

DAILY NARRATIVES

1<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER 1942

TO

27<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 1943





SECRET.

To 0900L/Wednesday, 27th January, 1943.

- "PHOENIX" ) arrived Townsville at 0834L/26, thence to Dunk Island for  
 "HELM" ) exercises.
- "SELFRIDGE" departed Brisbane at 1630L/26 to carry out exercises with U.S. Submarine seawards of Cape Moreton.
- "WARRAMUNGA" arrived Cape Moreton from exercises and A/S search at 1030L/26. A/S search abandoned at 2030L/26. "HEROS" report considered of low grading by "WARRAMUNGA". Departed Brisbane at 1543L/26 for exercises.
- "LE TRIOMPHANT" ) arrived Melbourne at 1817L/26, having completed escort  
 "DOOMBA" ) duties with C.O.65.
- "SWAN" escorting T.N.28 departed Townsville for Port Moresby at 0430L/26. "SWAN" will then proceed to Thursday Island and escort "ISLANDER" to Merauke and return. E.T.D. Merauke on return a.m./2.
- "PIRIE" arrived Port Moresby from Cairns at 1456L/26. To escort LILLIPUT Stage 13. E.T.D. 1300L/30. E.T.A. Oro Bay 1400L/1.
- "TOWNSVILLE" escorting Sydney portion O.C.64 arrived Sydney at 0232L/26.
- "BENDIGO" escorting "TASMAN" departed Port Moresby at 1431L/26 on LILLIPUT Stage 12. E.T.A. Oro Bay 1400L/28.
- "DELORAINIE" arrived Newcastle escorting O.C.64 at 0938L/26. Detailed to escort C.O.66 to rendezvous off Sydney at 1600L/27.
- "ROCKHAMPTON" ) detailed to escort C.O.66. To take over convoy from  
 "WAGGA" ) "DELORAINIE" at rendezvous off Sydney at 1600L/27.
- "GOULBURN" returned Brisbane from escort duties with "BUNGAREE" at 1025L/25.
- "WILCANNIA" escorting "TERKA" and "ALAGNA" arrived Darwin from Thursday Island at 1845L/25.
- "GLENELG" escorting "SWARTENHONDT" arrived Townsville at 0028L/26 from Brisbane. Escorting T.N.29 departed Townsville at 1114L/26 E.T.A. Fall River 1600L/30.
- "KALCOORLIE" escorting "BABINDA" is to depart Thursday Island so as to pass Cape Wessel during the night of 29/1 and arrive Darwin 30/1. E.T.D. 0800L/27.
- "BOMBO" with lighter in tow departed Hobart at 1453L/26 E.T.A. Sydney 0800L/31.
- "SHEPPARTON" (A.M.S.) will commission 1/2/43 at Melbourne.
- "TULSA" (U.S. Gunboat) towing 2 M.T.B. arrived Cairns at 2009L/25 and departed for Brisbane at 1001L/26.
- "CHILDS" (U.S. Seaplane Tender) departed Exmouth Gulf at 1758L/26 for Fremantle E.T.A. 1800L/27.
- "TRITON" (U.S. Submarine) arrived Brisbane at 0533L/26.
- "HERON" (U.S. Seaplane Tender) arrived Port Hedland at 1830L/26.
- "W.B. PRESTON" (U.S. Seaplane Tender) arrived Exmouth Gulf at 1758L/26.



To 0900L/Tuesday, 26th January, 1943.

"HILO" departed Fall River 1435L/25 to Sareba.

"BENDIGO" escorting "YOCHOW" arrived Port Moresby 1146L/25 from Oro Bay.

"PATTERSON" escorting "POYANG" departed Townsville 1005L/25 for Palm Island.

"SELFRIDGE" returned Brisbane 0250L/25 from exercises.

"WARRAMUNGA" departed Brisbane 0827L/25 to Moreton Bay; departed Caloundra 1704L/25 for A/S search and exercises.

"HOCKHAMPTON" escorting P.G.31 arrived Sydney 0612L/25.

U.S. Destroyer "TREVER" departed Sydney 0840L/25 for Wellington.

"TOWNSVILLE" is to detach off Sydney with Sydney section of O.C.64.

"DELORAINÉ" is to continue escort of O.C.64 to Newcastle, remain and escort C.O.66 to rendezvous off Sydney 27/1.

"BIRCHGROVE PARK" departed Sydney 0852L/25 for Broken Bay.

"KAPUNDA" escorting "ORMISTON", arrived Sydney 1915L/25.

"DOOMBA" departed Port Melbourne 1631L/25 for duty with O.C.65.

"LE TRIOMPHANT" departed Williamstown 1937L/25 for duty with O.C.65.

"BOMBO" towing concrete lighter, E.T.D. Hobart P.M./26 for Sydney.

"KANIMELA" E.T.D. Fremantle 12/3 for Sydney for conversion to LSI ship.

"WARREGO" } escorting "MAETSUYCKER" arrived Darwin 1449L/25 from  
 "INVERELL" } Thursday Island.

"WANGAKELLA" - Arrived Sydney 1830L/25 from Brisbane.

"PETER H. BURNETT".

1155L/25 "GYMPIE" reported that "PETER H. BURNETT's" Number 3 Hold flooded. Tail shaft carried away. No immediate danger of sinking.

1223L/25 H.C.I.C. Sydney ordered "MILDURA" to proceed with moderate despatch and assist "GYMPIE", relieving if necessary. "ZANE" ordered to take ship in tow on completion of search for 2 lifeboats in area. "ST. ARISTELL" despatched 0630L/25 to take over towing. "MILDURA" to provide A/S protection during tow to Sydney.

1427L/25 "MILDURA" departed.

1615L/25 "GYMPIE" stated that Catalina reported survivors picked up by "ZANE". "GYMPIE" returning to stand by "PETