" arrived Brisbane at 0950K/17 escorting G.P.13 and departed at 1427K/17 with Townsville escorting P.G.13 - Also "BUNGAREE" and "KURUMBA" in company.

"KALGOORLIE" arrived Darwin at 0829K/16 from Operations Hamburger.

"GEELONG" arrived Brisbane at 0407K/17 from escort duties.

"COLAC" arrived Brisbane at 0630K/17 from Townsville.

"CASTLEMAINE" escorting "BOTH" arrived Townsville at 2239K/16.

"CASTLEMAINE" at 1301K/17 N.O.I.C. Townsville advised that "CASTLEMAINE" would be sailed to take place of "WARREGO" to carry out A/S duties at Challenger Bay, Palm Island. In accordance with C.T.F. 44 request for A/S patrol vessels whilst C.T.F. 44 is in Palm Island Area refuelling. "WARREGO" departed Townsville 1126K/16 for same task, but will be required for escort duties.

"MORESBY" arrived Sydney at 1848K/17 escorting Newcastle portion of C.O.28.

"DELORAINE", "MILDURA" and "CESSNOCK" departed Sydney at 1646K/17 and will escort Newcastle and Sydney portions of C.O.28. "CESSNOCK" leaves convoy in Bass Strait and proceeds to Adelaide/Fremantle.

"BALLARAT" and "BENDIGO" escorting "MAETSUYCKER" and "JASON LEE" arrived Port Moresby at 1702K/17.

U.S. "MIZAR" sails direct from Fremantle to Sydney - E.T.D. 19/9.

U.S. Destroyer "CLARKE" departed Sydney at 1435K/17 for Noumea - E.T.A. 2200K/20.

U.S. Submarine "GAR" arrived Fremantle from Albany at 1031K/17.

U.S. Destroyer "BENHAM" (for Noumea) and H.M.N.Z.S. "MONOWAI" departed Sydney at 1042K/17 - E.T.A. "MONOWAI" Auckland A.M.21/9.

"CAP DES PALMES" departed Sydney for Noumea at 1822K/17 - E.T.A. 0600L/21.

#### GENERAL.

"BUNDABERG" (A.M.S.) sea trials completed and satisfactory.

#### Air Raids at Fall River and Port Moresby:

Fall River: reported air raids at 1356K/7 and 1405K/17 - no further details.

Port Moresby: reported air raids at 19DK/17 and later All Clear.



SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

0900K/17th September, 1942.

"STUART" escorting "MULIAMA" and "BABINDA" arrived Fall River 1200K/15 from Cairns.

"STUART" } escorting "JAPARA" and "VAN HEEMSKERK" departed Fall  
"ARUNTA" } River 1500K/15, "STUART" to rendezvous "BALLARAT" and  
"BENDIGO" escorting convoy T.V. about 210 miles S. of  
Pt. Moresby and escort convoy V. to Fall River, "JAPARA"  
and "VAN HEEMSKERK" - E.T.A. Townsville 1700K/18.

"VOYAGER" departed Geraldton 1900H/16 for Darwin - E.T.A. 0831/IK/21.

U.S. Destroyer "MUGFORD" departed Sydney 1836K/16 for Brisbane - E.T.A. 0800K/18.

U.S. Destroyer "PATTERSON" arrived Sydney, 0902K/16 from Brisbane.

"GOULBURN" escorting convoy "S" with "NORDNUM" and "ASPASIA NOMIKOS" departed Brisbane 0535K/16.

"ROCKHAMPTON" escorting "WILLIAM ELLERY" Brisbane/Noumea - E.T.A. 0930L/18 ordered by A.C.N.B. to complete with fuel on arrival and return to Sydney.

"YANDRA" } escorting G.P.13 - E.T.A. Brisbane 0900K/17, "TOWNSVILLE"  
"TOWNSVILLE" } on arrival requiring approximately 4 hours at anchorage  
for boiler repairs. N.O.I.C. Brisbane intends to delay  
sailing P.G. 13 accordingly.

"MORESBY" having completed escort of O.C. 26 arrived Newcastle 0949K/16.

"WALLAROO" weather permitting - E.T.D. Adelaide P.M/17 for Albany.

"BENGAL" departed Albany 1126H/16 for Fremantle - E.T.A. 0600H/18.

"LITHGOW" returned Townsville 1830K/15.

"ARMIDALE" escorting "CREMER" arrived Townsville 2055K/15 from Pt. Moresby.

"PING WO" arrived Newcastle 1104K/16 from Pt. Stephens.

"DELORAINNE" } detailed to take over C.O.28 from "MORESBY", its escort  
"MILDURA" } from Newcastle, off Sydney 17/9 and continue escort  
with "CESSNOCK" which is to break off from convoy in  
Bass Strait and proceed to Adelaide and Fremantle.

"SWAN" escorting "ST. GILES" and "MALAITA" to Stephen Island (about 100 miles 0540 from Thursday Island) departed Port Moresby 0600K/15, "ST. GILES" and "MALAITA" to proceed to Cairns.

"CASTLEMAINE" escorting "BOTH" arrived Townsville 2239K/16 from Pt. Moresby.

"DOOMBA" departed Fawkes Beacon 0045K/17 to assume escort of O.C.27.

"ORARA" departed Port Phillip 1952K/16 for S.C.F. 18.

U.S. Submarine "TAUTOG" arrived Albany 0801H/16 from Fremantle.

G E N E R A L.

"BRITISH SAILOR" } departed Townsville 1120K/16 for Palm Island.  
"YUNNAN" }

"POYANG" At 1515K/16 Comsowespac requested A.C.N.B. that "POYANG" be replenished with ammunition and despatched to Brisbane.



To 0900K/Wednesday 16th September, 1942.

"STUART" at 1620K/15 N.O.I.C. Townsville ordered "STUART" to replace "ARUNTA" and rendezvous with convoy T.V. escorted by "BALLARAT" and "BENDIGO" 210 miles south of Port Moresby at 1700K/16 thence to position "Z" where convoy splits. "STUART" to escort "V" portion ("VAN HEUTZ", "HANYANG" and "WEST CACTUS") to Fall River - E.T.D. 2300K/16. "BALLARAT" and "BENDIGO" will proceed to Pt. Moresby with "T" portion of convoy - E.T.A. 1600K/17.

"ARUNTA" is to escort "VAN HEEMSKERK" and "JAPARA" en route Fall River to Townsville. When inside Barrier Reef, "ARUNTA" may proceed independently.

"VOYAGER" departed Fremantle at 0040K/15 for Darwin - arrived Geraldton en route at 1515K/15.

"CAIRNS" arrived Fremantle from Albany at 1746K/15.

"BENGAL" arrived Albany from Adelaide at 1320K/15 (See General).

"SWAN" escorting "TAROONA" arrived Port Moresby at 1622K/14.

- "AUSTRALIA" } At 2335K/15 Comtaskforce 44 advised as follows:-  
 "PHOENIX" }  
 "HOBART" } (1) Withdrawing to Challenger Bay, Palm Island (40  
 "SELFRIDGE" } miles north of Townsville) to refuel. Expect to  
 "HELM" } enter Grafton Passage 0800K/15 and arrive 1600K/16.  
 "HENLEY" }  
 "BAILEY" } (2) "WALRUS" will be launched in Grafton Passage -  
 fly to Townsville with despatches.  
 (3) Anticipated time required for refuelling 36 hours.  
 (4) N.O.I.C. Townsville is requested to -  
 (a) sail "BRITISH SAILOR" and "YUNWAN" to Palm  
 Island.  
 (b) to arrange that anti-submarine air patrols  
 be maintained whilst C.T.F. 44 remains at  
 Palm Island.  
 (c) arrange service locally anti submarine vessels  
 if available.

"MILDURA" escorting Sydney/Port Kembla portion of convoy O.C.26 arrived Sydney at 0002K/16. "MORESBY" to continue escorting remainder to Newcastle and to escort C.O.28 to rendezvous off Sydney 17/9.

"PING WO" intends sailing from Pt. Stephens to Newcastle for water at 0615K/16 returning 19/9 - will probably depart for Sydney 20/9 for completion of refit.

"KANIMBLA" at 1248K/15 A.C.N.E. requested F.O. Ceylon to sail "KANIMBLA" for Fremantle. If desired to use "KANIMBLA" as convoy escort, request she may be delayed in Colombo for not more than 72 hours.

"ECHUCA" } will carry out full calibre firing in Port Phillip  
 "GAWLER" } during daylight and evening Wednesday 16th September.  
 "BINGERA" }

"GOULBURN" at 1135K N.O.I.C. Brisbane advised as follows:-

"Intend sailing convoy "S" with "NORDNES" and "ASPASIA NORNIKOS" in company, escorted by Goulburn from Pile Light at 2100K/15.



"CESSNOCK" at 1029K/15 N.O.C.S. reports as follows:-

"Intend sailing "CESSNOCK" with convoy C.O.28 on 17/9 to Bass Strait thence Adelaide and Fremantle."

U.S. Destroyer "CLARKE" escorting "POYANG" and "MERKUR" arrived Sydney at 2215K/15.

U.S. Destroyer "PATTERSON" is en route from Brisbane to Sydney for repairs - E.T.A. 0800K/16.

U.S. Destroyer "BENHAM" escorting "MONOWAI" arrived Sydney from Auckland at 0637K/15.

U.S. Submarine "GAR" departed Albany for Fremantle at 0015K/16.

GENERAL.

H.M.A.S. "FAURO CHIEF" was commissioned at Cairns A.M./14/9 under command of Sub-Lieutenant C.R. Penny, R.A.N.V.R.

"BENGAL" on arrival Albany reported extensive damage to anti submarine gear. N.O.I.C. Fremantle suggests A.M.S. in future should hug coast from Adelaide to Albany, where she will be held until weather forecast is favourable.

AIR RAIDS AT FALL RIVER:

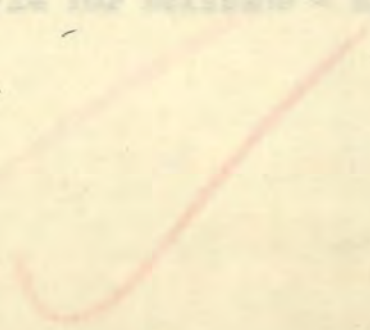
At 2011K/15 - all clear sounded (no air raid warning given).

At 2255K/15 - air raid warning.

At 2300K/15 - all clear.

No further details available.

*[Faint, mostly illegible text follows, including mentions of ships like "LARK", "TAURUS", "HILAR", "MOPRA", "YAMADA", and "MORAN".]*





SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900K/Tuesday, 15th September, 1942.

"ADELAIDE" } arrived Fremantle 1114H/14 from escorting U.S. 16 and  
"TROMP" } U.S. 17.

"CASTLEMAINE" escorting "BOTH" departed Port Moresby 0700K/14 for  
Townsville - E.T.A. 2400K/16.

"GEELONG" escorting convoy "R" and "GEORGE MATHEWS" departed  
Brisbane 0640K/13.

"YANDRA" escorting G.P. 13 departed Sydney 0908K/14.

"TOWNSVILLE" departed Sydney 1232K/14 with despatch to join G.P.13.

"WOLLONGONG" departed Fremantle 0830H/14 with "VERA" for Diego Garcia  
E.T.A. 1530K/26 and Kilindini - E.T.A. 1800K/4/10.

"ROCKHAMPTON" escorting "WILLIAM ELLERY" departed Brisbane 0959K/14  
for Noumea - E.T.A. 0930L/18.

"WARREGO" arrived Townsville 0640K/14 from Port Moresby, S.S. "KATOOMBA"  
detached for Brisbane.

"WHYALLA" arrived Sydney 1028K/14 having completed escort of O.C.25  
and departed 1735K/14 escorting C.O.27.

"DUBBO" escorting C.O.27 departed Newcastle 0858K/14.

"COLAC" departed Townsville 0201K/14 for Brisbane - E.T.A. 0700K/17.

"DOOMBA" arrived Port Melbourne 1107K/14 having completed escort  
of C.O.26.

"ARMIDALE" escorting "CREMER" and "THEOFANO LIVANOS" (latter for  
Cairns) departed Port Moresby 2200K/13 for Townsville -  
E.T.A. 1100K/16.

"PING WO" arrived Port Stephens 0805K/14 from Sydney.

"KURUMBA" arrived Brisbane 0135K/15 from Port Moresby.

U.S. Seaplane Tender "CHILDS" arrived Fremantle 0817H/14 from  
Exmouth Gulf.

U.S. Minesweeper "LARK" arrived Fremantle 0816H/14 from Albany.

U.S. Submarine "TAUTOG" departed Fremantle 1639H/14 for Albany.

U.S. Supply Ship "MIZAR" arrived Fremantle 1430H/14 from Albany.

On surface - GENERAL 15 miles N. of Wilson Bay entrance.

H.M.A.S. "KOOPA" (Tender to Combined Training Centre TOORBUL)  
commissioned at Brisbane 14/9.

"VAN HERMSKERK", "JAPARA" - E.T.D. Fall Fiver 1800K/14.

"VAN DER LIN" departed Townsville 1650K/14 for Brisbane - E.T.A. P.M/17.

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MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900K/Monday, 14th September, 1942.

"WARRNAMBOOL" escorting "DORVEL" arrived Darwin from Thursday Island at 1734K/13.

"GOONAMBERE" and "IRCHGROVE PARK" arrived Sydney from Port Kembla at 1515K/13.

"ARUNTA" departed Port Moresby at 1015K/13 for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 1900K/13.

"DUBBO" escorting "PING WO" departed Sydney at 1645K/13 for Port Stephens.

"LITHGON" en route Townsville to Brisbane ordered to return to Townsville by C.S.W.P.F. at 1740K/13 to take over escort duties of "COLAC" - damaged due to grounding at 0450K/12 - "COLAC" will probably leave to dock to ship spare propeller.

"DELOIRINE" and "YANDRA" escorting convoy P.G.12 arrived Sydney at 0931K/13.

"TOWNSVILLE" escorting Sydney portion of C.O.25 arrived Sydney at 1923K/13

"TOWNSVILLE" will join convoy G.P.13 with despatch immediately after boiler defects completed. "YANDRA" the additional escort will depart with convoy from Sydney - E.T.A. 1600K/14.

"SWAN" escorting "TAROONA" to Port Moresby has advised new E.T.A. 1600K/14.

"ROCKHAMPTON" will act as escort to "WILLIAM ELLERY" when ready to proceed to Noumea. E.T.D. Caloundra 1000K/14.

"BOMBAY" departed Fremantle at 2015K/13 to rendezvous with "V.S. TRINITY" 120 miles W.S.W. of Fremantle - thence to Diego Garcia for fuel - E.T.A. 1500K/26. "TRINITY" proceeds alone from Diego Garcia - "BOMBAY" proceeds to Colombo.

"ARMIDALE" (?) escorting "CREMER" and "THEO LIVANOS" departed Moresby - E.T.A. Townsville 1120K/16.

"WARREGO" escorting "KATCOMBA" departed Port Moresby 0700K/12 - E.T.A. Townsville 2200K/14.

Air raid - Fall River.

Alarm sounded 2112K/13

All clear 2310K/13.

No further details.

Aircraft sighted submarine:

On surface at 0945K/13 - 35 miles E. of Milne Bay entrance. May be friendly.

"CASTLEMAINE" machine gunned 14 miles south of Port Moresby at 0903K/13 - no further details.



WEST CACTUS.GENERAL."WEST CACTUS"

At 1625K/13 N.O.I.C. Townsville reported "WEST CACTUS" grounded at entrance to harbour at 1245K/13.

At 2107K/13 - ship refloated at 2-45K/13. - no further information.

"STORRAS"

Previously reported aground in Pt. Phillip was refloated at 1530K/13 and is returning to Melbourne for inspection.

PORT JACKSON - Port was reopened at 0800K Saturday 13th.

"SPHANT" - arrived Cairns 0900K/11 from Townsville; escorting "WILLIAMA" and "BABINRA" departed Cairns 1730K/12 for Fall River via Grafton Passage and Chica Strait.

"KALGOONLIX" - departed Darwin 1250 1K/12 - Operation Hamburger.

"BOCKMA" - escorting 0026 departed Port Phillip 2245K/12.

"YANDRA" } Detailed by N.O.I.C. Sydney as escorts for GP13, E.T.D.  
"TOWNSVILLE" } Sydney 0900K/14.

"ROCKHAMPTON" - to remain Brisbane to act as A/S escort for "WILLIAM ELLERY" when ready.

"SONGMAI" } departed Wellington 1700L/11 for Sydney, E.T.A.  
U.S. Destroyer } 0600K/13.  
"MAYAN" }

"SUSANNE" - arrived Brisbane 1715K/12.

"CHERRY" - departed Albany 1235H/12 for Fremantle E.T.A. 0600K/15.

U.S. Siler  
"TRINITY" - departed Albany 1505H/12 westward. "SONGMAI" is to sail from Fremantle today to rendezvous with "TRINITY" and proceed with her to Colombo via Diego Garcia.

U.S. Seaplane - departed Smooth Gulf 1200K/12 for Fremantle, E.T.A.  
Tender "CHILDS" 0700K/14.

U.S. Supply Ship - arrived Albany 0700K/12 from Melbourne.  
"KIBAR"

GENERAL.SYDNEY LOOP CROSSINGS.

At about 1226K/12 crossings were recorded on No. 5 and 6 loops (northern outer loops). S.C. A/S analyzed crossings as caused by 1000 ton vessel at 8 knots. Visibility was bad so ships in area or arrivals to explain crossings. Port has been alerted "DURBO" carried out mine and A/S sweep at dawn. Air search is being requested.

00.26 escorted by "WYALLA" and "TOWNSVILLE" E.T.A. Sydney 2100K/13.

E.S.12 escorted by "DELORAIN" and "YANDRA" has been ordered by N.O.I.C. Sydney to arrive Sydney not earlier than 0630K/13. No further details available. N.O.I.C.s were recently warned that there are indications that S/Es would be laying mines on the east coast and were ordered to take additional precautions. E.C.C.S. has been doing this.



DAILY NARRATIVE.

TO 0900K/SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 1942.

- "ARUNTA" - escorting "VAN HEEMSKERK" and "JAPARA" arrived southern entrance to China Strait at 1200K/11. At 1801K/12 "ARUNTA" reported that "VAN HEEMSKERK" and "JAPARA" will not complete unloading until P.M./15 at earliest, fuel insufficient to remain until then, proceeding Port Moresby to refuel, E.T.A. 0530K/13, E.T.A. Milne Bay on return 1900K/13.
- "GOULBURN" ) Returned Brisbane 0507K/12 from escort duty.  
"GEELONG" )
- "GEELONG" escorting Convoy R, E.T.D. Caloundra 1430K/13.
- "LITHGOW" arrived Townsville 1530K/11 from Thursday Island. Departed 0220K/12 for Brisbane E.T.A. 1600K/14.
- "STUART" - arrived Cairns 0900K/11 from Townsville; escorting "MULIAMA" and "BABINDA" departed Cairns 1730K/12 for Fall River via Grafton Passage and China Strait.
- "KALGOORLIE" - departed Darwin 1250 1K/12 - Operation Hamburger.
- "DOOMBA" - escorting OC26 departed Port Phillip 2149K/12.
- "YANDRA" ) Detailed by N.O.I.C. Sydney as escorts for GP13, E.T.D.  
"TOWNSVILLE" ) Sydney 0900K/14.
- "ROCKHAMPTON" - to remain Brisbane to act as A/S escort for "WILLIAM ELLERY" when ready.
- "MONOWAI" ) departed Wellington 1700L/11 for Sydney, E.T.A.  
U.S. Destroyer ) 0600K/15.  
"BENHAM" )
- "BUNGAREE" - arrived Brisbane 1715K/12.
- "CAIRNS" - departed Albany 1222H/12 for Fremantle E.T.A. 0500H/15.
- U.S. Oiler  
"TRINITY" - departed Albany 1508H/12 westward. "BOMBAY" is to sail from Fremantle today to rendezvous with "TRINITY" and proceed with her to Colombo via Diego Garcia.
- U.S. Seaplane - departed Exmouth Gulf 1307H/12 for Fremantle, E.T.A.  
Tender "CHILDS" 0900H/14.
- U.S. Supply Ship - arrived Albany 0948H/12 from Melbourne.  
"MIZAR"

GENERAL.

SYDNEY LOOP CROSSINGS.

At about 1326K/12 crossings were recorded on No. 5 and 6 loops (northern outer loops). O.C. A/S analysed crossings as caused by 1000 ton vessel at 8 knots. Visibility was bad no ships in area or arrivals to explain crossings. Port has been closed "DUBBO" carries out mine and A/S sweep at dawn. Air search is being requested.

OC.25 escorted by "WHYALLA" and "TOWNSVILLE" E.T.A. Sydney 2100K/13.

P.G.12 escorted by "DELORAIN" and "YANDRA" has been ordered by N.O.I.C. Sydney to arrive Sydney not earlier than 0830K/13. No further details available. N.O.I.Cs were recently warned that there are indications that S/Ms would be laying mines on the east coast and were ordered to take additional precautions. N.O.C.S. has been doing this.



COMSOWESPAC TO CONTROL N.G. CONVOYS.

From 2350K/12 COMSOWESPAC took over from A.C.N.B. control of convoys proceeding to the New Guinea area. N.O.I.C.'s will carry on their present operational functions.

"COLAC" GROUNDED AND REFLOATED.

"COLAC" (E.T.A. Townsville 2359K/12) reports having refloated 0710K/12 after grounding Euston Reef (entrance to Grafton Passage) at 0450K/12. Blade of port propeller bent. Examination is to be made by divers after arrival Townsville, and further report signalled.

H.M.A.S. "BUNDABERG" (A.W.S.)

Commissioned at Brisbane 12/9.

ENEMY SIGHTINGS.

One destroyer was sighted by aircraft at 1220K/12 about 45 miles N.E. of Trobriand Is., course 055 speed 15 knots.

One destroyer was sighted by aircraft at 1235K/12 about 20 miles North of Trobriand Is., course 240, speed 10 knots.

ENEMY AIR RAID.

Fall River - warning 0740K/12.

- all clear 0750K/12.

"STORAAS" AGROUND IN PORT PHILLIP.

At 0043K/13 A.C.N.B. received signal from "STORAAS" (Norwegian motor tanker of 7886 tons bound Melbourne/Sydney, Agents - Shell Co. of Australia, departed Gellibrand Light 1830K/12 with OC. 26) "Grounded inside Port Phillip. Impossible float ship by own power. Please inform NOTRASHIP and arrange best possible". Passed to N.O.I.C. Port Melbourne, who passed it to "DOOMBA" escorting OC.26 at 0115k/13. Passed to S.O.(N.C.S.), Salvage Board, Shell Co. of Australia, and NOTRASHIP. "NOTRASHIP" is telegraphic address of Norwegian Shipping and Trade Mission.

At 1800K/11 two vessels, probably destroyers, sighted by aircraft 150 N.O.I.C. Port Melbourne ascertain d position as in out east of South Channel, between Hovell Light and South Channel Pile Light, roughly north of Rye. Salvage Board despatched tug "EAGLE" at 0300K/13. Agents advise cargo is approximately 7000 tons Diesel Oil and 3000 tons Fuel Oil, and draught of vessel 27'1 $\frac{3}{8}$ ". High water was at 0119K/13.

At 1500K/11 two enemy destroyers sighted by aircraft 60 miles N.E. of Milne Bay (probably same force as K.). This force attacked by aircraft at 1830K/11 direct hit reported. Aircraft reported at 1930K/11 - 1 Destroyer stationary down by stern and burning, 1 Destroyer proceeding at 30 knots course 180°.

At 1830K/11 one enemy cruiser reported 180 miles N.E. Milne Bay. Course 180°.

U.S. Destroyer "CLARK" has been ordered by C.S.M.S. to cancel previous instruction and proceed to Sydney escorting "FOIANG" and "MERKUR". "MORCHAMPION" because departure of "WILLIAM ELLERY" is uncertain will remain at Brisbane awaiting orders. A.C.N.B. will provide escort for "WILLIAM ELLERY" when vessel departs.



DAILY NARRATIVE.

SECRET.

To 0900K Saturday, 12th September, 1942.

"WALLAROO" arrived Adelaide from Sydney at 1651K/11. N.O.I.C. Adelaide intends to sail "WALLAROO" for Fremantle P.M. Saturday, 12th September.

"TAMWORTH" arrived Sydney from Maryborough at 1001K/11.

"DELORAINÉ" and "YANDRA" departed Brisbane escorting P.G.12 at 0622K/11 - E.T.A. Sydney 0630K/13.

"GOONAMBEE" and "BIRCHGROVE PARK" are to depart Port Kembla for Sydney, so as to arrive sunset 13/9.

"ORARA" arrived Port Melbourne from S.C.F.18 at 0915K/11.

"WHYALLA" and "DUBBO" have been detailed by N.O.C.S. as escorts for Convoy C.O.27 departing Newcastle 14/9.

"SWAN" ordered by N.O.I.C. Townsville at 2225K/10 to rendezvous with "TAROONA" at 1800K/11 off Fitzroy Island light, and provide escort to Port Moresby - E.T.A. 1600K/13.

At 1705K/11 "SWAN" advised N.O.I.C. Townsville as follows:-  
Expect to enter Grafton Passage at 0700K/11. Repairs to port circulating pump now essential. Necessitating a minimum of 4 hours inside reef.

"STUART" - As "MULIAMA" and "BABINDA" will not be ready till P.M. 12/9 at earliest "STUART" previously ordered by N.O.I.C. Townsville to rendezvous with these vessels off Fitzroy Island light and escort to Fall River, has now been ordered by N.O.I.C. Townsville to proceed to Cairns and berth alongside "MARELLA".

ACTIVITIES MILNE BAY AREA.

"ARUNTA" and Convoy Q.3 are at Milne Bay. "ARUNTA" ordered by A.C.N.B. at 1715K/11 to escort convoy (V) departing Townsville 13/9 from position (Z) to Fall River.

2. At 1200K/11 two vessels, probably destroyers, sighted by aircraft 130 miles N.N.E. Milne Bay. Course 225, speed 8 knots.

3. At 1400K/11 Comtaskfor 44 advised that U.S. Destroyers "SELFRIDGE", "BAGLEY", "HENLEY" and "HELM" would proceed at 28 knots from a position 220 miles S.W. of Milne Bay, towards China Strait, and to proceed Milne Bay if enemy force continued Southwards - rejoin Comtaskfor 44 if enemy withdrew.

4. At 1529K/11 two enemy destroyers sighted by aircraft 60 miles N.E. of Milne Bay (probably same force as 2.). This force attacked by aircraft at 1630K/11 direct hit reported. Aircraft reported at 1725K/11 - 1 Destroyer stationary down by stern and burning, 1 Destroyer proceeding at 30 knots course 160°.

5. At 1535K/11 one enemy cruiser reported 180 miles N.E. Milne Bay. Course 180°.

U.S. Destroyer "CLARKE" has been ordered by C.S.W.P. to cancel previous instruction and proceed to Sydney escorting "POYANG" and "MERKUR".

"ROCKHAMPTON" because departure of "WILLIAM ELLERY" is uncertain will remain at Brisbane awaiting orders.

A.C.N.B. will provide escort for "WILLIAM ELLERY" when vessel departs.



GENERAL.

U.S. Submarine "THRESHER" arrived Fremantle from Albany at 0831K/11.

U.S. Minesweeper "WHIPPOORWILL" and U.S. "TRINITY" (Oiler) arrived Albany at 1829K/11.

U.S. Minesweeper "LARK" departed Albany for Fremantle at 2200K/11  
E.T.A. 1600K/13.

"CAP DES PALMES" arrived Sydney from Noumea at 1608K/11.

H.M.N.Z.S. "MONOWAI" escorting "BENHAM" (?) departed Wellington for Sydney at 1600K/11 - E.T.A. 0600K/15.  
Air Raid warning sounded at Horn Island and Port Moresby at 1153K/11.  
All clear sounded at 1210K/11. No further details available.

"SWAN" escorting "TASMAN", "S. JACOB" and "ADMIRAL HALSTEAD" left Port Moresby for Cairns at 1400K/10.  
At 2200K/10 H.C.I.C. Townsville ordered "SWAN" to rendezvous "TANOGHA" off Fitzroy Island at 1800K/11 and escort to Port Moresby.

"WIPSWICH" arrived Fremantle 1221H/10 from Adelaide.

"YONKHA" arrived Port Melbourne 1622K/10 having completed escort of C.G.25.

"YANBRA" returned Brisbane 0745K/10 to escort P.G.12.

"WILSON" departed Sydney 1345K/10 escort Sydney Port Moresby convoy C.G.23.

U.S. Destroyer "CLARK" ordered to rendezvous "MERMAID" and "POYANG" off Noumea about 1400K/10 and escort towards Sydney.

"DELORES" } escorting S.P.15 arrived Brisbane 0510K/11.  
"ROCKHAMPTON" }

"ROCKHAMPTON" to escort "WILLIAM ELLIOT" leaving Cape Horn 0200K/12 to rendezvous "CLARK" in position about 330 miles 140° from Cape Horn at 1200K/12.  
"ROCKHAMPTON" to continue with "POYANG" and "MERMAID" to Sydney, "CLARK" proceed with "WILLIAM ELLIOT" to Noumea.

"MADRAS" } on passage Fremantle/Cairns ordered at 1530K/9 by  
"LAUNCESTON" } H.C.I.C. Cairns to proceed via Great Barrier.

"WANDERBOL" escorting "TAVEL" departed Thursday Island 2150K/10 for Darwin E.T.A. 1700 K/13.

"WALCOORLIE" arrived Darwin 2339 IX/10 from escort and patrol.

GENERAL.WEST AIR RAID.

Fall River - warning 1115K/10. No further details available.

H.M.A.S. "GARD" commissioned at Port Moresby 0/0 under command of Lieutenant Commander Symonds.



DAILY NARRATIVE.

Most SECRET.

To 0900K Friday, 11th September, 1942.

- "HOBART" departed Brisbane 1414K/10 to join Task Force 44.
- "STUART" arrived Townsville 0555K/10 after escorting G.P.11A from Sydney to Brisbane.
- "BENDIGO" escorting "KURUMBA" and "HENRY D. THOREAU" departed Port Moresby 0810K/10, "BENDIGO" and "HENRY D. THOREAU" E.T.A. Townsville 2400K/12, "KURUMBA" to proceed independently to Brisbane inside Barrier Reef, E.T.A. 0600K/16.
- "BALLARAT" } escorting "VAN HEEMSKERK" and "JAPARA" made rendezvous  
"COLAC" } with "ARUNTA" from Townsville at 1930K/10 in position  
about 135 miles 222° from Samarai, "ARUNTA" to escort to  
Fall River, "BALLARAT" and "COLAC" to return to  
Townsville.
- "SWAN" escorting "TASMAN", "S. JACOB" and "ADMIRAL HALSTEAD" left Port Moresby for Cairns at 1400K/9. At 2225K/10 N.O.I.C. Townsville ordered "SWAN" to rendezvous "TAROONA" off Fitzroy Island at 1800K/11 and escort to Port Moresby.
- "IPSWICH" arrived Fremantle 1231H/10 from Adelaide.
- "DOOMBA" arrived Port Melbourne 1625K/10 having completed escort of C.O.25.
- "YANDRA" returned Brisbane 0745K/10 to escort P.G.12.
- "MILDURA" departed Sydney 1555K/10 escort Sydney Port Kembla convoy C.O.26.
- U.S. Destroyer "CLARK" ordered to rendezvous "MERKUR" and "POYANG" off Noumea about 1400L/10 and escort towards Sydney.
- "DELORAIN" } escorting G.P.12 arrived Brisbane 0315K/11.  
"ROCKHAMPTON" }
- "ROCKHAMPTON" to escort "WILLIAM ELLERY" leaving Cape Moreton 0200K/12 to rendezvous "CLARK" in position about 330 miles 140° from Cape Moreton at 1300K/13, "ROCKHAMPTON" to continue with "POYANG" and "MERKUR" to Sydney, "CLARK" proceed with "WILLIAM ELLERY" to Noumea.
- "MADRAS" } on passage Fremantle/Colombo ordered at 1533K/9 by  
"LAUNCESTON" } N.O.I.C. Colombo to proceed via Diego Garcia.
- "WARRNAMBOOL" escorting "DARVEL" departed Thursday Island 2350K/10 for Darwin E.T.A. 1730 IK/13.
- "KALGOORLIE" arrived Darwin 2339 IK/10 from escort and patrol.

GENERAL.

Enemy Air Raid.

Fall River - warning 1118K/10. No further details available.

H.M.A.S. "CAROO" commissioned at Port Moresby 9/9 under command of Lieutenant Commander Symonds.



DAILY NARRATIVE.

MOST SECRET.

To 0900K/Thursday, 10th September, 1942.

"GOULBURN" and "GEELONG" arrived Brisbane from Capricorn Channel at 1001K/9. N.O.I.C. Brisbane intends sailing "GOULBURN" and "GEELONG" as escort for Northbound convoy including "BRITISH SAILOR" and "YUNNAN". E.T.D. Caloundra 1830K/8.

"WARREGO" and "ARMIDALE" escorting "KATOOMBA" and "CREMER" arrived Port Moresby at 0802K/8 from Townsville.

"BENDIGO" and "CASTLEMAINE" escorting "MONTORO", "SWARTENHONDT", "ADMIRAL HALSTEAD", "KURUMBA", and "BOTH", arrived Port Moresby at 2219K/8.

"BENGAL" departed Adelaide for Albany at 1830K/9 - E.T.A. 1800K/14.

"YANDRA" ordered by A.C.N.B. at 2148K/9 to return to Moreton Bay and report to N.O.I.C. Brisbane as escort for P.G.12 "YANDRA" had previously arrived Brisbane escorting "HEROS" with target in tow, and departed at 1650K/9 for Sydney. Tug "HEROS" to remain Brisbane temporarily.

"DOOMBA" departed Port Phillip escorting convoy O.C.25 at 2113K/9.

"MORESBY" arrived Newcastle from Sydney to escort C.O.26 - E.T.D.10/9.

"BUNGAREE", having completed operations has given her E.T.A. off Cape Moreton 1600K/12 and Sydney 1600K/15.

"HOBART" intends to depart Brisbane about 1200K/10 and proceed to rendezvous with C.T.F.44 at 1200K/12.

"TAMWORTH" intends departing Inskip Point (Maryborough) at 0800K/9 for Sydney - E.T.A. 1001K/11.

"WOLLONGONG" at 0012K/9 N.O.I.C. Fremantle reported - propose to sail "WOLLONGONG" with "VERA" on 11/9 to Diego Garcia and Kilindini. A.C.N.B. has asked N.O.I.C. Fremantle whether "BURNIE" can accompany her.

ACTIVITIES FALL RIVER AREA.

"ARUNTA" ordered by A.C.N.B. to proceed at 2400K/9 towards China Strait from Townsville, via Grafton Passage to overtake "COLAC", "BALLARAT" escorting "JAPARA" and "VAN HEEMSKERK", and take over escort of this convoy to Fall River.

2. In order that convoy will make earliest arrival at Fall River, "COLAC", "BALLARAT" and convoy have been ordered to return towards China Strait and adjust the turning point so that "ARUNTA" overtakes in daylight.

3. "COLAC" and "BALLARAT" will then return to Townsville.

GENERAL.

"ANSHUN" at 0230K/9 N.O.I.C. Fall River reported that "ANSHUN" sunk by enemy shell fire alongside pontoon wharf at 0040K/7 is -

- (1) Half submerged on starboard side, and is known to be -
- (2) Holed at least 3 times on starboard side
- (3) Two-thirds of cargo landed - remainder shifted and underwater



0800X/Wednesday, 9th September, 1942.

2.

"ARUNDA" arrived Townsville with crew of "ANSHUN" 1755K/8 from Fall Riv

"BENDIGO"  
"CASTLEMAINE"

- (4) Considers ship can be salvaged
- (5) It is impracticable at present to discharge from alongside until new landing stage is completed
- (6) May be able to salvage and discharge remaining cargo by cutting open ship's side.

Slipway at Fremantle. Test of slipway at Fremantle on 8/9 failed.

U.S. Submarine "THRESHER" departed Albany for Fremantle at 1915K/9.

U.S. Submarine Tender "W. B. PRESTON" departed Geraldton at 1507K/9.

F.F.S. "CAP DES PALMES" departed Noumea for Sydney at 1530 local time 8/9 - E.T.A. Sydney 1600 local time 14/9.

Hospital Ship "MANUNDA" departed Fall River 1200K/8 - E.T.A. Port Moresby 0900K/9.

"COLAC" acknowledged the orders at 1500K/8.

"SWAN" at 1145K "ARUNDA" reported having sailed "SWAN" and "S. JACOB" for Port Moresby. At 0801K/8 R.C.I.C. Pt. Moresby requested A.C.N.B. that "SWAN" escorting "S. JACOB" be diverted to Townsville. At 1600K/8 "SKIN" escorting "S. JACOB" arrived Port Moresby. A.C.N.B. propose, subject concurrence L.H.Q., to sail "TASHAN", "S. JACOB" for Cairns.

"MELBOURNE" } departed Sydney 0700K/8, escorting G.P.12 - E.T.A. Brisbane 2100K/10.

"LITTON" escorting "BURSH" arrived Thursday Island 1950K/8 from Darwin and departed 2012K/8 for Townsville - E.T.A. 0700K/12

"WILCUBA" } arrived Sydney 2330K/8, escorting A.C.24.

Hospital Ship "MANUNDA" departed Fall River 1200K/8 for Port Moresby - E.T.A. 0900K/9.

U.S. Seaplane Tender "PRESTON" - departed Fremantle 1751K/8 for Esmond Gulf via Geraldton - E.T.A. Geraldton 1000K/9.

U.S. Supply Ship "SHEAR" departed Port Phillip 1140K/8 for Albany - E.T.A. 1100K/12.

GENERAL

ARMY AIR RAID:

Fall River - Warning 1210K/8.  
Held in progress 1215K/8.  
All clear 1400K/8.

R.C.I.C. Fremantle at 1835K/8 reported that wreckage washed up on beaches in Cockburn Sound following hard westerly gales indicated flotilla from some vessel sunk after leaving Fremantle between 28/8 and 30/8. At 1927K/8 R.C.I.C. Fremantle reported that amongst the wreckage were found a container with 38 vaccination needles, wooden bottle racks, and material reported to resemble druggist stocks. R.C.I.C. suggests arrival "MAUNGANUI" at Colombo be confirmed.

"MAUNGANUI" left Fremantle 28/8.

R.A.A.S. "ECHOCA" commissioned 0800K/7 and slipped from Williamstown at 1815K/8 for working up trials in Pt. Phillip.



MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900K/Wednesday, 9th September, 1942.

"ARUNTA" arrived Townsville with crew of "ANSHUN" 175K/8 from Fall River.

"BENDIGO" } escorting "MONTORO", "SWARTENHONDT", "ADMIRAL HALST AD"  
"CASTLEMAINE" } "KURUMBA", "BOTH" bound from Townsville arrived Port Moresby 2219K/8.

"HENLEY" } departed Brisbane 1204K/8 to rendezvous Task Force 44.  
"HELM" }

"VOYAGER" arrived Fremantle 1816H/8 from escort duty.

"STUART" escorting G.P.11A arrived Brisbane 1135K/8, and proceeded with despatch for Townsville - E.T.A. 0500K/10.

"BENGAL" arrived Adelaide 1145/IK from Sydney.

"COLAC" } ordered at 1331K/8 to return with "VAN HEEMSKERK"  
"BALLARAT" } and "JAPARA" to Cairns. "COLAC" acknowledged the orders at 1500K/8.

"SWAN" at 1145K "ARUNTA" reported having sailed "SWAN" and "S. JACOB" for Port Moresby. At 0901K/8 N.O.I.C. Pt. Moresby requested A.C.N.B. that "SWAN" escorting "S. JACOB" be diverted to Townsville. At 1602K/8 "SWAN" escorting "S. JACOB" arrived Port Moresby. A.C.N.B. propose, subject concurrence L.H.Q., to sail "TASMAN", "S. JACOB" for Cairns.

"DELOIRINE" } departed Sydney 0705K/8, escorting G.P.12 - E.T.A.  
"ROCKHAMPTON" } Brisbane 2100K/10.

"LITHGOW" escorting "BURWAH" arrived Thursday Island 1950K/8 from Darwin and departed 2012K/8 for Townsville - E.T.A. 0700K/12

"MILDURA" } arrived Sydney 2330K/8, escorting O.C.24.  
"DUBEO" }

Hospital Ship "MANUNDA" departed Fall River 1200K/8 for Port Moresby - E.T.A. 0900K/9.

U.S. Seaplane Tender "PRESTON" - departed Fremantle 1731H/8 for to Exmouth Gulf via Geraldton - E.T.A. Geraldton 1000H/9.

U.S. Supply Ship "WIZAR" departed Port Phillip 1140K/8 for Albany - E.T.A. 1100H/12.

GENERAL.

ENEMY AIR RAID:

Fall River - Warning 1210K/8.  
Raid in progress 1215K/8.  
All clear 1404K/8.

N.O.I.C. Fremantle at 1833K/8 reported that wreckage washed up on beaches in Cockburn Sound following hard westerly gales indicated flotsam from some vessel sunk after leaving Fremantle between 20/8 and 30/8. At 1927K/8 N.O.I.C. Fremantle reported that amongst the wreckage were found a container with 36 vaccination needles, wooden bottle racks, and material reported to resemble druggist stocks. N.O.I.C. suggests arrival "MAUNGANUI" at Colombo be confirmed.

"MAUNGANUI" left Fremantle 25/8.

H.M.A.S. "ECHUCA" commissioned 0800K/7 and slipped from Williamstown at 1815K/8 for working up trials in Pt. Phillip.



DAILY NARRATIVE.

SECRET.

To 0900K/Tuesday, 8th September, 1942. (3,180 tons gross) was

"KALGOORLIE" departed Darwin at 0502K/7 escorting "TULAGI",  
en route to Thursday Island to approximate position  
10°50'S. 136°00'E. 360 miles west of Thursday Island.

"WARRNAMBOOL" escorting "KOOLIGA" arrived Thursday Island from  
Darwin at 1855K/6.

"TOWNSVILLE" departed Newcastle 0915K/7 escorting portion of C.O.25.

"WHYALLA" and "WALLAROO" departed Sydney with Sydney portion of C.O.25  
at 1552K/7 - "WALLAROO" will continue on to Adelaide - T.A.  
0600K/12.

"WARREGO" escorting "KADOMBA" and "CREMER" departed Townsville  
at 0346K/7 to rendezvous with "ARMIDALE" off Fitzroy Island  
at 1600K/7 - thence Port Moresby via Grafton Passage -  
E.T.A. 0600K/9.

"HUNGAREE" departed Townsville to complete minelaying operation.

"AUSTRALIA" } departed Brisbane at 1245K/7 to carry out day and  
"PHOENIX" } night firings off Cape Maxton, Monday 7th. Will  
"SELFRIDGE" } leave this area about 2000K/7 to operate in area  
"BAGLEY" } between 0120S. and 0150S. and 146°E and 149°E.

"ADELAIDE" } Departed Fremantle 1700K/7 escorting combined convoys  
"KANIMBLA" } U.S. 16 and U.S. 17. C.R. Townsville reported that a

"MANOORA" } 1. "VOYAGER" will detach at 1001K/8 and return to their  
"VOYAGER" } Fremantle.  
"TROMP" }

2. Remaining escorts will stay with convoys until rendezvous is  
made with "DEVONSHIRE" at position "M" at 1300K/11. (approximat-  
ely 1300 miles west of Fremantle) when "ADELAIDE" and "TROMP"  
will detach and return to Fremantle.

3. "DEVONSHIRE" with "KANIMBLA" and "MANOORA" will then escort  
convoys to position "N" (1900 miles west of Fremantle).

4. "MAURITIUS" and "KANIMBLA" will then detach and proceed to  
Colombo with U.S. 16.

5. "DEVONSHIRE" will escort U.S.17 to Durban. "MANOORA" returns  
to Fremantle.

"TOOWOOMBA" arrived Fremantle from Albany at 2159K/7.

"SAMUEL BENBOW" with "TOOMEREE" (R.M.B.) arrived Newcastle at 1625K/7.

"BINGERA" arrived Port Phillip from Westernport at 1415K/7.

U.S. Destroyers "HENLY" and "HELM" arrived Brisbane at 1300K/7 from  
Noumea.

U.S. Submarine "SAILFISH" arrived Brisbane at 0500K/7.

U.S. Aircraft Tender "HERON" arrived Geraldton at 1410K/7.



SECRET

DAILY NARRATIVE

MILNE BAY ACTIVITIES:

0800K/Monday, 7th September, 1942.

At 0040K/7 "ANCHUN" (3,186 tons gross) was sunk alongside pontoon wharf by shellfire from enemy cruiser in Milne Bay. Allied land positions were also shelled.

At 1534K/7 C.S.W.P. advised "ARUNTA" and "SWAN" that an enemy naval force was expected to visit Milne Bay on the night of 7/9 and to clear with all vessels via China Straits forthwith returning with "S. JACOBS" at first light 8/9.

Hospital Ship "MANUNDA" arrived Fall River 1900K/6 B.T.D. P.M. 8th.

At 1630K/7 two enemy cruisers reported approximately 45 miles N.E. of Milne Bay Course 180° speed 30 knots.

At 2128K/7 N.O.I.C. Townsville advised C.S.W.P. that "COLAC" and "BALLARAT" escorting "JAPARA" and "VAN HEEMSKERK" would arrive China Strait at 2300K/8.

AIR RAID PORT MORESBY:

At 1223K/7 an air raid was reported to be in progress at Port Moresby - no further details are available.

UNIDENTIFIED VESSEL 95 MILES N.N.E. OF TOWNSVILLE:

At 1723K/7 A.C.H. Townsville reported that a V.D.C. Coast Watcher reports sighting a vessel of 4/5000 tons in above position (NOT GRADED) and that A.C.H. were unable to identify by their plot.

At 0300K/8 in 'phone conversations with D.S.O. Townsville the sighting still remained unidentified but investigations were proceeding.

At 2217K/8 a cruiser was reported in Milne Bay shelling GILLI GILLI wharf and shipping. No further details available.

AIR RAIDS:

PORT MORESBY - warning 1240K/6 - raid in progress 1242K/6 - all clear 1246K/6.

UNIDENTIFIED FLARE:

A magnesium flare was seen dropping about 20 miles E. of Wilson's Promontory at 2322K/6. The flare lasted about 20 seconds and burned down to sea level. Neither A.C.H. nor F.S.H.C. knew of any aircraft operating in the vicinity at about that time.

A similar occurrence night before last and was later identified as friendly aircraft - anticipate that last night's flare will be identified today.

"PRINCE OF ORANGE" - "VAN DER LIJN"

N.O.I.C. Townsville requested welding apparatus to repair "PRINCE OF ORANGE". He was, however, rung and requested, in order to save time to make best repairs with local reserves and sail ship to Brisbane. No news of "VAN DER LIJN" future.

Fall River



To 0900K/Monday, 7th September, 1942.

"ARNIDALE" ordered by N.O.I.C. Townsville to rendezvous "WARREGO" escorting "KATCOMBA" and "CREMER" and 1600K/7 off Fitzroy Island and provide additional escort to Port Moresby.

"CASTLEMAINE" escorting "TAROONA" bound to Townsville, departed Port Moresby 1900K/5; at 1144K/6 ordered by N.O.I.C. Townsville to leave "TAROONA" after dark and proceed to rendezvous "COLAC" and "BALLARAT" escorting P.Q.3 at 1700K/7; "BENDIGO" also ordered to rendezvous P.Q.3 and "CASTLEMAINE" are to escort P.Q.3 to Port Moresby; at 1701K/6 N.O.I.C. Townsville advised that P.Q.3 was two hours late.

"GOULBURN" } escorting convoy "B" (containing M.T. for 25th Brigade  
"GEELONG" } ordered to Pt. Moresby) to Capricorn Channel, departed Brisbane 1832K/6.

U.S. Destroyer "HEMLEY", "HELM" departed Bulari Passage, Noumea 0700L/6 for Brisbane - E.T.A. earliest 0700/7. convoy to Colomandra,

U.S. Supply Ship "MIZAR" arrived Port Phillip 1415K/6 from Sydney.

"WARRAS" and "LAUNCESTON" departed Fremantle for Colombo at 1700K/4 in company with tanker "WONKINA" which detaches for Abadan 520 miles GENERAL.

MILNE BAY: arrived Fremantle at 283K/4 from Geraldton and Darwin.

At 1459K/6 "SWAN" was ordered by Comsowespac to proceed with "S. JACOB" from south of China Strait to Fall River, clearing China Strait first light 7/9, "ARUNTA" to remain until off loading "S. JACOB" completed if possible, "ANCHUN" to be despatched with "SWAN" as escort as soon as off loaded.

At 1535K/6 aircraft sighted one light cruiser and one destroyer in position 09°38'S. 151°28'E (about 70 miles E. of Fall River) course 180.

At 2217K/6 a cruiser was reported in Milne Bay shelling ELI GILLI wharf and shipping. No further details available.

AIR RAID:

PORT MORESBY" - warning 1240K/6 - raid in progress 1243K/6 - all clear 1316K/6.

UNIDENTIFIED FLARE:

A magnesium flare was seen dropping about 20 miles E. of Wilson's Promontory at 2323K/6. The flare lasted about 20 seconds and burned down to sea level. Neither A.C.H. nor F.S.H.Q. knew of any aircraft operating in the vicinity at about that time.

A similar occurrence night before last and was later identified as friendly aircraft - Anticipate that last night's flare will be identified today.

"PERTSHIRE" - "VAN DER LIJN"

N.O.I.C. Townsville requested welding apparatus to repair "PERTSHIRE". He was, however, rung and requested, in order to save time to make best repairs with local reserves and sail ship Bay - to Brisbane. No news of "VAN DER LIN" future.

Fall River.



DAILY NARRATIVE.

NO. 1 SECRET.

To 0900K/ Sunday, 6th September, 1942.

- "LITHGOW" escorting "BURWAH" departed Darwin at 1257K/5 for Thursday Island. E.T.A. 1830K/8. "LITHGOW" will then proceed independently to Brisbane calling at Townsville en route.
- "WARREGO" arrived Townsville from Port Moresby at 1115K/8. At 1720K/5 N.O.I.C. Townsville reports that "WARREGO" has developed defects in steering gear. Investigations being made with assistance of Commonwealth Engineer Surveyor. Further report will follow.
- "DELORRAINE" escorting "YUNWAN" arrived Brisbane at 0241K/5 departed for Sydney at 0710K/5 - E.T.A. 2130K/6.
- "STUART" departed Sydney at 1055K/5 escorting convoy to Caloundra, thence to Townsville with despatch.
- "MADRAS" and "LAUNCESTON" departed Fremantle for Colombo at 1730K/4 in company with tanker "ONDINA" which detaches for Abadan 520 miles South of Colombo.
- "VOYAGER" arrived Fremantle at 2231K/4 from Geraldton and Darwin.
- "YANDRA" departed Sydney escorting tug "HEROS" en route to Brisbane with battle practice target.
- "KALGOORLIE" escorting "SIBICO" arrived Darwin from Thursday Island at 1745K/5.
- "CASTELMAINE" escorting "TAROONA" and "SEA WITCH" arrived Port Moresby at 1136K/5.
- "ARMIDALE" and "WARREGO" have been ordered by A.C.N.B. at 1931K/5 to escort to Port Moresby "KATOOMBA" and "CREMER" carrying troops urgently required at Port Moresby. A total of 7 merchant ships will be in Port Moresby but are troop carriers and 1 lighter carrier and "KURUMBA" (Tanker) and have a quick turn round.
- U.S. Submarine "GREYBACK" arrived Albany from Fremantle at 1010K/5.
- U.S. Aircraft Tender "HERON" arrived Exmouth Gulf from Fremantle AM/4th Departing for Geraldton 0800K/5 E.T.A. AM/7th.

FALL RIVER ACTIVITIES.

At 1201K/5 C.S.W.P.F. advised "ARUNTA" to expect enemy destroyers on cruiser in Milne Bay during darkness on 5th and 6th September. "ARUNTA" ordered to remain south of China Strait with convoy.

At 1613K/5 "ARUNTA" ordered by C.S.W.P.F. to proceed with "ANSHUN" to Fall River E.T.A. during forenoon today. "SWAN" and "S. JACOBS" remain to southward of China Strait and enter Fall River tomorrow Monday,

At 1800K/5 Aircraft reported sighting one enemy cruiser and two destroyers approximately 30 miles east of the entrance to Milne Bay - and heading in that direction - this force sighted earlier at various times.

At 0815K/6 Aircraft reported sighting 1 cruiser, 2 destroyers 280 miles East of entrance to Milne Bay probably the force mentioned above.



SECRET

2.

To 0900K/Saturday, 5th September, 1942.

FURTHER REPORT ON COLLISION OFF TOWNSVILLE. U.S. to Fall  
River - H.T.A. 0100K/5, and remain until discharge completed

At 1202K/5 N.O.I.C. Townsville reported that the permit her to  
"PERTSHIRE" was at anchor in bay when "VAN DER LIJN" collided with  
the former's stern. "PERTSHIRE's" plating was forced back to No. 1  
bulkhead, the ship is not making water.

The "VAN DER LIJN" berthed at 1000K/5 and has sustained considerable  
damage and is unable to continue voyage. Troops have been embarked  
in "KATOOMBA" and "CREMER".

"CASUALTY" at 1445K/4 ordered by A.C.N.S. to proceed to Port  
Casualties one killed, five injured.

"VOYAGER" arrived Geraldton 0653H/4 from Darwin departed 0970H/4  
for Fremantle - E.T.A. 1930H/4.

"ADELAIDE" } escorting U.S. 17 arrived Fremantle 0654H/4.  
"KATOOMBA" }

"HIBBERA" arrived Westernport 1538K/4 from Port Melbourne.

"YANDEA" escorting "PING HO" and "HELOS" arrived Sydney 0848K/4  
from Port Stephens, escorting "HERGA" with battle  
practice target, E.T.D. Sydney 0900K/5 for Brisbane.

"KATOOMBA" arrived Port Melbourne 0601K/4 from escorting C.O.23.

"ARNDALE" at 1445K/4 ordered by N.O.I.C. Townsville to proceed  
to Cairns and await orders.

"DELORAINS" escorting "KURNAN" from Sydney to Brisbane gave new E.T.A.  
Caloundra 0100K/5 and E.T.A. Sydney on return 2130K/6.

"EPSWICH" departed Adelaide 0150/1K/4 for Fremantle - E.T.A. 2119H/9.

"KURN" arrived Darwin 1448/1K/4 - operation Hasburger.

R.S. Supply Ship "MIZAN" departed Sydney 1751K/4 for Melbourne -  
E.T.A. 1400K/6.

R.S.K. Submarine "K.12" arrived Darwin 1922/1K/4 from Sydney via  
Cairns.

U.S. Submarine "GUDGEON" arrived Albany 0545H/4 from Fremantle.

### GENERAL

#### COLLISION OFF TOWNSVILLE:

N.O.I.C. Townsville at 2227K/4 ordered  
"BALLARAT" to proceed to a position east of Cape Cleveland where  
two vessels, names not known, were reported in collision. At 0137K/5  
N.O.I.C. Townsville reported that collision was between S.S. "PERTH-  
SHIRE" and S.S. "VAN DER LIJN" about 10 miles 090° from Cape Cleveland,  
both ships then proceeding to Townsville, former damaged extent un-  
known, latter holed aft, "BALLARAT" and tug standing by. N.O.I.C.  
intends to berth both ships on arrival.



DAILY NARRATIVE.

ST SECRET.

To 0900K/Saturday, 5th September, 1942.

"ARUNTA" } at 1444K/4 ordered by A.C.N.B. to escort Q.2. to Fall  
"SWAN" } River - E.T.A. 0100K/6, and remain until discharge completed  
"ARUNTA" is to report whether fuel will permit her to  
remain until relieved by "STUART" about 12/9. Full  
air cover has been ordered for Q.2 on passage and while at  
Fall River.

"ARUNTA" departed Port Moresby 0600K/4 to rendezvous P.2. Q.2. at  
1700K/4.

"CASTLEMAINE" at 1444K/4 ordered by A.C.N.B. to proceed to Port  
Moresby with P.2.

"VOYAGER" arrived Geraldton 0653H/4 from Darwin departed 0930H/4  
for Fremantle - E.T.A. 1830H/4.

"ADELAIDE" } escorting U.S. 17 arrived Fremantle 0634H/4.  
"MANOORA" }

"BINGERA" arrived Westernport 1538K/4 from Port Melbourne.

"YANDRA" escorting "PING WO" and "HEROS" arrived Sydney 0645K/4  
from Port Stephens, escorting "HEROS" with battle  
practice target, E.T.D. Sydney 0900K/5 for Brisbane.

"DOOMBA" arrived Port Melbourne 0601K/4 from escorting C.O.23.

"ARMIDALE" at 1445K/4 ordered by N.O.I.C. Townsville to proceed  
to Cairns and await orders.

"DELORAINE" escorting "YUNNAN" from Sydney to Brisbane gave new E.T.A.  
Caloundra 0100K/5 and E.T.A. Sydney on return 2130K/6.

"IPSWICH" departed Adelaide 0130/IK/4 for Fremantle - E.T.A. 2119H/9.

"KURU" arrived Darwin 1446/IK/4 - operation Hamburger.

U.S. Supply Ship "MIZAR" departed Sydney 1751K/4 for Melbourne -  
E.T.A. 1400K/6.

H.N.M. Submarine "K.12" arrived Darwin 1922/IK/4 from Sydney via  
Cairns.

U.S. Submarine "GUDGEON" arrived Albany 0545H/4 from Fremantle.

GENERAL.

COLLISION OFF TOWNSVILLE:

N.O.I.C. Townsville at 2227K/4 ordered  
"BALLARAT" to proceed to a position east of Cape Cleveland where  
two vessels, names not known, were reported in collision. At 0137K/5  
N.O.I.C. Townsville reported that collision was between S.S. "PERTH-  
SHIRE" and S.S. "VAN DER LIJN" about 10 miles 090° from Cape Cleveland,  
both ships then proceeding to Townsville, former damaged extent un-  
known, latter holed aft, "BALLARAT" and tug standing by. N.O.I.C.  
intends to berth both ships on arrival.

/ ...



GENERAL (Contd.)

"PERTSHIRE", cargo vessel of 10,496 tons gross was due to depart Townsville 4/9 for Brisbane unescorted. "VAN DER LIJN" cargo and passenger vessel of 2,464 tons gross was on passage Brisbane Townsville, ex convoy A, unescorted from Capricorn Channel and was carrying military stores.

OVERDUE VESSEL ARRIVED:

"STEPHEN HOPKINS" (U.S. Cargo Vessel 7,181 tons gross) reported overdue at Durban from Port Lincoln (S.A.) since 23/8, has arrived.

SIGHTINGS VICINITY MILNE BAY:

There were aircraft sightings of one cruiser in various positions in the vicinity of Milne Bay, on various courses at times from 0725K/4 to 1745K/4. "Three warships" were sighted about 60 miles 078° from Fall River at 1714K/4, but were not reported until 2330K/4 after aircraft landed. "Continuous heavy gunfire" was reported at 2118K/4 as having been heard north west of Dawson Island (about 70 miles E. of Fall River).

"TASMAN" escorting "TASMAN" arrived Pt. Moresby from Fall River at 1300K/8. R.O.I.C. Port Moresby apparently intends that "TASMAN" remains Pt. Moresby while "ARUNTA" proceeds as below.

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"ARUNTA" is to depart Pt. Moresby to rendezvous at 1700K/4 with convoys P.2. and Q.2 and escorts. Convoys will then split and "ARUNTA" will escort P.2. to Port Moresby - E.T.A. 0800K/5. "SPAN" and "CATHLAMINE" will escort Q.2. to Fall River - E.T.A. 0100K/6. This will have to be amended to comply with Comsopac. direction that one destroyer is to be at Fall River at all times.

"ARUNTA"  
"SPAN"  
"CATHLAMINE"  
"TASMAN"  
"TASMAN"

Arrived Brisbane at 1300K/3.

"TASMAN" escorting "TASMAN" departed Darwin at 0700K/3 for Thursday Island - E.T.A. 1700K/6.

"TASMAN" will depart Sydney A.M/5 and escort "WILLIAM BLAIR" to Caloundra then proceed with despatch to Townsville.

"TASMAN" and "TASMAN" escorting Convoy U.S. 18 arrived Fremantle 0700K/6.

"SAMUEL BENSON" with "ACORN" landing craft in tow, and 9 motor launches in company departed Sydney at 0700K/3 for Port Stephens.

"WILLIAM BLAIR" will depart Fremantle and rendezvous with U.S. 17 100 miles out - to provide additional escort to Fremantle.

"WILLIAM BLAIR", "SAMUEL BENSON" and "ACORN" will depart Sydney 4/8 escorting U.S. 17 "WILLIAM BLAIR" will leave convoy in Bass Strait and proceed to "WILLIAM BLAIR" - E.T.A. 1300K/7 then to Fremantle.



08. /Friday, 4th September, 1942. *Partial Fremantle for Albany at 181K/3 -*

"BOMBAY" arrived Fremantle from Albany at 1821K/3 apparently after *181K/3* failing to rendezvous with U.S. 17 on Tuesday 2nd.

"TOOWOOMBA" en route Adelaide to Fremantle arrived at Albany to shelter from adverse weather at 1931K/3.

"WESTRALIA" arrived Port Stephens from Newcastle at 1400K/3.

"WHYALLA" arrived Sydney from Newcastle on escort duties at 1858K/3.

"ARMIDALE" towing lighter from Townsville to Cooktown has anchored off Cooktown at 1755K/3 and reported that weather is unsuitable for entering - next tide 500K/4th.

"WARREGO" "BALLARAT" and "ARMIDALE" intend departing Townsville at 1400K/5 escorting P.3. and Q.3 and will rendezvous with "BENSIGO" at position "E", after "BENDIGO" has escorted "THEOPHANO LIVANOS" clear of Port Moresby. "ARMIDALE" and "BENDIGO" will escort Q.3. to Fall River - E.T.A. 1600K/8 - "WARREGO" and "BALLARAT" will escort P.3. to Port Moresby - E.T.A. 1400K/8. *Setting out the latest position will be made.*

"ARUNTA" escorting "TASMAN" arrived Pt. Moresby from Fall River at 1205K/3. N.O.I.C. Port Moresby apparently intends that "TASMAN" remains Pt. Moresby while "ARUNTA" proceeds as below.

"ARUNTA" is to depart Pt. Moresby to rendezvous at 1700K/4 with convoys P.2. and Q.2 and escorts. Convoys will then split and "ARUNTA" will escort P.2. to Port Moresby - E.T.A. 0800K/5. "SWAN" and "CASTLEMAINE" will escort Q.2. to Fall River - E.T.A. 0100K/6. This will have to be amended to comply with Comsowespac. direction that one destroyer is to be at Fall River at all times.

"AUSTRALIA" }  
"HOBART" } Arrived Brisbane at 1301K/3.  
"PHOENIX" }  
"BAGLEY" }  
"PATTERSON" }  
"SELFRIDGE" }

"WAR NAMBOOL" escorting "KOOLIGA" departed Darwin at 0738K/3 for Thursday Island - E.T.A. 1700K/6.

"STUART" will depart Sydney A.M/5 and escort "WILLIAM ELLERY" to Caloundra then proceed with despatch to Townsville.

"KANIMBLA" and "TROMP" escorting Convoy U.S. 16 arrived Fremantle 0701K/3.

"SAMUEL BENELOW" with "ASSAULT" landing craft in tow, and 9 motor launches in company departed Sydney at 0707K/3 for Port Stephens.

"WOLLONGONG" will depart Fremantle and rendezvous with U.S. 17 180 miles out - to provide additional escort to Fremantle.

"MILDURA", "DUBBO" and "BENGAL" will depart Sydney 4/9 escorting C.O. 24 "BENGAL" will leave convoy in Bass Strait and proceed to "ADELAIDE" - E.T.A. 1800K/7 then to Fremantle.



U.S. Submarine "GRAYBACK" departed Fremantle for Albany at 1912K/3 - E.T.A. 0800K/5.

U.S. Submarine "GUDGEON" departed Fremantle for Albany at 1900K/2 - E.T.A. 0800K/4. - Comsowspac ordered H.O.I.C. Port Moresby to direct them to return to Milne Bay as soon as situation permits. Comsowspac desires "TASHAN" unloading GENERAL.

"PAINE WINDGATE" (7,176 tons gross U.S. Liberty Ship) en route to Brisbane. Reported on arrival in Brisbane that at 2120K/1 torpedoes were fired across her bow in position 26°22'S. 159°13'E. 335 miles East of Brisbane.

AIR RAID REPORTED PORT MORESBY:

At 1157K/3 - no further details. Reported Thursday Island 1215K/2

DELAY IN DEPARTURE FROM FREMANTLE OF U.S. CONVOYS:

"MELORAIN" escorting "YANMAN" departed Sydney 1800K/2 for Brisbane - At 2024K/3 H.O.I.C. Fremantle advised all concerned that because of further defects there will be at least 21 hours' delay on the time previously estimated for departure of U.S. Convoys. A further signal setting out the latest position will be made.

"ASHIDALE" towing lighter, departed Townsville 18.5K/1 for Darwin - H.M.A.S. "SAN MICHELE" (P.M.B.) to Cooktown and "ASHIDALE" to come under operational control of H.O.I.C. Townsville. Was commissioned in Sydney at 0900K/3 under command of Lieutenant J.E. Griffin, R.A.N.V.R. on escorting U.C.22.

"DOMIBA" departed Pt. Belberrone 1200K/2 to assume duty as escort of U.C.23, departed Port Phillip escorting U.C.23 0112K/3.

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"WIPWICH" B.F.D. Adelaide 1200/1K/3 for Fremantle.

"BENDIGO" ordered to rendezvous "SWAN" and "CASTLEMAINE" at 1700K/4 and escort convoy to Port Moresby. - E.T.A. 1500K/5 reports Asdic gear completely broken down and unable to be repaired by ship's staff, as new oscillator is needed. H.O.I.C. Pt. Moresby has asked H.O.I.C. Townsville to supply it as early as practicable, if possible by "SWAN".

"SWAN" } escorting P.2, departed Townsville 2142K/3 to rendezvous "BENDIGO" then proceed to Fall River.

GENERAL

MILNE BAY:

At 2115K/2 Moresby reported that two enemy vessels had been sighted in Milne Bay. Two traisers were sighted about 120 miles N.E. of entrance to Milne Bay at 0530K/1, and later in various positions closer to Milne Bay on various courses, until at 1517K/2 they were sighted about 40 miles E. of Fall River, course 300.

At 0827K/2 Comsowspac ordered H.O.I.C. Townsville to sail Fall River convoy immediately as food was required there, and to direct "SWAN" to hold convoy E. of China Strait if position demanded it.

manunda

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To 0900K/Thursday, 3rd September, 1942.

"ARUNTA" escorting "TASMAN" - Comsowespac ordered N.O.I.C. Port Moresby to direct them to return to Milne Bay as soon as situation permits. Comsowespac desires "TASMAN'S" unloading expedited.

"WARREGO" ) escorting "BARALABA" and "HENRY D. THOREAU" arrived  
 "BENDIGO" ) Port Moresby 0600K/2.

"WARREGO" escorting "ALDINGA" departed Pt. Moresby 0700K/2, "ALDINGA" E.T.A. Cairns 1000K/4., "WARREGO" E.T.A. Townsville 1700K/4.

"KALGOORLIE" escorting "JAMES COOK" arrived Thursday Island 1215K/2 from Darwin and escorting "SIBIGO" departed Thursday Island 1220K/2 for Darwin - E.T.A. 1930/IK/5.

"DELORAINIE" escorting "YUNNAN" departed Sydney 1303K/2 for Brisbane - E.T.A. 1700K/4.

"WHYALLA" arrived Newcastle 1145K/2 from escorting O.C. 22.

"ARMIDALE" towing lighter, departed Townsville 1935K/1 for Darwin - Now ordered to take lighter to Cooktown and "ARMIDALE" to come under operational control of N.O.I.C. Townsville.

"TOWNSVILLE" arrived Sydney 1528K/2 from escorting O.C.22.

"DOOMBA" departed Pt. Melbourne 1301K/2 to assume duty as escort of O.C.23, departed Port Phillip escorting O.C.23 0112K/3.

"IPSWICH" E.T.D. Adelaide 1200/IK/3 for Fremantle.

"BENDIGO" ordered to rendezvous "SWAN" and "CASTLEMAINE" at 1700K/4 and escort convoy to Port Moresby - E.T.A. 1500K/5 reports Asdic gear completely broken down and unable to be repaired by ship's staff, as new oscillator is needed. N.O.I.C. Pt. Moresby has asked N.O.I.C. Townsville to supply it as early as practicable, if possible by "SWAN".

"SWAN" ) escorting P.2. departed Townsville 2142K/2 to rendezvous  
 "CASTLEMAINE" ) vious "BENDIGO" then proceed to Fall River.

1. At 1315K/2 a large vessel passed north about 20 miles east of Cape...

GENERAL.

MILNE BAY:

At 2115K/2 Moresby reported that two enemy vessels had been sighted in Milne Bay. Two cruisers were sighted about 120 miles N.E. of entrance to Milne Bay at 0530K/1, and later in various positions closer to Milne Bay on various courses, until at 1817K/2 they were sighted about 40 miles E. of Fall River, course 300.

At 0927K/2 Comsowespac ordered N.O.I.C. Townsville to sail Fall River convoy immediately as food was required there, and to direct "SWAN" to hold convoy S. of China Strait if position demanded it.

"manunda"

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PERISCOPE SIGHTING: DAILY NARRATIVE

At 0852H/2 C.T.F. 51 signalled "VOYAGER" (Darwin/Fremantle via Geraldton) that an unidentified periscope had been sighted at 1430H/1 in position 30°10'S. 113°39'E (about 155 miles 3140 from Fremantle). At 2355K/2, Duty Staff Officer, Fremantle, stated on secraphone that the sighting was made by U.S. Submarine "GUDGEON", and that a search of the area by a Catalina proved negative. N.O.I.C. Fremantle graded the report E.5. and did not pass it to either U.S. 16 or U.S. 17. Duty Staff Officer added that U.S. 17 considered to be 24 hours behind schedule, as it had not been sighted by aircraft patrol.

OVERDUE VESSEL:

Admiralty reports that "STEPHEN HOPKINS" (U.S. Cargo vessel 7,181 tons gross) overdue since 23/8 at Durban from Port Lincoln S.A. may be a victim of Raider E. at 0630A/1.

H.M.A.S. "ASSAULT": Albany at 1114K/1 to rendezvous with U.S. 17. Was commissioned at 0900K/1 under command of Commander Cook, R.A.N.

FLASHING LIGHTS - GIPPSLAND: 210 miles out from Fremantle and provides additional escort to Fremantle.

Orbost (Gippsland Lakes) V.A.O.C. post reported four white flashes S.W. of their post and out to sea. Flashes were seen at five minute intervals from 2120K/2. M.M.S. plot throws no light on the flashes.

Sydney Radio reported having received the following at 1955K/2. "S.S.S.S. DE HAFN "CALEB STRONG". "Suspicious object sighted 23°34'S. 174°00'E. at 0900". Position is about 430 miles 100° from Noumea. "CALEB STRONG" U.S. transport, departed Vila 1/9 escorted by U.S. Destroyer "ALYWIN". Passed to N.Z.N.B.

ENEMY AIR RAID:

DARWIN - At 1551/IK/2 - no further details available.

UNIDENTIFIED SIGHTINGS: arrived Albany from Fremantle at 1045K/1

75° An Army post at Cape Burnie, Tasmania (about 25 miles from Hobart) reported:

1. At 1315K/2 a cargo vessel passed north about 20 miles east of Cape.

2. At 1520K/2 another vessel passed South.

Visibility was bad, and reports graded C.2. Neither A.C.H. Melbourne nor M.M.S. can identify.

FALL.....

1. At 1705K/21 R.O.I.C. Pt. Moresby advised that "AMERTA" escorting "TASMAN" had departed Port Moresby for Fall River - E.T.A. 1800K/1.

2. At 2245K/21 R.O.I.C. proposed the resumption of sailings to Fall River.

3. At 1555K/1 "AMERTA" and "TASMAN" ordered by C.S.W.P.F. to clear from Milne Bay to southward until position is clear, but be prepared to return at short notice.

4. At 1557K/1 "AMERTA" ordered N.O.I.C. Townsville



MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0800K/Wednesday 2nd September, 1942.

"CAIRNS" arrived Albany from Adelaide at 1435K/1.

"BINGERA" arrived Port Phillip from Westernport at 1235K/1 secured at Station Pier.

"WESTRALIA" (Assault) arrived Newcastle from Sydney at 1645K/1

"YANDRA" escorting tug "HEROS" with net in tow, departed Sydney at 1628K/1 for Port Stephens.

"DELOIRINE" arrived Sydney from Jervis Bay at 0850K/1.

"DUBBO" escorting P.G.11 arrived Sydney at 0655K/1.

"BOMBAY" departed Albany at 1114K/1 to rendezvous with U.S. 17. 350 miles out from Fremantle and provide additional escort to Fremantle.

"TROMP" (Netherlands Cruiser) departed Fremantle 1400K/1 to rendezvous with U.S. 16, 210 miles out from Fremantle and provide additional escort to Fremantle.

"GOULBURN" and "GEELONG" departed Brisbane 1359K/1, escorting Convoy "A" for Northern ports with "BUNGAREE" (en route to Townsville) in company.

"SWAN" and "BALLARAT" intend departing Townsville at 1400K/2 escorting "SEA WITCH", and "TAROONA" (P.2) to Port Moresby.

"WARRECO" (at Pt. Moresby) is to escort "ALDINGA" (en route to Cairns) to Grafton Passage then proceed to Townsville. "BENDIGO" will escort first ship completing discharge after "ALDINGA" - unless otherwise ordered.

"ATREUS" arrived Auckland from Newcastle at 2151K/31.

U.S. Submarine "GRAMPUS" arrived Albany from Fremantle at 1045K/1.

U.S. Aircraft Tender "HERON" departed Fremantle for Exmouth Gulf at 0937K/1 - E.T.A. A.M.6/9.

G E N E R A L.

HOSPITAL SHIP "MANUNDA" departed Brisbane at 0200K/2 for Fall River - E.T.A. 2400K/5.

"CHICAGO" at 1717K/1 C.S.W.P.F. requested N.O.I.C. Sydney to arrange temporary repairs to "CHICAGO" enabling her to proceed at 16 knots.

FALL RIVER.

1. At 1305K/31 N.O.I.C. Pt. Moresby advised that "ARUNTA" escorting "TASMAN" had departed Port Moresby for Fall River - E.T.A. 1200K/1.

2. At 2224K/31 N.O.I.C. proposed the resumption of sailings to Fall River.

3. At 1553K/1 "ARUNTA" and "TASMAN" ordered by C.S.W.P.F. to clear from Milne Bay to southward until position is clear, but be prepared to return at short notice.

4. At 1557K/1 Comsowespac ordered N.O.I.C. Townsville



2. NARRATIVE

to hold sailings destined for Fall River until situation clarifies there. Sailings for Port Moresby to continue.

5. C.S.W.P.F.'s 1553K/1 and 1557K/1 were apparently originated because of the sighting by aircraft at 0530K/1 of two enemy cruisers in approximate position 120 miles N/E of entrance to Milne Bay. escorting "TAMAR" departed Port Moresby 1805K/31 for Fall River - L.T.S. 1200K/1.

ROCKHAMPTON escorted ENEMY AIR RAIDS departed Newcastle 0945K/31.

DARWIN - N.O.I.C. reported that no naval damage or casualties occurred in the raid by three heavy bombers at 0945K/31.

HORN ISLAND - Air raid warning sounded at 1820K/1. All clear at 1835K/1. No further details available.

WARRAMONGEE arrived Sydney 0830K/31 from Townsville and is to commence refit.

MORESBY escorting Sydney Port Kembla Convoy C.O.EB departed Sydney 1801Z/31.

GEARA departed Port Melbourne 1700K/31 to resume sweeping S.C.F. 18.

N.H.A. Survey vessel "POLARIS" arrived Newcastle 0850K/31 for shelter - L.T.D. Sydney 0800K/1.

GENERAL

U.S.C. New Guinea Force considers there has been a complete withdrawal of enemy force from Milne Bay Area.

R.O.I.C. Townsville proposed to Comopac to resume sailing convoys to Port Moresby and Milne Bay. No reply yet received.

Darwin air-raid at 1204/18/31. No details available. Fall River air-raid. No details available.

S.O.(1) Robert reports that the Master of the Merchant Ship "CHINA" (on passage from Los Angeles to Hobart) stated fire opened at believed submarine 0545Z/17/3 position 33°30'S, 154°50'E. Master definitely of opinion that vessel fired on was "HORNBYRIN" who, according to S.O.(1) Robert's signal "sonar" wireless message reporting being gunned in position 33°30'S, 154°00'E.

"HORNBYRIN'S" position as received by A.C.S.B. was 33°30'S, 154°00'E and the time was 0545Z/18/3.

S.O.(1) Robert's report will follow.

At 2030K/31, R.O.I.C. Port Moresby reported brief description of damage to "MALITA". "Ship has been brought up right and is now floating in shallow water in north end of harbour". R.O.I.C. Port Moresby requests service of salvage expert to assess damage and recommends that divers with complete outfits accompany him. Passed to R.O.I.C. Brisbane for Captain Williams by important signal.

Combined Operations School at Port Stephens is to be commissioned as R.N.A.S. "ASSAULT" on September 1st.







DAILY NARRATIVE.

MOST SECRET.

To 0900K Monday, 31st August, 1942.

- "DOOMBA" arrived Port Melbourne at 1955K/30 after escorting Melbourne section of C.022.
- "IPSWICH" arrived Adelaide (en route to Fremantle from Melbourne) at 1806K/30. At 2025K/30 H.O.I.C. Port Adelaide reported that "IPSWICH" has engine defect. Estimated time for repairs 48 hours.
- "ARUNTA" returned to Port Moresby at 1552K/30 - escorting "THEOPHANO LIVANOS" from Hall Sound.
- "ROCKHAMPTON" arrived Newcastle from Sydney at 1605K/30 after escort duties with O.C.21.
- "MILDURA" arrived Sydney at 0750K/30 after escort duties with Sydney-Port Kembla section O.C.21.
- "WALLAROO" returned Sydney at 1827K/30 after escort duties with O.C.21.
- "KALGOORLIE" escorting "JAMES COOK" departed Darwin at 0559K/30 E.T.A. Thursday Island 1430K/2/9.
- "DUBBO" and "GEELONG" escorting G.P.11 with "EUNGAREE" in company arrived Brisbane at 0235K/30.
- "DUBBO" departed Brisbane at 0400K/30 escorting P.G.11.
- "BENDIGO" left Cairns 0100K/30 escorting "BARALABA" and "HENRY D. THOREAU" to rendezvous with "WARREGO" off Fitzroy Island Light at 0300K/30.
- "WARREGO" departed Townsville at 2052K/29 to rendezvous with "BENDIGO" off Fitzroy Island Light at 0300K/30, to provide escort to Port Moresby for "BARALABA" and "HENRY D. THOREAU" E.T.A. Port Moresby 1600K/1/9.
- "VOYAGER" departed Darwin for Fremantle at 1844K/30, calling at Geraldton en route. E.T.A. Geraldton 0930K/3/9 Fremantle 2130K/4.
- "TROMP" (Netherlands Cruiser) will depart Fremantle to rendezvous at 1100K/1/9 with "KANIMBLA" escorting convoy U.S.16 - to provide additional escort to Fremantle.
- "CASTLEMAINE" arrived Townsville from Sydney at 2225K/30.
- U.S. Submarine "GRAMPUS" departed Fremantle at 1951K/30. E.T.A. Albany 0800K/1/9.
- "ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" (Netherlands Minesweeper) will be placed at the disposal of R.A.N. and will be manned by an Australian crew, until a Netherlands crew is available.

GENERAL.

At 2259K/29 H.O.I.C. Port Moresby reports that "MALAITA" (3310 tons gross) torpedoed vicinity Port Moresby at 1220K/29. Has now anchored inside Basilisk Passage - will be beached in North end of Port Moresby Harbour Sunday 30th.

Main engine not seriously damaged. No. 2 and 3 holds flooded - No. 1 hold and engine room dry - vessel down by head with 12°



0800 Sunday, 30th August 2, 1942.

list to starboard, but with no apparent danger of sinking.

Salvage appears practicable with proper equipment.

Seven injured - none seriously.

Possible Enemy Submarine off Murray Island at 0600K/30. NOT GRADED.

This information was passed to "WARREGO" at 2008K/30 by A.C.H.C. Townsville, and is probably based on the report by H.O.I.C. Thursday Island at 2115K/30 that a coast watcher, Murray Island was awakened by natives and informed that they had heard the noise of a motor at 0600K/30, NE by E from the island - no launch or lugger known to be in that vicinity. Noise considered to be similar to charging of motors. At 2337K/30 three Hudson aircraft have been ordered to search area.

Enemy Activities Milne Bay Area.

1. An enemy force reported as -

1 Cruiser  
9 Destroyers

was sighted 60 miles East of Milne Bay 1500K/29 - later sighted at entrance - probable that enemy reinforcements have been landed.

2. Enemy ships - 2 small transports, 1 possible destroyer sighted A.M./29 at Discovery Bay (South shore Milne Bay opposite main enemy landing).

Air Raids at Darwin.

1. At 0806K/30 Darwin reported air raid probably by 6 bombers - some damage to Foamite Pipe leading to No. 3 and No. 4 tanks, repairs will be effected 30/8. No naval casualties.

2. At 0535K/31 further raid report - no information to hand.



To 0900 Sunday, 30th August, 1942.

"ARUNTA" ordered by Comsowespac to remain at Pt. Moresby as A/S protection for shipping, is to escort "THEOPANO LIVANOS" from Hall Sound (about 55 miles 320° from Pt. Moresby) to Port Moresby.

"GOULBURN". departed Brisbane 0300K/29, escorting convoy B.T.1. to Capricorn Channel.

"DOOMBA" escorting O.C.22 departed Pt. Phillip 2302K/29.

"LITHGOW" escorting "MULIAMA" arrived Darwin 0657/IK/29 from Thursday Island.

"TOOWOOMBA" departed Adelaide 1331/IK/29 for Fremantle - E.T.A. 0500H/4.

"BARALABA" in company with "HENRY D. THOREAU" departed Townsville 0840K/29 to rendezvous "BENDIGO" at 0400K/30 and proceed Port Moresby under escort "WARREGO" and "BENDIGO".

"PING WO" arrived at Pt. Stephens 1449K/29 from Sydney.

U.S. Auxiliary cargo vessel "ALCYONE" arrived Sydney 0925K/28.

### GENERAL.

"MALAITA" (passenger vessel 3310 tons gross) was torpedoed at 1220K/29 3 miles south of Basilisk Beacon when under escort of "ARUNTA". Reported by N.O.I.C. Pt. Moresby's 0259Z/29 - "Vessel now listing badly to starboard and on fire. Attempt will be made to tow is practicable".

One Hudson ordered to search the area for enemy submarine or mines, has not yet made a report.

N.O.I.C. Pt. Moresby's 1349Z/29 reported that "ARUNTA" carried out search from 1220K/ till dark. Contact was made on four separate occasions and attack carried out, contact being then lost. No surface results. "ARUNTA" was to assist "MALAITA" then at anchor inside Basilisk Passage to safe anchorage A.M/30.

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Enemy landing at Milne Bay:

At 0118K/29 N.O.I.C. Port Moresby reported on the situation at Milne Bay as far as can be ascertained up to 1800K/29.

1. 5/6,000 Japanese fighting troops landed between Swinger Bay and Coguate (several miles east our positions) with necessary stores and equipment including light mobile tanks, many mortars including flame throwers, without effective interruptions from allied air force.
2. Japanese rapidly advanced westward and by 1,600K/29 were within 1/2 mile of landing stage and 2 miles of main aerodrome.
3. Heavy shelling from surface vessels on night 28th did little apparent damage - Further report to follow.



0900K/Saturday, 29th August, 1942.

"IPSWICH" departed Port Phillip at 2035K/28 en route to Fremantle via Adelaide.

"BURNIE" arrived Fremantle at 1535K/28 from Adelaide after sheltering Pt. Tevenard and Bunbury.

"WARRNAMBOOL" escorting "BURWAH" arrived Darwin at 0134K/28 from Thursday Island.

"VOYAGER" now at Darwin. A.C.N.B. proposed to Comsowespac that "VOYAGER" should depart so as to arrive at Fremantle as soon as practicable after 1400K/2/9 to provide A/S escort for convoys U.S. 16 and U.S. 17.

"BINGERA" departed Williamstown for Westernport at 0705K/28.

"DELOBRAINE" departed Sydney at 2226K/28 for Jervis Bay for T/B runner attacks.

U.S. Submarine "GARFISH" departed Albany sailing east at 1900K/28.

U.S. Submarine "STURGEON" arrived Brisbane at 0600K/28.

U.S. Cruiser "PHOENIX" and H.M.N.Z.S. "ACHILLES" arrived Noumea 22nd August.

#### GENERAL.

"DOOMBA" undocked at Port Melbourne at 1705K/28 and will carry out firing practice in Port Phillip P.M. Saturday 29th August.

Hospital Ship "MANUNDA" arrived Brisbane at 1531K/28.

"GAWLER" undocked Port Melbourne at 1715K/28.

H.M.I.S. "BENGAL" arrived Sydney at 1432K/28 from exercises in Broken Bay.

H.M.A.S. "KINCHELA" (Boom Gate Vessel) commissioned at Sydney at 0900K/28 under command of Lieutenant J.B. Marshall R.A.N.R. (S)

H.M.A.S. "LOURIANA" (N.A.P. Vessel) was commissioned at Sydney at 0900K/27.

#### Enemy Activities at Milne Bay:

At 0119K/29 N.O.I.C. Port Moresby reported on the situation at Fall River as far as can be ascertained up to 1800K/28.

1. 5/6,000 Japanese fighting troops landed between Swinger Bay and Goguate (several miles east our positions) with necessary stores and equipment including light mobile tanks, many mortars including flame throwers, without effective interruptions from allied air force.
2. Japanese rapidly advanced westwards and by 1,600K/28 were within  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile of landing stage and 2 miles of main aerodrome.
3. Enemy shelling from surface vessels on night 28th did little apparent damage - Further report to follow.



At 1954K/28 N.O.I.C. Pt. Moresby reported that the (v). 75 Squadron R.A.A.F. expected airfield to be attacked that night by enemy land forces - including tanks.

With consent of G.O.C. Milne Bay Force all available aircraft left Milne Bay airfield for Port Moresby.

At 1450K/28 C.S.W.P.F. requested N.O.I.C. Pt. Moresby to despatch "ARUNTA" escorting "TASMAN" to Fall River immediately.

At 1910K/28 N.O.I.C. Pt. Moresby replied that the G.O.C. considered the situation too obscure for the present to warrant the despatch of "TASMAN" to Fall River and will hold "ARUNTA" and "TASMAN" pending clearing of situation or receipt of further orders.

Transport Aircraft reported sighting at 1500K/28 three submarines in the vicinity of Cruiser Passage (off Cooktown). Report Graded D.4.

"BENDIGO" departed Cairns at 2300K/28 to locate possible enemy submarines proceeding south inside reef from Cruiser Passage on entering Grafton Passage. Returning Cairns at 0630K/29.

Enemy Landing at Ocean Island a probability.

At 1445K/28 C. in C. Pacific reported that a ship was reported off Ocean Island and one hour later communications broken - An enemy landing is thought probable.

Air Raid Damage at Darwin.

At 1415K/27 N.O.I.C. Darwin reported that the V.I.D. Coastal Radio Reporting Room received a direct hit from a high explosive bomb. All transmitters were wrecked and most receivers badly damaged. All services suspended from this location. Coast Watching services are being maintained by Navy from other sites using parts of salvaged gear. Full details following by letter.

"MURKIN" on passage Port Thorneby/Treadwell, sheltering at Bunbury. Fuel position \*\*\*\*\* sufficient to reach Fremantle in normal weather.

A.C.N. Sydney reported indications (H.S.V.) of an enemy submarine in vicinity of 28°30'S, 151°00'E, about 50 miles N.E. of Naruya, course unknown at 185K/26. A.C.N. Sydney passed to "MYALLA" escorting G.O. 22. A.C.N. passed to H.S.N.B. A.C.N. Melbourne passed to "MILDURA" escorting G.C.H.



To 0900K/Friday, 28th August, 1942.

"CHICAGO" } arrived Sydney 1148K/27 from Noumea.  
"MUGFORD" }  
"STUART" }

"ADELAIDE" departed Williamstown 0930K/27 for gunnery practice, thence departed Pt. Phillip 1821K/27 to rendezvous U.S. 17 in position "E" (about 165 miles 247° from Cape Otway) at 1430K/28 and escort with "MANOORA" to Fremantle.

"IPSWICH" escorting O.C. 21 departed Port Phillip 2254K/26, and escorting Melbourne portion of C.O.21 entered Pt. Phillip 1530K/27, and arrived Williamstown 1855K/27.

"WHYALLA" escorting Sydney portion of C.O.22 departed Sydney 1518K/27.

"TOWNSVILLE" escorting Newcastle portion of C.O.22, departed Newcastle 0700K/27.

"GERLONG" } escorting G.P.11, including "BUNGAREE" departed Sydney  
"DUBEO" } 0905K/27.

"CAIRNS" departed Adelaide 1656/IK/26 for Albany - E.T.A. 1030H/31.

"BINGERA" arrived Sydney 0944K/27 from Brisbane.

"CESSNOCK" departed Townsville 0625K/27 for Sydney - E.T.A. 0900K/31.

"SAMUEL BENBOW" } departed Newcastle 1353K/27 for Port Stephens.  
"TOOMEREE" }

"ATREUS" departed Newcastle 0730K/27 for Auckland.

U.S. Submarine "SCULPIN" arrived Brisbane 1001K/27 from Fremantle.

U.S. Minesweeper "WHIPPOORWILL" arrived Fremantle 1548H/27 from Albany.

"GENERAL" departed Sydney 1200K/27.

"BURNIE" on passage Port Thevenard/Fremantle, sheltering at Bunbury. Fuel position ~~ate~~, but sufficient to reach Fremantle in normal weather.

A.C.H. Sydney reported indications (R.D.F.) of an enemy submarine in vicinity of 35°30'S. 151°05'E, about 50 miles N.E. of Moruya, course unknown at 1823K/26. A.C.H.. Sydney passed to "WHYALLA" escorting C.O.22. A.C.N.B. passed to N.Z.N.B. A.C.H. Melbourne passed to "MILDURA" escorting O.C.21.

"CAIRNS" departed Adelaide P.M. 28/8 for Albany.

R.F. Sealift Tender "HORN" arrived Fremantle at 1000K/26.

H.M.A.S. "STUBBIA" (H.M.A.S. Vessel) was commissioned at 0900K/ Tuesday, 28th August.

Hospital Ship "MILDURA" departed Fremantle at 0715K/25 - E.T.A. Adelaide P.M. September 3rd.





0900K/Thursday 27th August, 1942.

U.S. Cruiser "CHICAGO" } Believed to have arrived Sydney.  
 U.S. Destroyer "MUGFORD" } "STUART" has been ordered to revert  
 H.M.A.S. "STUART" } to 8 hours' notice for steam and to  
 carry out boiler cleaning.

"ARUNTA" escorting "TASMAN" arrived Port Moresby at 1031K/26 from  
 Fall River.

"CASTLEMAINE" departed Sydney at 1414K/26 for Townsville.

"DUBBO" arrived Sydney at 1304K/26 from Broken Bay.

"ARMIDALE" with lighter in tow, departed Brisbane at 1311K/26 for  
 Townsville.

"IPSWICH" departed Port Phillip at 2254K/26 escorting Convoy O.C.21.

"BINGERA" departed Port Melbourne at 1101K/26 to carry out full  
 calibre firing practice Port Phillip Bay - E.T.A.  
 Geelong 1600K/26.

"VENDETTA" undocked at Port Melbourne at 0901K/26.

"BUNGAREE" } arrived Sydney at 0627K/25 escorting Sydney section  
 "DELORAINÉ" } of O.C.20.

"TOWNSVILLE" arrived Newcastle at 1322K/26 from Sydney.

"WHYALLA" } arrived Sydney at 0758K/26 with Sydney section of P.G.10.  
 "YANDRA" }

"SWAN" escorting "CREMER" and "BANTAM" arrived Townsville from  
 Fall River at 0245K/26.

"GOULBURN" returned Brisbane at 0230K/25 after escorting "RONA" to  
 Port Curtis.

"BROOME" departed Brisbane at 1215K/25 - E.T.A. Sydney 1600K/27.

"ATREUS" arrived Newcastle en route to Auckland at 0216K/26.  
 At 1043K/26 reported ready to proceed 0600K/27. Only  
 air cover will be provided

"WILCANNIA" having completed escort duties with O.C.20. arrived  
 Sydney at 1745K/26.

"CESSNOCK" escorting "ANHUI" arrived Townsville from Fall River  
 at 1043K/26.

"BENDIGO" returned Cairns escorting "VAN HEEMSKERK" at 1515K/26.

"CAIRNS" departed Adelaide P.M. 26/8 for Albany.

U.S. Seaplane Tender "HERON" arrived Fremantle at 1039K/26.

#### GENERAL.

H.M.A.S. "SWORDFISH" (N.A.P. Vessel) as commissioned at 0900K/  
 Tuesday, 25th August.

Hospital Ship "MANUNDA" departed Fremantle at 0715K/25 - E.T.A.  
 Colombo P.M. September 3rd.

*General*



GENERAL (Contd.)

F.S. "CHEVREUIL" departed Auckland at 1001K/26 - E.T.A. Noumea 1100K/29.

X A possible enemy submarine sighting by aircraft in position 30 miles east of Port Macquarie (190 miles N.W.E. of Sydney) Graded D.4.

Enemy Naval Forces in Vicinity of Fall River.

Latest reports indicate that the composition of the enemy force sighted approaching Milne Bay on the evening of 25/8 was -

2 light cruisers  
1 light cruiser or large destroyer.  
2 destroyers.  
2 8,000 tons transports.  
2 gunboats.

At 1635K/26 aircraft reports sighting -

1 cruiser.  
2 destroyers.  
3 transports.

course 200°40 miles east of the entrance to Milne Bay.

The unidentified stationary ships, possibly 7,000 tons passenger reported at Mullens Harbour at 0735K/25 (45 miles west of entrance to Milne Bay) Aircraft were ordered to attack. At 2125K/26 A.C.H.Q. Port Moresby reported that sighting at Mullens Harbour was probably "MINSDON BRAE" (26 tons nett).

"LINGERA" arrived Port Melbourne 181K/25 from Westernport.

"HUNTER" departed Townsville 1830K/25 for Brisbane - E.T.A. 1001K/28.

U.S. Submarine "GAR" arrived Albany 0835H/25 from Fremantle.

U.S. Messenger "MURPHY" departed Albany 0900H/25 for Fremantle.

GENERAL

A.C.H. Moresby reported an enemy landing at Bloss Beach, north shore Milne Bay (about 4 miles east of Fall River), at 0140K/26. S.S.G.S. from S.S. "TANBA" at 0820K/25 in position 01°05'N. 077° or 078°13'E (about 300 miles 080° from Addu Atoll) and lifeboat S.O.E. at 1800K/25. S.S. "TANBA" a cargo vessel of 7,000 tons gross, was on passage Cochin/Fremantle - E.T.A. 7/9.



To 0900K/Wednesday 26th August, 1942.

"BENDIGO" escorting "VAN HERMSKERK" departed Thursday Island for Fall River, but was ordered at 1824K/25 to return to Cairns forthwith and has acknowledged her orders.

"ARUNTA" escorting "TASMAN" arrived Fall River 1800K/24 from Townsville, and was ordered at 1130K/25 to proceed with "TASMAN" at best speed to Port Moresby.

"BALLARAT" arrived Townsville 1525K/25 from Brisbane.

"CHICAGO" } ordered to depart Noumea about 1400L/22 for Sydney  
"MUGFORD" } E.T.A. 1400K/27.  
"STUART" }

"KATOOMBA" departed Port Moresby 0657K/25 for Townsville - E.T.A. 1200K/28.

"LITHCOW" escorting "ISLANDER" arrived Thursday Island 1545K/25 and departed escorting "MULIAMA" 1645K/25 - E.T.A. Darwin 1530/IK/29.

"ALSEY" arrived Auckland 0821L/25 from Newcastle.

"CAIRNS" arrived Adelaide 0700/IK/25 from escorting C.O.20. N.O.I.C. Adelaide intended to sail Cairns for Fremantle P.M./26 N.O.I.C. Fremantle requests she be sailed Albany.

"ARMIDALE" towing lighter arrived Brisbane 1804K/25 for fuel, on passage to Townsville.

"BINGERA" arrived Port Melbourne 1631K/25 from Westernport.

"KURUMBA" departed Townsville 1330K/25 for Brisbane - E.T.A. 1001K/28.

U.S. Submarine "GAR" arrived Albany 0835H/25 from Fremantle.

U.S. Minesweeper "WHIPPOORWILL" departed Albany 0900H/25 for Fremantle.

Air escort of C.O.21 reported the possible sighting of an enemy submarine (GENERAL, March Head (40 miles north of Sydney).

A.C.H. Moresby reported an enemy landing at Hioma Beach, north shore Milne Bay (about 4 miles east of Fall River), at 0140K/26. S.S.S.S. from S.S. "TANDA" at 0920E/25 in position 01003'N. 077° or 078°18'E (about 300 miles 080° from Addu Atoll) and lifeboat S.O.S. at 1600E/25. S.S. "TANDA" a cargo vessel of 7,000 tons gross, was on passage Cochin/Fremantle - E.T.A. 7/9.

Unidentified R.A.F. Plot from Cape Otway

F.S.S.C. reported that R.A.F. Cape Otway reports unidentified plots at 2325K/24 and 2105K/24 - distance 7 miles - could be following in wake of "INVERNESS" which is reported to be 6 miles ahead - travelling at 11 knots. R.A.F. Melbourne despatched an aircraft at approximately 0135K/25 to search by moonlight - plane returned at 0715K/25 results of search were negative.



~~D.N.I.~~

## GENERAL (Contd.)

77 to 0900K/Tuesday 25th August, 1942.

"WARRNAMBOOL" escorting "BURWAN" departed Thursday Island for Darwin at 1746K/24 - E.T.A. 1900K/27.

"WALLAROO" departed Newcastle at 0733K/24 escorting Newcastle at 0733K/21 escorting Newcastle portion of C.O.21.

"MILDURA" departed Sydney at 1509K/24 escorting Sydney portion of C.O.21.

"BARALABA" arrived Townsville at 1245K/24 from Thursday Island.

"MANOORA" departed Sydney at 1053K/24 escorting U.S.17 - E.T.A. Fremantle 1600K/3/9.

"CASTLEMAINE" will depart Sydney A.M. 26th August for Townsville and Darwin.

"MARRAWAH" departed Port Phillip for operations in S.C.F. 18 at 1854K/24.

"BINGERA" entered Port Phillip Heads at 1601K/24.

"SWAN" escorting "CREMER" and "BANTAM" departed Fall River at 0830K/22 - E.T.A. Townsville 0730K/26.

"ROCKHAMPTON" and "MORESBY" due to urgent defects have been placed at 48 hours' diminishing notice until 29th and 31st August respectively.

"DOOMBA" } entered Alfred Graving Dock, Melbourne at 1815K/24.

"CAWLER" }

"VENDETTA" entered Duke and Orrs' Dry Dock Melbourne at 1145K/22.

GENERAL.Possible Enemy Submarine Sighted - Graded D.4.

X Air escort of C.O.21 reported the possible sighting of an enemy submarine at 1305K/24 off Norah Head (40 miles north of Sydney).

Air Raids on Darwin:

At 2152K/24 by 2 heavy bombers - at 2225K/24 by 1 heavy bomber - No naval damage or casualties - At 0055K/25 a further raid reported also at 0840K/25 - no details yet available.

Unidentified R.D.F. Plot from Cape Otway:

X F.S.H.Q. reported that R.D.F. Cape Otway reports unidentified plots at 2057K/24 and 2107K/24 - distance 7 miles - Could be following in wake of "LEVERNBANK" which is estimated to be 6 miles ahead - travelling at 11 knots. A.C.H. Melbourne despatched an aircraft at approximately 0145K/25 to search by moonlight - plane returned at 0715K/25 results of search were negative.

/ ...



GENERAL. (Contd.)

Monday 24th August, 1942.

Mine reported near Cooktown:

At 1452K/24 Harbour Master Cooktown reported a mine at Indian Head Beach 5 miles north Cooktown.

Japanese make new landing nearer to Fall River:

At 1531K/24 Coastwatcher at Porlock Harbour reported 6 small craft heading for Puffi at 1705K/24. A further report stated that this Japanese Force had landed at (approximately 009°30'S. 149°08'E). 90 miles N.W. from Fall River - six aircraft supported the landing.

- "YANTRA" escorted U.S. 17 to depart Sydney not later than 1100K/24.
- "YANTRA" escorted U.S. 18 to depart Sydney 1144K/23 - E.T.A. Fremantle
- "YANTRA" escorted U.S. 19 to depart Sydney 0140K/22.
- "YANTRA" escorted U.S. 19 arrived Sydney 0140K/22.
- "YANTRA" escorted U.S. 19 from Newcastle having completed escort of U.S. 19.
- "YANTRA" escorted "IGNA" departed Brisbane 2215K/23.
- "YANTRA" departed Port Thevenard 0730/IK/23 for Fremantle - E.T.A. 1.3/27.
- "YANTRA" escorted "ANHU" departed Fall River 1630K/23 for Townsville - E.T.A. 0130K/27.
- "YANTRA" escorted "MALAYA" and "ALBINGA" arrived Port Moresby 1715K/23 from Townsville.
- "YANTRA" departed Sydney 1030K/23 for Newcastle and arrived 1730K/23.
- "YANTRA" departed Townsville 0330K/23 arrived Cairns 1300K/23.
- "YANTRA" departed Brisbane 0630K/23 for Townsville.
- "YANTRA" departed Port Moresby 1730H/21 for Darwin - E.T.A. 2330/IK/25.
- "YANTRA" departed Fremantle 1615K/23 for Albany - E.T.A. 0600/24.
- "YANTRA" arrived Cairns 0715K/23.
- "YANTRA" arrived Esouath Gulf P.M./22 from Fremantle.
- "YANTRA" departed Esouath Gulf 0630H/23 for Fremantle - E.T.A. A.M./26.
- "YANTRA" departed Sydney 1144K/23 for Fremantle.
- "YANTRA" departed via 1122K/23.

GENERAL.

Naura was intermittently bombarded from 1010 to 1200L/23 by cruiser with six and three inch shells - A.R.C. Naura reports occupation.

F.O. Ceylon reports that "GERALDTON" suffered considerable damage during oiling operations at sea on passage from Fremantle to Addu Atoll, and 1/8 dome damaged by heavy weather. Written report forwarded to H.O.I.C. Fremantle. "PUNJAB" arrived Rabay 12/7 after fuelling Colombo.

Comlowespec's 1615E/23 reported that a Japanese submarine was indicated in position 13°30'S. 154°00'E. (about 230 miles 140° from Fall River) at 1430K/23.



To 0900K/Monday 24th August, 1942.

"KANIMBLA" escorting U.S. 16 departed Sydney 1144K/23 - E.T.A. Fremantle 1400H/2.

"MANOORA" escorting U.S. 17 is to depart Sydney not later than 1100K/24.

"WHYALLA" } escorting G.P. 10 arrived Brisbane 1900K/23 and departed  
"YANDRA" } 2245K/23 escorting P.G.10 with "ATREUS" in company.

"KURUMBA" arrived Townsville 0547K/23 from Cid Harbour.

"DOOMBA" arrived Port Melbourne 1957K/23 from escorting C.O.20.

"IPSWICH" arrived Williamstown 1731K/23 from escorting C.O.20.

"ROCKHAMPTON" escorting O.C. 19 arrived Sydney 0140K/22.

"MORESBY" arrived Sydney 1206K/23 from Newcastle having completed escort of O.C. 19.

"GOULBURN" escorting "RONA" departed Brisbane 2215K/23.

"BURNIE" departed Port Thevenard 0730/IK/22 for Fremantle - E.T.A. A.M./27.

"CESSNOCK" escorting "ANHUI" departed Fall River 1630K/23 for Townsville - E.T.A. 0130K/27.

"KATOOMBA" escorting "MALAITA" and "ALDINGA" arrived Port Moresby 1715K/23 from Townsville.

"WALLAROO" departed Sydney 1056K/23 for Newcastle and arrived 1752K/23.

"BENDIGO" departed Townsville 0335K/23 arrived Cairns 1900K/23.

"BALLARAT" departed Brisbane 0505K/23 for Townsville.

"WATO" departed Port Hedland 1730H/21 for Darwin - E.T.A. 2330/IK/25.

U.S. Submarine "GAR" departed Fremantle 1615H/23 for Albany - E.T.A. 0600H/24.

R.N.N. Tanker "MINJAK TANAH" arrived Cairns 0715K/23.

"CHILDS" arrived Exmouth Gulf P.M/22 from Fremantle.

"HERON" departed Exmouth Gulf 0630H/23 for Fremantle - E.T.A. A.M./26.

U.S. Destroyers "AYLWIN" }  
"DALE" } departed Wla 1122L/23.

U.S. Tanker "KASKASKIA" }  
Tanker "CHESTER SUN" }

GENERAL.

Nauru was intermittently bombarded from 1010 to 1200L/23 by cruiser with six and three inch shells - A.R.O. Nauru expects occupation.

F.O. Ceylon reports that "GERALDTON" suffered unavoidable damage during oiling operations at sea on passage from Fremantle to Addu Atoll, and A/S dome damaged by heavy weather. Written report forwarded to N.O.I.C. Fremantle. "PUNJAB" arrived Bombay 13/7 after fuelling Colombo.

Comsowespac's 1615Z/23 reported that a Japanese submarine was indicated in position 13°30'S. 154°00'. (about 280 miles 130° from Fall River) at 1430K/23.



DAILY NARRATIVE.

SECRET:

To 0900K Sunday, 23rd August, 1942. ORION ordered to search vicinity Lark Patch (Entrance Port Moresby) and maintain hydrophone listening watch until further notice.

"AMIDALE" with lighter in tow departed Sydney at 1122K/22 for Townsville.

"SWAN" and "CESSNOCK" escorting "ANHUI", "BANTAM" and "CBMER", arrived Fall River at 1015K/21.

"ARUNTA" escorting "TASMAN" departed Townsville for Fall River at 1600K/22 E.T.A. 1800K/24.

"WARREGO" and "BENDIGO" escorting "ANSHUN", "VAN DER LIJN" and "S. JACOB" arrived Townsville at 1806K/22.

"KATOOMBA" escorting "ALDINGA" and "MALAITA" departed Townsville 1804K/20 for Port Moresby E.T.A. 1800K/23.

"BARALABA" - Thursday Island to Townsville.

"BURNIE" en route from Adelaide to Fremantle reported at 1201K/22 that she was sheltering at Port Thenenard. Amended E.T.A. a.m. Thursday, 27th August.

"VIGILANT" (operations Hamburger) arrived Darwin at 1056K/22.

"COULBURN" arrived Brisbane at 0451K/22 from escort duties.

"DOOMBA" departed Port Phillip escorting G.C.20 including "BUNGAREE" at 0315K/23.

"WARRNAMBOOL" arrived Thursday Island at 1129K/22, from Port Moresby.

"KALGOORLIE" escorting "KOOLIGA" arrived Darwin at 2136K/22 from Thursday Island.

"KANIMBLA" escorting Convoy U.S.16 will clear Sydney Heads at 1100K/23 E.T.A. Fremantle 1800K/2/9.

"KUHUMBA" has been ordered to proceed to Townsville from Cid Harbour.

"LITHGOW" escorting "ISLANDER" departed Darwin at 0822K/22 E.T.A. Thursday Island 1430K/25.

U.S. Destroyer "HOPKINS" departed Sydney at 1145K/22 for Noumea.

AIRCRAFT REPORTED SIGHTING SMALL ENEMY SUBMARINE IN VICINITY OF PORT MORESBY.

At 2054K/22 A.C.H.Q. Port Moresby advised that an aircraft had reported sighting at 1535K/22, a small submarine apparently aground at Idaha Island (14 miles due west from Port Moresby). This report was not graded. Air search 3 hours later failed to locate - further search will be carried out at first light.

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to 0800K/Saturday 22nd August, 1942.

"KATOOMBA" and "SWAN" have been notified - "COLAC" ordered to anchor vicinity Lark Patch (Entrance Port Moresby) and maintain hydrophone listening watch until further notice.

"[Ship Name]" departed Sydney 1811K/21 for Broken Bay to work up.

"[Ship Name]" arrived Waster GENERAL 265K/21 from Port Phillip.

"[Ship Name]" arrived Williamstown 1345K/21 from Adelaide.

Hospital Ship "MANUNDA" departed Townsville for Port Moresby at 2024K/21 E.T.A. 1300K/23.

F.F.S. "CHEVREUIL" departed Wellington at 1400K/22 E.T.A. Auckland 1001K/25.

Comsowespac has ordered "STUART" to return to Brisbane and "POYANG" to remain in Noumea.

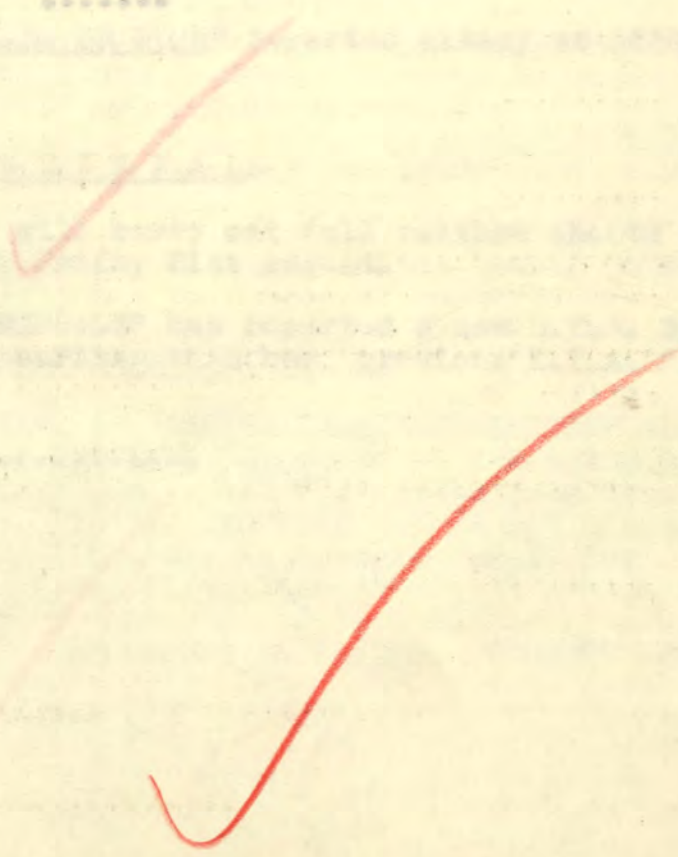
"[Ship Name]" arrived Fremantle 1508H/21 from Albany.

"[Ship Name]" departed Sydney 1745K/21 for Cairns.

GENERAL

S.W. Area reported unidentified submarine sighted in position 06°23'S, 136°05'E, course 215° at 1715H/20. Position is about 10 miles south of Timor.

"[Ship Name]" (C.G. 20) reported floating mine at 1340K/21 in position 59°09'S, 150°12'E. (about 20 miles SSW from Gabo Island). One of the convoy escorts and one aircraft searched the area and the former made a negative report.





To 0900K/Saturday 22nd August, 1942.

"KATOOMBA" escorting "ALDINGA" and "MALAITA" departed Townsville 1804K/20 for Port Moresby 1600K/23.

"WHYALLA" ) escorting G.P.10 departed Sydney 0733K/21.  
"YANDRA" ) on Bay.

"BENGAL" departed Sydney 1611K/21 for Broken Bay to work up.

"BINGERA" arrived Westernport 1755K/21 from Port Phillip.

"GAWLER" arrived Williamstown 1345K/21 from Adelaide.

"MILDURA" escorting "BISHOPDALE" arrived Sydney 1355K/21 from Noumea.

"LITHGOW" escorting "JAMES COOK" arrived Darwin 1815/IK/20 from Thursday Island.

"WARRNAMBOOL" departed Port Moresby 1920K/20 for Thursday Island.

"WILLIAM B. PRESTON" arrived Fremantle 1509H/21 from Albany.

"K.12" departed Sydney 1745K/21 for Cairns.

GENERAL.

N.W. Area reported unidentified submarine sighted in position 09°20'S, 126°05'E. course 315° at 1715H/20. Position is about 1.0 miles south of Timor.

X U.S. Submarine "IRON KING" (C.O.20) reported floating mine at 1340K/21 in position 37°09'S, 150°12'E. (about 30 miles 020° from Gabo Island). One of the convoy escorts and one aircraft searched the area and the former made a negative report.

U.S. Submarine "PIGMECH" departed Albany at 1900K/18.

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U.S. Submarine "W.B. PRESTON" departed Albany at 0935K/20 for Fremantle.

GENERAL.

"BUNGAREE" and "BINGERA" will carry out full calibre shoots in Port Phillip all day Friday 21st August.

"MILDURA" escorting "BISHOPDALE" has reported a new E.T.A. Sydney 1401K/21 - 44 hours earlier than her previous E.T.A.



To 0900K/Friday, 21st August, 1942.

"WARRNAMBOOL" arrived Port Moresby at 0810K/20 escorting "JOHN HART", "MAETSUYCKER" and "DANIEL BOONE".

"WALLAROO" returned to Sydney at 1544K/20 from working up trials at Broken Bay.

"BARALABA" departed Thursday Island at 1340K/20 - will call at Bowen en route to Townsville.

"VOYAGER" arrived Darwin at 0917K/20 from Geraldton.

"NAMBUCCA" arrived Brisbane at 1159K/20 from Sydney.

"DOOMBA" entered Port Phillip at 1519K/20 escorting Melbourne portion of C.O.19.

"WILCANNIA", "IPSWICH" and "CAIRNS" departed Sydney at 1356K/20 escorting C.O.20.

"DELORAINÉ" departed Newcastle at 0659K/20 for escort duties with C.O.20.

"ACHILLES" departed Brisbane for Noumea at 1500K/20 - E.T.A. 22nd August.

"WARREGO" and "BENDIGO" escorting "AUSHUN", "VAN DER LIJN" and "S. JACOB" departed Fall River at 0830K/19 for Townsville - E.T.A. 0904K/22.

"ARUNTA" escorting "VAN HEEMSKERK", "BALIKPAPAN" and "BONTEKOE" arrived Townsville from Fall River at 1030K/20.

U.S. Destroyer "HOPKINS" escorting "PRESIDENT GRANT" arrived Sydney at 1505K/20.

U.S. Seaplane Tender "CHILDS" departed Fremantle at 1900K/19 for Exmouth Gulf.

U.S. Submarine "STURGEON" departed Albany at 1900K/18.

U.S. <sup>Seaplane</sup> Submarine Tender "W.B. PRESTON" departed Albany at 0839K/20 (via Fremantle) and departed. Efforts to clear were unsuccessful. "HUXHAMPTON" and C.O.19 warned.

GENERAL.

"BUNGAREE" and "BINGERA" will carry out full calibre shoots in Port Phillip all day Friday 21st August.

"MILDURA" escorting "BISHOPDALE" has reported a new E.T.A. Sydney 1401K/21 - 44 hours earlier than her previous E.T.A.

U.S.18 consisting of "ABONDA" and "DEVUSHINE" will depart Sydney not later than....., escorted to Fremantle by "LANIMELA" with A/S air protection. "RAJULA" is to join from Melbourne in position 32° - 30'30"S, 140°00'E (about 125 miles S47° from Cape Otway). E.O.L.C. Fremantle is to sail U.S.18 for Colombo when ready. "TRUMP" and "LANIMELA" to escort from Fremantle to position 02°30'N, 090°01'W where H.M.S. "GAMBIA" is to rendezvous at 0400Z/21/19 relieve "TRUMP" and escort to Ceylon. "TRUMP" returns to Fremantle.





- to 0900K/Thursday August 20th, 1942. "WESTERLAND", "FELIX ROUSSEL" will depart Sydney not later than 1100K/24, escorted "PHOENIX" departed Sydney 1040K/19 possibly for Noumea. It joins "ALSEY" departed Brisbane 1429K/19 escorting A.5. to Capricorn Channel. "GAWLER" departed Adelaide 0945/IK/19 for Melbourne - E.T.A. 0930K/21.
- "YANDRA" arrived Sydney 1517K/19 from escorting O.C.18 to Newcastle.
- "KATOOMBA" with personnel from U.S. Submarine 39 arrived Townsville 1020K/19.
- "DELORAIN" departed Sydney 1141K/19 for Newcastle.
- "DUBBO" departed Sydney 1407K/19 for Broken Bay to work up and return P.M./26.
- "DOOMBA" escorting O.C.19 - E.T.D. Port Phillip 2300K/19.
- "KALGOORLIE" escorting "KOOLIGA" departed Thursday Island 0940K/19 for Darwin - E.T.A. 1830/IK/22.
- "GEELONG" escorting "MALVINA" arrived Sydney 1045K/19 from Brisbane.
- "BINGERA" departed Port Melbourne 0825K/19 for exercises in Port Phillip and returned 1615K/19.
- "VIGILANT" departed Darwin 0508/IK/19 - Operation Hamburger.
- "THRESHER" arrived Albany 0920H/19 from Fremantle.
- "WILLIAM B. PRESTON" arrived Albany 0738H/19 from Fremantle.

GENERAL.

Possible submarine sighted at 1350K/19 in position  $33^{\circ}35'S$ ,  $151^{\circ}30'E$  (about 12 miles  $036^{\circ}$  from Port Jackson) course south - Graded C.5.

"MARRAWAH" reported that sweep fouled "CAMBRIDGE" wreck (vicinity Wilson's Promontory) and parted. Efforts to clear were unsuccessful. "ROCKHAMPTON" and C.O.19 warned.

H.M.A.S. "FREMANTLE" (A.M.S.) was launched at Brisbane at 1430K/18.

H.M.A.S. "PEDORO" (N.A.P. Vessel) was handed over for full time service and commissioned in Sydney at 0900K/19

U.S. CONVOYS 16 AND 17.

U.S.16 consisting of "ARONDA" and "DEVONSHIRE" will depart Sydney not later than 1100K/23, escorted to Fremantle by "KANIMBLA" with A/S air protection. "RAJULA" is to join from Melbourne in position "E" -  $39^{\circ}50'S$ ,  $140^{\circ}25'E$  (about 165 miles  $247^{\circ}$  from Cape Otway). N.O.I.C. Fremantle is to sail U.S.16 for Colombo when ready. "TROMP" and "KANIMBLA" to escort from Fremantle to position  $023001'S$ ,  $090^{\circ}01'E$  where H.M.S. "GAMBIA" is to rendezvous at 0400Z/8/9 relieve "TROMP" and escort to Ceylon. "TROMP" returns to Fremantle.



DAILY NARRATIVE.

U.S. 17 consisting of "WESTERNLAND", "FELIX ROUSSEL" and "EKMA" will depart Sydney not later than 1100K/24, escorted by "MANOORA", with A/S air protection. "ADELAIDE" will join convoy in position about 165 miles 247° from Cape Otway and escort with "MANOORA" to Fremantle. From Fremantle "ADELAIDE" and "MANOORA" will escort to position "L" 38° 01'S. 90° 01'E where they will be relieved on September 9. by H.M.S. "DEVONSHIRE" which will escort convoy to Colombo. "ADELAIDE" and "MANOORA" return to Fremantle. Log Convoy P.C.3 from Brisbane.

"STUART" escorting "POYANG" to Noumea departed Brisbane at 2125K/17 - ..... 0500L/Friday 21st August.

"LAURCHSTEIN" arrived Fremantle from Albany at 1800K/18.

"KAWINDELA" arrived Sydney from Melbourne at 1547K/18.

"TOWNSVILLE" and "NYALLA" arrived Sydney escorting Sydney portion of U.C.12 at 2225K/18.

"HARR" (Tug) towing oil lighter arrived Smooth Gulf at 2355K/17.

"HARRISMAN" departed Port Moresby at 1805K/18 for position "Z" - E.T.A. 1800K/19.

GENERAL.

H.M.A.S. "PAYE" (P.M.B.) was commissioned at Sydney at 1800K/17 under command of Acting Lieutenant H. Venables, R.A.N.V.R.

*Journal*



To 0900K/Tuesday, 18th August, 1942.

"WILCANNIA" escorting "SMA WITCH" and "PERILIA" arrived Port To 0900K/Wednesday 19th August, 1942.

"BURMIE" departed Adelaide at 1357 for Fremantle - E.T.A. A.M. Monday 24th August. River 1100K/20 - "WARRNAMBOOL"

"WILCANNIA" and "DELORAINIE" arrived Sydney at 2354K/17 escorting Convoy P.G.9 from Brisbane.

"STUART" escorting "POYANG" to Noumea departed Brisbane at 2122K/17 - E.T.A. 0500L/Friday 21st August.

"LAUNCESTON" arrived Fremantle from Albany at 1800K/18. Jay Island

"KANIMBLA" arrived Sydney from Melbourne at 1547K/18.

"TOWNSVILLE" and "WYALLA" arrived Sydney escorting Sydney portion of O.C.18 at 2228K/18.

"WATO" (Tug) towing oil lighter arrived Exmouth Gulf at 2355K/17.

"WARRNAMBOOL" departed Port Moresby at 1805K/18 for position "Z" - E.T.A. 1200K/19.

"ISSIGH" arrived Sydney 0821K/17 from Broken Bay.

"BIRGERA" departed Billingham 0830K/17 for exercises in Port Phillip.

GENERAL

"GELORG" escorting "VALVINA" departed Brisbane 0840K/17 for Sydney.

H.M.A.S. "PAYE C" (P.M.B.) was commissioned at Sydney at 1900K/17 under command of Acting Lieutenant H. Venables, R.A.N.V.R.

"ALBY" arrived Newcastle 1610K/17 from Brisbane.

"UGERA" departed Port P..... 217K/17 for S.C.F. 18.

"STUART" escorting "POYANG" E.T.D. from Pils Light, Brisbane 1830K/17. for Noumea.

"WILLIAM B. FRESTER" arrived Fremantle 0821E/17 from Exmouth Gulf.

U.S. Aircraft Carrier "LONG ISLAND" } arrived Vila 18/8.

U.S. Destroyer "AVALEN" }

"PROBES" }

"WILSON" }

U.S. Transport "SULLIVAN BIRD BUNGERS" }

U.S. Turret "COMBAT" }

"BERGON" (Class not known) } arrived Noumea 15/8.

"YACHTER GIRL" (Oil Turret) }

"WILLIAM B. FRESTER" } departed Fremantle 1712H/17 for Albany -

"WINDSON" } E.T.A. 0400H/19.

GENERAL

At 2250/18/16 there was an unidentified loop crossing at Darwin. No anti-submarine vessels available but all other possible measures taken.

*"Jawler"*

*Jawler*



To 0900K/Tuesday, 18th August, 1942.

"WARRNAMBOOL" escorting "SEA WITCH" and "PERIDA" arrived Port Moresby 0700K/17.

"SWAN" } escorting A.4. B.4. departed Townsville 0831K/17 -  
"CESSNOCK" } E.T.A. with A.4. at Fall River 1100K/20 - "WARRNAMBOOL"  
to rendezvous at 1200K/19 and escort B.4. to Port Moresby.

"ROCKHAMPTON" escorting C.O.19 departed Newcastle 0931K/17.

"MORESBY" escorting C.O.19 departed Sydney 1631K/17.

"KALGOORLIE" escorting "BABINDA" and "SIBIGO" arrived Thursday Island 1027K/17 from Darwin.

"MARYBOROUGH" arrived Adelaide 0907/IK/17 from Albany.

"LAUNCESTON" departed Albany 0643H/17 for Fremantle - E.T.A. 1400H/18.

"LITHGOW" escorting "JAMES COOK" departed Thursday Island 0417K/17 for Darwin - E.T.A. 2030/IK/20.

"IPSWICH" arrived Sydney 0821K/17 from Broken Bay.

"BINGERA" departed Williamstown 0830K/17 for exercises in Port Phillip.

"GEELONG" escorting "MALVINA" departed Brisbane 0940K/17 for Sydney.

"GAWLER" arrived Adelaide 1806/IK/17 from Whyalla.

"ALSEY" arrived Newcastle 1616K/17 from Brisbane.

"ORARA" departed Port Phillip 1947K/17 for S.C.F. 18.

"STUART" escorting "POYANG" E.T.D. from Pile Light, Brisbane 1830K/17. for Noumea.

"WILLIAM B. PRESTON" arrived Fremantle 0921H/17 from Exmouth Gulf.

U.S. Aircraft Carrier "LONG ISLAND" } arrived Vila 16/8.

U.S. Destroyer "AYLWIN" }

" " "FLUSSER" }

" " "WILSON" }

U.S. Transport "WILLIAM WARD BURROUGHS" }

U.S. Tanker "CIMARRON" }

"DEROCHE" (Class not known) } arrived Noumea 15/8.

"CHESTER SUN" (Oil tanker) }

"WILLIAM B. PRESTON" } departed Fremantle 1712H/17 for Albany -

"THRESHER" } E.T.A. 0400H/19.

GENERAL.

At 2250/IK/16 there was an unidentified loop crossing at Darwin. No anti-submarine vessels available but all other possible measures taken.

....

*Gawler*



To 0900K/Monday 17th August, 1942.

"MILDURA" escorting "MERKUR" arrived Noumea at 0123K/16.

"ROCKHAMPTON" arrived Newcastle at 1354K/16 from Sydney

"GAWLER" departed Whyalla for Adelaide at 1600/1K/17 to mount depth charge thrower and collect stores - anticipated sailing for Melbourne to complete arming Wednesday 19th August.

"LAUNCESTON" departed Albany at 1515K/16 for Fremantle - at 1845K/16 anchored King Georges Sound until weather moderates.

"BOMBAY" arrived Albany at 1115K/16 from Adelaide.

"VOYAGER" departed Geraldton 1525K/15 - E.T.A. Darwin 0830K/19.

"ARUNTA" escorting Convoy A.2. arrived Fall River at 1001K/15.

"DOOMBA" arrived Melbourne at 1237K/16 escorting Melbourne portion C.O.18 including "BUNGAREE".

"KANIMBLA" departed Melbourne 2219K/15 E.T.A. Sydney 1530K/18.

"MORESBY" and "CAIRNS" arrived Sydney at 0908K/16 escorting Sydney portion of O.C.17.

"SWAN" escorting "BOTH" arrived Townsville from Fall River at 0050K/16.

"COLAC" escorting "JAPRA" departed Townsville at 0120K/16 for Port Moresby.

"CESSNOCK" escorting "JAMES WILSON" and "JAMES FENEMORE COOPER" arrived Townsville at 2052K/16 from Port Moresby.

U.S. Submarine "SCULPIN" departed Fremantle at 1840K/16.

G E N E R A L.

Referring to the U.S. Submarine aground off West Adele Island on Rossel Spit, "KATOOMBA" reported at 1825K/16 as follows: Submarine destroyed - interior burnt, fast aground - shell visible - officers and men rescued uninjured - sailing 1130K/16 - E.T.A. Townsville 1400K/19.

"LE TRIOMPHANT" reported at 2010K/15 that she is proceeding to Melbourne on service matters - E.T.A. Monday 17th August.

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MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

TO 0900K SUNDAY, 16TH AUGUST.

- "VOYAGER" - departed Fremantle 1755H/14 for Geraldton and Darwin, arrived Geraldton 1001H/15.
- "KANIMBLA" - departed Williamstown 1515K/15 to carry out full calibre firing in Port Phillip.
- "DELORAINIE" } - escorting G.P.9, arrived Brisbane 1345K/15,  
"WILCANNIA" } and escorting P.G.9, including H.M.S. "ALSEY", departed Brisbane 1452K/15.
- "LITHGOW" - arrived Thursday Island 1526K/15 from Port Moresby.
- "WARRNAMBOOL" - departed Port Moresby 1830K/15 to rendezvous B.3 and escort to Port Moresby.
- "ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" arrived Melbourne 1500K/15 from Sydney.
- "WILLIAM B. PRESTON" - departed Exmouth Gulf 0600H/15 for Fremantle, E.T.A. 1100H/17.
- "CHEVREUIL" - departed Noumea 1600L/13 for Wellington, E.T.A. A.M. 17.

GENERAL.

H.M.A.S. "GAWLER" (A.M.S.) commissioned at Whyalla 14/8 under command of Lieutenant Commander W.J. Seymour, R.N.

*Handwritten signature and date: 16/8*



To 0900K/Saturday, 15th August, 1942.

"WARRENAMBOOL" escorting "ZEBULON PIKE" and "JOHN G. WHITTAKER" arrived at Port Moresby at 1530K/14.

"BIRCHGROVE PARK" arrived Sydney from Port Stephens at 1809K/14

"WALLAROO" departed Sydney for Broken Bay at 1602K/14 for working up exercises.

"ORARA" secured Princes Pier, Port Melbourne at 0900K/14.

"WARREGO" and "BENDIGO" escorting A.3. and B.3. departed Townsville at 0810K/14 - E.T.A. at position "Z" 1200K/16.

CONVOY A.3. - E.T.A. at Fall River 1100K/17.

CONVOY B.3. - E.T.A. at Port Moresby 0500K/17.

"COLAC" escorting "HANYANG" and "HENRY D. THOREAU" arrived Townsville from Fall River at 0630K/13.

"KALGOORLIE" escorting "SIBIGO" and "BABINDA" departed Darwin for Thursday Island 0500K/14 - E.T.A. 1530K/17.

"CESSNOCK" escorting "JAMES WILSON" and "JAMES FINIMORE COOPER" departed Port Moresby at 0832K/14 - E.T.A. Townsville 2000K/16.

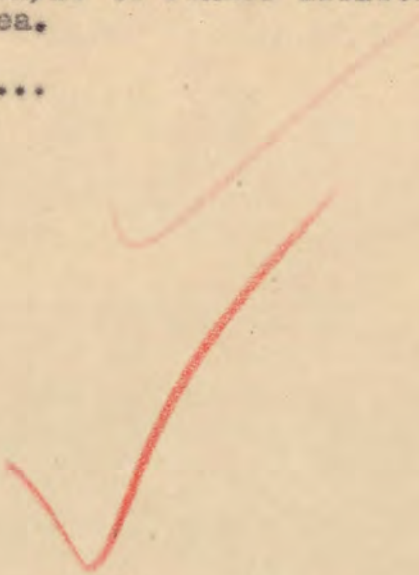
G E N E R A L.

U.S. Cruiser "PHOENIX"-at 2221K/14 N.O.I.C. Sydney reported that "PHOENIX" grounded lightly after undocking August 13th and redocked August 14th.

Estimate of time to repair will be given after complete examination.

"KATOOMBA" expects to arrive off West Adele Island on Rossel Spit at 1400K/15 to render assistance to U.S. Submarine aground in that area.

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To 0900K/Friday, 14th August, 1942.

"TOWNSVILLE" } escorting C.O.18 and "BUNGAREE" departed  
"WYALLA" } Sydney 1810K/13.

"YANDRA" escorting C.O.18 departed Newcastle 0759K/13.

"DELORAINE" } escorting G.P.9 departed Sydney 0701K/13.  
"WILCANNIA" }

"ADELAIDE" escorting "STIRLING CASTLE" arrived Melbourne 1045K/13.

"SWAN" escorting "BOTH" arrived Fall River 1300K/12.

"MARYBOROUGH" departed Albany 0905H/13 for Adelaide - E.T.A.  
1130/1K/17.

"BINGERA" arrived Williamstown 1150K/13 from exercises in  
Port Phillip.

"LITHGOW" departed Port Moresby 0958K/13 - E.T.A. Thursday  
Island 1800K/15.

"GOULBURN" arrived Brisbane 0800K/13 from escort duty.

"STUART" } departed Brisbane 1640K/13 escorting A.4. B.4.  
"GERLONG" } E.T.A. Magnetic Island 0600K/17.

"DOOMBA" departed Pt. Phillip Heads 0141K/13 escorting  
O.C.17 and arrived Melbourne 1630K/13 having completed  
escort of C.O.17.

"ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" departed Sydney 1301K/13 for Melbourne  
E.T.A. 0800/16.

"SCULPIN" arrived Fremantle 0801H/13 from Albany.

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To 0900K/Thursday, 13th August, 1942.

"NAMBUCCA" arrived Sydney 0701K/12 en route Adelaide to Brisbane.

"ARUNTA" } escorting Convoy A.2. and B.2. departed Townsville  
 "KATOOMBA" } 2120K/11 and will rendezvous at approximately 2100K/13  
 with "WARRNAMBOOL" which departed Port Moresby at  
 1645K/12 and is escorting "MAETSUYCKER" to position  
 193°115 miles from Port Moresby whence "MAETSUYCKER"  
 will proceed unescorted to Townsville - E.T.A.  
 1800K/14, and "WARRNAMBOOL" will proceed to rendezvous.  
 From rendezvous "ARUNTA" and "KATOOMBA" will proceed  
 with convoy A.2. to Fall River - E.T.A. 2000K/14  
 and "WARRNAMBOOL" will proceed with Convoy B.2. to  
 Port Moresby - E.T.A. 1300K/14.

"COLAC" departed Fall River 1700K/10 escorting "HANYANG" and "HENRY D. THOREAU" - E.T.A. Townsville 0800K/13.

"BENDIGO" arrived Brisbane 0731K/11 from Cairns.

"YANDRA" arrived Newcastle 1143K/12 having completed escort of convoy O.C.16.

"DOOMBA" departed Port Phillip 2150K/12 to escort Convoy O.C.17.

"CESSNOCK" escorting "JAMES WILSON" and "J.F. COOPER" arrived Port Moresby 0736K/12.

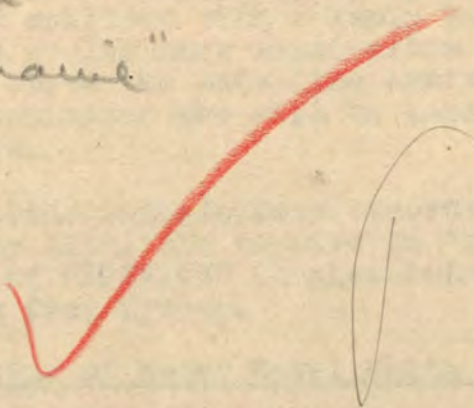
"BAHALARA" departed Thursday Island 1250K/12 for Merauke 1600K/12.

"STUART" arrived Brisbane 2139K/12 from escorting convoys A.3. and B.3.

" Deloraine " .....

" Castleman "

General





To 0900K/Wednesday 12th August, 1942.

"LAURISTON" arrived Albany from Fremantle at 1158K/11.

"MILDURA" escorting "HEBEUR", Victualling Store Issue Ship, departed Sydney at 0726K/11 for Noumea, and will then escort "BISHOPDALE" to Sydney.

"GEELONG" returned to Brisbane at 0257K/11 from escort duties with Convoy A.2.

"YANDRA" departed Sydney at 2115K/11 to escort Newcastle portion of Convoy O.C.16. Relieving "DELORAINÉ" and "CASTLEMAINE".

"DELORAINÉ" and "CASTLEMAINE" arrived Sydney at 0200K/12 escorting Sydney portion of O.C.16.

"IPSWICH" departed Sydney at 1451K/11 for Broken Bay.

"WARRAGO" escorting "TASMAN" and "JAPARA" arrived Townsville from Port Moresby at 0712K/11.

"ROCKHAMPTON", "ARMIDALE" and "TOWNSVILLE" arrived Sydney at 0327K/10 from Newcastle.

"MARYBOROUGH" at 1927K/11 N.O.I.C. Fremantle reported that "Maryborough" en route Albany to Adelaide is anchored King George Sound until weather moderates.

U.S. Seaplane Tender "HEBON" arrived at Exmouth Gulf from Fremantle P.M. 10/8.

GENERAL.

"CASTLEMAINE" damaged in collision with Manly Ferry at 0015K/12:

At 0500K/12 Duty Officer, Sydney, reported by 'phone that "CASTLEMAINE" collided with a Manly Ferry, just after entering the Boom Gate. A preliminary examination showed "CASTLEMAINE" to be holed 2 ft. above the waterline abaft the bridge. Duty Officer, Sydney, estimated she will be laid up approximately 10 days for repairs.

To provide satisfactory escorts for G.P. and C.O. Convoys on Thursday 13th, the repairs to "TOWNSVILLE" are being rushed. The use of "IPSWICH" is also being considered. A further report will follow from Sydney.

Reported Air Sighting of Enemy Naval Units at Rabaul:

At 1325K/11 A.C.H. Townsville reported that a Catalina sighted 40 ships in Rabaul Harbour, including one aircraft carrier, one battleship and submarines - Not graded by A.C.H.





To 0900K/Tuesday, 11th August, 1942.

"SOLAC" escorting "HENRY B. THOREAU" and "HANYANG" - E.T.D. Fall River P.M/10 for Townsville.

"BARALABA" arrived Thursday Island 1455K/10 from Cairns.

"BENDIGO" departed Cairns 1515K/10 for Townsville - E.T.A. 0600K/11

"MORESBY" escorting C.O.17 departed Newcastle 0801K/10.

"CAIRNS" escorting Sydney portion C.O.17 departed Sydney 1458K/10.

"TROMP" arrived Fremantle 1700H/10 from escort duty.

"BOMBAY" departed Adelaide 1145/IK/10 for Albany.

"WARRNAMBOOL" arrived Thursday Island 1323K/9 from Pt. Moresby.

"LITHGOW" } departed Thursday Island 0700K/10, escorting  
"WARRNAMBOOL" } "MAETSUYCKER" and "JOHN JAY" to Port Moresby -  
E.T.A. 1600K/11.

"SAMUEL BENBOW" E.T.D. Sydney 1300K/10 for Newcastle.

"BIRCHGROVE PARK" } departed Newcastle 0623K/10 for Port Stephens.  
"TOOMEREE" }

"BINGERA" entered Port Phillip 1735K/10 from Westernport.

"ARMIDALE" } departed Newcastle 1845K/10 for Sydney having  
"TOWNSVILLE" } completed escort of P.G.8.  
"ROCKHAMPTON" }

"SCULPIN" departed Albany 1739H/10 for Fremantle.

"STUART" arrived Brisbane 0931K/10 from escort duty.

"STUART" } escorting A.3. departed Brisbane 1600K/10 - E.T.A.  
"GOULBURN" } Magnetic Island 0700K/14.

"CAP DES PALMES" departed Noumea 0635L/9 for Vila - E.T.A. 1230L/10.

GENERAL.

"MAROSA" (Norwegian vessel, 1513 tons) overdue at Fremantle since July 31, having departed Bombay July 7, arrived Fremantle 10/8.

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D.N.I.





0900K/Monday 10th August, 1942.

"OMBA" departed Pt. Phillip 0238K/9 escorting convoy O.C.16.,  
arrived Pt. Melbourne 1441K/9 escorting convoy C.O.16.

"MORESBY" departed Sydney 0407K/9 to relieve "WILCANNIA" and escort  
Newcastle portion of convoy O.C.15. Arrived with convoy  
O.C.15 at Newcastle 1442K/9.

"BIRCHGROVE PARK" arrived Newcastle 1525K/9.

"WILCANNIA" } arrived Sydney 0853K/9 from escorting convoy O.C.15.  
"MADRAS" }

"TOWNSVILLE" departed Brisbane 2150K/8 to overtake and join convoy  
P.G.8 (for Sydney).

"GOULBURN" arrived Brisbane 0331K/9.

"SWAN" arrived Townsville 2340K/8 escorting "SWARTENHONDT". "SWAN"  
and "CESSNOCK" departed Townsville 1555K/9 for rendezvous  
with Convoys A.I. and B.I. off Magnetic Island; they are  
then to rendezvous with "WARRNAMBOOL" escorting "MAETSUYKER"  
and "JOHN JAY" from Thursday Island at 1500K/11. E.T.A.  
"WARRNAMBOOL" and Convoy B.I. at Port Moresby 0700K/12 -  
E.T.A. of "SWAN", "CESSNOCK" and A.I. at Fall River 1200K/12.

"ARUNTA" arrived Townsville 1744K/9.

"COLAC" arrived Port Moresby 0735K/9 from Fall River. Departed  
Port Moresby 1135K/9 for Fall River.

"LAUNCESTON" departed Fremantle 1300H/9 for Albany - E.T.A. 0700H/11.

"KALGOORLIE" escorting "SIBIGO" arrived Darwin 1215K/9.

"ADELAIDE" relieved "TROMP" at 1304H/9 and will escort "STIRLING  
CASTLE" to Melbourne - "TROMP" is returning to Fremantle.

"VIGILANT" arrived Darwin 1735K/9 - operations Hamburger.

GENERAL.

"TANWORTH" commissioned at Maryborough 1200K/8.

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~~DM~~



TOP SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

TO 0900K/SUNDAY, AUGUST 9th, 1942.

"STUART" } escorting A2, departed Brisbane 0000K/8.  
"GEELONG" }

"ARMIDALE" } arrived Brisbane 1830K/8 escorting G.P.8.  
"ROCKHAMPTON" }

"TOWNSVILLE" } departed Brisbane 1910K/8 escorting P.G.8.  
"ARMIDALE" } "ARMIDALE" E.T.A. Newcastle 1200K/10.  
"ROCKHAMPTON" }

"COLAC" - Escorting "HENRY B. THOREAU" and "HAN YANG", arrived Fall River 1430K/7. "COLAC" departed 0500K/8 for Port Moresby to fuel, E.T.A. 0700K/9.

"DOOMBA" - Departed Port Melbourne 2050K/8 to assume escort duty of O.C.16.

"SAMUEL BENBOW" } arrived Sydney 1216K/8 from Newcastle.  
"ALLENWOOD" }

X "SWAN" - E.T.A. Townsville 0001K/9 from Fall River.

"LITHCOW" - Escorting "JOHN JAY" arrived Thursday Island 0945K/8 from Darwin.

"WANAKA" - Departed Thursday Island 0801K/8 for Townsville, E.T.A. 1400K/10.

"HERON" - Departed Fremantle 0730H/7 for Exmouth Gulf E.T.A. a.m./10.

GENERAL.

Unidentified Darwin loop crossing at 1531 1K/8.

X No Asdic vessel available, but all other possible measures taken. "BABINDA" (600 tons) was largest vessel in harbour.

X "CASTLEMAINE" escorting C.O.16, detached to contact "MUNGANA", straggling from convoy, reported having attacked possible submarine in position  $36^{\circ} 46' S. 150^{\circ} 14'$  (about 50

✓ miles  $018^{\circ}$  from Gabo Island) at 1534K/7. Contact was lost after dropping one pattern of depth charges.

"Baralaba"



To 0900K/Saturday, 8th August, 1942.

"WARRNAMBOOL" departed Port Moresby 1635K/7 to carry out A/S search and look for survivors of "MAMUTU" (see below) - E.T.A. 0600K/8; and thereafter to escort "MAETSUYCKER" and "JOHN JAY" from Thursday Island to Port Moresby.

"KEITH CAM" departed Cairns 0300K/6 for Thursday Island.

"KANIBLA" arrived Melbourne 0805K/7 from escorting convoy "SCHOONER".

"VIGILANT" departed Darwin 1910K/5 - operations Hamburger.

"WARREGO" arrived Fall River escorting "TASMAN" and "JAPARA" at 1800K/5, departed escorting "TASMAN" 0900K/6 - E.T.A. Pt. Moresby 0800K/7.

"OTUS" arrived Wellington 1416M/6 from Melbourne.

"STUART" escorting "WEST CACTUS" arrived Brisbane 1716K/7 from Noumea.

"ADELAIDE" departed Fremantle 1725H/7 to relieve "TROMP" and escort "STIRLING CASTLE" direct to Melbourne.

"TROMP" relieved H.M.S. "GAMBIA" of escort duty to "STIRLING CASTLE" at 1100H/6. "GAMBIA" is returning to Mauritius.

"GEELONG" arrived Brisbane 2127K/7.

"BARALABA" departed Cairns 0005K/8 - E.T.A. Wednesday Island 0200K/9.

#### ENEMY SUBMARINE ACTIVITY.

1. (a) A coast watcher on Murray Island (059°08 miles from Cape York) reported that at 0910K/7 he heard distinctly and close to East end of Island the noise of a motor starting and stopping under water. He stated that he was positive it was a submarine.

(b) At 1246K/7 C.W.R. reported that 2 submarines were reported at Murray Island at 0930K/7. This information had been received from A.C.H. Townsville who further stated that two B.25's (medium bombers) were being despatched immediately.

(c) At 1100K/7 S.S. "MAMUTU" (300 tons gross, departed Port Moresby 1034K/6 for Daru - on New Guinea mainland, north of Cape York) reported from position 9°11'S. 144°12'E (0120 52 miles from Murray Island) that a submarine was approaching her. At 1110K/7 she reported she was being attacked by submarine.

At 1540K/7 N.O.I.C. Thursday Island reported that a flying fortress (in position 9°11'S. 144°16'E) observed members of "MAMUTU'S" crew in water without a boat, and the Fortress dropped a raft.

At 1712K/7 A.C.H. Townsville reported that it was believed "MAMUTU" was sunk, that a Fortress had reported men in water without lifeboat, that Hudsons were also searching the area, that rubber boats had been dropped by aircraft and that search of area would be resumed at dawn (on 8th) for survivors.

All shipping in area was warned by B.A.M.S. signal from A.C.N.B. of presence of submarine in locality. Launch "RELIANCE" was despatched from Murray Island and a boat (signal corrupt) from Cairns to rescue survivors of "MAMUTU". "WARRNAMBOOL" also searching (see above).

~~V. 2. 1~~



2. A Wirraway aircraft while on exercise from Cootamundra N.S.W., reported sighting a submarine in position  $35^{\circ}30'S$ .  $150^{\circ}30'E$  (100 miles south of Sydney) at 1441K/7. After interrogation of the pilot, this report was graded B.3. At 2215K/7, Duty Officer, Garden Island, stated on secraphone that this report was low graded because this locality, which is 3 -  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles off shore, is in vicinity of recent sinkings and a large quantity of wreckage abounds. No further information was available. "MILDURA" escorting convoy O.C.15 from Melbourne to Newcastle, was warned of possible presence of submarine in this area.

3. (a) A "suspected U/Boat" was sighted by aircraft at 0940H/7 in position  $30^{\circ}29'S$ .  $114^{\circ}51'E$  (100 miles south of Geraldton). This report was amplified at 2245K/7 by Commander Kennedy on secraphone. He said that pilot on interrogation stated he observed what he took to be a shoal, but upon consulting his chart, found no reference to a shoal in that vicinity. He, therefore, dropped three bombs on the object, two of which failed to explode.

(b) At 1316Z/7 U.S.S.T. "HERON" reported sighting periscope in position  $31^{\circ}28'S$ .  $115^{\circ}10'E$  (45 miles N.W. of Fremantle). Two depth charges were dropped. Commander Kennedy stated that "HERON" reported this sighting was "definitely identified". He further stated that this sighting could not relate to any submarine sighted 100 miles south of Geraldton at 0940H/7, as the distance was too great to allow a submarine (which would have to stay submerged because of patrols by aircraft) to reach "HERON'S" position in time. The following action was taken.

- (i) A.C.N.B. sent out B.A.M.S. signal warning all shipping in vicinity.
- (ii) "TROMP" and "STIRLING CASTLE" were warned by signal from A.C.N.B.
- (iii) An air search was instituted till dark and will be resumed on 8/7.
- (iv) "MADRAS" was despatched to scene of sighting.
- (v) "LAUNCESTON" and "WOLLONGONG" are waiting in readiness in vicinity of Rottnest Island.
- (vi) The four minesweepers are standing by in case they can be of assistance.

4. From 1116K to 1718K/7 persistent R.D.F. in localised position off Port Stephens (70 $\pm$ 25 miles from Newcastle) were recorded. One fishing trawler in vicinity but off R.D.F. bearings in excess of maximum error. An investigation by aircraft at 1630K/7 was without result.

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To 0900K/Friday, 7th August, 1942.

"SWAN" departed Fall River escorting "SWARTENHONDT" at 1900K - E.T.A. "SWAN" Townsville 1800K/8 - "SWARTENHONDT" E.T.A. Brisbane 1900K/11.

"BARALABA" departed Townsville with Lighter "REBEL" in tow at 1530K/6 - E.T.A. Cairns 1430K/7.

"DOOMBA" arrived Port Phillip escorting convoy C.O.15 - at 2327K/6.

"WARREGO" departed Fall River at 0900K/6 escorting "TASMAN" to Port Moresby - E.T.A. 0800K/8.

"DELORAIN" escorting Newcastle portion of C.O.16 departed Newcastle at 0745K/6 and will join "CASTLEMAINE" and party - E.T.A. Melbourne C.O.16 1200K/9.

"CASTLEMAINE" escorting Sydney portion of convoy C.O.16 departed Sydney at 1456K/6.

"KATOOMBA" arrived Townsville from Fall River at 1210K/6.

"GOULBURN" and "GEELONG" departed Pile Light Brisbane at 1330K/6 escorting convoy A.1. "GOULBURN" is to remain with convoy to Capricorn Channel, then return to Brisbane "GEELONG" is to leave convoy in order to arrive at Caloundra Head by 2359K/7. "ARUNTA" departed Sydney at 0030K/6 to join convoy en route.

"TOWNSVILLE" arrived Brisbane from Townsville at 0605K/6.

"ARMIDALE" and "ROCKHAMPTON" departed Sydney at 1005K/6 escorting convoy G.P.8.

U.S. Submarine "SAILFISH" arrived Albany at 1041K/6.

U.S. Submarine Tender "OTUS" arrived Wellington from Melbourne at 1216K/6.

Fighting French Ships "CHEVREUIL" and "CAP DES PALMES" arrived Noumea from Sydney on 3rd August.

#### GENERAL.

U.M.I.S. "BENGAL" was commissioned at 1300K/5 under command of Lt. Commander W.J. Wilson, R.I.N.R.

"BISHOPDALE" (R.A.F.A. Oiler - 17,000 tons) at 1415K/5 reported striking a mine when leaving port at Noumea. Vessel returned to port safely with extensive damage below water line. Possible to make nearest docking port in good weather under own power. Reports that ocean escort is imperative.

#### Enemy Naval Units in Rabaul Area:

COMBOWESPACFOR reports air sightings of the following enemy naval forces in the Rabaul Area.

- (1) At 1330K/6 in position 110 miles N.W. of Rabaul - course 300°  
1 aircraft carrier 15,000 tons and 3 destroyers.
- (2) At 1400K/6 at Rabaul 10 merchant vessels and 8 unidentified warships - destroyers or larger.

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General

Arunta





To 0900K/Wednesday, 5th August, 1942.

"ROCKHAMPTON" } escorting "DANIEL BOONE" (Sydney portion of convoy  
"YANDRA" } G.P.8) departed Sydney 0803K/4 but returned  
Sydney 1038K/4 in order that cargo in "DANIEL  
BOONE" could be restowed. Departure of convoy  
G.P.8 (3 ships) delayed by 24 hours.

"ADELAIDE" } arrived Fremantle from escort duty at 0801H/4.  
"VOYAGER" }

"OTUS" departed Melbourne 1700K/1 proceeding south of Tasmania  
to Wellington, N.Z. E.T.A. 0900M/7.

"KEITH CAM" departed Townsville 0957K/4 - E.T.A. Cairns 0700K/5;  
E.T.A. Thursday Island 10/8.

"COLAC" to rendezvous with "HANYANG" and "HENRY D. THORAU" at  
1700K/5 and escort vessels to Fall River - E.T.A.  
1500K/7.

"ARMIDALE" escorting Sydney portion of convoy O.C.14 arrived Sydney  
2025K/4.

"ARUNTA" is to rendezvous with convoy Z.K.12 at 0800K/5 and  
escort convoy to Sydney.

"KALGOORLIE" escorting "SIBIGO" departed Townsville 0530K/3 for  
Darwin - E.T.A. Thursday Island en route 0700K/6.

"SAILFISH" departed Fremantle 1859K/4 for Albany - E.T.A. dawn 6/8.

"MORSEBY" arrived Newcastle 0830K/5 with convoy O.C.14 and departed  
for Sydney

GENERAL.

S.S. "KATOOMBA" (9424 tons gross) bound Fremantle  
to Adelaide when in position 36°53'S. 123°34'E. (124° 188 miles  
from Esperance, W.A., at 1900H/4 reported she was being shelled  
by an enemy submarine. E.A.N.S. message was immediately sent out  
to all ships in the area. At 2115H/4 "KATOOMBA" reported from a  
position 40 miles east of that previously given that she was still  
being shelled. "KATOOMBA" was routed at 13½ knots, but is thought  
capable of 15 knots. The above data gives her a speed of about 16  
knots.

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To 0900K/Tuesday, 4th August, 1942.

"WHYALLA" escorting P.G.7 including "BUNCAREE" departed Brisbane at 1127K/3. "ARUNTA" will join as additional escort off Cape Morton.

"KALGOOLIE" escorting "SIBIGO" (Dutch) to Darwin via Thursday Island, departed Townsville at 0530K/3 - E.T.A. Darwin 0700K/6.

"TROMP" departed Fremantle at 1615K/3 to rendezvous at 1230K/6 with H.M.S. "GAMBIA" escorting "STIRLING CASTLE", in position 32°10'S. 96°37'E (1,000 miles West of Fremantle). "STIRLING CASTLE" is en route to New Zealand via Melbourne. If rendezvous is not made H.M.S. "GAMBIA" will proceed towards Fremantle until relieved, then "GAMBIA" to Fremantle to fuel, before returning to Mauritius.

"MILDURA" departed Newcastle for escort duties with C.O.15 at 1112K/3.

"WILCANNIA" escorting Newcastle portion of convoy C.O.15 departed Newcastle at 1114K/3.

"CESSNOCK" arrived Townsville at 0040K/3 from Fall River escorting "MONGOLA"

"WARREGO" departed Cairns at 0835K/3 to rendezvous with "COLAC", "TASMAN" and "JAPARA" at Fitzroy Island Light at 1748K/3 and escort to Fall River. At 2119K/3 N.O.I.C. Townsville ordered "COLAC" to return to Grafton Passage and await arrival of 2 transports - E.T.A. at rendezvous 0600K/5. "COLAC" broke W/T and acknowledged. "BENDIGO" as intended for this duty but has reported engine, boiler and condenser defects and will not be ready until Friday 7th August.

"ORARA" departed Pt. Melbourne for S.C.F. 18 at 1800K/3.

"WATO" towing oil lighter to Exmouth Gulf departed Darwin at 0455K/3 - E.T.A. 12th August.

"TOWNSVILLE" departed Townsville for Brisbane - E.T.A. 0700K/6.

"STUART" escorting "WEST CACTUS" departed Noumea at 1243K/2 - E.T.A. Brisbane 1600K/7.

#### ENEMY SUBMARINE ACTIVITIES.

At 0045K/3 "DURENBEE" (Fishing Trawler 223 tons) was shelled by enemy submarine off Moruya (130 miles south of Sydney) Casualties - 2 killed 4 injured.

Salvage Board report from Moruya stated "DURENBEE" abandoned and still in the vicinity. Salvage Board have the matter in hand and are endeavouring to arrange salvage.

(B.A.M.S. and convoy escorts in Area 5B were warned of submarine and floating derelict).

At 2105K/3 A.C.H. Sydney reported a green rocket - gun flash and heavy sound off Moruya at 1945K/3.

At 2120K/3 A.C.H. Sydney reported the indication of a submarine in the vicinity of Moruya.

(B.A.M.S. and convoy escorts in Area 5B were warned).

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To 0900K/Monday, 3rd August, 1942.

"C" escorting "TASMAN" and "JAPARA" departed Townsville 1437K/2, to rendezvous "WARREGO" and proceed Fall River - E.T.A. 1100K/5.

"WOLLONGONG" arrived Fremantle 1501H/2 from escort duty with "SCHOONER".B.

"SOUTHERN CROSS" } returned Darwin 1658/IK/2 from operation Plover.  
"CHINAMPA" }

"BOMBAY" arrived Adelaide 1738/IK/2 from Fremantle.

"ARUNTA" escorting "MAETSUYCHER" from Melbourne arrived Brisbane 0530K/2.

"LITHCOW" escorting "JOHN JAY" arrived Darwin 1940/IK/1 from Thursday Island.

"MILDURA" arrived Newcastle 1457K/2 from Sydney.

"DOOMBA" arrived Pt. Melbourne 1815K/2 from escorting Melbourne portion C.O.14.

"ELWING" towing "REBEL" arrived Townsville 2330K/31 from Cairns. Delayed by engine room defects.

"OTUS" departed Pt. Phillip Heads 1700K/1 for Wellington - E.T.A. 7/8.

"HERON" arrived Fremantle 1600H/1 from Exmouth Gulf.

"KALGOORLIE" escorting "ABIEL FOSTER" arrived Townsville 0601K/2 from Sydney - E.T.A. 0600K/3 escorting "SIBIGO" to Darwin.

G E N E R A L.

"KALGOORLIE" reported having carried out depth charge attack on submarine contacted 2323K/30/7 in position 26°19'S. 153°45'E (about 43 miles 024° from Cape Moreton). Report being forwarded.

A.C.H. Melbourne's 0401Z/2 reported that an aircraft from Mallacoota attacked submarine in position 37°48'S. 149°43'E (about 15 miles S.W. of Gabo Island), at 1200K/2. General warning to shipping issued. Z.K.12 re-routed wide of position.

A.C.H.'s 2040Z/1 reported that interrogation pilot indicates object attacked not submarine or enemy unit.

"DUBBO" (A.M.S.) commissioned in Sydney 1200K/31.

W/T Station Brisbane intercepted on 5628K/Cs morse transmission from 1215K/2 to 1435K/2. First class D/F bearings from Archerfield and Cloncurry fixed approximate position of transmitting station 220 miles E.N.E. of Bowen. Passed to N.Z.N..B.

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MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

TO 0900K/SUNDAY, 2nd AUGUST, 1942.

BENDIGO arrived Cairns at 1535K/1 from Townsville after escorting Swartenhoudt to rendezvous with Swan.

ROCKHAMPTON arrived Sydney at 1848K/1 after escorting Sydney, Port Kembla portion of Convoy O.C.13.

CAIRNS. arrived Sydney at 1532K/1 after completing escort duties with O.C.13.

DOOMBA departed Port Melbourne at 2211K/1 escorting Convoy O.C.14.

CASTLEMAINE departed Sydney for Broken Bay at 1157K/1 for working up exercises.

WILCANNIA departed Sydney at 1158K/1 to rendezvous with O.C. 13 and escort portion to Newcastle.

SWAN departed Cairns at 0930K/1 to rendezvous with and escort Swartenhoudt to Fall River E.T.A. 1900K/3.

WARRNAMPOOL arrived Port Moresby at 1146K/31.

ELWING with REBEL (Lighter) in tow arrived Townsville at 2120K/31. At 1222K/1 N.O.I.C. Townsville reported departure of Elwing delayed by engine room defects.

U.S. SUBMARINE TENDER OTUS departed Port Melbourne at 1400K/1. E.T.A. Wellington 1230K/6.

KANINELA departed Fremantle at 1720K/31 escorting Schooner "B" to Melbourne. E.T.A. 1600K/7. Voyager will provide A/S escort until 2100K/2. Wollongong until 2100K/1 and Adelaide until 2100K/2, thence returning to Fremantle.

ENEMY SUBMARINES SIGHTED AND ATTACKED BY AIRCRAFT IN VICINITY OF SYDNEY HEADS.

A.C.H. Sydney report the following submarines sighted and attacked by Aircraft.

- (1) Boston Bomber attacked Submarine 26 miles south of Sydney Heads at 1645K/1. From 600 feet 6 bombs landed in target area. Submarine considered definitely damaged.
- (2) At 1645K/1 a Beaufighter attacked submarine 12 miles north of Sydney Heads with 40 rounds cannon fire. Nil results.

B.A.M.S. in Area 5B were warned, also C.O. and O.C. Convoy escorts.



To 0900K/Saturday, 1st August, 1942.

- "TOOMBA" - escorting "BANTAM" and "ANHUI" arrived Fall River P.M./30.
- "CESSNOCK" - escorting "MANGOLA" departed Fall River 0600K/31 E.T.A. Townsville P.M./2.
- "ARUNTA" escorting "MAETSUYCKER" and "CARLISLE" from Melbourne arrived Brisbane 2210K/30.
- "TOWNSVILLE" departed Thursday Island 1600K/31 for Townsville
- "KALGOORLIE" from Sydney escorting "ABIEL FOSTER" - E.T.A. Townsville 0800K/21.
- "TOOWOOMBA" E.T.A. Pt. Adelaide 1300/1K/5 from Fremantle.
- "STUART" departed Sydney 1431K/30 for Noumea to escort "WEST CACTUS" to Brisbane, now ordered to arrive Brisbane 1800K/6.
- "ELWING" towing launch, departed Mackay 1939K/30 for Cairns E.T.A. 1800K/2.
- "OTUS" arrived Pt. Melbourne 1131K/31 from Fremantle.
- "TROMP" } arrived Fremantle 0600H/31 from escorting Z.K.12.  
 "VOYAGER" }
- "SWAN" arrived Cairns 0945K/31 from Townsville.
- "WARWAMBOOL" departed Pt. Moresby 0355K/31 for Thursday Island - E.T.A. 1600K/1; ordered by A.C.N.B.'s 0729Z/31 if with "KARSIK" to escort her to Townsville.
- "GEELONG" } departed Sydney 0702K/31 escorting G.P.7.  
 "WHYALLA" }
- "WARREGO" arrived Cairns 0721K/31 from Townsville.
- "DOOMBA" arrived Williamstown 0421K/31 from escort duty with C.O.13.
- "PRESTON" arrived Exmouth Gulf A.M./29 from Fremantle.
- "HERON" departed Exmouth Gulf for Fremantle 1500H/29 - E.T.A. 1200H/1.

#### GENERAL.

D/F bearing, second class, of possible submarine in vicinity 37°20'S. 150°40'E (about 40 miles 70° from Gabo Island) at 1845K/31. Passed to "ARMIDALE" escorting C.O.14, and "OORAMA" (cargo vessel 1051 tons, Devonport/Sydney - E.T.A. 0700K/2).

S.S. "TINAMA" (cargo vessel, 608 tons) reported sighting object resembling submarine at 1810K/30 in position 20°18'S. 153°05'E (about 50 miles N. of Hervey Bay). Graded D.4.



P.M.B. "NEPEAN" commissioned at 0800K/31 at Port Melbourne.

"ARDENT" (Norwegian cargo vessel, 1,800 tons) due Fremantle 26/7 from Colombo, and "KAJAK" (Russian cargo vessel, 3,234 tons) due Fremantle 27/6 have not arrived.

"ROCKHAMPTON" escorting O.C.13 reported three heavy underwater explosions, considered caused by magnetic torpedoes in wake of "CAIRNS" at 0300K/31 in position 38°00'S. 149°43'E (about 27 miles 195° from Gabo Island. Depth of water 26 fathoms).

.....

[Faint, mostly illegible text follows, appearing to be a list of shipping reports or a continuation of the log. Some legible fragments include:]

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DAILY NARRATIVE.

MOST SECRET.

To 0900K/Friday, 31st July, 1942.

- ✓ "SLEDOE" arrived Cairns 1115K/29 departed Cairns 1200K/29 for Townsville - E.T.A. 1300K/30.
- ✓ "WHYALLA" arrived Sydney 1529K/29.
- ✓ "KATOOMBA" at Fall River is to escort "ANHUI" to position clear of China Straits, and then to return to Fall River and escort "BANTAM" to Townsville. "ANHUI" to proceed to Townsville.
- ✓ "LAURABADA" departed Fall River 0808K/29 for D'Entrecasteaux Group.
- ✓ "STUART" departed Sydney 1431K/30 for Noumea, to escort "WEST CACTUS" from Noumea to Brisbane. Original E.T.A. of "STUART" at Noumea was 1600L/2/8, but her arrival is to be expedited and "WEST CACTUS" is to be ready to depart Noumea 1000L/2/8, so that "STUART" may be in Brisbane by 1200K/8/8.
- ✓ "LITHGOW" escorting "PERIOD" and "YARRA" arrived Thursday Island 2000K/29 and departed Thursday Island 0420K/30 for Darwin escorting "JOHN JAY" - E.T.A. 1800K/2/8.
- ✓ "MORSEY" escorting Newcastle portion of convoy C.O.14 departed Newcastle 0728K/30, E.T.A. Melbourne 0800K/1.
- ✓ "ARMIDALE" escorting Sydney portion of convoy C.O.14 departed Sydney 1601K/30.
- ✓ "DOOMBA" escorting convoy C.O.13 departed Pt. Phillip 1641K/29 and escorting convoy C.O.13 arrived Pt. Phillip 0117K/31.
- ✓ "WARREGO" escorting "HANYANG" arrived Townsville 0455K/30, departed Townsville for Cairns - E.T.A. 0800K/31.
- ✓ "SWAN" departed Townsville 2025K/30 for Cairns - E.T.A. 0930K/31.
- ✓ "CAP DES PALMES" } departed Sydney 1755K/30 for Noumea 0800L/3/8.  
✓ "CHEVREUIL" }
- ✓ "MAUNGANUI" departed Pt. Phillip Bay 1950K/30 for Wellington. E.T.A. 1000M/4/8.
- ✓ "WARHNAPOOL" escorting "KANSIK" arrived Fall River 1100K/29. No departure signal yet received but E.T.A. Pt. Moresby 2030K/30.

GENERAL.

ENEMY AIR RAIDS:

- (1) PORT HEDLAND: At 0700H/29 nine enemy planes dropped 30 bombs on Pt. Hedland aerodrome. E.W. runway was temporarily unserviceable. Only casualty was one service (air?) personnel killed.
- (2) DARWIN: At 1355K/30 27 bombers escorted by about 27 zero fighters attacked R.A.A.F. Aerodrome and fighter sector. There were no naval casualties or damage.
- (3) TOWNSVILLE: At 0230K/31 Townsville reported an air raid in progress. The all clear was sounded at 0310K/31.

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To 0900K/Thursday, 30th July, 1942.

"BUNGARRE" arrived Brisbane at 1808K/29 from Townsville.

"VIOLANT" arrived Darwin at 1615K/29 from operation Hamburger.

"WHYALLA" arrived Sydney from Newcastle at 1529K/29 after escorting O.C.12.

"BARALABA" arrived Townsville at 0725K/29 from Thursday Island.

"DOOMBA" departed Port Melbourne at 1245K/29 to assume escort duties of convoy O.C.13.

"MORESBY" arrived Newcastle at 1336K/29 from Sydney.

"GRELONG" and "ARMIDALE" escorting Sydney portion of convoy O.C.12 arrived at Sydney at 0330K/29.

"GOOLGWAI" departed Sydney for Newcastle at 2231K/28.

ENEMY AIR RAIDS:

- (1) Port Moresby: Reported at 1902K/29 "air raid" in progress, and "all clear" at 2100K/29.
- (2) Thursday Island: Reported "Air raid in progress" at 1142K/29 and "all clear" at 1300K/29.
- (3) Horn Island: Reported "air raid in progress" then "all clear" no T.O.O. given - but reports arrived approximately same time as Thursday Island.
- (4) Darwin: (no T.O.O.) reported "air raid in progress" and "all clear" at 0720K/30.

Damages and casualties, if any, in the above raids have not yet been reported.

ENEMY SUBMARINE SIGHTED AND ATTACKED BY AIRCRAFT:

An enemy submarine was sighted in position 22 miles N.E. of Gabo Island, and attacked by aircraft. Aircraft crew on interrogation state that 6 - 250 lb. bombs were dropped from 200 feet. The first bomb was seen to hit forward of the conning tower as submarine crash dived. A circle of oil 100 feet in diameter observed after attack. Graded A.1.

GENERAL.

"BOWEN" (A.M.S.) was successfully launched at Maryborough at 1025K/29.

"PROCOME" (A.M.S.) (U.K.) commissioned Wednesday, 29th July, 1942.

ENEMY ACTIVITIES:

A.C.H. Townsville passed the following reports received from Pt. Moresby -

- (1) At 1435K/29 Ambasi Coast Watcher (near Buna) reported sighting 6 ships, 1 resembling aircraft carrier. This report graded C.3. by A.C.H. Townsville.
- (2) Further from Ambasi at 1515K/29 sighted 1 small naval unit followed by 2 cargo vessels heading Gona, accompanied by planes.



To 0900K/Wednesday, 29th July, 1942.

"ARUNTA" arrived Sydney 1052K/28 refuelled and departed 1322K/28 to rejoin Z.K.16.

"KALGOORLIE" departed Sydney 2042K/28 to rendezvous "ARUNTA".

"WARRNAMBOOL" escorting "KARSIK" departed Pt. Moresby 2306K/27 for Fall River - E.T.A. 0800K/29, but if met by "CESSNOCK" ordered to escort "BONTEKOE" through Great North East channel.

"BONTEKOE" departed Fall River 0615K/28 for Townsville - E.T.A. 1900K/30.

"CESSNOCK" escorting "BONTEKOE" and "WANGOLA" arrived Fall River 1500K/27 from Townsville ordered to meet "WARRNAMBOOL" and take over escort of "KARSIK" to Fall River.

"BOMBAY" departed Fremantle 1630H/27 for Adelaide - E.T.A. 1730/IK/2.

"KATCOMBA" departed Townsville 1140K/27 to rendezvous "ANHUI" and escort to Fall River - E.T.A. 1500K/30.

"COLAC" arrived Townsville 0455K/28 from Fall River.

"YANDRA" arrived Sydney 0427K/28 escorting tug "WARANG" and "ST. ARISTELL" towing "ALLARA".

"TOWNSVILLE" escorting "FULAGI" departed Darwin 0402Z/IK/28 for Thursday Island - E.T.A. 0930K/31.

"PALUMA" departed Cairns 0930K/28 for Townsville - E.T.A. 0600K/29.

U.S. Submarine "STURGEON" arrived Albany 0818H/28 from Fremantle.

"SOUTHERN CROSS" } departed Darwin 1530/IK/28 - operation Plover.  
"CHINAMPA" }

"MORESBY" to have departed Newcastle 0630K/29 as escort for C.O.14.

"WARREGO" escorting "HANYANG" departed Fall River 0600K/27 for Townsville - E.T.A. 0600K/30.

"KANIMBLA" } escorting "SCHOGNER" B arrived Fremantle 1538H/14.  
"MADRAS" }

"ADELAIDE" } escorting ZK.14 arrived Fremantle 1335H/14.  
"WOLLONGONG" }

GENERAL.

S.S. "TJINEGARA" (attacked by submarine about 82 miles S.E. of Noumea) now reported by investigating plane to be sunk. Survivors in boats. Comairsopae effecting rescue.

"CAIRNS" escorting C.O.13 with "ROCKHAMPTON" advises Asdic out of action until return to port. "ROCKHAMPTON" asked N.O.C.S. for additional escort but N.O.C.S. advised that no additional escort available and ordered "ROCKHAMPTON" to control and direct "CAIRNS" in event of attack.

RAID NO. 3 : TOWNSVILLE:

Bombs dropped in vicinity of Magnetic Island and P.W.S.S. No damage or casualties.



To 0900K/Tuesday, 28th July, 1942.

"MAHRAS" departed Fremantle 1757H/26 to rendezvous with convoy "SCHOONER" B.

<sup>ZAC</sup>  
"PACUMA" arrived Cairns 0825K/27.

"BUNGAREE" departed Cleveland Bay 0725K/26 for Sydney, but has now been ordered to proceed to Brisbane and join next Brisbane-Sydney convoy.

"MORESBY" arrived Sydney 0637K/27.

"GERALDTON" departed Fremantle 1501H/26 for Addu Atoll in company with tanker "BAHREIN".

"WARREGO" escorting "HANYANG" was due to depart Pt. Moresby 0600K/27 for Townsville.

"ARUNTA" escorting convoy O.C.12, Melbourne to Newcastle, is to leave convoy at daybreak on 28/7 and arrive Sydney 1200K/28 for fuel, depth charges and supplies; she is then to rejoin convoy.

"ROCKHAMPTON" arrived Newcastle 2205K/26 and departed escorting "CAIRNS" convoy C.O.13 at 0807K/27. E.T.A. Melbourne 1500K/29.  
"WARRENAMBOOL" escorting "TASMAN" arrived at Pt. Moresby 1721K/26.

"YANDRA" } escorting "SAINTARISTELL" and "WARANG" towing  
"ALLENWOOD" } S.S. "ALLARA", departed Newcastle 0855K/27 for Sydney; but "ALLENWOOD" is returning to Newcastle owing to starboard engine being defective.

"W.B. PRESTON" en route Fremantle to Exmouth Gulf, arrived and departed Geraldton 1200H/27.

"STUART" arrived Sydney 2048K/27.

"WESTRALIA" } departed Fremantle 1640H/27 to rendezvous  
"MANCOORA" } with convoy "SCHOONER" A at 1000H/28, thence  
"DUNTROON" (H.T.) } to Sydney. "TROMP" is to provide escort  
"TROMP" } till 1900H/28.

GENERAL.

ENEMY AIR RAIDS:

TOWNSVILLE: At 0206K/28 bombs were dropped on Townsville. There were no casualties or damage.

DARWIN: Two raids were made on Darwin.

- (1) At 2246K/27 three to five enemy bombers were over Darwin. Bombs fell in the vicinity of R.A.A.F. aerodrome. There were no naval casualties or damage.
- (2) At 0150K/27 three enemy bombers were over Darwin. Bombs were dropped in vicinity of R.A.A.F. aerodrome. There were no naval casualties or damage.

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To 0900K/Monday, 27th July, 1942.

"DOOMBA" arrived Port Phillip 1450K/26 having completed.

"VOYAGER" departed Fremantle at 1629K/26 for escort duty with "SCHOONER" and Z.K.12.

"KALGOORLIE" arrived Sydney at 1502K/26 escorting "MIZAR".

"ROCKHAMPTON" and "CAIRNS" departed Sydney at 1428K/26 for Newcastle.

"BUNGAREE" and "BENDIGO" arrived Townsville at 0441K/26.

"MORESBY" escorting "ST. GILES" and "BEAVER" with "PORTMAR" in tow arrived Brisbane at 0700K/26.

\* This has been reported as "STUART" apparently in error - a check has been requested.

"WOLLONGONG" departed Albany at 2305K/26 to rendezvous with Z.K.14.

"MARYBOROUGH" arrived Albany from Fremantle 0950K/26.

"COLAC" escorting "JAPARA" departed Fall River at 1902K/25 for Townsville - E.T.A. 0600K/26.

U.S. Submarine "STURGEON" departs Fremantle at 1900K/26 for Albany - E.T.A. Dawn 28th July.

U.S. Seaplane Tender "PRESTON" departed Fremantle for Exmouth Gulf calling at Geraldton route - E.T.A. Geraldton P.M. 28/7.

GENERAL.

"TALUNE" previously reported to have lost her propeller 75 miles out from Hobart returned to Hobart 28th July and reports "Broken tail shaft and lost propeller".

Air Raid on Darwin:

3 bombers raided Darwin at 2200K/26 and 3 bombers again at 2325K/26. D.N.O. N.T. reported at 0105K/27. No naval damage or casualties.

S.S.S.S. from "COOLANA" (20 miles north of Green Cape.) 2197 gross tons en route Melbourne to Newcastle.

Brisbane Radio reported the following intercept at 0415K/27.

S.S.S.S. 20 miles north of Green Cape "COOLANA" shelled position 37°00'S. 150°13'E.

- (1) B.A.M.S. in area 5B. have been warned.
- (2) "ARUNTA" and "WHYALLA" with convoy O.C.12 have been advised.
- (3) A.C.H. Sydney advise that an air search will be carried out at first light.

At 0730K/27 Sydney Radio intercepted the following from "COOLANA".

"I am undamaged. Proceeding to Newcastle".

.....



To 0900 Sunday, 26th July, 1942.

"BOMBAY" arrived Fremantle 0755H/25.

"YANDRA" departed Sydney 1012K/25 escorting tug "SAINTARISTELL" for Newcastle.

"MARYBOROUGH" was to have departed Fremantle 1600H/24 for Albany.

"STUART" was to have rendezvoused with "ST. GILES" towing "PORTMAR" and to have escorted vessels to Brisbane; but, failing to make rendezvous has now been ordered to provide, as far as fuel permits, up to 200 miles from the coast, A/S escort for S.S. "TORRENS" which departs Brisbane 0600K/26 for Friendly Islands.

"CAIRNS" } arrived Sydney 1636K/25.  
"DELOBRINE" }  
"MILDURA" }

"PROTERO" arrived Port Moresby 1723K/24.

"WHYALLA" escorting convoy O.C.12 departed Port Phillip 2141K/25.

"KALGOORLIE" departed from Sydney 2224K/25 to rendezvous with S.S. "MIZAR" at 0900K/26 and escort her to Sydney.

"ROCKHAM TON" arrived Sydney 1240K/25.

"WARRNAMBOOL" escorting "TALMAN" departed Thursday Island 0615K/25 for Port Moresby - E.T.A. 1600K/26.

"BARALABA" departed Thursday Island 2339K/24 for Townsville - E.T.A. 0900K/29.

"BENDIGO" has insufficient fuel to provide additional escort with "CESSNOCK" to Fall River and is proceeding Townsville E.T.A. 0600K/26.

"MORESBY" is escorting "PORTMAR" and "ST. GILES" to Brisbane in absence of "STUART".

"KURUMBA" arrived Brisbane 2245K/25.

ENEMY AIR RAIDS.

DARWIN: Darwin was raided by 3 to 5 bombers at 2100K/25. Bombs were dropped south of White Sand Bay aerodrome. There were no naval casualties or damage.

BOWEN: In a signal received by R.A.A.F. Melbourne at 0040K/26 from N.E. Area Headquarters, the following appeared "Following read from Bowen air raid warning sounded." A later signal from the same source stated the "All clear" was sounded at Bowen. No time was given for the sounding of either the alarm or the "All clear". N.O.I.C. Townsville at 0615K/26 was unable to supply any further information.

TOWNSVILLE: At 2355K/25 an air raid by an unknown number of planes was made on Townsville. Six bombs were dropped in the water to the east of the wharf. There were no casualties or damage. N.O.I.C. Townsville at 0615K/26 was unable to supply further details.







To 0900K/Saturday, 25th July, 1942. depart Hobart at 2359K/24

"COLAC" escorting "JAPANA" and "WARRECO" escorting "HAN YANG" arrived Fall River at 1400K/23. depart Hobart at

"EXCART" on completion of escorting ZK.15 is to proceed to escort "ST. GILES" towing the "PORTMAR" to Caloundra. "STUART" then to return to Sydney.

"BENDIGO" ordered to detach from "BUNGARRE" and rendezvous with "CESSNOCK" at 0900K/25 at entrance to Grafton Passage, to provide additional escort to Fall River. If unable to comply, to report when inside Barrier Reef by W/T. to make

"LITHGOW" escorting "YARRA" and "PERIOD" departed Darwin at 0854K/24 for Thursday Island - E.T.A. 0930K/28.

"WARRENAMBOOL" escorting "TASMAN" arrived at Thursday Island 2130K/23.

"SWAN" arrived Townsville from Port Moresby at 2115K/23.

"YANDRA" returned Sydney from escort duties at 2326K/23.

"CESSNOCK" escorting "BONTEKOE" and "MANGOLA" departed Townsville at 1716K/24 for Fall River - E.T.A. 1100K/27.

Enemy Submarine reported at Fremantle:

At 1746K/24 C.C.F. reported the recording of a loop crossing on No. 1 loop. The "MADRAS" claimed periscope definitely sighted and an attack on submarine was made. Two depth charges were fired, but failed to explode. "MARYBOROUGH" and "GERALDTON" are proceeding to join in the search - an air striking force took off immediately.

At 2006K/24 C.C.F. reported that the combined search was unsuccessful. Also that the "MADRAS" did not make an A/Scontact and that an experienced A/S officer reported that the loop signature was doubtful.

S.S.S.S. from Sinclair Superlane (100 miles east of Cape Byron).

Brisbane Radio reported the following intercept at 1555K/24.

S.S.S.S. 28°58'S. 155°30'E. Sinclair Superlane sighted submarine.

All ships in Area 5B have been warned.

"TALUNE" lost propeller 75 miles out from Hobart:

Hobart radio intercept the following message from "TALUNE" (2742 gross tons). Lost Propeller require assistance position 42°47'S. 148°26'E. (no T.O.O. given).

By 'phone at 2850K/24 Duty Naval Officer, Hobart, reported the following action was intended.

/ ...



MOST SECRET.DAILY NARRATIVE.

- (1) "BOMBO" (M/S coaster) will depart Hobart at 2359K/24 and proceed to her aid.
- (2) "KORANUI" (1266 gross tons) will depart Hobart at 0300K/25 to assist.
- (3) "MAIWARA" (at sea) advised by W/T to proceed to reported position and render all aid.
- (4) "TALUNE" requested to signal her estimated position at 0700K/25.
- "ARMIDALE" departed Newcastle 1102K/23 escorting C.O.12.
- U.S. "WEST CRESSY" off Coffs Harbour at 1600K/24 ordered to make wide detour to eastwards to latitude of Sydney, then to approach Sydney in daylight.
- "DELORAINNE" arrived Brisbane 0841K/21 from Townsville.
- "DELORAINNE" } departed Brisbane 1440K/23, escorting P.G.6.  
 "MILNEBA" }  
 "CAIRNS" }
- "KATOOMBA" arrived Townsville 0650K/23 from Milne Bay.
- "KURUMBA" departed Townsville 1113K/23 for Brisbane - E.T.A. 0500K/25.
- "PELIAS" arrived Albany 0915H/23 from Port Phillip.
- "ROCKHAMPTON" escorting "KHOM BOEA" to Twofold Bay to join two other vessels and escort to Sydney.
- "HUNGAREN" } arrived Port Moresby 0702K/23 and departed 1250K/23 for  
 "BERDIGN" } Grafton Passage - E.T.A. 25/7.
- "KOROWA" } departed Williamstown 2353K/23 to join "ORARA" and  
 "HEVELL II." } "UKI" sweeping vicinity Cape Otway.
- "HOLLAND" }  
 "TROMP" } departed Albany 1700H/23 for Fremantle.  
 "SAURY" }  
 "SEAL" }
- "DOOMBA" - towing "ALLARA" to Sydney.

S.S. "WILLIAM DAVES"

"ROCKHAMPTON" reported at 1020K/23 that derelict disappeared, and wreckage was sighted in position estimated. At last sighting, vessel was submerged from main mast aft, and afire.

S.S. "ALLARA"

"DOOMBA" is towing "ALLARA" to Sydney.

Submarine Activity:

"ARANTA" escorting Sydney portion of C.O.12 made three attacks on a submarine off Port Jackson, shortly after 2000K/23, and swept the area without regaining contact. "ARANTA" rejoined convoy, leaving "YANDRA" sweeping the area. General warning issued to shipping.



MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

At 0904K/23 Sydney Radio intercepted 2224 from "MUNDA"  
which vessel is 45 tons, on passage Bowen/Sydney in position  
To 0900K/Friday, 24th July, 1942. (S.S. of Newcastle). General

"ARUNTA" departed 0943K/23 for Newcastle to join C.O.12  
and escort to position off Corner Inlet.

"YANDRA" departed Sydney for Newcastle 1023K/23 to join C.O.12.

"GEELONG" departed Sydney 1503K/23 with Sydney section of C.O.12.

"ARMIDALE" departed Newcastle 1102K/23 escorting C.O.12.

Note: C.O.12 consists of 12 vessels, 9 from Newcastle,  
2 from Sydney and 1 from Port Kembla.

"DELORRAINE" arrived Brisbane 0941K/21 from Townsville.

"DELORRAINE" } departed Brisbane 1440K/23, escorting P.G.6.  
"MILDURA" }  
"CAIRNS" }

"KATOOMBA" arrived Townsville 0650K/23 from Milne Bay.

"KURUMBA" departed Townsville 1113K/23 for Brisbane - E.T.A. 0500K/26.

"PELIAS" arrived Albany 0915H/23 from Port Phillip.

"ROCKHAMPTON" escorting "KHOEN HOEA" to Twofold Bay to join two  
other vessels and escort to Sydney.

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"BENDIGO" } Grafton Passage - E.T.A. 25/7.

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"HOLLAND" }  
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"SAURY" }  
"SEAL" }

"DOOMBA" - towing "ALLARA" to Sydney.

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and wreckage was sighted in position estimated. At last sighting,  
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Submarine Activity:

"ARUNTA" escorting Sydney portion of C.O.12 made three attacks  
on a submarine off Port Jackson, shortly after 2000K/23, and swept  
the area without regaining contact. "ARUNTA" rejoined convoy,  
leaving "YANDRA" sweeping the area. General warning issued to  
shipping.

/ ...



At 0804K/24 Sydney Radio intercepted SSSS from "MURADA" cargo vessel 3,345 tons, on passage Bowen/Sydney in position 31°53'S. 153°07'E (about 85 miles N.E. of Newcastle). General warning issued to shipping. 1933K/21 for patrol to Twofold Bay, and to render whatever assistance possible to "WILLIAM Sydney Loop Crossing: about 10 miles off Tathra Head. Thereafter, to escort from Twofold Bay to Sydney ships sheltering. A loop crossing was registered at 1935K/23 - No further information available.

"BRAN" departed Port Moresby 1831K/21 - E.T.A. Townsville 1900K/23.

"BARBARA" departed Port Phillip 0625K/21 for sweeping operations off Cape Otway.

"TROMP" and "SCULPIN" (S.S. ....rins) arrived Albany 0915H/22 from Fremantle.

"COLAC" escorting "JAPARA" arrived Fall River 1100K/21 and departed towards Port Moresby 1500K/21. These vessels were ordered at 1129K/22 to return to Fall River. E.T.A. noonK/23.

"CAIRNS" departed Brisbane 1118K/22 for local A/S and minesweeping and returned 1845K/22.

"ABRIDALE" departed Sydney 1456K/22 for Newcastle - E.T.A. 2000K/22 to escort convoy C.O.12.

"BRUNAGUI" assumed duty as Guardship at Whyalla at 1801/1A/22.

"WARRANKE" completed refit and resumed duty on 21/7.

"WHYALLA" Basin trials satisfactory - vessel is now at 4 hours' notice for steam.

KERRY ACTION.

(1). At 0550K/22 S.S. "WILLIAM DAWES" was torpedoed in position 26°45'S. 150°20'E (about 15 miles east of Tathra and about 25 miles N.E. of Twofold Bay). Four members of the crew were killed, and the survivors, three of whom were injured, were landed at Merimbula. An aircraft out from Mallacoota reported sighting the vessel at 1415K/22. She was then 30 miles from Tathra, burning to forward hold, trucks on forward hatch were burning, and after hold was full of water and oil. She had been hit in stern, and had settled about three feet since 0825K/22. Reported to be still afloat at 1800K/22. Salvage Officer, Sydney, informed.

(2). At 0715K/22, S.S. "ALLARA" (3,000 tons - probably loaded sugar en route Cairns Sydney), reported that she had been torpedoed by a submarine in position 23°06'S. 152°17'E (about 28 miles S.E. of Newcastle). All shipping in vicinity was immediately warned. Duty Officer, Garden Island, on 'phone, at 0740K/22 stated that A.C.H. Sydney had this information. Position was later amended to 23°03'S. 152°22'E (bearing 108°28 miles from Newcastle). A signal from the ship at 0723K/22 stated she was torpedoed aft and requested that a tug be sent.

(3). A possible submarine was sighted at 1050K/22 in position 26°31'S. 150°03'E (about 10 miles north of Twofold Bay). The report was investigated by aircraft. A bombing attack was made by a Beaufort aircraft at 1015K/22 on object thought to be submarine in position 26°48'S. 150°20'E; results were unobserved. At 1108K/22, V.S.C. post at Pambula reported sighting submarine in approximate position 26°55'S. 150°00'E. This report was graded C.2. by A.C.H. Sydney. The trawler "MARGARET RHODES" reported sighting a submarine 10 miles due east of Jervis Bay at 1550K/22.



To 0900K/Thursday, 23rd July, 1942.

"ROCKHAMPTON" departed Sydney 1933K/21 for patrol to Twofold Bay, and to render whatever assistance possible to "WILLIAM DAVES" torpedoed about 10 miles off Tathra Head. Thereafter, to escort from Twofold Bay to Sydney ships sheltering in Twofold Bay.

"SWAN" departed Port Moresby 1831K/21 - E.T.A. Townsville 1900K/23.

"ORARA" departed Port Phillip 0825K/21 for sweeping operations off Cape Otway.

"TROMP" and "SCULPIN" (U.S. submarine) arrived Albany 0915H/22 from Fremantle.

"COLAC" escorting "JAPARA" arrived Fall River 1100K/21 and departed towards Port Moresby 1500K/21. These vessels were ordered at 1129K/22 to return to Fall River. E.T.A. noonK/23.

"CAIRNS" departed Brisbane 1119K/22 for local A/S and minesweeping and returned 1845K/22.

"ARMIDALE" departed Sydney 1458K/22 for Newcastle - E.T.A. 2000K/22 to escort convoy C.O.12.

"BRINAGUI" assumed duty as Guardship at Whyalla at 1301/IK/22.

"WARRAWEE" completed refit and resumed duty on 21/7.

"WHYALLA" Basin trials satisfactory - vessel is now at 4 hours' notice for steam.

#### ENEMY ACTION.

(1). At 0530K/22 S.S. "WILLIAM DAVES" was torpedoed in position  $36^{\circ}45'S$ ,  $150^{\circ}20'E$  (about 15 miles east of Tathra and about 25 miles N.E. of Twofold Bay). Four members of the crew were killed, and the survivors, three of whom were injured, were landed at Merimbula. An aircraft out from Mallacoota reported sighting the vessel at 1415K/22. She was then 20 miles from Tathra, burning to forward hold, trucks on forward hatch were burning, and after hold was full of water and oil. She had been hit in stern, and had settled about three feet since 0825K/22. Reported to be still afloat at 1800K/22. Salvage Officer, Sydney, informed.

(2). At 0715K/22, S.S. "ALLARA" (3,000 tons - probably loaded sugar en route Cairns Sydney), reported that she had been torpedoed by a submarine in position  $33^{\circ}06'S$ ,  $152^{\circ}17'E$  (about 28 miles S.E. of Newcastle). All shipping in vicinity was immediately warned. Duty Officer, Garden Island, on 'phone, at 0740K/22 stated that A.C.H. Sydney had this information. Position was later amended to  $33^{\circ}03'S$ ,  $152^{\circ}22'E$  (bearing 108<sup>00</sup>28 miles from Newcastle). A signal from the ship at 0723K/22 stated she was torpedoed aft and requested that a tug be sent.

(3). A possible submarine was sighted at 1050K/22 in position  $036^{\circ}51'S$ ,  $150^{\circ}03'E$  (about 10 miles north of Twofold Bay). The report was investigated by aircraft. A bombing attack was made by a Beaufort aircraft at 1015K/22 on object thought to be submarine in position  $36^{\circ}48'S$ ,  $150^{\circ}20'E$ ; results were unobserved. At 1108K/22, V.D.C. post at Pambula reported sighting submarine in approximate position  $26^{\circ}55'S$ ,  $150^{\circ}00'E$ . This report was graded C.2. by A.C.H. Sydney. The trawler "MARGARET RHODES" reported sighting a submarine 10 miles due east of Jervis Bay at 1550K/22.



To 2600K/Wednesday 22nd July, 1942.

GENERAL.

"ORARA" departed Fall River at 1200K/20 escorting "ORARA" via Crofton Passage to Townsville - N.T.A. 0500K/20.  
 Reports indicate that the total force engaged at Buna and Gona (N.E. Coast of New Guinea) consisted of 2 cruisers, 1 destroyer, 1 transport of 8,000 tons, 2 transports of 6,000 tons, minesweeper type of vessels, and at least 2 speed boats.  
 A force, not estimated, appears to have landed at Gona. A Fortress reported that one transport grounded south of Buna at 1700K/21. Five Marauders attacked a force of destroyers and transports at Cape Sudest (4 miles S.E. of Buna) at 1800K/21, scoring a direct hit on a transport. The large transport reported at Buna and Gona was sunk and casualties during their landing at Gona were probably heavy. By 1100K/22 ships in the area had departed north (believed to refer to warships).

"Enemy Mine" set Cairns at 0800K/21 to rendezvous with "HAN YAN" and escort to Fall River.

"ORARA" sweeping in vicinity of Cape Otway reported that at 1505K/22 in position 038°58'S. 143°25'E (Cape Otway Light, bearing 025° 8 miles) a mine type X, very old, was cut in the sweep. One casualty in this area in November, 1940, none since.

"ORARA" departed Sydney at 0730K/21 escorting E.K.15 as additional escort.

"CASTLEMAINE" arrived Brisbane at 0900K/21 from Sydney.

"ROCKEFELLER" ordered at 1807K/21 to proceed to a position off Jarvis Bay and escort any ship encountered as far as Sydney.

"MUTGARD" is departing vicinity Cairns with "SUNSHINE" for Port Moresby via Crofton Passage N.T.A. 21/7 - N.T.A. Port Moresby P.E. 22/7.

ENEMY ACTIVITIES.

At 1716K/21 N.O.I.C. Pt. Moresby reported Japanese warship shelling off Buna (site of Providence project) approximately 200 N.E. of Pt. Moresby. Composition of this force is in doubt. Believed to consist of -

- (a) Supporting force 2 cruisers 4 destroyers.
- (b) 2 transports, 2 small Merchant ships off Buna.
- (c) 3 transports, 4 destroyers 10 miles S.E. of Buna.

"COAST FARMER" (3,200 tons 1922) sunk by enemy submarine:

At 2044K/21 A.C.H. Sydney reported that the "COAST FARMER" had been torpedoed 25 miles off Jarvis Bay at 0800K/21. (within 20 miles of the sinking of the "G.S. LIVINGSTON" but three hours later). Later reports state that the "COAST FARMER" was hit amidships and sank in 20 minutes. Only one of the total complement of 41 is still missing - the 40 survivors have landed at Jarvis Bay. Cargo - Bitumen and general commercial.

The submarine came to the surface after the attack and examined the ship at close range by searchlight. No attempt was made to molest the survivors.



To 0900K/Wednesday 22nd July, 1942.

"WAGOMBA" departed Fall River at 1300K/20 escorting "SWARTENHONDT" via Grafton Passage to Townsville - E.T.A. 0500K/23.

"WARRNAMBOOL" departed Darwin at 0757K/21 escorting "TAMMAN" - E.T.A. Goode Island 2130K/23 - E.T.A. Port Moresby 0800K/25.

"DE GRABINE" arrived Brisbane from Townsville at 0941K/21.

"SWAN" - arrived at Port Moresby from Fall River - time of arrival corrupt.

"COLAC" and "JABARA" were ordered at 116K/21 to depart Fall River with despatch and proceed towards Port Moresby - due to enemy activities in Buna area.

"WARREGO" departed Cairns at 0800K/21 to rendezvous with "HAN YANG" and escort to Fall River.

"LAUNCESTON" and "MADRAS" arrived Fremantle at 0945K/21 from Adelaide.

"STUART" departed Sydney at 1035K/21 to rendezvous with Z.K.15.

"MORSEBY" departed Sydney at 0739K/21 escorting Z.K.15 as additional escort.

"CASTLEMAINE" arrived Brisbane at 0941K/21 from Sydney.

"ROCKHAMPTON" ordered at 1807K/21 to proceed to a position off Jervis Bay and escort any ship encountered as far as Sydney.

"BUNGAREE" is departing vicinity Cairns with "BENDIGO" for Port Moresby via Grafton Passage A.M. 21/7 - E.T.A. Port Moresby P.M. 23/7.

#### ENEMY ACTIVITIES.

At 1716K/21 N.O.I.C. Pt. Moresby reported Japanese warship shelling off Buna (site of Providence project) approximately 220 N.E. of Pt. Moresby. Composition of this force is in doubt. Believed to consist of -

- (a) Supporting force 2 cruisers 4 destroyers.
- (b) 2 transports, 2 small Merchant ships off Buna.
- (c) 5 transports, 4 destroyers 12 miles S.E. of Buna.

"COAST FARMER" (3,290 tons gross) sunk by enemy submarine:

At 2044K/21 A.C.H. Sydney reported that the "COAST FARMER" had been torpedoed 25 miles off Jervis Bay at 0200K/21. (within 20 miles of the sinking of the "G.S. LIVANOS" but three hours later). Later reports state that the "COAST FARMER" was hit amidships and sank in 20 minutes. Only one of the total complement of 41 is still missing - the 40 survivors have landed at Jervis Bay. Cargo - Bitumen and general commercial.

The submarine came to the surface after the attack and examined the ship at close range by searchlight. No attempt was made to molest the survivors.



Convoys: Tuesday, 21st July, 1942.

Convoys re-established between Melbourne-Newcastle. First convoy leave Newcastle 23rd July and Melbourne July 25th. Convoys between Sydney and Brisbane will sail when required as escorts become available.

Trans Tasman Shipping sails from Sydney and Brisbane between the hours of sunrise and 1030K.

Merchant Ship movements: vicinity Fitzroy Island Light and escort

At 1334K/21 Wilson's Promontory were ordered to instruct all eastbound vessels to return to Melbourne - except "SANTIAGO" which is permitted to proceed. Various ships bound Melbourne to Sydney told to shelter in Eden and await convoy.

9000 300 miles E.S.E. of Madagascar:

At 1400 G.M.T. Whitehall W/T reported the following has been received.

9000 Lat.  $26^{\circ}14'S$ . Long  $52^{\circ}30'E$  (300 miles E.S.E. of Madagascar). Followed by suspicious vessel D.E. W.I.H.X. - This call sign not known by Code Room.

Aircraft from Port Roberts reported "two battleships" and five vessels (GENERAL) in position  $034^{\circ}18'S$ ,  $153^{\circ}27'E$ . (about 75 miles E. of Natal) at 1112K/21. All appeared to be war vessels in position. At 1501K/21 Commodore, W.A. reported that "TOOWOOMBA" had developed a number of serious defects, and proposed not to sail her with "GERALDTON" and tanker "BAHREIN" for Kilindini about the 24th July, 1942.

At 2035K/21 N.O.C.S. reported that the "WALLABOO" had successfully completed her anchor, gunnery and progressive trials. Appearance radio intercepted from "WALLABOO" (large vessel from to page 2, 187, departed Colombo July 4 for Fremantle).  $23^{\circ}44'S$ ,  $82^{\circ}0'E$ , being shelled by battleship raider  $0522$  U.N.T./20. Position is about 1,700 miles  $232^{\circ}$  from Fremantle, and about 300 miles from "CHOR"  $2^{\circ}3'$  position at 0500K/21. Passed to "PHOENIX" and all interested authorities.

Japanese Aircraft over Cocos Islands:

Cocos Cable and Wireless reported Japanese aircraft similar to Navy Type 36 (heavy bomber) overhead at 1245K/20.

G.S. LIVINGS" sunk by submarine off Jarvis Bay:

Dutch Staff Officer, Geron Island reported by telephone at 0800K/21 that "G.S. LIVINGS" (Greek cargo steamer, built 1937, gross tonnage 4833, on passage Melbourne/Sydney) was sunk by submarine 15 to 20 miles off Jarvis Bay. 17 survivors have arrived at Jarvis Bay. Another boat is adrift. Search is being made by H.A.P. boat from Jarvis Bay, and is to be made by aircraft if necessary. Foggy conditions prevail.

Passed by N.O.C.S. to Comcomspac, C.F.N., and A.C.H. Sydney. General warning issued to shipping in area. Passed to "ASHLAND" and "STUART" escorting Z.K.14. Information reached N.O.C.S. at 0800K/21. Passed to D.N.C. Victoria.

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MOST SECRET.DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Monday, 20th July, 1942.

To 0900K/Tuesday, 21st July, 1942.

"ROCKERS" departed Townsville 0748K/19 for Port Moresby - E.T.A.

"ADELAIDE" } departed Sydney 1824K/20 escorting Z.K.14. "ADELAIDE"

"STUART" } to Fremantle - E.T.A. 0730H/28, "STUART" to position

"BUNOARRE" departed B (about 40 miles E. of Jervis Bay, with "BUNOARRE".

"CESSNOCK" - escorting "BONTEKOE" arrived Townsville 2248K/19  
from Fall River.

"WARREGO" arrived Townsville 1500K/18 departed Townsville

"WARREGO" - to proceed from Cairns to rendezvous "HAN YANG" at  
1000K/21 vicinity Fitzroy Island Light and escort

"SALMON", U.S. Sub to Fall River. Albany 1530H/18 for Fremantle.

"BARALARA" - arrived Thursday Island 0620K/20 from Cooktown.

"TROMP" } - departed Fremantle 1700H/20 for Albany E.T.A. 22nd.  
"SCULPIN" }"T. GILES" } departed Bowen 1200K/20 for Brisbane.  
"BEAVER" }

"LITTON" escorting "TASHAN" arrived Darwin 1411K/19.

"SALMON" arrived Fremantle 0815H/20 from Albany.

"KUROSA" arrived Townsville 18/1.

GENERAL.

"SHAN" escorting "SHARTEMAR" arrived Fall River 1700K/18.

Aircraft from Port Moresby reported "two battleships"

and five vessels (thought to be war vessels in position 004°18'S.  
153°27'E. (about 75 miles E. of Rabaul) at 1112K/20. Allappeared stationary. Photographs were taken. H.O.I.C. Pt.  
Moresby after interrogating aircraft crew and examining photographs  
considers sighting 2 medium transports, 2 light cruisers or large  
destroyers and 3 destroyers.RRRR. from "INDUS".

There is no further evidence of the presence of five or  
more ships Esperance Radio intercepted RRRR from "INDUS" (cargo  
vessel gross tonnage 5,187, departed Colombo July 4 for Fremantle).  
"26°44'S. 82°50'E. being shelled by battleship raider 0933 G.M.T./20."  
Position is about 1,720 miles 282° from Fremantle, and about 350  
miles from "SCHOONER'S" position at 0600K/21. Passed to "PHOENIX"  
and all interested authorities.

Japanese Aircraft over Cocos Islands.Cocos Cable and Wireless reported Japanese aircraft  
similar to Navy Type 96 (heavy bomber) overhead at 1345K/20."G.S. LIVANOS" sunk by submarine off Jervis Bay:

Duth Staff Officer, Garden Island reported by telephone  
at 0820K/21 that "G.S. LIVANOS" (Greek cargo steamer, built 1937,  
gross tonnage 4833, on passage Melbourne/Sydney) was sunk by submarine  
15 to 20 miles off Jervis Bay. 17 survivors have arrived at Jervis  
Bay. Another boat is adrift. Search is being made by N.A.P.  
boat from Jervis Bay, and is to be made by aircraft if necessary.  
Foggy conditions prevail.

Passed by H.O.C.S. to Comsowespac, C.W.R., and A.C.H.  
Sydney. General warning issued to shipping in area. Passed to  
"ADELAIDE" and "STUART" escorting Z.K.14. Information reached  
H.O.C.S. at 0800K/21. Passed to D.N.G. Victoria.

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To 0900 Monday, 20th July, 1942.

"POTRERO" departed Townsville 0742K/19 for Port Moresby - E.T.A. 1700K/22.

"BENDIGO" departed Townsville 1300K/19 to rendezvous with "BUNGAREE".

"MILDURA" arrived Brisbane 1031K/19.

"DELORAIN" arrived Townsville 1500K/18 departed Townsville 0613K/19 - E.T.A. Brisbane 1500K/21.

"SALMON", U.S. Submarine, departed Albany 1550H/18 for Fremantle.

"TOWNSVILLE" arrived Darwin 1637K/19.

"MADRAS" ) en route Adelaide to Fremantle amended E.T.A. 0900H/21.  
"LAUNGESTON" )

"BANGALOW" departed Sydney 1721K/19 for Brisbane.

"LITHGOW" escorting "TASMAN" arrived Darwin 1411K/19.

"KURUMBA" arrived Townsville 18/7.

"SWAN" escorting "SWARTENHONDT" arrived Fall River 1700K/18.

"KURU" arrived Darwin 1942K/19 operations Plover.

"PHOENIX" relieved "GAMBIA" escorting convoy" SCHOONER at 0700Z/19. "WORCESTERSHIRE" is remaining with convoy until relieved by "KANIMBLA".

#### GENERAL.

There is no further evidence of the presence of five or more ships in position 20°49'S, 156°28'E (bearing 100° about 550 miles from Townsville) referred to in yesterday's Daily Narrative.

#### SUMMARY SIGHTING.

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Aircraft sighted and failed in attempt to attack submarine 10° 28' S; 149° 43' E (just South of S.E. tip of New Guinea) at 0738K/18. Further search ordered, but no report yet available.

U.S. Submarine 37 reported sighting blinker lights from formation of five ships in position 20° 49' S; 156° 28' E at 0800K/18, course south, speed 15 knots. Position is about 550 miles 100° from Townsville. A.C.N. Townsville - A.C.N. Sydney requested to conduct immediate search.

Crews in Newcastle are still refusing until convoys re-established.



DAILY NARRATIVE.

10 0800K/Saturday, 18th July, 1942.

To 0900K/Sunday, July 19, 1942.

- "CESSNOCK" - escorting "BONTEKOE" departed Fall River 0750K/17 for Townsville, E.T.A.2100K/19. Cairns 1700K/17.
- "COLAC" - departed Cairns 1355K/18 rendezvous "JAPARA" and escort to Fall River, E.T.A.1200K/21.
- "STUART" - arrived Sydney 0625K/18 from Cape Moreton.
- "BOMBAY" - departed Adelaide 1001K/18 for Fremantle, E.T.A. 1130K/24.
- "MONOWAI" ) arrived Auckland 0716K/17 from escort duty.
- "TUCKER" )
- "PELIAS" - departed Port Melbourne 0711K/18 for Albany, E.T.A.1200H/22.
- "CAIRNS" - arrived Brisbane 0134K/18 from Sydney.
- "PROTRERO" - E.T.D. Townsville 1230K/18 for Port Moresby E.T.A. 22/7.
- "BLUE" - arrived Wellington 1445K/18 from Melbourne.
- "TOOWOOMBA" - arrived Fremantle 1356H/18, from Albany.
- "KURUMBA" - arrived Townsville 1043K/18 from Brisbane.
- "SALMON" - departed Albany 1550H/18 for Fremantle.

SUBMARINE SIGHTING.

Aircraft sighted and failed in attempt to attack submarine 10° 28' S; 149° 43' E (just South of S.E. tip of New Guinea) at 0755K/18. Further search ordered, but no report yet available.

U.S. Submarine 37 reported sighting blinker lights from formation of five ships in position 20° 49' S; 156° 28' E at 0500K/19, course south, speed 15 knots. Position is about 550 miles 100° from Townsville. A.C.H. Townsville - A.C.H. Sydney requested to conduct immediate search.

Crews in Newcastle are still refusing until convoys re-established.

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To 0900K/Saturday, 18th July, 1942.

"WYALLA" - arrived Williamstown 0721K/17, from escorting convoy C.O.11.

"WARREGO" - departed Townsville 0610K/17 arrived Cairns 1730K/17.

"ROCKHAMPTON" - arrived Sydney 0713K/17 from escorting convoy O.C.11.

"TOOWOOMBA" - departed Albany 1608H/16 for Fremantle.

"W.B. PRESTON" - arrived Fremantle 0658H/16.

"SKIPJACK" - U.S. Submarine arrived Fremantle 0412H/16.

"BAGLEY" - arrived Brisbane 0738K/16, departed Brisbane 1151K/17.

"BOMBAY" - arrived Port Adelaide 1400/K/17 from Melbourne.

"HELM" - departed Williamstown 1800K/17 - E.T.A. Auckland 0700M/22.

"TOWNSVILLE" - departed Darwin 0958Z/17 to rendezvous with "PERIOD" and escort her to Darwin.

H.M.S. "VALLEY", A.M.S., commissioned at 1200K/15th July in Sydney. GENERAL.

Upon arrival at Hobart the Master of the Swedish vessel "KOOKABURRA" reported to D.N.O. Tasmania that at 1630K/16 when in position  $042^{\circ}52'S$ ,  $144^{\circ}21'E$  on course  $166^{\circ}$  (about 50 miles off South West Coast of Tasmania) he sighted a cargo steamer (description - two masts, squat funnel, close bridge amidships) about ten miles ahead. The vessel was headed W.N.W. when sighted, but altered its course to S.S.W. and disappeared in the darkness. This vessel is unidentified. The Master and Chief Officer are known to have pro-Nazi sympathies. No other evidence which confirms enemy activity this area. Air search will be requested. recorded at Brisbane.

At 1855K/17 N.O.I.C. Cairns reported that lighter "OURA" broke adrift from "MULIAMA" at Cooktown and went ashore on No. 1 Beach. "MULIAMA'S" Master was directed to take all measures for her safety as possible, the Chief Salvage Officer was advised, and Captain Grey was to be despatched to report on position. crossing on mine loop."

An unconfirmed report received from Townsville that at 1205Z/17 an Airforce plane sighted in position  $17^{\circ}45'S$ ,  $146^{\circ}45'E$  (about 70 miles S.E. of Cairns) an unidentified warship resembling "AUSTRALIA" class. Confirmation of this report has been requested. Air searches have been ordered.

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To 0900K/Friday, 17th July, 1942.

"LITHGOW" departed Thursday Island escorting "TASMAN" at 1713K/16. for Darwin - E.T.A. 1800K/19.

"DELOBRAINE" left Thursday Island at 0615K/16 for Townsville - E.T.A. 1500K/18.

"TOONDOOMBA" departed Albany at 1708K/16 for Fremantle.

"COLAC" arrived Cairns at 1010K/16 after escorting "SWARTENHONDT" to rendezvous with "SWAN".

"MILDURA" departed Brisbane at 1121K/16 to rendezvous with "BUNGARRE".

"TOWNSVILLE" with "YARRA" arrived Darwin from Thursday Island at 1402K/16.

"SWAN" departed Cairns at 0520K/16 to rendezvous with "COLAC" and "SWARTENHONDT", to escort the latter to Fall River.

U.S. Destroyer "HELM" arrived Williamstown escorting U.S. Transport "MATSONIA" and U.S. Submarine Tender "PELIAS" at 1300K/16.

H.M.A.S. "WALLAROO", A.M.S., commissioned at 1299K/15th July in Sydney.

"HELM" - departed Darwin 1647/15/15 - operation Hamburger.

"DELOBRAINE" - see GENERAL arrived Thursday Island 0410K/16

Report of Unknown Enemy Unit:

At 1715K/16 C. in C. Eastern Fleet reported a reliable fixing of an unknown enemy unit. Position was 12°00'S. 86°00'E. at 0008K/15 (approximately 250 miles east of "SCHOONER" route). Escort vessels have been informed. Independent sailing on inshore routes as

Loop Crossing recorded at Brisbane:

1455K/16:- Following received from N.O.I.C. Queensland at

"Number 2 Station recorded crossing on guard loop at 0755K/16. Maximum swing 12 degrees - no indication of crossing on mine loop."

"BAGLEY" carried out A/S search with negative results.

Air searches have been ordered.

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To 0900K/Thursday, 16th July, 1942.

"SWAN" - arrived Cairns 1430K/15 - to escort "SWARTENHONDT" to Fall River.

"BENDIGO" - escorting "MAGNOLA" arrived Townsville 0635K/15 from Port Moresby.

"WARREGO" - arrived Townsville 0633K/14 from Fall River.

"WOLLOONGONG" - arrived Albany 0635H/15 from Adelaide.

"BONDAY" - returned Williamstown 2205K/14 from full calibre night firings, departed 1601K/15 - E.T.A. Adelaide 1300K/17.

"BARALABA" - departed Cooktown P.M. 14 for Thursday Island.

"HUGFORD" - returned Sydney 0707K/15 from escorting G.P.6.

"SELFRIDGE" } departed Sydney 1715K/15.

"HUGFORD" }

"HENLEY" }

"WANAKA" - departed Townsville 0105K/15 for Thursday Island - E.T.A. 0600K/17.

"KURU" - departed Darwin 1847/IK/15 - operation Hamburger.

"DELOIRINE" - escorting "BURWAH" arrived Thursday Island 0413K/16 from Darwin.

"CHRYSLER" Arrived Sydney 0905K/15 from Bougainville.

"YACHT" GENERAL. Convoy S.S.11 arrived Fremantle 0533E/14.

H.M.A.S. "EGERIA" (P.M.B.) commissioned in Hobart 15/7. Coastal shipping resumed independent sailing on inshore routes as from today.

"WILLIAM B. PHOENIX" Departed Freetown Gulf 14/7 for Fremantle N.Y.A. 0900E/16.

....

"CAPT. H.S. PALMER" Arrived Sydney 0803E/15 from Bougainville.

"NICHOLSON" Departed Port Phillip 1205E/14 escorting Convoy G.C.11.

"LITTON" Escorting "ISLANDER" from Darwin to Thursday Island is to rendezvous with "YACHT" due Horn Island (from Fall River via Port Moresby) at 1700K/14, and to escort her to Darwin. E.T.A. P.M. 17/7. "ISLANDER" is to be detached accordingly.

"SHILOH" Arrived Sydney 1200K/14 after escorting Newcastle portion of Convoy G.C.10 to Newcastle.

"SHIP" Departed Port Moresby 0505E/14 to rendezvous with "SHILOH" escorting "SWARTENHONDT" at 1300K/15, to take over escort duty and escort "SWARTENHONDT" to Fall River. "SHILOH" is to return to Cairns when relieved.

"HILGORA" Arrived Brisbane 1205K/14 from escorting "SWARTENHONDT" as far as Capricorn Channel.

"WYAGER" Arrived Fremantle 1200H/14 having failed to contact Convoy S.S.11 at rendezvous.

"FRANK WOODS" Arrived Darwin 1200K/14 - Operations Flotilla.



DAILY NARRATIVE.

TOP SECRET.

To BROOK Wednesday, 15th July, 1942.

"CHICAGO"  
"SALT LAKE CITY"  
"AUSTRALIA"  
"CANBERRA"  
"HOBART"  
"PATTERSON"  
"JARVIS"  
"RALPH TALEBOT" } Departed Brisbane 1650K/14.  
  
(Earlier "RALPH TALEBOT" had arrived at Brisbane at 0715K/14.)  
  
"BUNGAREE"  
"CAIRNS"  
"MUGFORD" } "BUNGAREE" arrived Sydney 0919K/14 from Convoy O.C.10, and departed Sydney 1135K/14 with "CAIRNS" and "MUGFORD" escorting Convoy G.P.6 (for Brisbane) to rendezvous with "STUART" at 1800K/14. "MUGFORD" is then to return to Sydney.  
  
"STUART" } After escorting Newcastle portion of Convoy O.C.10, to Newcastle, to rendezvous with Convoy G.P.6 and relieve "MUGFORD" as above. E.T.A. Cape Moreton 1935K/16.  
  
"ARMIDALE" } Arrived Sydney 0919K/14 from rendezvous not kept by "NARBADA".  
  
"MADRAS"  
"LAUNCESTON" } Departed Adelaide 1019/IK/14 for Fremantle E.T.A. 1200H/20.  
  
"CHEVREUIL" } Arrived Sydney 0908K/13 from Noumea.  
  
"TROMP" } Escorting Convoy Z.K.11 arrived Fremantle 0934H/14.  
  
"BLUE" } Departed Port Phillip 1134K/14.  
  
"HERON" } Arrived Exmouth Gulf 13/7.  
  
"WILLIAM B. PRESTON" } Departed Exmouth Gulf 14/7 for Fremantle E.T.A. 0900H/16.  
  
"CAP DES PALMES" } Arrived Sydney 0844K/13 from Noumea.  
  
"ROCKHAMPTON" } Departed Port Phillip 1206K/14 escorting Convoy O.C.11.  
  
"LITHGOW" } Escorting "ISLANDER" from Darwin to Thursday Island is to rendezvous with "TASMAN" due Horn Island (from Fall River via Port Moresby) at 1700K/14, and to escort her to Darwin. E.T.A. P.M. 17/7. "ISLANDER" is to be detached accordingly.  
  
"GERLONG" } Arrived Sydney 2303K/14 after escorting Newcastle portion of Convoy O.C.10 to Newcastle.  
  
"SWAN" } Departed Port Moresby 0058K/14 to rendezvous with "COLAC" escorting "SWARTENHONDT" at 1300K/15, to take over escort duty and escort "SWARTENHONDT" to Fall River. "COLAC" is to return to Cairns when relieved.  
  
"MILDURA" } Arrived Brisbane 1255K/14 from escorting "SWARTENHONDT" as far as Capricorn Channel.  
  
"VOYAGER" } Arrived Fremantle 1300H/14 having failed to contact Convoy Z.K.11 at rendezvous.  
  
"WARRNAMBOOL" } Arrived Darwin 1005K/14 - Operations Plover.



- "BALMORAL" Naval Depot Ship commissioned A.M. 14/7 as "PENGUIN II".
- "SKIPJACK" U.S. Submarine departed Albany 1400H/14.
- "BOMBAY" Departed Williamstown 1509K/14 to carry out full calibre night firings in Port Phillip.
- "BENDIGO" Escorting "MAGNOLA" from Port Moresby to Townsville, E.T.A. 0700K/15.
- "MAYALLA" - arrived Brisbane at 1443K/15 from Brisbane - escort for P.O. GENERAL.

The pilot of a Qantas Airways plane reported that at 1600Z/14 he sighted a submarine in position 34-16 S. 151-40 E. (20 miles South of Newcastle). At 1615K/14 crossings on two loops at Sydney Harbour entrance were recorded. Shipping was warned of the presence of the sighted submarine, and air searches were ordered in respect of both reports. Owing to bad visibility the air search of Sydney Harbour was abandoned.

"CORAL" - escorting "BANTAN" arrived Townsville from Pt. Moresby at 0601K/15.

"KATOWA" and "CROMWELL" - escorting "ROBINSON" to Fall River departed Townsville at 0605K/15.

U.S. Destroyer "SHELDON" - arrived Sydney at 0611K/15 from Brisbane.

U.S. Destroyer "SHELDON" - arrived Sydney at 1611K/15 from Brisbane - escort for P.S.S.

U.S. Destroyer "SHELDON" - departed Fremantle at 1601K/15 and in view of "HARRIS" raid message will patrol until required to rendezvous with "LONDONER". "KALININ" will proceed independently to same rendezvous.

GENERAL

"BISPODAL"

At 0115K/15 the following information was obtained from Brisbane:

- (1) Crew of "BISPODAL" state as articles were finished in October, 1941, they demand repatriation and do not intend to sign new articles.
- (2) In view of situation Brisbane propose handing by naval crew - to be obtained from "U. GLENN" - "BALLARAT", now refitting, and "VIARCA".
- (3) Brisbane was advised to prepare a naval area as proposed.
- (4) Further information is expected from the British Ministry of Sea Transports Representative in Sydney this forenoon.



To 0900K/Tuesday, 14th July, 1942.

"LAUNCESTON" and "MADRAS" - arrived at Port Adelaide from Melbourne at 1640K/13.

"VOYAGER" - reported at 1931K/13 her failure to make contact with Z.K.11 (Sydney to Fremantle) and her intention to return to Fremantle - E.T.A. 1701K/14.

"ARWIDALE" - failed to contact the "BARBARA" at rendezvous (approximately 200 miles east of Sydney and is returning to Sydney - E.T.A. 0700K/14.

"WHYALLA" - arrived Newcastle at 1445K/13 from Brisbane - escort for P.G.S.

"LITHGOW" - departed Darwin at 0813K/13 escorting "ISLANDER" to Thursday Island - E.T.A. 1030K/16.

"WARREGO" - after escorting "TASMAN" to Fall River departed for Townsville at 0700K/12. "TASMAN" proceeding independently to Thursday Island.

"COLAC" - escorting "BANTAM" arrived Townsville from Pt. Moresby at 0601K/13.

"KATOOMBA" and "CESSNOCK" - escorting "BONTEKOE" to Fall River departed Townsville at 2205K/12.

U.S. Destroyer "HENLEY" - arrived Sydney at 0811K/13 from Brisbane.

U.S. Destroyer "SELFRIDGE" - arrived Sydney at 1011Z/13 from Brisbane - escort for P.G.S.

U.S. Destroyer "PHOENIX" - departed Fremantle at 1001K/13 and in view of "HAURAKI'S" raider message will patrol until required to rendezvous with "SCHOONER". "KAMIMBLA" will proceed independently to same rendezvous.

GENERAL.

"BISHOPDALE"

At 2315K/13 the following information was obtained from Brisbane:-

- (1) Crew of "BISHOPDALE" state as articles were finished in October, 1941, they demand repatriation and do not intend to sign new articles.
- (2) In view of situation Brisbane propose manning by naval crew - to be obtained from "G ULBURN" - "BALLARAT", now refitting, and "KIANGA".
- (3) Brisbane was advised to prepare a naval crew as proposed.
- (4) Further information is expected from the British Ministry of Sea Transports Representative in Sydney this forenoon.

..... receiving message from Lt. Colonel Gibson at Ercot that guard at Point Tarnoff 20 miles north of Derby reported unidentified submarine on surface in channel about 2 miles S.W. of port at 0515K/13. Remained for 15 minutes then submerged travelling in direction of entrance to sound. Report grade C.2.



To 0900K/Monday, 13th July, 1942.

- "VOYAGER" - departed Albany 1725H/12 to rendezvous E.K.11.
- "SWAN" - escorting "MALAITA" arrived Port Moresby 1802K/12 from Townsville.
- "ARMIDALE" - departed Sydney 1252K/12 to rendezvous with motor vessel and escort to Sydney.
- "KATOOMBA" - escorting "JAPARA" arrived Townsville 0209K/12 from Port Moresby.
- "BENDIGO" - escorting "MAGNOLA" departed Port Moresby 0732K/12, E.T.A. Townsville 2100K/15.
- "DEBORAH" - departed Darwin 0757/12/12, escorting "BURDAH" to Thursday Island - E.T.A. 1530K/15.
- "TOWNSVILLE" - escorting "YARRA" departed Thursday Island 1015K/12 for Darwin - E.T.A. 2200K/15.
- "JARVIS" - departed Brisbane 1630K/12 to Moreton Bay.
- "BAGLEY" - departed Brisbane 0600K/12 to rendezvous "TORRENS", and escort to Brisbane.
- "HELE" - departed Sydney 0810K/12 to rendezvous and relieve "MONOWAI" and "TUCKER" escorting P.W.8095.
- "ST. GILES" } towing "PORIMAR" arrived Cairns 1430K/12.  
"BEAVER" }
- U.S. Aircraft Tender "MACKINAC" - arrived Auckland 1330K/11.
- "BLUE" } - arrived Port Phillip 0115K/13 escorting  
"ROCHEHAMPTON" } Melbourne portion C.O.10.  
"DORSET" }
- "TRINITY" - arrived Fremantle 2031H/12 from Albany.
- G.C.C.C. from "HAURAKI" arrived Sydney at 0605/11 from Newcastle.

At 1738Z/12 Perth Radio intercepted G.C.C.C. from "HAURAKI" (cargo motor vessel, gross tonnage 712, on passage Fremantle Colombo, E.T.A. 19/7.), in position 17°32'S., 80°25'E. (about 2350 miles 300° from Fremantle) - "HAURAKI" ordered heave to captured by Japanese Boat alongside now. Melbourne Radio also intercepted the G.C.C.C. Perth Radio intercept passed to C.O.I.C. Ceylon, C. in C. Eastern Fleet, C. in C. S.A.

G.C.C.C. FROM "ENA" (Dutch).

At 0705K/13, Hgbart Radio reported "ANARUA" Auckland's intercept - "G.C.C.C. 23 30'S. 179°50'E. "ENA" (Dutch) suspicious ship following." "ENA" is a tanker on passage Los Angeles/Brisbane. E.T.A. 21/7 22°30'S. 179°50'E. is about 230 miles south of Suva.

Submarine Sightings:

S.W.A.C.N.'s 1405Z/12 reported receiving message from Lt-Colonel Gibson at Broome that guard at Point Torment 20 miles north of Derby reported unidentified submarine on surface in channel about 4 miles S.W. of post at 0815Z/10. Remained for 15 minutes then submerged travelling in direction of entrance to sound. Report graded C.3.



DAILY NARRATIVE

To 0900K/Saturday, 11th July, 1942.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900K Sunday, 12th July, 1942.

- "WOLLONGONG" departed Adelaide at 1431K/11 for Albany, E.T.A. 1001K/15.
- "KALGOORLIE" arrived Sydney after escorting O.C.9 from Melbourne at 0925K/11.
- "BERMAGUI" arrived Adelaide after sheltering in Portland, at 1436K/11.
- "LAUNCESTON" and "MADRAS" departed Williamstown at 1501K/11 to carry out full calibre firings in Port Phillip Bay and thence to Adelaide. E.T.A. 0544K/14.
- "MILDURA" with "SWARTENHOEDT" departed Brisbane at 0916K/11 for Townsville.
- "MARRAWAH" proceeded at 0902K/11 to investigate report of large quantity of wreckage in the vicinity of Wilson's Promontory (possibly from wreck of "CAMBRIDGE").
- "STUART", "GEELONG", "DUNGAREE" with Convoy O.C.10 departed Port Phillip at 1212K/11 for Sydney - portions to Port Kembla and Newcastle.
- "CESSNOCK" escorting "YOUCHOS" arrived Townsville from Milne Bay at 0112K/11.
- U.S. Destroyer "RALPH TALBOT" arrived Brisbane from Sydney at 1545K/11.
- U.S. Destroyer "HENLEY" departed Brisbane at 1735K/11.
- U.S. Submarine "PERMIT" arrived Fremantle at 0924K/11.
- U.S. Destroyer "HELM" arrived Sydney at 0800K/11 from Newcastle.
- U.S. Destroyer "BAGLEY" departed Brisbane at 1630K/11 - destination corrupt "J" requested. *In duty at Pile Light. Now to RV with P.W. 2095*

GENERAL.

"MAGNOLA" experienced crew trouble at Port Moresby after heavy bombing which did not damage ship. Crew refused to sail to any but an Australian port. Ship is therefore returning to Townsville with load of petrol for Fall River still onboard.

Assistant S.O.(2) Brisbane reports, after having interrogated Master and crew of "ALBERT R. SMITH", that First Mate, Captain and five ratings sighted a submarine 600 yards from the ship at 2015K/0 in position 30° 20' S, 151° 15' E. (about 500 miles from Sydney). Report graded E.T.



To 0900K/Saturday, 11th July, 1942.

"STUART" - arrived Williamstown 1114K/10 from escorting C.O.9.

"GEELONG" } arrived Williamstown 1131K/10 and 1210K/10  
"LAUNCESTON" } from escorting C.O.9. The last two ships after  
"MADRAS" } full calibre day and night firings P.M. today  
Saturday, will sail in company for Fremantle.

"STUART" } escorting O.C.10 - E.T.A. Port Phillip 1200K/11.  
"GEELONG" }

"BUNGARIE" - E.T.D. Geelong 0630K/11 to join O.C.10.

"PERKINS" } departed Sydney 1505K/10 escorting V.K.7.  
"PLUSSER" }

"SELFLEDGE" } escorting P.G.5 departed Brisbane 1125K/11.  
"WHYALLA" }

"BLUE" } departed Sydney 0450K/10 escorting 1135K/11.  
"POCKHAMPTON" }  
"BOMBAY" }

"DOOMBA" - returned Newcastle 0551K/10 from escorting S.S. "RONA".

"BINGERA" - arrived Westernport 1730K/10 from Port Phillip.

"ORARA" - arrived Port Melbourne 1011K/10.

"BERMAGUI" - to have departed Portland 1200K/9 - E.T.A. Adelaide  
0900K/12.

"HEFON" - departed Fremantle 0730H/10 for Exmouth Gulf, to relieve  
"W.B. PRESTON", E.T.A. A.M. 13.

"JARVIS" - arrived Brisbane 0831K/9 from Pile Light.

"PATTERSON" - departed Brisbane 1545K/10 for Pile Light.

"RALPH TALBOT" - departed Sydney 0738K/10 - E.T.A. Brisbane 1215K/11.

"TOWNSVILLE" - escorting "BABINDA" arrived Thursday Island  
2116K/19 from Darwin.

"TRINITY" - departed Albany 1400H/10 for Fremantle.

"COLAC" - escorting "BANTAM" departed Port Moresby 0800K/10,  
E.T.A. Townsville 0600K/13.

"BARALABA" - arrived Cooktown 1745K/10 from Cairns.

"ALBERT E. WATTS" S.S.S. confirmed

Assistant S.G.(1) Brisbane, reports, after having  
interrogated Master and crew of "ALBERT E. WATTS", that First  
Mate, Coxswain and five ratings sighted a submarine 800 yards from  
the ship at 2015Z/8 in position 26°50'S. 161°15'E. (about 520 miles  
from Sydney). Report graded B.2.

Hospital ship departed Adelaide 1545/11/8 for  
Melb..... E.A. 0430K/10.

U.S. Submarine arrived Fremantle 0515H/9 from Albany.

U.S. Submarine departed Albany 1800H/9 for Fremantle.



DAILY NARRATIVE.

MOST SECRET.

To 0900K Friday 10th July, 1942.

"MILDURA" arrived Brisbane 1609K/8 unable to render assistance to S.S. "RUFUS KING".

"TOWNSVILLE" en route Darwin to Thursday Island amended E.T.A. 2000K/9.

"BURNIE" arrived Adelaide 0730K/9 from Fremantle.

"VOYAGER" arrived Albany 1000H/9 escorting U.S.S. "TRINITY".

"BLUE" ) U.S. Destroyers arrived Sydney 0945K/9 from  
"RALPH TALBOT" ) Auckland.

"WARREGO" departed Cairns 0900K/9 to rendezvous at 1400K/9 with "TASMAN" which departed Townsville 0310K/9, thence to Milne Bay, E.T.A. 1200K/11.

"KATOOMBA" departed Port Moresby 0600K/9 escorting "JAPARA", E.T.A. Townsville 2400K/11.

"BERMAGUI" en route Newcastle to Adelaide sheltered at Portland, was to have departed thence 1200K/9, E.T.A. Adelaide 0830/IK/12.

"CHEVREUIL" escorting "CAP DES PALMES" departed Noumea 1630L/9 E.T.A. Sydney 0600K/13.

"SWAN" escorting "ANHUI" arrived Townsville 1551K/9 from Port Moresby.

"BENDIGO" escorting "MANGOLA" arrived Port Moresby 1556K/9 from Townsville.

"DOOMBA" departed Newcastle 1655K/9 escorting for fifty miles S.S. "RONA" bound for Latoki.

"AUSTRALIA" )  
"CANBERRA" ) Arrived Brisbane 1555K/9.  
"HOBART" )  
"CHICAGO" )  
"SALT LAKE CITY" ) "JARVIS" remained at Pile Light as duty  
"HENLEY" ) destroyer.  
"BAGLEY" )  
"PATTERSON" )

"MADRAS" escorting "ROBERT G. HARPER" arrived Port Phillip 0226K/10.

"GRIFFIOEN" departed Darwin 1457K/9.

"WARRNAMBOOL" escorting "SOUTHERN CROSS" ) Operations  
departed Darwin 0415K/9. ) Plover.

"MANUNDA" Hospital Ship departed Adelaide 1645/IK/8 for Melbourne E.T.A. 0430K/10.

"PICKEREL" U.S. Submarine arrived Fremantle 0813H/9 from Albany.

"PERMIT" U.S. Submarine departed Albany 1500H/9 for Fremantle.



To 1800Z/Thursday, 6th July, 1942.

GENERAL. "MELBORNE" arrived Brisbane at 1812Z/8 with convoy G.P.3.

"MEDEA" and "MERCEDDES" } Commissioned as H.M.A. Ships on 6/7.

S.S. "RUFUS KING" which went aground off Moreton Island, Queensland, now lies with her back broken. D.N.O. Queensland reports that there is no hope of salvaging the vessel, which is breaking up; but, with fair weather, there is a possibility of saving portion of the cargo including light aircraft.

S.S. "ROBERT G. HARPER" which was damaged in collision in Bass Strait at 0133K/9 arrived at Port Phillip at 0226K/10 under her own power and proceeded up the Bay without assistance from tug "JAMES PATTERSON" which had been despatched to her aid. The other vessels concerned in the collisions, "OSTHAV", "MARINA" and "BELTANA" were only slightly damaged, and proceeded in convoy.

Has itel ship "MANUHA" - departed Adelaide 1715K/8 - N.Y.J. Melbourne 0430K/13.

GENERAL.

Reported Enemy Submarine Sightings in Broken Bay (20 miles North Sydney)

The following information was received by phone from Duty Staff Officer, C.I. -

1. At 1845K/8 a fisherman reported to Brooklyn Garrison that he saw a submarine off Cowan Creek in Broken Bay.
2. At 2120K/8 an R.A.F. boat reported seeing a conning tower of a submarine breaking water 1/2 mile north of Eleanor Kluff.
3. At 2215K/8 the same R.A.F. Boat further reported the sighting of the conning tower and the periscope of a submarine in the entrance to Cowan Creek, heading seawards.

These three reported sightings are well within a mile of each other. Since then no further sightings have been made.

An air search to seaward end of Broken Bay has been ordered. R.A.F. Boats are still searching.

Collision of ships in convoys G.C.3 and G.O.3 (127 miles from Wilson's Promontory on a bearing of 97°)

Commodore of Convoy G.C.3 ("MARINA") reported at 0120K/9 as follows -

"MARINA" and unknown American ship in collision 085° 20' E, 149° 01' E. "MARINA" damaged bow 10 feet above waterline.

An immediate request for a repeat of signal was made as the information appeared garbled.

At 0210K/9 a further signal gave added information



To 0900K/Thursday, 9th July, 1942.

"WHYALLA" and U.S. Destroyer "SELFRIDGE" arrived Brisbane at 2010K/8 from Sydney with convoy G.P.5.

"LITHGOW" escorting the "BURWAH" arrived Darwin at 1912K/8 from Thursday Island.

"BERMAGUI" en route to Adelaide from Newcastle now sheltering at Portland at 1600K/8.

"BALLARAT" - arrived Brisbane from Townsville at 1228K/8.

"WATO" - arrived Darwin from Thursday Island at 1244K/8.

"CESSNOCK" - escorting "YOCHOW" departed Milne Bay at 0445K/8 E.T.A. Townsville 11th July.

"BARALABA" - arrived Cairns at 0930K/8.

U.S. Submarine "SEAL" - arrived Albany at 1100K/8.

Hos ital Ship "MARUNDA" - departed Adelaide 1715K/8 - E.T.A. Melbourne 0430K/10.

GENERAL.

Reported Enemy Submarine Sightings in Broken Bay (20 miles North Sydney):

The following information was received by 'phone from Duty Staff Officer, G.I. -

1. At 1840K/8 a fisherman reported to Brooklyn Garrison that he saw a submarine off Cowan Creek in Broken Bay.
2. At 2130K/8 an N.A.P. boat reported seeing a conning tower of a submarine breaking water 1/2 mile north of Eleanor Bluff.
3. At 2215K/8 the same N.A.P. Boat further reported the sighting of the conning tower and the periscope of a submarine in the entrance to Cowan Creek, heading seawards.

These three reported sightings are well within a mile of each other. Since then no further sightings have been made.

An air search to seaward and of Broken Bay has been ordered. N.A.P. Boats are still searching.

Collision of ships in convoys O.C.9 and C.O.9 (127 miles from Wilson's Promontory on a bearing of 072°):

Commodore of Convoy O.C.9 ("MARINA") reported at 0133K/9 as follows -

"MARINA" and unknown American Ship in collision 038°30'S. 149°01'E. "MARINA" damaged bow 10 feet above waterline - - -

An immediate request for a repeat of signal was made as the information appeared garbled.

At 0216K/9 a further signal gave added information



"MADRAS" and unknown ship have proceeded. "MARINA" in company "KALGOORLIE" and "BELTANA" is also damaged. Pumps are coping with water speed 8 knots all to original destinations."

A.C.H.Q. Melbourne advised convoy escorts at 1022K/8 that they would pass at 0130K/9 - they collided at 0135K/9. No further information at 0900K/9.

"STUART" - departed Sydney 1825K/7 to relieve "PERKINS" as escort for C.O.S.

"PERKINS" - arrived Sydney 0825K/7 from escorting C.O.S.

\*\*\*\*\*

"MELBA" ) departed Port Phillip 1725K/7 escorting C.O.S.,  
"KALGOORLIE" ) E.T.A. Newcastle 0801K/11.

"HUNTER" - arrived Sydney 1525K/7 from escorting C.O.S.

"LADY" ) departed Sydney 0700K/7 escorting Sydney/Port  
"MELBA" ) Resbia portion of convoy C.O.S.

"CAPTAIN PALMER" - arrived House 1703L/8.

U.S. Submarine "PICKREL" - departed Albany 1715H/7 for Fremantle.

"MORSE" - arrived Sydney 0805K/7 with Sydney portion of C.O.S.

"BURGLAR" - entered Port Phillip 0425K/7.

"MELBA" - departed Brisbane 1814K/7 to assist grounded cargo vessel "BRITISH PRINCE", "Rural King"

"MARGARET" - arrived Port Melbourne 1535K/7 from exercises.

"COLAC" - escorting "BARTON" arrived Port Moresby 1848K/7 from Townsville.

"HEAN" - escorting "ANNU" departed Port Moresby 0702K/7 for Townsville - E.T.A. 1800K/8.

\*\*\*\*\*

Let's report to the...

(1) A ... ..

(2) ... ..

A ... ..

An ... ..



To 0900K/Wednesday, 8th July, 1942.

- "BENDIGO" - departed Cairns 1100/IK/7 to rendezvous "MANGOLA" and escort to Port Moresby.
- "ADELAIDE" - returned Sydney 1320K/7 from escorting V.K.8.
- "STUART" - departed Sydney 1225K/7 to relieve "PERKINS" as escort for C.O.9.
- "PERKINS" - arrived Sydney 2025K/7 from escorting C.O.9.
- "HELM" ) departed Port Phillip 1728K/7 escorting O.C.9,  
"KALGOORLIE" ) - R.T.A. Newcastle 0001K/11.
- "MUGFORD" - arrived Sydney 1535K/7 from escorting O.C.8.
- "LAUNCESTON" ) departed Sydney 0709K/7 escorting Sydney/Port  
"MADRAS" ) Kembra portion of convoy C.O.9.
- "CAP DES PALMES" - arrived Noumea 1703L/8.
- U.S. Submarine "PICKEREL" - departed Albany 1715H/7 for Fremantle.
- "MORESBY" - arrived Sydney 0605K/7 with Sydney portion of O.C.8.
- "BUNGARIE" - entered Port Phillip 0425K/7.
- "WILDURA" - departed Brisbane 1814K/7 to assist grounded cargo vessel "ZEZULON PIKE". "RUFUS KING"
- "BINGERA" - arrived Port Melbourne 1535K/7 from exercises.
- "COLAC" - escorting "BANTAM" arrived Port Moresby 1646K/7 from Townsville.
- "SWAN" - escorting "ANHUI" departed Port Moresby 0702K/7 for Townsville - E.T.A. 1800K/9.

4 cruisers  
5 destroyers  
4 transports

Later reports indicate:

- (a) 1 cruiser, 1 destroyer, 1 merchant vessel at Lunga (Guadalcanal Island), 21 miles SSE of Tulagi
- (b) a force of 12 ships including cruisers and destroyers in position 241°, 27 miles from Tulagi.

A still later signal indicates that force (b) was sighted in position 235° 25 miles from Tulagi, that is about 18 miles west of Lunga.

An air attack was made upon some of these units at 1730L/8, but results were not observed. Further air action has been ordered against these units for 7/7.



DAILY NARRATIVE.

MOST SECRET.

To 0900 Tuesday, 7th July, 1942.

"GEELONG" departed Sydney 0605K/6 and arrived Newcastle  
1147K/6 - Departed Newcastle with "PERKINS" at 1605K/6  
escorting convoy C.O.9.

"PERKINS" - departed Sydney 0935K/6 and arrived Newcastle  
1229K/6 - Departed Newcastle with "GEELONG" at 1605K/6  
escorting convoy C.O.9.

"BINGERA" - departed Flinders Naval Depot at 0735K/6 and arrived  
in Port Phillip at 1719K/6 for exercises.

"MILDURA" - escorting "BISHOPD. LE" arrived Brisbane 1146Z/6  
from Noumea.

"SELFRIDGE" } departed Sydney 1555K/6 escorting convoy G.P.5  
"WHYALLA" } E.T.A. Brisbane 2200K/8.

"ARMIDALE" - departed Sydney at 1535K/6 escorting convoy V.K.6.

"GRAYBACK" - U.S. Submarine departed Albany at 1500K/6 for  
Fremantle.

"SEAL" - U.S. Submarine departed Fremantle 1706H/6 for Albany.

GENERAL.

Solomon Islands:

A concentration of Japanese Naval Shipping has  
appeared in the Solomon Islands in the vicinity of Guadalcanal  
Island. Intelligence from air reconnaissance and from coast  
watchers' reports indicate the presence of possibly the following  
vessels:-

4 cruisers  
5 destroyers  
4 transports

Later reports indicate:

- (a) 1 cruiser, 1 destroyer, 1 merchant vessel at Lunga  
(Guadalcanal Island), 21 miles 200° from Tulagi;
- (b) a force of 12 ships including cruisers and destroyers  
in position 341°, 27 miles from Tulagi.

A still later signal indicates that force (b) was sighted in  
position 235° 25 miles from Tulagi, that is about 13 miles west of  
Lunga.

An air attack was made upon some of these units  
at 1730L/6, but results were not observed. Further air action  
has been ordered against those units for 7/7.

/ ...



Submarine sightings: July, 1942.

An intercept by Melbourne radio from Hobart radio reported a signal from a vessel whose call sign was unknown but is presumed to be "ALBERT E. WATTS", American tanker bound for Sydney, stating that at 0615K/7 the vessel sighted a submarine in position 36°50'S. 161°15'E. (bearing 112°, 530 miles from Sydney). All appropriate authorities were informed.

"WILCANNIA" returned to Sydney at 2057K/5 after reported sighting a submarine 5 miles east of Sydney, heading north at 2250K/6, and a recording of an inward crossing on number two loop was received at 2303K/6. "WILCANNIA" attacked three times and was assisted by "LAUNCESTON" which attacked twice. 5 torpedoes were reported to have been fired at "WILCANNIA". This from Air Intelligence sources. Appropriate warnings were issued to shipping. Telephone conversation with Staff Officer (Intelligence) Garden Island gives rise to some doubt as to the authenticity of the sighting. No further information was available at 0750K/7, and the return of "WILCANNIA" is awaited before a complete report can be made. No report, other than above telephone message has been received from Naval sources at Sydney.

"LINDORF" departed Thursday Island with "BARBARA" for Darwin at 1820K/5 - E.T.A. 600K/6.

"BARBARA" E.T.A. Darwin 1700K/7 time of departure from Thursday Island not sign.....

"BARBARA" - Departed Thursday Island at 1800K/4 for Cocktown - E.T.A. 1800K/7.

E.S. Destroyers "BLUES" and "RALPH PARSONS" departed Auckland at 0645K/5 for Sydney - E.T.A. 0900K/6.

GENERALEnemy Naval Force in Coral Sea

At 1445K/5 the Resident Commissioner, Solomon Islands reported that a coastwatcher states that three or four Japanese warships and 2 aircraft carriers passed Cape Esperance (Northern Tip of Guadalcanal) at 1200K/4. Course due west.

This information has been passed to all interested commands.

The report was graded by Mr. Brookbank as A.I. and subsequently by A.S.L.O. Wils as R.2.

Action to be taken by our forces:

- (1) C.T.F. 44 intends to proceed to Morotai Bay or First Light. (Information obtained by telephone).
- (2) All available attacking aircraft in S.E. area brought to state of readiness forthwith.
- (3) A comprehensive air search has been ordered.



To 0900K/Monday, 6th July, 1942. Log in the Solomon and

"CESSENOCK" arrived at Milne Bay from Port Moresby with "YOCHOW" at 1500K/5.

"SWAN" and "KATOONBA" arrived at Port Moresby from Townsville at 1803K/5 - escorting "ANHUI" and "JAPARA".

"U.S. Destroyer" "FLUSSER" returned to Sydney at 2057K/5 after escorting "TROMP" and convoy Z.K.11 for 150 miles en route to Fremantle. "FLUSSER" on return to Sydney reported that the previously reported defect in the turbine of the "TROMP" has now been rectified.

"ROCKHAMPTON" and U.S. Destroyer "PERKINS" arrived Sydney escorting convoy P.G.4 at 1732K/5.

"BALLARAT" departed Townsville for Brisbane at 0130K/5. - E.T.A. 0700K/7.

"TOWNSVILLE" departed Darwin for Thursday Island at 0815K/4 - escorting "BABINDA" - E.T.A. 1930K/8.

"LITHGOW" departed Thursday Island with "BARWAN" for Darwin at 1220K/5 - E.T.A. 1800K/8.

"WATO" E.T.A. Brwin 1700K/7 time of departure from Thursday Island not signalled.

"BARALABA" - departed Thursday Island at 1905K/4 for Cooktown - E.T.A. 1800K/7.

U.S. Destroyers "BLUE" and "RALPH TALEOT" departed Auckland at 0945K/5 for Sydney - E.T.A. 0900K/9.

#### GENERAL.

#### Enemy Naval Force in Coral Sea:

At 1445K/5 the Resident Commissioner, Solomon Islands reported that a coastwatcher states that thirteen various Japanese warships and 2 aircraft carriers passed Cape Esperance (Northern Tip of Guadalcanal) at 1200K/4. Course due west

This information has been passed to all interested commands.

The report was graded by Mr. Brooksbenk as A.1. and subsequently by A.N.L.O. Vila as B.2.

#### Action to be taken by our forces:

- (1) C.T.F. 44 intends to proceed to Moreton Bay at first light. (Information obtained by telephone).
- (2) All available attacking aircraft in N.E. area brought to state of readiness forthwith.
- (3) A comprehensive air search has been ordered.



Other reports of Enemy Activities in the Solomon and Gilbert Islands:

(1) Coast watch reports on July 4th two Japanese warships anchored at Makile (North coast of Guadalcanal Island) a large quantity of gear was landed.

(2) On July 4th a large auxiliary sailing vessel was sighted at Taivu (North coast of Guadalcanal) much cargo and shelters erected ashore.

(3) At 1400K/3 a large cargo escorted by a light cruiser left Tulagi in N/W direction.

(4) N.Z.N.B. reported at 1232Z/5 the following from Tarawa (Gilbert Islands) that three warships are anchored or drifting at the north end of Maiana Island since Friday 3rd July - Information not sent before owing to fear of detection.

At 1901K/5 D.N.O. Victoria reported that the Master of the "KO HAI" which left Port Phillip at 1730K/5 returned to report having seen two white rockets fired apparently by a ship some considerable distance south of Cape Schank at 1730K/5 (Graded B.3).

D.N.O. Victoria despatched "KOROWA" to the area to investigate with negative results.

The area has also been included in today's air operations.

At 1730K/4, U.S.C.S. reported that TANKER had reported abnormal vibration in her starboard L-P turbine, that defect might be repaired after 8 hours, but that if efforts unsuccessful, then she intended breaking off from convoy.

U.S. Submarine, departed Fremantle 1831K/3 and arrived Albany 0600K/4.

Departed Fremantle 1700K/4 to rendezvous with U.S.S. KRISTY at 0500Z/5 and escort her to Albany, N.Z.I. 0500Z/5.

Departed Noumea 1425K/3 escorting ALBENSDALE, N.F.A. Brisbane 0700K/7.

Departed Townsville 1400K/4 escorting BARRON, N.F.A. Port Moresby 1800K/7.



DAILY NARRATIVE

To 0900 Sunday, 4th July 1942 DAILY NARRATIVE

WEST SECRET  
"MUGFORD" and U.S. Destroyer "MUGFORD" - escorting convoy OC.8 arrived Port Melbourne 081K/3 from Port Moresby.

"MUGFORD" and "MUGFORD" - on escort duty left Townsville at 201K/2  
To 0900K/Sunday 5th July, 1942.

- "MUGFORD" - escorting "MUGFORD" arrived Sydney 0005K/3 from LAUNCESTON Arrived Sydney from escort duty 0726K/4.
- BALLARAT Arrived Townsville 2130K/3 en route Port Moresby to Brisbane.
- "MUGFORD" - escorting "MUGFORD" arrived Brisbane at 1913Z/3.
- MUGFORD } Departed Port Phillip 1118K/4 escorting convoy OC.8.  
MORESBY } 1842Z/3 escorting "MUGFORD" to Sydney.
- BARALABA Arrived Thursday Island 0110K/4.
- CESSNOCK To depart Port Moresby 1800K/3 escorting YOCHOW, E.T.A. Fall River 1200K/5.
- BURNIE Departed Perth 0900H/4 for Adelaide. E.T.A. 1830/1K/9.
- KANIMBLA Arrived Fremantle 1230H/4 from Sydney.
- TROMP } Departed Sydney 1655K/4 escorting convoy ZK 11.  
FLUSSER } (MANGORA, WESTRALIA and DUNTRON) for Fremantle, E.T.A. 1515H/16. At 1721K/4, M.O.C.S. reported that TROMP had reported abnormal vibration in her starboard L P turbine, that defect might be repaired after several hours, but that if efforts unsuccessful, then she intended breaking off from convoy.
- SAURY U.S. Submarine, departed Fremantle 1651K/2 and arrived Albany 0954K/4.
- VOYAGER Departed Fremantle 1709H/4 to rendezvous with U.S.S. TRINITY at 0500Z/6 and escort her to Albany, E.T.A. 0600H/3.
- MILDURA Departed Noumea 14254/3 escorting BISHOPDALE, E.T.A. Brisbane 0700K/7.
- COLAC Departed Townsville 1650K/4 escorting BARHAM, E.T.A. Port Moresby 1600K/7.

F.S.E.C. Melbourne reported stationary bearings by A.D/F from Cape Stuy as follows:-

- (A) At 0048K/4 bearing 160°, distance 180 miles.
- (B) At 0048K/4 bearing 150°, distance 180 miles.

At 0530K/4 A.C.H. Melbourne passed by hand the information that Y.F.S.H.C. now considered the A.D/F plots submitted to be entirely due to atmospheric conditions.

Submarine sighted off N.E. tip of New Caledonia:

C.O.I.C. 'phoned through the following information at 0700K/4.

ALBERTA Melbourne received the following signal from ALBERTA Noumea.

Submarine sighted off N.E. tip of New Caledonia) at 0630K/3 for 45 minutes, then submerged on approach of aircraft.



To 0900 Saturday, 4th July, 1942.

"MORESBY" and U.S. Destroyer "MUGFORD" - escorting convoy C.O.7 arrived Port Melbourne 0651K/3 from Port Kembla.

"KATCOMBA" and "SWAN" - on escort duty left Townsville at 2001K/2 for Port Moresby.

"WILCANNIA" - escorting "MERKUR" arrived Sydney 0005K/3 from Noumea.

H.M.I.S. "BOMBAY" - returned Sydney from escort duties at 1502K/3.

"TOWNSVILLE" - arrived Darwin escorting Babinda at 1913Z/3.

"ROCKHAMPTON" and U.S. Destroyer "PERKINS" departed Brisbane at 1648K/3 escorting P.G.4 to Sydney.

"SAMUEL BENBOW" - arrived Newcastle from Sydney at 1715Z/3.

"WHYALLA" and U.S. Destroyer "MUGFORD" - arrived Sydney at 1210K/3 escorting convoy G.C.7.

"LAUNCESTON" - departed Sydney at 1602K/2 escorting convoy V.S.5.

"BUNGARBE" - departed Sydney at 0328K/3 escorting Sydney section of convoy C.O.8 to join "HELM" and "KALGOOLIE" escorting Newcastle section.

"PING WO" - Sydney from Newcastle at 0028K/3.

0900.

At 1330Z/3 H.M.S. "KANIMBLA" reported as follows:-

Q999 heard at 1252Z/3/7 on 500 Kc/s strength R4.D/F bearing not repetition not obtained. When my position was  $034^{\circ}45'$   $114^{\circ}17'$ .

This message was passed by A.C.N.B. to F.O.Ceylon, C. in C. E.F., C. in C. S.A., N.Z.N.B.

C. in C. P.A.C. (R) Com. W.A., "KANIMBLA" and C.S.W.P.F.

No. Q999 message has been received from any other source.

R.D/F REPORT FROM 7.F.S.H.Q.

F.S.H.Q. Melbourne reported stationary bearings by R.D/F from Cape Otway as follows:-

- (A) At 0048K/4 bearing  $160^{\circ}$ , distance 155 miles.
- (B) At 0048K/4 bearing  $150^{\circ}$ , distance 152 miles.

At 0530K/4 A.C.H. Melbourne passed by hand the information that 7 F.S.H.Q. now considered the R/D/F plots submitted to be entirely due to atmospheric conditions.

Submarine sighted off N.W. tip of New Caledonia:

C.O.I.C. 'phoned through the following information at 0700K/4.

AIRINTEL Melbourne received the following signal from AIRINTEL Noumea.

Submarine sighted off Weba Island (N.W. Tip of New Caledonia) at 0400Z/3 for 45 minutes, then submerged on approach of aircraft.



0900K/Friday, 3rd July, 1942.

"LITHGOW" - escorting "PORTMAR" towed by "WATO" and "ST.GILES", arrived Thursday Island 1800/IK/2 from Darwin.

"HELM" } departed Newcastle 1622K/2 escorting C.O.S.  
"KALGOORLIE" }

"TROMP" } arrived Sydney 0632K/2 from Noumea.  
"BUNGAREE" }

"PING WO" - departed Newcastle 1658K/2 for Sydney - E.T.A. 0030K/3.

"CESSNOCK" - escorting "YCHOW" arrived Port Moresby 1605K/1 from Townsville.

"BALLARAT" - departed Port Moresby 1648K/1 for Brisbane - E.T.A. P.M./6 calling Townsville if necessary.

"GOULBURN" - returned Brisbane 0552K/2 from escorting Z.K.10.

"BERMAGUI" - departed Newcastle 2230/1 for Adelaide - E.T.A. 0630/IK/9.

"BENDIGO" - arrived Cairns 1305K/1 from escorting "JOHN JAY" from Port Moresby.

"WARR GO" - arrived Cairns 0735K/2 from Townsville.

"LAUNCESTON" - to have departed Sydney H ads 1600K/2 escorting V.K.5. - 200 miles and returning to Sydney.

"BUNGAREE" - to have cleared Sydney Heads at 0300K/3 to join Sydney portion of convoy C.O.S.

"MILDURA" - escorting "BISHOPDALE" to depart Noumea 3/7 for Brisbane

"PERKINS" } arrived Brisbane 1927K/2, escorting G.P.4.  
"ROCKHAMPTON" }

U.S. Submarine "SAURY" - departed Fremantle 1651H/2 for Albany.

GENERAL.

Unidentified aircraft sighted by aircraft eight miles to seaward between Rathmines and Newcastle at 1330K/1. Information passed to N.O.C.S., D.N.O. (Q'ld), D.N.O. (Vic).

R.D.F. Station of No. 3 Fighter Squadron Townsville reported at 2320K/2 recording an object 14 miles 130° from Cape Bowling Green (position about 55 miles 106° from Townsville. Search by two Wirraways was negative. Shipping in area warned. Information passed to "BALLARAT", N.O.I.C. Townsville, D.N.O. (Q'ld), N.O.C.S., N.Z.N.B.

H.M.A.S. "NEREUS" (Channel Patrol Boat, Sydney) caught fire at a proximately 1800K/2 while on patrol, and burned out. No casualties.

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DAILY NARRATIVE.

0900K/Thursday, 2nd July, 1942.

"IPSWICH" - departed Brisbane 1125K/1 for Sydney - E.T.A. 0800K/3.

"MILDURA" - escorting "BISHOPDALE" to depart Noumea 3/7 for Brisbane.

"WARREGO" - arrived Townsville 2335K/30 from Milne Bay.

"DOOMBA" - arrived Newcastle 1708K/30.

"AUSTRALIA"

"CANBERRA"

"HOBART"

"CHICAGO"

"SALT LAKE CITY"

"HENLEY"

"BAGLEY"

"PATTERSON"

"JARVIS"

} arrived Brisbane 1053K/1.

"HELM" - arrived Brisbane 0658K/1.

"YANDRA" - departed Sydney 0926K/1 escorting convoy V.K.3. to rendezvous with "STUART" and "GEELONG" off Sydney Heads.

"STUART" } - after rendezvous with "YANDRA", escorted convy  
"GEELONG" } V.K.3. until dusk on 1/7, and arrived Sydney 2148K/1.

"KURAMIA" - Gate vessel, commissioned in Sydney at 0900K/30.

GENERAL.

"CIRCE" has now been renamed "MEDEA".

At 1436K/1 an allied aircraft sighted something on surface in position 14°45'S. 147°00'E (about 100 miles east of Cape Melville and 120 miles north of Grafton Passage.) The plane descended beneath clouds and found oil track and oil slick possible from a submarine in vicinity on course 270°. Moresby graded the report D.2. No allied submarine or surface craft was in vicinity at time of sighting.

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MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900K/Thursday, 11 July 1942.

To 0900K/Wednesday, 12 July, 1942.

"BARALABA" - departed Thursday Island for Meranke at 1800K/30. Then return to Thursday Island - E.T.A. 1700K/1 at 1700K/30.

"DOOMBA" - returned to Newcastle from escorting Newcastle portion of convoy G.P.4.

"WHYALLA" and U.S. Destroyer "FLUSSER" - departed Port Phillip at 1212K/30 - escorting convoy G.C.7. - E.T.A. Sydney 1200K/3.

U.S. Submarine "SALMON" - arrived Albany 1156K/30.

U.S. Seaplane Tender "CHILDS" - arrived Fremantle from Exmouth Gulf at 0901K/30.

H.M.S. "IPSWICH" - N.O.I.C. Queensland reported at 1032K/30 - Acceptance trials completed satisfactorily.

"TAMBA" - escorting "TAMBA" arrived Townsville 1440K/29 from Port Moresby.

"KORLIK" - escorting "JOHN JAY" departed Port Moresby 1800K/29. "JOHN JAY" E.T.A. Townsville 0600K/1 - "KORLIK" E.T.A. Sydney 1100K/1.

"KORLIK" - escorting Newcastle portion of G.P.4. departed Newcastle 1200K/29 to rendezvous.

"KORLIK" - departed Darwin 1900/19/29 on operation Hamburger.

"KORLIK" - departed Port Melbourne 1700K/29 for S.C.7. 18.

"KORLIK" - departed Darwin 0700/19/29 escorting "KORLIK".

H.M.S. "KORLIK" - departed Brisbane 0600K/29 escorting "TAMBA" M. BLISS" - E.T.A. Sydney 2015K/30.

H.M.S. "KORLIK" } departed Newcastle 1800K/29 escorting G.C.7. - E.T.A. Port Phillip 0100K/3.

H.M.S. "KORLIK" - arrived Fremantle 0700K/29 from Albany.

"KORLIK" - arrived Vila SVU.

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To 0900K/Tuesday, 30th June, 1942.

"AUSTRALIA"  
"CANBERRA"  
"HOBART"  
"CHICAGO"  
"SALT LAKE CITY"  
"HERLEY"  
"EAGLEY"  
"JARVIS"  
"PATTERSON"

arrived Noumea 0900L/28, to have departed for Brisbane after fuelling.

"BINGERA" - arrived Flinders Naval Depot from Sydney via Port Phillip.

"BALLARAT" - returned Port Moresby 2202K/28.

U.S.S. "PERKINS" } departed Sydney 1422K/28 escorting G.P.4.  
"ROCKHAMPTON" } E.T.A. Cape Moreton 0522K/2.

"COLAC" - arrived Townsville 0625K/29.

"SWAN" - escorting "TASMAN" arrived Townsville 1440K/29 from Port Moresby.

"BENDIGO" - escorting "JOHN JAY" departed Port Moresby 1200K/29, "JOHN JAY" E.T.A. Townsville 2400K/1 - "BENDIGO" E.T.A. Cairns 1100K/1.

"DOOMBA" - escorting Newcastle portion of G.P.4. departed Newcastle 1925K/29 to rendezvous.

"KURU" - departed Darwin 1909/IK/29 on operation Hamburger.

"ORARA" - departed Port Melbourne 1700K/29 for S.C.F. 18.

"TOWNSVILLE" - departed Darwin 0737/IK/29 escorting "KATOORA".

U.S.S. "HILM" - departed Brisbane 0808K/29 escorting "TASKER H. BLISS" - E.T.A. Sydney 2015K/30.

U.S.S. "MUGFORD" } departed Newcastle 1651K/29 escorting C.O.7. -  
"MORESBY" } E.T.A. Port Phillip 0100K/3.

U.S. Submarine "TAUTOG" - arrived Fremantle 0730H/29 from Albany.

"CAP DES PALMES" } - arrived Vila 27/6.

"CHEVREUIL" }

was sighted by aircraft in the vicinity of Vila on 27/6. A merchant vessel was sighted in the vicinity of Vila on 27/6. A merchant vessel was sighted in the vicinity of Vila on 27/6. .... on the merchant vessel.

The unidentified surface craft located by P.L.7. while moving south in vicinity of Vila (about 50 miles south of Sydney) between 2400K and 2515K/29, has now been identified as a U.S.S.

U.S.S. "TAUTOG" which was aground about 20 miles S.E. of Port Moresby was refloated under power on 25/6 and arrived at Port Moresby 1.2. 28/6. Her coal had not been jettisoned and she had suffered no apparent damage.



To 0900K/Monday 29th June, 1942.

"ALLENWOOD" - arrived Newcastle 1426K/27 from Port Stephens.

"ARUNTA" } - escorting convoy P.G.3 arrived Sydney 1351K/28.  
"KALGOOLIE" } "ARUNTA" is to be docked at Cockatoo Dock 0800K/29.

"DOOMRA" - arrived Newcastle 1105K/28 with Newcastle portion of convoy P.G.3.

"TOWNSVILLE" - escorting "MULIAMA" and "KATOORA" arrived Darwin 0015K/28.

"LITHGOW" - escorting "PORTMAR" and "ST. GILES" Darwin to Thursday Island, amended E.T.A. A.M. 2/7.

"CESSNOCK" - escorting "YOCHOW" departed Townsville 0637K/28 - E.T.A. Port Moresby 1600K/1.

"SWAN" - escorting "TASMAN" departed Port Moresby 1600K/27 for Townsville - E.T.A. 2000K/29.

"BALLARAT" - arrived Port Moresby 0424K/28 from escort of "BONTEKOE" and rendezvous with "COLAC", departed Port Moresby 0608K/28 for Milne Bay, but at 1225K/28 "BALLARAT" was ordered to return to Port Moresby to await further orders.

"KATOOMBA" - escorting "WEST CACTUS" departed Brisbane 1216K/28. "KATOOMBA" is to proceed two hundred miles east with "WEST CACTUS" whose destination is Noumea, and is then to proceed to Townsville - E.T.A. 1200K/2/7.

"SALMON" - U.S. Submarine departed Fremantle 1702H/28 for Albany.

"HELM" - arrived Brisbane 1950K/28 from escorting convoy G.P.3.

"FLUSSER" } entered Port Phillip at 2341K/28 with Melbourne  
"WHYALLA" } portion of convoy C.O.3. "FLUSSER" and "WHYALLA"  
"BINGERA" } proceeded to Melbourne with convoy; "BINGERA" anchored off Portsea for the night.

"HARREGO" - escorting "KARSIK" departed Milne Bay 1001K/28 for Townsville - E.T.A. 0600K/1/7.

G E N E R A L.

A submarine considered enemy, was sighted by aircraft in position 8°10'S. 126°20'E. (about 060°5 miles from Dilli about 360 miles from Darwin, bearing 314°) at 1100K/28. A merchant vessel was sighted in position 8°32'S. 126°04'E. (about 42 miles east of Dilli at 1110K/28. An air attack has been ordered on the merchant vessel.

The unidentified surface craft located by R.D.F. plots moving south in vicinity of Kiama (about 50 miles south of Sydney) between 2045K and 2215K/27, has now been identified as a trawler.

S.S. "CARROO" which was aground about 25 miles S.E. of Port Moresby was refloated under power on 25/6 and arrived at Port Moresby A.M. 26/6. Her coal had not been jettisoned and she had suffered no apparent damage.

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DAILY NARRATIVE.

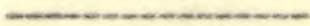
DAILY NARRATIVE.

TO 0900K SUNDAY, 28th JUNE 1942.

- "ANIMBLA" - Departed Sydney 0920K/27 for Fremantle, E.T.A. 1130H/4.
- "STUART" } - Escorting O.C. 6 departed Port Phillip  
"GEELONG" } 1130K/27 and 1109K/27 respectively.
- "PING WO" - Departed Port Phillip with O.C. 6 at 1205K/27.
- "CASTLEMAINE" - Arrived Sydney 1012K/26 from escorting O.C.5.
- "GOULEURN" - Departed Brisbane 1424K/27 to rendezvous Z.K.10.
- "SWAN" - Escorting "TASMAN", departed Port Moresby 1800K/27 for Townsville, E.T.A. 2000K/28.
- "WILCANNIA" - Escorting "MERKUR" departed Noumea 1558L/27 for Sydney, E.T.A. P.M. 3/7.
- "ROCKHAMPTON" - Departed Newcastle for Sydney 0845K/27, arrived 1350K/27.
- "TROMP" } - Departed Noumea 1558L/27 for Sydney,  
"BUNGAREE" } E.T.A. P.M. 2/7.
- U.S.S. "PRESTON" - Departed Fremantle 1220H/25 for Exmouth Gulf, E.T.A. 28/6.
- U.S. Submarine "TAUTOG" - Departed Albany 1540H/27 for Fremantle.
- U.S. Submarine "GAR" - Arrived Fremantle 0730H/27 from Albany.
- U.S. Submarine "GRAYBACK" - Departed Fremantle 1751H/27 for Albany.
- U.S.S. "SELFRIDGE" - Arrived Sydney 2140K/26 from escorting O.C.5.
- U.S.S. "PHOENIX" - Arrived Fremantle 0700H/27 escorting "CAPETOWN CASTLE".

GENERAL.

R.D.F. plots indicated presence of unidentified surface craft (possibly submarine) moving south in vicinity KIAMA (about 150 miles 202° from Sydney) between 2045 and 2215K/27. Shipping in area warned. Passed to N.Z.N.B. Hudson despatched to search area made negative report.





DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900K/Saturday, 27th June, 1942.

"PING HO" - departed Melbourne 0833K/26 for compass adjustment in Port Phillip Bay.

"ORARA" - arrived Port Phillip Bay 0600K/26 from S.C.F. 18.

"AFMIDALE" - to sail from Sydney 1100K/26 for Port Kembla for working up.

"ALLENWOOD" - departed Newcastle 0655K/26 for Port Stephens.

"WARREGO" } escorting "BONTEKOE" and "KARSIK" arrived Milne  
 "BALLARAT" } Bay 1200K/25. "BALLARAT" escorting "BONTEKOE"  
 departed Milne Bay 0600K/26 to rendezvous with  
 "COLAC" at 0630K/27. "BALLARAT" then to return to  
 Milne Bay.

"COLAC" - departed Port Moresby 1100K/26 for Cairns, but has been instructed to rendezvous with "BALLARAT" escorting "BONTEKOE" at 0630K/27 and escort "BONTEKOE" to Townsville.

"PHOENIX" - departed Fremantle 0802K/26 to rendezvous with M.V. "CAPETOWN CASTLE" and escort her to Fremantle.

"ARUNTA" } departed Brisbane 1320K/26 escorting convoy P.G.3.  
 "KALGOORLIE" } "ARUNTA" is proceeding in lieu of "GOULBURN", and is to have repairs effected in Sydney. "ARUNTA" is unable to proceed at more than 10 knots except with excessive vibration.

"STUART" } arrived at Williamstown at 0815K/25 and 0825K/25  
 "GRELONG" } respectively having completed escort duty to convoy C.O.5.

"CESSNOCK" - arrived Townsville 0210K/25 escorting "CAROLA" and "COAST FARMER".

"GOULBURN" - to depart Brisbane to rendezvous with convoy Z.K.10 at 0800K/26 to relieve "HELM".

"HELM" } departed Sydney 1350K/26 escorting convoy Z.K.10  
 "BOMBAY" } for Townsville. "HELM" to be relieved by "GOULBURN" at 0800K/26, and is to proceed to Brisbane to escort "TASKER H. ELISS" 200 miles from Cape Moreton and is then to proceed to Sydney.

"SWAN" - escorting "TASMAN" arrived Port Moresby 1725K/26.

"BENDIGO" - escorting "JOHN JAY" arrived Port Moresby 1800K/26.

- .....
- (1) At 0800/26 an unidentified vessel on No. 7 loop was recorded.
  - (2) A searchlight from Southbourne revealed nothing.
  - (3) "MANTON" was sent out on L/S patrol without results.
  - (4) "MANTON" was brought to immediate notice and "MANTON" to the pier's notice.
  - (5) Search by aircraft on the H/S was negative. Additional air search ordered aircraft to be over Cape Moreton at daylight 26/6.
- .....



To 0900K/Friday, 26th June, 1942.

"MARYALLA" and U.S. Destroyer "FLUSSER" departed Newcastle at 1510K/25 escorting convoy C.O.6.

"CESSNOCK" arrived Townsville from Port Moresby at 0810K/25.

"ARUNTA" - D.W.O. Queensland reported at 1810K/25 that "ARUNTA" grounded in Brisbane River and that her port propeller is out of action. However, the ship can steam at 15 knots on starboard engine, and will adhere to original instructions to escort "TASKER H. BLISS" 200 miles from Cape Moreton, and then join convoy P.C.3.

"KYBRA" returned to Sydney at 1522K/25 from escorting Sydney portion of convoy C.O.5. to rendezvous.

"KALGOOLIE" arrived Brisbane 1135K/25 with "ARUNTA" and convoy C.P.3.

"YANDRA" returned Sydney from A/S patrol for "KANIBELA" at 1400K/25.

"BURNIE" arrived Fremantle from Albany at 1018K/25.

"BUNGARR" and N.E.I. Cruiser "TROOP" arrived Noumea 1355K/24.

"KANIBELA" returned Sydney at 1258K/25 from exercises.

"GOULBURN" returned Brisbane at 1600K/24 from local patrol.

U.S. Submarine "GAR" departed Albany for Fremantle at 1330K/25.

"STUART" and "GEELONG" arrived Port Phillip escorting convoy C.O.5. at 0501K/26.

"BINGERA" departed with Sydney portion of convoy C.O.6. at 0320K/26 for rendezvous with main convoy.

"BARALABA" departed Townsville at 2001K/25 - E.T.A. Thursday Island 0800K/26.

GENERAL.

Reported indication of an enemy submarine in the vicinity of Fremantle:

At 1710K/25 S.W.A.C.H. reported that aircraft had been ordered to search an area (approximately within a ten mile radius of Fremantle) for possible enemy submarines.

Seeking further information the following report was obtained by 'Phone :

- (1) At 0250H/25 an unidentified crossing on No. 2 loop was recorded.
- (2) A searchlight from Swanbourne revealed nothing.
- (3) "MARYBOROUGH" was sent out on A/S patrol without results.
- (4) "GERALDTON" was brought to immediate notice and "VOYAGER" to one hour's notice.
- (5) Search by aircraft on the 25/6 was negative. Additional air search ordered aircraft to be over Cage Roads at daylight 26/6.



MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900K/Thursday, 25th June, 1942.

"BENDIGO" - escorting "JOHN JAY" and "TASMAN" departed Townsville 0230K/24 for rendezvous with "SWAN", thence Port Moresby.

"WARREGO" ) escorting "KASSIK" and "PONTKOE" departed Port  
"HALLANAT" ) Moresby 1446K/24 for Milne Bay - E.T.A. 1200K/25.

"DELOIRINE" - returned to Darwin 1046K/24 from escort duty.

"ACHILLES" - arrived Suva 0701K/23.

"GALE" - arrived Noumea 1540K/23.

GENERAL.

Submarine Sighting:

Enemy submarine sighted by aircraft in position 24°25'S. 152°20'E about 60 miles 320° from Hervey Bay at 1140K/23. Shipping in area warned.

Unidentified vessel:

Admiralty's 2345B/23 stated signal letters of unidentified ship - at first reported "possibly WESTRALIA" "B.F.B.G." - those of Norwegian ship "SKJELBRED" (whose description corresponds with that of sighting), which departed Port Chalmers 8/6 for Aden. Although the departure signal from N.Z.N.M. had been received by A.C.N.E. it was not distributed to M.M.S. Admiralty's 2345B/23 passed to C.C.F.

Tankers overdue:

By seccraphone 0015K/23 Tankers "HERBORG" (Abadan/Fremantle E.T.A. 21/6) "OLIVIA" (Abadan/Fremantle E.T.A. 22/6) "STORANGER" (Trincomalee/Fremantle E.T.A. 22/6) have not yet arrived.

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To 0900K/Wednesday, 24th June, 1942.

"COLAC" - en route Townsville to Port Moresby - E.T.A. 1600K/24 - is to proceed to position about 25 miles S.E. of Port Moresby where S.S. "CARBOO" is aground and render whatever assistance is possible.

"SELFRIDGE" } - escorting Convoy O.C.5. departed Port Phillip  
"ROCKHAMPTON" } 1156K/23.

"CASTLEMAINE" - departed Port Phillip 1639K/23 as additional escort for convoy O.C.5.

"ARUNTA" } escorting convoy G.P.3. departed Sydney 1400K/22 -  
"KALGOORLIE" } E.T.A. Briabane 0500K/25.

"KYBRA" - departed Sydney 0349K/23 escorting Sydney section of convoy C.O.5. to rendezvous - E.T.A. of convoy at Port Phillip 1300K/26.

"STUART" - departed Sydney 1340K/22 to rendezvous with C.O.5. - E.T.A. Port Phillip 1300K/26.

"DOOMBA" - departed Newcastle 1707K/22 with Newcastle portion of convoy G.P.3. for rendezvous. Arrived back at Newcastle 1347K/23.

"BURNIE" - departed Albany 0850H/23 for Fremantle.

"TOWNSVILLE" - departed Darwin 1250/IK/23 escorting "TULAGI" for Thursday Island.

"MUGFORD" - arrived Sydney 1645K/23 from escort duty.

"LAUNCESTON" - arrived 1120K/23 at Port Keble from Sydney, for working up.

"GOULBURN" - departed Brisbane 2038K/23 for patrol.

"GEELONG" - departed Newcastle 1440K/22 escorting convoy C.O.5. E.T.A. Port Phillip 1300K/26.

"AUSTRALIA" } departed Brisbane 0125K/23 for manoeuvres.  
"CANBERRA" }  
"HOBART" }  
"CHICAGO" }  
"SALT LAKE CITY" }  
"HENLEY" }  
"SANDS" }  
"JARVIS" }  
"PATTERSON" }

*Bayley*

"SPEARFISH" - U.S. Submarine departed Albany 1603H/22 for Fremantle.

"BOMBAY" - arrived Sydney 1917K/23 from escort duty.

"WARRAGO" - } - escorting "BONTEKOE" and "KARSIK" to depart Port  
"BALLARAT" } Moresby at 0400K/24 for Milne Bay.

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MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900K/23rd June, 1942.

- "ROCKHAMPTON" with U.S. Destroyer "SELFIDGE" arrived at Williamstown at approximately 2130K/22, having completed escort of convoy C.O.4.
- "DOOMBA" - departed Newcastle at 1707K/22 escorting portion G.P.3. to rendezvous then to return to Newcastle.
- "GEELONG" - departed Newcastle escorting C.O.5. at 1440K/22 - E.T.A. Port Phillip 1300K/26.
- "ARUNTA" and "KALGOORLIE" - departed Sydney at 1400k/22 escorting convoy G.P.3. for Brisbane.
- "STUART" - departed Sydney 1340K/22 for rendezvous with convoy C.O.5.
- "SWAN" - escorting "SWARTENHONDT" (Dutch) en route to Townsville - E.T.A. 0700K/25. "SWAN" will leave "SWARTENHONDT" inside Grafton Passage and rendezvous with "BENDIGO" escorting "TASMAN" and "JOHN JAY" at 1400K/24 in Grafton Passage  $016^{\circ}50'S$ ,  $146^{\circ}05'E$ , and provide additional escort to Port Moresby.

GENERAL.

Reported indication of enemy submarine in vicinity Brisbane:

At 1333K/22 D.N.O. Queensland reported that intelligence indicated an enemy submarine in the area between Caloundra Head and Point Lookout - No detail of intelligence available.

At 1600K/22 "GOULBURN" departed from Brisbane to carry out A/S patrol in this area.

Aircraft are also investigating.

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To 0900K/Monday, 22nd June, 1942.

"AUSTRALIA" } departed Sydney 1013K/21 for exercises, on completion  
U.S.S. "JARVIS" } "AUSTRALIA" and "JARVIS" to proceed "MORRETON BAY" -  
"ARUNTA" } E.T.A. off Caloundra Light 1300K/22. "ARUNTA"  
returned Sydney 1248K/21.

"FLUSSER" } escorting P.G.2 arrived Sydney 1425K/21.  
"MORESBY" }

"CESSNOCK" - escorting "CAROLA" and "COAST FARMER" departed Port Moresby 21/6 (time groups corrupt and being checked) for Townsville.

"WARHAMBOOL" - escorting "TULAGI" arrived Darwin 1805K/21.

"DELORAINIE" - departed Darwin escorting "HAN YANG".

"TOOWOOMBA" - arrived Albany 1005H/21 from Adelaide.

"SWAN" - escorting "SWARTENHONDT" arrived Port Moresby 1745K/21.

"WHYALLA" - returned Sydney 0653K/21 from patrol.

U.S.S. "PATTERSON" - escorting "A.E. KAY" arrived Brisbane 0915K/21, from Sydney.

U.S. Seaplane Tender "MACKINAC" - departed Noumea 0632K/20, destination undisclosed.

U.S. Aircraft Tender "TANGIER" - departed Noumea 1217K/21, destination undisclosed.

U.S.S. "MEREDITH" - departed Noumea 1217K/21, destination undisclosed.

GENERAL.

Flag and operational staff C.T.F. 44 will be transferred from "CANBERRA" to "AUSTRALIA" P.M. 22/6.

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- A. ...
- B. ...
- C. ...
- D. ...
- E. ...
- F. ...
- G. ...
- H. ...
- I. ...
- J. ...



MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

TO 0900K/SUNDAY, 21st JUNE, 1942.

LITHGOW escorting PORTMAR and tug ST. GILES departed Darwin 1821K/20. E.T.A. Thursday Island P.M. 21/6.

CASTLEMAINE berthed outer Nelson Pier, Williamstown, at 1330K/20. CESSNOCK and WARREGO escorting Bontekoe and COAST FARMER arrived Port Moresby 1945K/19.

DOOMBA arrived Newcastle at 1538K/20 from Sydney.

CANBERRA with U.S. Cruiser SALT LAKE CITY and U.S. Destroyers HENLEY and BAGLEY returned Brisbane at 1400K/20 from exercises.

WHYALLA arrived Sydney from escort duties at 1759K/20 -- at 2000K/20 was ordered to sea, to search for submarine, reported to be attacking Port Saint John. At 2221K/20 ordered to return to Sydney, as report of attack was cancelled (see full report).

U.S. Destroyer MUGFORD departed Port Phillip at 1113K/20, with BOMBAY, escorting Convoy O.C.4.

U.S. Destroyer PERKINS arrived Sydney at 1557K/20 from escort duty with Convoy O.C.3.

U.S. Destroyer PATTERSON escorting tanker A. E. KAY departed Sydney at 1614K/19, for Brisbane.

U.S. Seaplane Tender HERON arrived Fremantle 1656K/20 from Exmouth Gulf via Geraldton.

S.S.S.S. FROM PORT ST. JOHN.

1. At approximately 1840K/20 Sydney radio reported intercepting the following:-

"SSSS Ship being gunned in position 35°32'S - 151°23' E at 1800K/20. (30 miles S.E. of Jervis Bay.)"

2. At 1901K/20 All Ships in area 5.B. were warned.

3. At 2115K/20. N.O.C.S. phoned giving the following information of the action taken.

- A. WHYALLA departed Sydney at 2000K/20 for the area of the reported attack.
- B. ARUNTA, PERKINS, JARVIS, YANDRA, and GEELONG brought to immediate notice.
- C. KYBRA to carry out A/S patrol outside the heads - NEREUS at the heads, and a patrol boat at each gate.
- D. Aircraft joined in the search.

4. At 2020K/20 PORT ST. JOHN broadcast following:-

"Cancel my message 1800K/20 flash possibly lightning."

5. After checking authenticity of message, all action taken was cancelled.



SIGHTING OF UNIDENTIFIED SHIP 230 MILES S.E.  
OF CAPE LERUWIN W.A.

At 2145K/20 S.W.A.CH. reported that Hudson from Busselton sighted a cargo ship approximately 5000 tons in position 36°06'S. 111°00'E at 1601K/20 Course 270°. Speed 12 knots.

Ship gave signal letters by flag as B.P.B.G. Description later grey overall-one funnel-two masts-one set. Samson posts-raked bow-cruiser stern.

Description resembles WESTRALIA (Danish) which should not have proceeded West of 114°17' East. Otherwise cannot identify.

REPORTED SUBMARINE SIGHTING.

At 1230K/20. N.O.C.S. reported that a coast watcher at Tuross Head (20 miles South of Bateman's Bay) reported a submarine seen off Tuross Head, travelling North at 1030K/20.

Conning tower and deck awash. Approximately 200 feet long.

No grading given but little reliance placed in report.

The French on "MIRAMIR" saw an object which they stated was a floating mine at 20°18' S. 151°00' E. (about 20 miles from Port Phillip Heads) 2/3 of way west of all shipping, and B.N.C. Victoria passed it to the westward. Passed to 14.15.



To 0900K/Saturday, 20th June, 1942.

U.S. Destroyer "FLUSSER" } arrived Brisbane 0205K/19, escorting  
"MORESBY" } C.P.2. - departed 1532K/19 escorting  
P.G.2.

"KALGOORLIE" - arrived Sydney 0642K/19 from escorting O.C.2.

"BOMBAY" - arrived Williamstown 1125K/19, from escorting C.O.3.

"PALUMA" - arrived Thursday Island from patrol.

"LEANDER" } escorting "PRESIDENT COOLIDGE"  
U.S. Destroyers "CUMMINGS", "TUCKER" } E.T.A. Auckland 1230K/19 from  
Suva.

U.S. Destroyer "MUGFORD" - escorting O.C.4. E.T.D. 1000K/20 -  
E.T.A. Newcastle 1200K/22.

U.S. Destroyer "FARRAGUT" ) arrived Auckland 0137L/19.

U.S. Fleet Auxiliary "WHARTON" )

P.S. "CHEVREUIL" - arrived Noumea 0920L/18 from Fiji.

U.S. Seaplane Tender "MACKINAC" - arrived Noumea 1242L/17 from  
Vila.

GENERAL.

Two firemen on "NAIRANA" saw an object which they stated was a floating mine 36°36'S. 144°30'E. (about 20 miles 208° from Port Phillip Heads) W/F message sent to all shipping, and D.N.O. Victoria passed it to minesweepers. Passed to A.C.H.

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A floating mine was reported in position 36°36'S. 144°30'E. about 20 miles east of Phillip Head, Port Phillip, Victoria, Australia. At 0802L/19, Vice Admiral Robert Carr, Commander of the South Pacific Force and the South Pacific Area. Aircraft reported sighting a submarine which was shot down at 0815L/19. An immediate air search of the area was ordered. A further air raid on Port Moresby at 1115K/19 was made by 12 heavy bombers, escorted by 12 fighters. S.S. "MORNING" arrived Suva in previous raid, was hit by several bombs and was damaged. Other boats which were hit were "MORNING" and S.S. "MORNING".



To 0900K/Friday, 19th June, 1942.

"IPSWICH" - acceptance trials at Brisbane postponed till 29/6  
owing to late arrival A/S equipment.

"MADRAS" - to be sailed P.M. 19/6 for working up exercises Broken Bay, returning Sydney 26/6.

"PUNJAB" - departed Fremantle 1200H/17 for Addu Atoll in company with M.V. "BRITISH CONFIDENCE" - E.T.A. 0200Z/3/7.

"WARPNAMBOOL" - arrived Thursday Island 0010K/18 departed 1721K/18 - escorting "TULAGI" for Darwin - E.T.A. 1730/1K/21.

"BENDIGO" - departed Port Moresby 1831K/18 - E.T.A. Townsville 0631K/21.

"SELFRIDGE" - ) departed Newcastle 1310K/18 - escorting Convoy  
"ROCKHAMPTON" ) C.O.4.

"PERMIT" - U.S. Submarine arrived Albany 0820H/18.

"HERON" - U.S. Seaplane tender, departed Exmouth Gulf at 1601H/18, for Fremantle via Geraldton - E.T.A. Geraldton P.M. 18/6  
E.T.A. Fremantle 20/6.

"STUART" - arrived Sydney 1900K/18 from escorting K.2.

"COLAC" - escorting "JOHN JAY" arrived Townsville ) to rendezvous  
0641K/18, escorting "AROONA" departed Townsville ) at Grafton  
1655K/18, and ) Passage and  
to proceed

"SWAN" - escorting "SWARTENHONDT" departed Townsville ) to Port  
at 1836K/18. ) Moresby E.T.A  
2300K/21.

"CANBERRA" ) departed Brisbane 1300K/18 for exercises.  
"SALT LAKE CITY" )  
"HENLEY" )  
"HAGLEY" )

GENERAL.

A floating mine was reported in position 017°30'S. 146°07'E about 2 miles east of Flying Fish Point (45 miles S.S.E. of Cairns).

At 0000Z/19, Vice Admiral Robert George Chormley assumed command, under the C. in C. Pacific Ocean Areas, of the South Pacific Force and the South Pacific area.

Aircraft reported sighting a submarine eight miles East of Evans Head at 0316Z/18. An immediate air search of the area was ordered.

A further air raid on Port Moresby at 1112K/18 was made by 18 heavy bombers, escorted by fighters. S.S. "MACDHUI", already damaged in previous raid, was hit by several bombs and must now be considered total loss. Other bombs missed S.S. "CAROLA" and S.S. "KARSIK".

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To 0900X/Thursday, 18th June, 1942.

"ALLENWOOD" - returned to Newcastle from Port Stephens at 1529K/17.

"OPSSNOCK" - departed Townsville 0230K/17 escorting "PONTEKOE" and "COAST FARMER", to rendezvous with "WARREGO". Thence to Port Moresby - E.T.A. 1600K/19. 18 near Bougainville, refloated off on side, and has now resumed her voyage to Melbourne.

"STUART" with "KALGOORLIE" - escorting Convoy K.2. departed Sydney at 0828K/17. Retired in 1938, U.S. Navy, (retired) is appointed to the U.S. Eastern Fleet, with acting rank

"COONAMBER" - with "SAMUEL BENBOW" and "WINBON" arrived Newcastle 1632K/16.

"WARRNAMBOOL" - arrived Thursday Island at 0010K/18 from Townsville.

"BENDIGO" - escorting "CAROLA" arrived Port Moresby at 1731K/17.

U.S. Aircraft Tender "MACKINAC" - arrived Noumea at 1142K/17 from Vila.

U.S. "HENLEY" and "BAGLEY" - escorting U.S. Transport "TASKE H. BLISS" arrived Brisbane 1315K/17.

U.S. Submarine "TAUTOG" - arrived Albany at 1055K/17.

U.S. Destroyer "JARVIS" and "PATTERSON" - arrived Sydney 1114K/17.

U.S. Destroyer "MERRIDITH" - arrived Noumea 1035K/17.

G E N E R A L.

Unconfirmed Report of Enemy Submarine in Sydney Harbour:

The following information was received by 'phone from Duty Staff Officer, Garden Island, Sydney.

1. At 0448K/18 and again at approximately 0600K/18 a vague loop crossing was recorded.
2. An H.A.P. boat reported sighting a submarine opposite Watson's Bay and a Channel patrol boat dropped one depth charge which failed to explode.
3. All available A/S ships and aircraft are searching - further reports will follow.

Air Raid on Port Moresby - Report from N.O.I.C. at 1340K/17:

When under way in harbour the passenger vessel "WACDHUI" (4,691 tons) received a direct hit abaft the bridge. The saloon and amidships were gutted - small fires started - steering gear and capstan damaged but can be repaired. Engine apparently in good order and no apparent leak. Believed to be capable of steaming.

Casualties (to date) -

Ship's Company	- 3 killed 4 wounded.
Military Working Party	- 1 " 3 "
U.S. personnel	- 6 wounded.



To 1900K/Thursday, 27th May, 1942.

GENERAL (Contd.)

D.N.O. Victoria, reports that the Merchant Vessel "COLAC" which went aground at 0500K/16 near Rosebud, refloated off on tide, and has now resumed her voyage to Melbourne.

Rear-Admiral V.H. DANCKWERTS, C.M.G., (retired) is appointed Deputy C. in C. Eastern Fleet, with acting rank of Vice-Admiral (retired) 27th May, 1942.

- "[Faint Name]" - departed Port Moresby 2000K/16 for [Faint Destination]
- "[Faint Name]" - departed Port Moresby 2000K/16 for [Faint Destination]
- "[Faint Name]" - escorted "COLAC" departed Port Moresby 2000K/16 for Townsville.
- "[Faint Name]" - departed Port Moresby 0800K/16 to [Faint Destination] with "COLAC" escorting "DORIS" and "GREAT" [Faint Name] Townsville/Port Moresby.
- "[Faint Name]" - arrived Darwin 1800K/16 from Townsville.
- "[Faint Name]" - departed Darwin 2000K/16 for Almy - E.Z.A. 2100K/16.
- "[Faint Name]" - departed [Faint Location] 0800K/16.
- "[Faint Name]" - arrived Townsville 1800K/16 from Thursday Island.
- "[Faint Name]" - departed [Faint Location] 1800K/16.
- "[Faint Name]" - arrived Vila 0800K/16, departed 1800K/16 for [Faint Destination].
- "[Faint Name]" - departed [Faint Location], destination [Faint Destination].
- "[Faint Name]" - departed Vila 1800K/16 for [Faint Destination] 0800K/16.
- "[Faint Name]" - departed [Faint Location] 0800K/16 for Almy.
- "[Faint Name]" - arrived [Faint Location] 1800K/16.



To 0900K/Wednesday, 17th June, 1942.

"ARUNTA" } - escorting O.C.2, arrived Sydney 1213K/16 from  
"KALGOORLIE" } Melbourne.

"FLUSSER" } - escorting G.P.2, departed Sydney 2308Z/15 for  
"MORSEBY" } Brisbane - E.T.A. Cape Moreton 1408K/18.

"STUART" - arrived Sydney 1830K/15 from escorting O.C.2.

"PARKINS" - escorting O.C.2, departed Port Phillip Heads 1745K/16  
for Newcastle.

"BUNGARRE" } - departed Port Phillip Heads 2002K/16 to join  
"WHYALLA" } O.C.3.

"DELORAINE" - escorting "ISLANDER" departed Darwin 0415K/16.

"KYBRA" } - departed Sydney 0327K/15 escorting Sydney Port Kembla  
"YANDRA" } convoy C.O.3 to rendezvous.

"COLAC" - escorting "JOHN JAY" departed Port Moresby 2006K/15  
for Townsville.

"WARREGO" - departed Port Moresby 0602K/16 to rendezvous with  
"CESSNOCK" escorting "BONTEKOE" and "COAST FARMER"  
Townsville/Port Moresby.

"TOWNSVILLE" - arrived Darwin 1513K/16 from Townsville.

"TOOWOOMBA" - departed Adelaide 0900/IK/16 for Albany - E.T.A.  
2124H/20.

"GOONAMBER" } departed Newcastle 0815K/16.  
"SAMUEL BENBOW" }  
"WINBAH" }

"SWAN" - arrived Townsville 1830K/16 from Thursday Island.

U.S. Destroyer "JARVIS" - departed Noumea 1337L/14.

U.S. Seaplane Tender "MACKINAC" - arrived Vila 0945L/15,  
departed 1600L/15 for Noumea.

U.S. Fleet Auxiliary "WHARTON" - departed Noumea, destination  
undisclosed.

F.S. "CHEVREUIL" - departed Fiji 1530M/15 for Noumea 0400L/18.

U.S. Submarine "PERMIT" - departed Fremantle 0316H/17 for Albany.

U.S. Aircraft Tender "CURTISS" } arrived Noumea 1650L/16.  
U.S.S. "MACFARLANE" }

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To 0900 Tuesday, 16th June, 1942.

- "TOOWOOMBA" - arrived Adelaide 1745/IK/15 but has now been ordered to proceed to Albany in accordance with previous orders after refuelling.
- "LITHGOW" - arrived Darwin 2129K/14 from escort duty.
- "SWAN" - departed Thursday Island 0614K/14 - E.T.A. Townsville 0900K/16.
- "FLUSSER" } departed Sydney 2308K/15 escorting Sydney portion  
 "MORESBY" } of convoy G.P.2.
- "MUGFORD" } arrived Newcastle 1014K/15, departed Newcastle 1714K/15  
 "BOMBAY" } escorting Convoy C.O.3.
- "BAGLEY" - departed Brisbane 0435K/15 to rendezvous with "FARRAGUT" escorting U.S. Transport "TASKER H. BLISS" at 0600K/16, and to escort "TASKER H. BLISS" to Brisbane - E.T.A. Brisbane 2400K/16.
- "FARRAGUT" - departed Auckland 1031L/13 escorting "TASKER H. BLISS" for rendezvous with "BAGLEY".
- "PENKINS" } escorting Convoy C.O.2. arrived Port Phillip 0300K/15.  
 "WHYALLA" }
- "COLAC" } escorting "MACDHUI" arrived Port Moresby 1703K/15 from  
 "BALLARAT" } Townsville.
- "BENDIGO" - departed Port Moresby 2012K/13 for Townsville but has now been instructed to rendezvous with "WARRNAMBOOL" escorting "CAROLA" at 1400K/15 in position about 30 miles N.E. of Grafton Passage, and to escort "CAROLA" to Port Moresby - E.T.A. 1600K/17.
- "WARRNAMBOOL" - departed Townsville 1514K/14 escorting "CAROLA" to rendezvous with "BENDIGO", and after delivering "CAROLA" to "BENDIGO" to proceed to Thursday Island - E.T.A. 0200K/18, and thence to Darwin.
- "CHILDS" - U.S. Seaplane Tender, departed Fremantle 1330H/13 for Exmouth Gulf and en route thereto departed from Geraldton at 1630H/14.
- "HENLEY" - has been ordered to rendezvous with "BAGLEY" at 1500K/16 to provide additional A/S escort for "TASKER H. BLISS" - E.T.A. Brisbane 2400K/16.
- "WILLIAM B. PRESTON" - U.S. Seaplane tender, departed Albany 1610Z/14 for Fremantle.
- "OPARA" - departed Melbourne 1644K/15 for sweeping in Bass Strait.
- "GOULEURN" - escorting "KURUMBA" arrived Brisbane 0704K/15 from Townsville.
- "TAUTOG" - U.S. Submarine departed Fremantle 1701H/15 for Albany.



GENERAL.

Rear-Admiral Y.A.C. CRUTCHLEY assumed duty as Rear-Admiral Commanding Australian Squadron and Commander Task Force 44 on 18th June, 1942.

The Skipper of a trawler reported sighting a large object presumed to be a submarine at 1725K/15 in position 7 miles north of Cape Howe and 3 miles off shore. The object sighted was approximately 150 feet long, and the trawler was caught in the swirl as the object "crash dived". Shipping was warned of presence of a possible submarine.

At 1255 27 bombers, escorted by 15 zero fighters, raided Darwin. The majority of the bombs dropped were anti-personnel and incendiary and fell in residential area and harbour. A direct hit was scored on No. 1 and 2 store victualling yard. Damage was not considerable but a quantity of naval stores was destroyed. Damage to one building Naval accommodation at Myilly Point. There was no damage to shipping. Only naval casualty was shrapnel wound in the thigh.

At about 0500K/16 "COLAC" (Merchant Vessel) went aground near No. 9 Buoy, South Channel (near Rosebud).

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At 1621K/14 O.R.O. Victoria reported that P.O. S.B. Point Lonsdale had an intercept from U.S.S. Adelaide, as follows:

"Submarine definitely identified as having entered harbour."

At 1624K/14 "STRAWBERRY" ordered to return to ... This order cancelled at 1627K/14. ... information indicated the originator to be ...

By phone the Naval Duty Staff Officer, Sydney, gave the following information:

At approximately 1630K/14 Military aeroplanes picked up a searching party ... Military opened fire with 3 para and W/S periscopes lost ...

Military state definitely that a submarine entered harbour ...

Lt. Col. ... visited the scene of the ...

All operations were ...



To 0900K/Monday, 15th June, 1942.

"MORESBY" - arrived Sydney at 0620K/14 from escorting.

"YANDRA" - arrived Sydney at 2107K/13 from escorting.

"BENDIGO" - departed Port Moresby 2012K/13 - E.T.A. Townsville 0600K/16.

"SWAN" - departed Thursday Island 0614K/14 - E.T.A. Townsville 0900K/16.

"TOOWOOMBA" - departed Adelaide 1250K/13 for Albany (see submarine activities).

U.S.S. "JARVIS" - escorting U.S.S. "WHARTON" arrived Noumea 2137K/14.

U.S. Submarine "PICKEREL" - arrived Albany 1045K/14.

U.S. Seaplane Tender "WILLIAM B. PRESTON" - arrived Albany 1235K/14.

U.S. Destroyer "PERKINS" and "WHYALLA" - escorting C.O.2. arrived Port Phillip 0300K/15.

GENERAL.

H.M.A.S. "IPSWICH" was commissioned on 13th June.

"ARMIDALE" - depth charge, gunnery steering and full power acceptance trials satisfactorily completed - ship taken over 14th June, 1942.

PA

Reported submarine activities in and about Newcastle Harbour:

3.

At 1921K/14 D.N.O. Victoria reported that P.W.S.S. Point Lonsdale had an intercept from P.W.S.S. Adelaide, as follows:-

"Submarine definitely identified as having entered harbour."

At 2054K/14 "TOOWOOMBA" ordered to return to Backstairs Passage with all despatch. This order cancelled at 2127 K/14, because subsequent information indicated the originator to be P.W.S.S. Newcastle and not Adelaide.

By phone the Naval Duty Staff Officer, Sydney, gave the following information.

At approximately 1830K/14 Military searchlights picked up a submarine periscope 150 yards from entrance to Newcastle harbour. Military opened fire with 3 pdrs and M/G Periscope lost sight of after a few rounds, but picked up again and further rounds fired.

Military state definitely that a submarine entered harbour N.O.I.C. <sup>Newcastle</sup> was sceptical

Lt. Cdr. Hopkins (S.O.O.) visited the area of the sighting and noticed disturbances in water, which were definitely shoals of fish.

All precautions were taken with available craft to protect docks and B.H.P. works.



R.A.I/C. Sydney intends to base permanently one Auxiliary A/S vessel at Newcastle, but he does not intend to send an immediate striking force, other than the movements already planned as follows:-

- (1) "BOMBAY" to depart Sydney for Newcastle 0400K/15.
- (2) "MUGFORD" to depart Sydney for Newcastle 0600K/15.

Later Report from Sydney by 'phone at 2359K/14:

An R.A.A.F. Patrol boat, in Newcastle Harbour returned to base and reported that at 2015K a boat hand saw a periscope of a submarine. The periscope was 2" in diameter and protruded 6" out of water, leaving a feather.

The Military again report sighting an object, probably a submarine to seawards, and consider that the submarine previously reported had now left the harbour.

All defensive forces have been summoned to their stations.

The Naval search consists of five N.A.P. boats, the "BERMAGUI", onetug, and the R.A.A.F. patrol boat.

A Military Representative on each patrol vessel will drop Mills Bombs, hoping to make the submarine disclose its whereabouts.

The E.T.D. from Sydney of the "BOMBAY" and "MUGFORD" will remain unchanged

\*\*\*\*\*

ETA  
13.



To 0900 Sunday, 14th June, 1942.

"REGO" - escorting "KARSIK" returned to Port Moresby at 0758K/13 and is awaiting further orders.

"WALKE" - U.S. Destroyer, escorting "S. JACOB" arrived Noumea 0805L/13 from Sydney.

"TOWNSVILLE" - departed Townsville 0705K/12 arrived Thursday Island 1239K/13, departed Thursday Island 1430K/13 - E.T.A. Darwin 1300/IK/13.

"PUNJAB" - at Fremantle, now ready to sail for Addu Atoll, but delayed as no tanker available till about 27/6 to provide escort.

"WARRNAMBOOL" - departed Townsville 1535K/12 on patrol, returned 0528H/13.

"TROMP" - at Sydney likely to be ready for sea A.M. 15/6.

"COLAC" - departed Townsville, escorting "MAKIKI" 0440K/13 - E.T.A. Port Moresby 1600K/15.

"ARUNTA" } - departed Port Phillip 1221K/13 - escorting O.C.2.  
"STUART" } E.T.A. Sydney 1000K/16.  
"KALGOORLIE")

"SWAN" - arrived Thursday Island 2255K/12 escorting "ROBERT GRAY" from Portland Road.

"SELFRIDGE" } departed Brisbane 1515K/12 escorting convoy P.G.1.ETA  
"HOCKHAMPTON" } Sydney 1615K/14.

"FLUSSER" - escorting part of convoy O.C.1. arrived Sydney 2015K/13.

"GOULBURN" - departed Townsville 1235Z/12 escorting "KURUMBA" - E.T.A. Brisbane 0500K/15.

"GAR" - U.S. Submarine departed Fremantle 1713K/13 for Albany.

"WEST POINT" - U.S. Transport arrived Wellington 0835M/12 from Melbourne.

GENERAL.

At 1220K/13 Darwin was raided by 27 bombers escorted by 12 to 15 fighters. Slight damage was done to the aerodrome, and one Hudson was damaged. There were no naval casualties or damage. Some Kittihawks made contact with enemy fighters and possibly one zero was shot down, one Kittihawk crash landed.

.....

A military entry reported seeing an object to seawards (in the above position) resembling a submarine, between 1215-1220 and 1220-1225.  
The object was slightly moving north between the time stated.  
At 1215/12 the brief light flashes were observed coming from the object.



To 0900K/Saturday, 13th June, 1942.

"ROCKHAMPTON" - and U.S. Destroyer "SELFLEDGE" departed Brisbane 1515K/12 for Sydney, escorting P.G.I. - E.T.A. 1615K/14.

"COULEURN" - escorting "KARUMBA" departed Townsville 1235K/12 for Brisbane - E.T.A. 0500K/15.

"KALGOORLIE" - arrived Williamstown after escorting Convoy C.O.1. at 1450K/12.

"ARUNTA" - secured Nelson Pier Williamstown at 1418K/12 after escorting convoy C.O.1.

"MARRAWAH" - entered Waterloo Bay at 1646K/12.

"WOOL NGONG" - arrived Adelaide at 1420K/12 from Albany.

"ALLENWOOD" - departed Newcastle 1130K/12 for Port Stephens.

"LITHGOW" - departed Darwin at 0804K/12 escorting "BURWAH" to position 10°40'S. 135°10'E.

"TOWNSVILLE" - departed Townsville 0705K/11 - E.T.A. Thursday Island 1700K/13 - E.T.A. Darwin 1300K/16.

"ORARA" - entered Port Phillip 0550K/12.

"KYERA" and "BINGERA" - with Sydney part of convoy C.O.2. departed Sydney at 0208K/12 to rendezvous with main convoy.

U.S. Submarine "PICKEREL" - departed Fremantle for Albany at 1906K/12

GENERAL.

Submarine sightings:

At 1400K/12 A.C.H. Sydney report two submarines, three miles S.E. of Byron Bay - aircraft search resulted in nil sightings, source of report as yet unknown.

Submarine attack on shipping:

The fire and explosion observed by Comdesdiv 9 ("PERKINS") in position 40 miles N.E. of Sydney at 0115K/12 - was the sinking of the "GUATAMALA" (Panamanian 5967 tons) by an enemy submarine.

A torpedo hit the starboard side about No. 1 hatch - water filled starboard side of bridge immediately.

The entire crew were saved uninjured - they stood by until 0230K/12 when contact with the ship was lost.

Probable submarine 60 miles south of Fremantle:

A military sentry reported seeing an object to seawards (in the above position) resembling a submarine, between 1515K/12 and 1630K/12.

The object was slowly moving north between the times stated.

At 1515K/12 two brief light flashes were observed coming from the object.



Initial air reconnaissance proved negative, however an extensive A/S air search over a wide area of the west coast of W.A. has been ordered from 13th June.

H.M.A.S. "ROCKHAMPTON" attacks submarine with depth charges:

"ROCKHAMPTON" reports that at 1105K/11 in position 028° 58' S. 154° 13' E (110 miles S.S.E. of Brisbane) a contact was made and classified as a submarine. A depth charge attack was carried out. On firing, a fuse blew out necessitating immediate repairs after which contact could not be regained, hence results of attack unknown.

\*\*\*\*\*



To 0900 Friday, 12th June, 1942.

"STUART" - entered Port Phillip 2332K/11 from Adelaide.

"GOULBURN" } to depart Townsville for Brisbane 0900K/12.  
"KARUMBA" }

"DELORAIN" - arrived Darwin 1543/IK/11 from escort duty.

"SWAN" - E.T.A. Thursday Island from Portland Road 1800K/12.

"WARREGO" - escorting "KARSIK" Port Moresby 1742K/10 from Townsville.

"TOWNSVILLE" - was to have departed Townsville 0700K/11 for Darwin.

"CESNOCK" - arrived Townsville 1622K/10 from Port Moresby.

"BENDIGO" - escorting "JOHN JAY" departed Townsville 0435K/11 for Port Moresby - E.T.A. 1800K/13.

U.S. Destroyer "PERKINS" } departed Sydney 0832K/11 for Newcastle  
"WHYALLA" } whence they departed 1616K/11 escorting C.O.2.

U.S. Destroyer "MUGFORD" - arrived Sydney 0806K/11 from escort duty.

U.S. Destroyer "PATTERSON" - escorting "PROCYON" - E.T.A. Noumea 0700M/12 from Lautoka.

"GOLDSTAR" - entered Port Phillip 0630K/12 to berth at No. 9 Victoria Dock.

"QARA" - to berth at South Wharf 0900K/12.

G E N E R A L.

Submarine reported sighted at 1345K/11 by examination vessel at Port Kemble two miles off coast. All shipping in area warned.

Comdesdiv 9 ("PERKINS") at 0115Z/12 observed fire and explosion on ship in position 33°30'S. 151°33'E. (about 40 miles N.E. of Sydney) thought to be ZVIR (Yugoslav, 3807 gross tonnage cargo steamer on passage from Newcastle presumably to rendezvous with C.O.2. off Sydney Heads). Matter is being investigated. Passed to N.O.C.S. and shipping in area warned. N.O.C.S. ordered "DOOMBA" on A/S patrol off Sydney Heads to proceed to position and a Catalina also despatched.

"COPTIC" has cancelled her 1233Z/10 (being followed by two suspicious vessels) having lost sight of them "at nightfall".

.....



To 0900 Thursday, 11th June, 1942.

- "STUART" - departed Adelaide 1502/IK/10 - E.T.A. Melbourne. 0100K/12.
- "W.B. PRESTON" - U.S. Seaplane tender, departed Port Phillip 1758K/9 - E.T.A. Albany 14/6/42.
- "FLUSSER" - to rendezvous with convoy O.C.1. at 1600K/11 and assume escort duties.
- "BENDIGO" - arrived Townsville 0635K/10 from Cairns.
- "BALLARAT" - arrived Townsville 0140K/10 from Port Moresby.
- "MORESBY" - departed Port Phillip 1337K/10 escorting convoy O.C.1.
- "BOMBAY" - departed Sydney 0400K/8 to assist "ORESTES", returned to Sydney 1713K/10 under orders.
- "GOULBURN" - escorting "MALAITA" departed Port Moresby 8/6; E.T.A. Townsville 1800K/11.
- "TOWNSVILLE" - arrived Townsville 0630K/10 escorting "JOHN JAY" from Port Moresby.
- "HENLEY" } - U.S. Destroyers, arrived Brisbane 1855K/10, escorting  
"BAGLEY" } U.S. Gunboat "TULSA".
- "WARRAGO" - escorting "KARSIK" departed Townsville 0130K/8 - E.T.A. Port Moresby 1600K/10.
- "YANDRA" - departed Sydney 2000K/6 escorting convoy C.C.1. reached position, and having dispatched convoy independently north is now returning southward.
- "CAP DES PALMES" - departed Sydney for Noumea 1358K/10 - E.T.A. 1300L/14.
- "ST. GILES" - with lighter "QUASHA" in tow, arrived Port Moresby 0902K/8.
- "SEA DRAGON" - U.S. Submarine/Fremantle 0940K/10.

GENERAL.

Submarine sighting:

At 1308K/10 in position 32°45'S. 152°24'E. (32 miles from Newcastle, bearing 075°) a Hudson aircraft dropped 2 250 lb A/S bombs from a height of 400 feet upon a submarine. A patch of oil spreading to 50 yards in diameter after 20 minutes and intense agitation and bubbles, but no debris, were seen. Subsequent reconnaissance by Boston at 1620K/10 disclosed, in position 32°46'S. 152°21'E a coloured patch 1000 yards by 100 yards. No debris was visible.

At 0710K/11 "ARUNTA" reported to escorting aircraft in position 38°40'S. 148°09'E (about 55 miles from Bairnsdale, bearing 130°) sighting a submarine. An air search by all available aircraft from Sale has been ordered.

"ORESTES" arrived Melbourne p.m. yesterday, Wednesday.



To 0900K/Wednesday, 10th June, 1942.

- "MORESBY" - departed Williamstown at 1720K/9 to join convoy O.C.1.
- "COLAC" - arrived Townsville from Port Moresby 0828K/9.
- "ORARA" - entered Waterloo Bay at 1631K/9.
- "STUART" - arrived Adelaide 1513K/9 from Fremantle. Has been instructed, on completion of fuelling to sail for Melbourne escorting any merchant vessels which are ready to proceed.
- "BENDIGO" - departed Cairns 1200K/9 - E.T.A. Townsville 0700K/10.
- "BUNGAREE", "KYBRA" and "BINGERA" - departed Sydney at 0255K/9 with Sydney portion of convoy C.O.1.
- "KOROWA" - berthed Port Melbourne after refloating under own power and is temporarily immobilised pending divers examination of hull and survey of anchors and cables.
- U.S.S. Seaplane Tender "WILLIAM B. PRESTON" - departed Port Phillip at 1758K/9.
- U.S. Destroyer "MUGFORD" departed Sydney at 1825K/9. Escorting "DOMINION MONARCH" and "ESSO LITTLE ROCK".
- U.S. Submarine "SKIPJACK" - arrived Albany from Fremantle 1110K/9.
- U.S. Destroyer "FLUSSER" - departed Port Phillip at 1136K/9.
- Hospital Ship "WANGANELLA" - arrived Sydney 0818K/9.

GENERAL.

Submarine attack on M.V. "ORESTES" (7,748 tons):

In the narrative of 9th June "ORESTES" was reported as being attacked by a submarine in position 30 miles south of Sydney and later reported being on fire. The latest news is an aircraft sighting of the "ORESTES" in a position 37°33'S, 150°23'E. (25 miles east of Gabo Island). No fire on board ship was observed.

Submarine sighting:

1. Enemy submarine was sighted by R.D.F. personnel in 30°45'S, 153°70'E (approximately 10 miles S.E. of Coffs Harbour). At 1240K/9 aircraft despatched to attack, and "SELFRIDGE" and "ROCKHAMPTON" informed.
2. A belated report from a section of a Military Motor Division claims that at 0959K/9 an object thought to be a submarine was seen proceeding south of Boombee (approximately 30 miles north of Coffs Harbour) - graded D.2.

S.S. "MILDURA" reported at 0105K/10:

Signal by suspicious vessel in Lat. 38°52'S, Long. 144°20'E. (35 miles south of Pt. Phillip Heads). Signalling observed at 2030K/9 appeared to be small ship low in water. Information passed to A.C.H. Melbourne.

.....



NAVAL MESSAGE

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900K/Tuesday, 3th June, 1942.

"ARUNTA" - arrived Newcastle 1239K/8 from Sydney.

"ARUNTA" } - departed Newcastle 1840K/8, escorting C.O.I.  
 "WHYALLA" }  
 "KALGOORLIE" }

"BENDIGO" - to be sailed from Cairns to Townsville.

U.S.S. "SELFRIDGE" } departed Sydney escorting G.P.I. 0200K/9.  
 "ROCKHAMPTON" }

"BUNGARRE" - E.T.D. Sydney 0400K/9 for Melbourne with C.O.I.

"WHYALLA" - departed Newcastle 1415K/18 for A/S sweep.

"BURNIE" - arrived Albany 1111H/8 from Fremantle.

"WOLLONGONG" - departed Albany 0747H/7 for Adelaide - E.T.A. 1200/IK/12.

"COLAC" - escorting "BANTAM" - E.T.A. Townsville 0600K/9 from Port Moresby.

U.S.S. "FLUSSER" - berthed Williamstown 1055K/8 to depart about 0900K/9 with "WEST POINT" later to rendezvous O.C.I.

U.S.S. "MEREDITH" - departed Noumea 0835L/7.

U.S.S. "W.B. PRESTON" - E.T.A. Melbourne 0900K/9 from Sydney.

U.S.S. "PENKINS" } - arrived Sydney 1503K/8 from Brisbane.  
 U.S.S. "MUGFORD" }

U.S.S. "TULSA" - Townsville/Brisbane - E.T.A. 1500K/10.

U.S. Submarine "SEADRAGON" - departed Albany 1616H/8 for Fremantle.

U.S.S. "HENLEY" } - departed Brisbane 1700K/8 to search for enemy.  
 U.S.S. "BAGLEY" } submarine and rendezvous with "TULSA" and escort her to Brisbane.

GENERAL.

At 0207K/9 S.S. "ORESTES" (M.V. gross tonnage 7,748, on passage Sydney to Melbourne) reported herself being shelled by submarine 35°57' 150°57'E. (about 30 miles S. of Sydney) and at 0322K/9 on fire due to shelling by submarine or submarines 35°50'S. 151°11'E. Catalina aircraft on patrol from Rathmines ordered to proceed to the area. Hudson which was to have left could not do so on account of dense fog. Sydney radio at 0417K/9 intercepted SSSS. 35°45'S. 151°22'E. being chased and shelled by submarines and at 0508K/9 Brisbane radio intercepted SSSS. 35°32'S. 151°33'E. still being chased. Enemy submarines indicated by D/F bearings, one 50 miles E. of Brisbane at 1750K/8 and another 34°00'S. 152°30'E. (about 65 miles E. of Sydney at 1900K/8).

Possible destroyer or light cruiser reported by aircraft. 09°05'S. 152°10'E (about 100 mile N. of Deboyne Island) at 1015K/8 course 290°. Port Moresby have been asked to identify. At 0630K/9 D.N.O. Vic., reported that Auxiliary M/S vessel "KOROWA" aground 3 cables west of Portsea pier. Auxiliary M/S vessels "DURRAWEN" and "UKI" standing by to render assistance. Tug "JAMES PATTERSON" despatched. Queenscliff life boat available if required. Military shore working party and truck standing by. Wind North about force 8, but no risk of loss of life.



For use in  
Signal  
Department  
only

Originators Instructions:  
(Indication of Priority,  
Intercept Group, etc.)

Codress/Plaindress

No. of  
Groups:

TO:

FROM:

Write cross	Z.G.R.E. calling Melbourne Radio	5
	with traffic P.T.C since 0658 <sup>K</sup> /35	10
	Melbourne, Sydney, Hobart Radios	15
	unable to start sev.	20
	Message received from	25
	P.W.A 0720 <sup>K</sup> /35.	30
		35
	If secret call sign would	40
	be <u>Doomba</u> - when a merchant	45
	ship	50

System	P/L Code or Cypher	Time of		Operator	P.O.O.W.	Date
		Receipt	Despatch			

"BALLARAT" } - escorting  
"COULBOURN" } arrived Port Moresby 1702K/8. "BALLARAT" escorting  
"TARONGA" departed Port Moresby 8/8; E.T.A. Townsville  
2100K/8.

"COLAC" - escorting "BANTAM" departed Port Moresby 8/8 - E.T.A.  
Townsville 8/8.

GENERAL.

ENEMY SUBMARINE ACTIVITY.

Sydney: Between 0015K/8 and 0020K/8, seven shells, one of which exploded, fell in Rose Bay area. At same time flashes were seen in position Macquarie Light, 9 miles 1500. These shells, five of which have been found unexploded, are nose fused 5.5 ins., and are believed to have been fired by submarine sighted by Examination Vessel approximately 3 1/2 miles off Cape Banks, bearing 080°. Air raid warning was sounded at 0025K/8 when an unidentified plane was over Sydney. The "all clear" was sounded at 0115K/8.



For use in  
Signal  
Department  
only

Originators Instructions: (Indication of Priority, Intercept Group, etc.)	Codress/Plaindress	No. of Groups:
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TO:	FROM:
-----	-------

0725	K.	calling M.F.T.Q (Iron Prince)	5
0727		COD.6 Low Power	10
0729		COD 6 High "	15
0732		COD 6 QTC (means I have traffic)	20
0736		CO 42 - OTC. " "	25
			30
			35
			40
			45
			50

System	P/L Code or Cypher	Time of		Operator	P.O.O.W.	Date
		Receipt	Despatch			

"BALLARAT" } - ESCORTING  
 "COULBURN" } arrived Port Moresby 1702K/8. "BALLARAT" escorting  
 "TARONGA" departed Port Moresby 8/8; E.T.A. Townsville  
 2100K/8.

"COLAC" - escorting "BANTAM" departed Port Moresby 5/8 - E.T.A.  
 Townsville 8/8.

GENERAL.

ENEMY SUBMARINE ACTIVITY.

Sydney: Between 0015K/8 and 0020K/8, seven shells, one of which exploded, fell in Rose Bay area. At same time flashes were seen in position Macquarie Light, 9 miles 1500. These shells, five of which have been found unexploded, are nose fused 5.5 ins., and are believed to have been fired by submarine sighted by Examination Vessel approximately 3 1/2 miles off Cape Banks, bearing 080°. Air raid warning was sounded at 0025K/8 when an unidentified plane was over Sydney. The "all clear" was sounded at 0115K/8.



To 0900 Monday, 8th June, 1942.

- "FULSA" - U.S. Gunboat departed Townsville 1300K/6 for exercises, but has now been instructed to proceed to Brisbane.
- "KALGOORLIE" } - departed Sydney 0940K/7 - arrived Newcastle 1535K/7.
- "WHYALLA" }
- "TOWNSVILLE" - arrived Cleveland Bay (near Townsville) 1550Z/6.
- "WARREGO" - arrived Townsville 0620K/6.
- "BUNGAREE" - has been instructed to escort convoy C.O.1.
- "BURNIE" - departed Fremantle 1818K/6 for Albany.
- "MORESBY" - departed Whyalla 1600K/5 for Melbourne, but developed condenser trouble, and returned to Adelaide at 1530K/6 for repairs. Departed Adelaide at 1530K/7 - E.T.A. Melbourne 1100K/9.
- "SHELFRIDGE" } arrived Sydney 1018K/7.
- "TROMP" }
- "W.B. PRESTON" - departed Sydney 1728K/7 - E.T.A. Melbourne 0900K/9.
- "PENKINS" } - U.S. Destroyers - E.T.A. Sydney 1600K/8.
- "MUGFORD" }
- "HALKE" - escorting Convoy B.N.3 departed Brisbane 1205Z/6.
- "CHESNOCK" - escorting "JAPARA" - departed <sup>Port Moresby</sup> Townsville 6/6 - E.T.A. Townsville 10/6.
- "SKIPJACK" - U.S. Submarine departed Fremantle 1712H/7 for Albany.
- "SAILFISH" - U.S. Submarine - departed Albany 1655H/7 for Fremantle.
- "ARMIDALE" - to be commissioned in Sydney 11/6.
- "ARUNTA" - arrived Sydney 1410K/7.
- "BALLARAT" } - escorting "MALAITA", "TAROONA" and "SWARTENHONDT"
- "GOULBURN" } arrived Port Moresby 1702K/6. "BALLARAT" escorting "TAROONA" departed Port Moresby 6/6; E.T.A. Townsville 2100K/9.
- "COLAC" - escorting "BANTAM" departed Port Moresby 5/6 - E.T.A. Townsville 8/6.

GENERAL.

ENEMY SUBMARINE ACTIVITY.

Sydney: Between 0015K/8 and 0020K/8, seven shells, one of which exploded, fell in Rose Bay area. At same time flashes were seen in position Macquarie Light, 9 miles 150°. These shells, five of which have been found unexploded, are nose fused 5.5 ins., and are believed to have been fired by submarine sighted by Examination Vessel approximately 3½ miles off Cape Banks, bearing 080°. Air raid warning was sounded at 0025K/8 when an unidentified plane was over Sydney. The "all clear" was sounded at 0115K/8.



Coastal lights in Category D were extinguished. Damage consisted of one house demolished, there were no casualties. At 0045K/8 a submarine was sighted headed north of North Head, distance not given. At 0147K/8 an air search of the area was ordered.

Newcastle: An unidentified plane was over Newcastle and alert was sounded at 0100K/8. "All clear" sounded at 0125K/8. Between 0215K/8 and 0235K/8 twentyfive shells of about 4 in. calibre, large proportion of which did not explode landed in vicinity of Customs House and Steel Works, Newcastle. Firing was at 7000 yards on bearing 080° from Fort Scratchley. Fort Scratchley fired 4 rounds and enemy (believed to be submarine(s)) ceased fire. Total known damage slight. Total black out of coast was ordered at 0246K/8. Air search has been ordered forthwith.

Sightings: At 1700K/7 a U.S. Submarine reported enemy submarine in position 24°32'S. 153°58'E. (170 miles from Brisbane, bearing 016°. (This sighting may be another U.S. submarine). Shipping in vicinity was notified.

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DAILY NARRATIVE.

MOST SECRET.

To 0900K Sunday, June 7th, 1942.

"CANBERRA"

"HOBART"

"CHICAGO"

"SALT LAKE CITY"

"HENLEY"

"MUCFORD"

"PERKINS"

"BAGLEY"

"VOYAGER"

"GERALDTON"

"TOWNSVILLE"

"WARREGO"

"KANGAROO"

"KOALA"

"KARANGI"

"WALKE"

"BALLARAT"

"GOULBURN"

"CESSNOCK"

"KALCOORLIE"

"MORESBY"

"SELFRIDGE"

"TROMP"

Arrived Brisbane 1600K/5.

Arrived Fremantle 0828H/6 from Geraldton.

E.T.A. Townsville from Port Moresby 1500K/6.

E.T.A. Townsville from Cairns 0630K/6.

Arrived Darwin From Thursday Island 1800 IK/5.

Was to have departed Brisbane 1000K/6 escorting "JOHN JAY" and "S. JACOBS" to Capricorn Channel, thence proceeding to Noumea.

Escorting "TAROONA", "MALAITA" and "SWARTENHONDT" departed Townsville 0030K/4 for Port Moresby E.T.A. 1600K/6.

escorting "JAPARA" arrived Port Moresby 1630K/5 from Townsville.

Arrived Sydney 2130K/6 from A/8 patrol.

Departed Adelaide 1600 IK/5 for Melbourne, E.T.A. 1600K/7.

E.T.A. Sydney 0900K/7 from Townsville.

GENERAL.

Enemy submarine reported by coast watcher in approximate position 35° 55' S. 150° 15' E. (about 60 miles 205° from Jervis Bay) at 0715K/6. No grading of report by A.C.H. Sydney.

Enemy submarine reported by aircraft in position 34° 04' S. 151° 18' E. (about 16 miles south of Port Jackson) at 1645K/6. Aircraft reports having attacked and damaged submarine below surface. N.O.C.S. has despatched two N.A.P. boats to search this area.

General warnings to shipping in the area issued in respect of each report.

\* "My ship is so small" (Alfred Rhye) says on p. 26 that they were DOLPHIN and MISS PATRICIA (first time names, of course).  
J.H.  
10/3/42



To 0900K/Saturday, 6th June, 1942.

"MORESBY" - departed Whyalla 1600/I<sup>A</sup>/5 - E.T.A. Melbourne 1600K/7.

"CAIRNS" - from Maryborough arrived Sydney 0146K/5.

"WOLLONGONG" - departed Fremantle 0818H/4 arrived Albany 1404H/5.

"ST. GILES" - with lighter "QUASHA" in tow, departed Cairns 0700K/4 for Port Moresby - E.T.A. 0400K/8.

"GERALDTON" - departed Geraldton 1049H/5 - E.T.A. Fremantle 0900H/6.

"VOYAGER" - has been instructed to sail at 1800H/5 from Geraldton and to arrive Fremantle 0700H/6.

"STUART" - departed Geraldton 2300H/4, arrived Fremantle 0903H/5; after refuelling departed Fremantle 1230H/5 - E.T.A. Adelaide 0430/IK/9.

U.S.S. "CHILDS" - arrived Fremantle 1840H/3.

"DELORAINÉ" - escorting "TULAGI" departed Darwin 0408/IK/5 - E.T.A. Thursday Island 2130K/7.

"LITHGOW" - escorting "BURMAH" arrived Darwin 1720/IK/4.

"KANGAROO" ) - towing 2 lighters and magnetic skid, arrived Darwin  
"KOALA" ) 1800/IK/5.  
"KARANGI" )

"AUSTRALIA" ) arrived Sydney 1605K/5.  
"HELM" U.S. Destroyer )

"KALGOORLIE" - arrived Port Kembla 1615K/4.

"BALLARAT" ) - escorting "TAROONA", "MALAITA" and "SWARTENHONDT"  
"GOULBURN" ) departed Townsville 0030K/4 - E.T.A. Port Moresby  
1600K/6.

"BENDIGO" - arrived Cairns 1650K/3.

"TOWNSVILLE" - escorting "VAN HEEMSKERK" departed Port Moresby 1905K/3 - E.T.A. Townsville 6/6.

"SARGO" - U.S. Submarine arrived Fremantle 0630H/5.

"SELFRIDGE" ) escorting Z.K.9 arrived Townsville 0002K/5, departed  
"TROMP" ) Townsville for Sydney at 0920K/5.

"WARREGO" - escorting Z.K.9, arrived at Townsville 0009K/5.  
"ORMISTON", "DON NATI" and "ROBERT GRAY" detached and  
proceeded to Cairns, "WARREGO" escorting - E.T.A.  
1700K/5. "WARREGO" departed Cairns 1800K/5 - E.T.A.  
Townsville 1630K/6.

"SWAN" - joined "WARREGO" at Townsville at 0009K/5 and proceeded to Cairns - E.T.A. 1700K/5. Then escorted "ROBERT GRAY" to Cooktown - E.T.A. 0100K/6.



GENERAL.

At 1310K/5 a Hudson located and bombed an enemy submarine in position  $32^{\circ}12'S.$   $154^{\circ}06'E.$  (approximately 120 miles N.E. of Sydney). Four 250 lb. A/S bombs were dropped simultaneously, scoring a very near miss and resulting in a very large explosion, debris continuing to fall for 30 seconds. A large quantity of air bubbles rose to the surface and continued for 40 minutes. When, after that time the aircraft left, the bubbles were still appearing, and a dark brown patch about 50 yards square had appeared. At 1623K/5 air observation revealed series of scum and foam patches over length of 200 to 300 yards and 10 feet width in position  $32^{\circ}1'S.$   $154^{\circ}4'E.$

A streak of foam about 200 yards long possibly caused by submarine, was observed by Hudson at 1622K/5, 5 miles away in position E.N.E. of Newcastle (position corrupt). Object submerged before aircraft over position, and though search of area continued till dark, nothing further was seen.

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DAILY NARRATIVE.

MOST SECRET.

To 0900K/Friday, 5th June, 1942.

"WOLLONGONG" - departed Fremantle for Albany 4th June.

"REJUTA" - departed Sydney 0100K/5 on A/S patrol.

"CAIRNS" - arrived Sydney from Maryborough 0548K/4.

U.S. Gunboat "TULSA" - arrived Townsville 0520K/4.

U.S. Destroyer "FLUSSER" - escorting U.S. Transport "WEST POINT"  
arrived Port Melbourne 1206K/4.

Hospital Ship "WANGANILLA" - arrived Port Moresby 1805K/3.

GENERAL.

Enemy submarine activities:

1. 35 miles S.S.E. of Gabo Island.

R.A.A.F. Bairnsdale report that at 2000K/4 a Hudson aircraft, saw and attacked an ocean going submarine.

Three ships within 8 miles position 38°05'S, 150°14'E. When aircraft was 4 miles distant one ship was torpedoed and sank within 30 seconds. Ship sunk could be one of the following vessels (as yet unconfirmed) "IRON CROWN", "MOMBA", "NORRADA" or "TROJA".

Aircraft attacked submarine releasing one 250 lb. A/S bomb from 500 feet. Bomb burst 15 yards ahead - submarine dived but surfaced immediately. Aircraft again attacked and bomb landed within 20 yards. Submarine continued to surface every few minutes and to submerge when aircraft returned. Submarine stayed in immediate vicinity of attack until nightfall but did not attack other ships.

Aircraft dropped life boat, and lead another ship to rescue survivors.

U.S. Destroyer "FLUSSER" has been ordered to proceed on patrol in this area.

2. 17 miles S.E. Wollongong (42 miles south of Sydney):

At 0048K/5 the "EUCHUNGA" sighted a submarine in the above position - At 0130K/5 reported submarine was still chasing ship. At 0248K/5 ship reported safe arrived at Port Keble.

Master of "EUCHUNGA" was interviewed and gave the following information (to be enlarged in subsequent report.)

First sighted by Master, Mate and Gunner - "EUCHUNGA" fired one round at 2000 yards range - submarine did not return fire but dived in 4 seconds - appeared 30 minutes later 3000 yards distant by Chief Officer from Crow's Nest - could not be seen by Gunner - feather (? bow wave) however was seen from bridge. The total time submarine was in vicinity of the ship was one hour. Master states submarine tried to get ship in rays of the moon, but managed to keep submarine astern.

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"KALGOORLIE" then joined "EUCHUNGA" and escorted to Port Kembla.

"KALGOORLIE" is now searching the area and has carried out a depth charge attack on Asdic contact without known results, in a position 080° 3 miles from Wollongong. "ARUNTA" departed Sydney at 0101K/5 to join in the search.

All merchant ships in area 5B and Comtask 44 have been advised.

S.S. "CANBERRA" reports sighting suspicious objects probably submarines at 0700K/4 in position 26°35'S. - 153°44'E. (35 miles N.E. of Cape Moreton). Objects resembled small vessels or whalers - visibility bad graded C.4.

All Merchant ship sailings have been stopped between Adelaide and Brisbane - except voyages from America to Tasmania and Adelaide Melbourne.

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To 0900 Thursday, 4th June, 1942.

"BALLARAT" } escorting "TARCONA", "MALAITA" and "SWARTENHONDT"  
 "ULBURN" } were to have departed Townsville 0001K/4.

"KANGAROO" } departed Thursday Island 1730K/1 for Darwin - E.T.A.  
 "KOALA" } 1730/IK/5.  
 "KANANGI" }

"KURUMBA" - arrived Townsville 1225K/2 from Brisbane.

"LEANDER" } arrived Fiji 1641M/2 from Vila.  
 "PAUL JONES" }  
 "BULMER" }

U.S. Submarine "SARGE" - departed Albany 1515K/3 for Fremantle.

GENERAL.

Aircraft forced down:

Anson aircraft forced down about one mile S.S.E. of Willeughby Point, H.M.A.S. "NAMBUCCA" left Kingscote at 2129/IK/3 to assist. An aircraft which was to have done so was forced to return by very bad weather conditions. Information received by telephone from Adelaide at 2230K/3. Merchant ships approaching vicinity warned to keep a good look out by A.C.N.B.'s 15012/3.

Submarine activity off Sydney:

151° 50' At 2239K/3 Sydney Radio intercepted SESS. 3355 S. Long. 1515 O. East "IRON CHIEFTAIN" torpedoed (27 miles to eastward of Sydney). At 2110 S.S. "AGE" reported having been shelled for 20 minutes, 40 miles from Sydney on a bearing of 081° by an unknown attacker from 2110 to 2130K/3, approximately five miles from position of "IRON CHIEFTAIN".

"IRON CHIEFTAIN", 4812 tons, was on passage Newcastle to Whyalla.

"AGE", 2650 tons, was on passage Melbourne to Newcastle.

Broadcast warning sent to all ships in the area, ordering them to zigzag widely and irregularly. C.T.F. 44 was informed by Comsowespac.

Port of Sydney was closed to out bound shipping. 0245 telephone report from N.O.C.S. that "BINGERA" and "ROCKHAMPTON" should have reached "IRON CHIEFTAIN" position at that time. "W.B. PRESTON" had cleared Sydney Heads at 0150K/4, "WHYALLA" had been ordered to the west channel, "BOMBAY" to the vicinity of Newcastle, "YANDRA" to join "DOOMBA", fitted A.S.V. in loop area. One catalina was searching the "IRON CHIEFTAIN" area. D.T.D. passed to Commonwealth Salvage Board information on "IRON CHIEFTAIN".

"AGE" arrived at Newcastle at 0052/4. The Master reported that she was attacked by submarine at 2110K/3 in position 33°45'S. 151°59'E but no damage or casualties were suffered. The submarine, which was light grey in colour, fired four shells thought to be 4", all of which missed. "AGE" did not return fire.

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At 0730K/4 it was telephoned from Sydney that N.O.C.S. intended to provide A/S escort for "AEKAY" and "ESSE BALBOA" Sydney bound tankers, with "BOMBAY" and "ROCKHAMPTON" and that twelve survivors of the "IRON CHIEFTAIN" had been picked up including the Chief Officer, who stated that the attack was made by a big submarine. Comsuespac is now asking N.O.C.S. to send "B. PRESTON" to escort "AEKAY" - a 16 knot ship.

Sydney stated that "KALGOORLIE" was to go to Port Kembla the next vessel ready was to go to Newcastle, and "BINGERA" was still searching.

Submarine reported in Sydney Harbour:

By telephone from Sydney at 0444K/4 it was reported that "SILVER CLOUD" a channel patrol boat had sighted and attacked two submarines. By telephone from Sydney at 0745K/4 it was reported that there had been no indicator loop crossing, and that it was raining very hard at the time of the first report. 7 depth charges were dropped, 2 of which misfired, and that it is now thought that the report of presence of these submarines is unfounded.

0000. off Cabo Island:

At 0559K/4 "BARWON" a 4000 ton Huddart Parker bound Melbourne to Kembla reported herself gunned in position 38°05'S. 150°14' (about 35 miles 151° from Cabo Island). D.N.O. Vic was advised by telephone, and C.S.W.P. informed "WEST POINT" and "FLUSSER" by signal. W.S.S. Wilsons Promontory reported "WEST POINT" bound west at 0310K/4.

At 0743 "BARWON" reported herself safe. Had been attacked by torpedo which missed and exploded close to ship. Fragments of torpedo found on board.

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To 0900K/Wednesday 3rd June, 1942.

"CAIRNS" - departed Maryborough 0831K/1 and having satisfactorily completed acceptance trials and gunnery and depth charge trials, E.T.A. Sydney 0930K/4.

"KYBRA" - en route Brisbane to Sydney amended - E.T.A. 1714K/3.

"FLUSSER" - U.S. Destroyer, departed Sydney 0942K/2 for rendezvous at 0900K/3 with U.S.S. "WEST POINT" which departed Wellington 1300M/1. Both vessels - E.T.A. at Melbourne 0900K/4. (American Duty Officer states "FLUSSER" has reported she may not be able to keep rendezvous on time owing to bad weather.)

"W.B. PRESTON" - arrived Sydney 0828K/2 from patrol.

"SWAN" - arrived Townsville 2305K/1.

"GOULBURN" - "GOULBURN" with "CESSNOCK" arrived Townsville 0630K/1 from Port Moresby, departed Townsville 2128Z/1 on A/S patrol Cleveland Bay. It is intended that "BALLARAT" and "GOULBURN" escorting "TAROOHA", "MALAITA" and "SWARTENHOFDT" depart Townsville 0001K/4 for Port Moresby 1600K/6.

"BENDIGO" - escorting "COAST FARMER" from Port Moresby - E.T.A. Cairns P.M. 3/6.

<p>"<u>SELFRIDGE</u>"                  "<u>WARREGO</u>"                  "<u>TROMP</u>"</p>	<p>} escorting Z.K.9 ("Ormiston" and "KATOOMBA") departed Sydney 1335K/31, to rendezvous at 1300K/2 in position E. with</p>	<p>} When off Townsville "KATOOMBA", "STEPHEN A. DOUGLAS" and "JAPARA" escorted by "SELFRIDGE" are to be detached and to proceed to Townsville E.T.A. 2100K/4. When off Cairns "ORMISTON" and "DON ANATI" are to be detached and to proceed to Cairns. "TROMP" is to proceed with "SELFRIDGE" to Townsville to refuel from "KURUMBA". "WARREGO" to escort "ROBERT GRAY" to Cookton, Portland Sand Jetty and Horne Island. After rendezvous "MUGFORD" and "BAGLEY" are to rejoin U.S. Destroyer Division 7 in Moreton Bay.</p>
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"MUGFORD" } U.S. Destroyers escorting  
 "BAGLEY" } "STEPHEN A DOUGLAS", "ROBERT GRAY", "DON ANATI" and "JAPARA" which departed Brisbane at 1915K/1.

\* Note : "TROMP" departed Sydney 1332K/31 and overtook convoy.

"BARALABA" - at Townsville, taken over and commissioned as H.M.A. Ship 0821K/31.

"CESSNOCK" - escorting freight ship "JAPARA" departed Townsville 0838K/2, E.T.A. Port Moresby 1600K/5.

"TOWNSVILLE" } escorting "BANTAM" arrived Port Moresby 1820Z/1  
 "COLAC" } from Townsville.



To 0900K/Tuesday, 2nd June, 1942.

U.S. Cruiser "CHICAGO" - with U.S. Destroyer "PERKINS" in company departed Sydney at 1642K/1 to join "CANBERRA" thence rendezvous with "AUSTRALIA" and party.

"AUSTRALIA" and "HOBART" - with U.S. Cruiser "SALT LAKE CITY" and U.S. Destroyers "HENLEY", "HELM", "MUGFORD" and "BAGLEY" departed Brisbane 1455K/1. Will rendezvous with U.S. Cruiser "CHICAGO" and party off Cape Moreton on Wednesday 3rd June.

"GERALDTON" - departed Fremantle for Geraldton 1151K/1.

"KALGOORLIE" - arrived Sydney 0815K/1 for Melbourne.

"KANGAROO", "GALA" and "KARANGI" arrived Thursday Island 0726K/1.

"WILCANNIA" arrived Noumea 1006K/1 from Art Island (210 miles N.W. of Noumea).

"ST. GILES" - arrived Cairns from Sydney 0930K/1.

"LITHGOW" - escorting "TULAGI" arrived Darwin 0715K/1.

U.S. Destroyer "FLUSSER" - arrived Sydney 2145K/1 from Brisbane.

U.S. "TULSA" - departed Brisbane for Townsville 1310K/1 - E.T.A. 1800K/4.

U.S. Destroyer "NEREDITH" - departed Noumea 1345K/1 - destination undisclosed.

U.S. Destroyer "TUCKER" and U.S. "WRIGHT" - departed Noumea 0615K/1 - destination undisclosed.

H.M.S. "LEANDER" with COMDESDIV 58 in U.S. Destroyers "PAUL JONES" and "BULMER" departed Vila for Suva at 0500K/1.

U.S. Seaplane Tender "WILLIAM B. PRESTON" departed Sydney on patrol 1130K/1.

H.T. "TAROONA" - arrived Townsville 0442K/1.

G E N E R A L.

There are W/T indications of a Japanese Naval Unit in vicinity Sydney. All available aircraft are searching from dawn.

R.D.F. Brisbane reports unidentified ship 080 degrees point danger 42 miles at 0856Z/1. Course S.E. 10 knots and an unidentified aircraft in approximately same position 0935Z/1.

Com. Task 44, who is exercising in this area, has been informed.

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To 0900 Monday, 1st June, 1942.

"CESSNOCK" } - escorting "VAN HEUTZ" and "TARCONA" - departed  
"GOULBURN" } Port Moresby 0645K/30 for Townsville - E.T.A.  
A.M./2 via Fitzroy Island where convoy will  
disperse.

"SWAN" - departed Port Moresby 0201K/31 for Townsville - E.T.A.  
0600Z/2.

"COLAC" - departed Cairns 1500K/30 to rendezvous with "TOWNSVILLE"  
escorting "BANTAM" to Port Moresby.

"TOWNSVILLE" - escorting "BANTAM" departed Townsville 1630K/30.  
for Port Moresby - E.T.A. 1600K/2.

"SKELFRIDGE" } - escorting "ORMISTON" and "KATOOMBA" departed Sydney  
"WARRECO" } 1319K/31, E.T.A. position "E" 1300K/2, Townsville  
2100K/4.

"TROMP" - departed Sydney 1532K/31 to join Z.K.9 and escort.

"LITHGOW" - departed Darwin 0629/IK/30 to rendezvous with "TULAGI"  
and escort her to Darwin - E.T.A. 1430/IK/1.

"BARALABA" - E.T.D. Bowen 0100K/30 for Townsville - E.T.A. 1400K/30.

"ASCANIA" - escorting "WAHINE" arrived Auckland 1220M/30 from Suva.

U.S. Aircraft Tender "WRIGHT" } arrived Noumea 0931L/31 from Sydney.  
U.S. Destroyer "TUCKER" }

U.S. Seaplane Tender "HERON" - arrived Exmouth Gulf 1600H/30 from  
Fremantle.

U.S. Seaplane Tender "CHILDS" - departed Exmouth Gulf 1600H/30  
for Fremantle - E.T.A. 1700H/1.

U.S. Destroyer "FLUSSER" - departed Brisbane 1900K/31 for Sydney -  
E.T.A. 1630K/1.

U.S. Destroyer "PERKINS" - departed Sydney 0242K/1.

U.S. Cruiser "CHICAGO" - departed Sydney, time of departure not  
given.

"KYBRA" - departed Brisbane 1330K/31 for Sydney - E.T.A.  
0730/2.

GENERAL.

Submarine Attack, Sydney Harbour - (See attached minute).

Aircraft and H.M.I.S. "PUNJAB" to locate and identify  
surface vessel or submarine in position 31°17'S. 115°11'E (about  
35 miles N.W. of Fremantle) at 2200H/31 course 325° speed 4 to  
5 knots. Duty Staff Officer, Perth. was asked by telephone at  
0415K/1 to amplify this signal, and S.W.A.C.H.'s 1712/1725Z/31  
reports that Hudson carrying flares and bombs left Pearce at 2307H/31  
to investigate and reported no sightings. H.M.I.S. "PUNJAB"  
is still heading for this area.

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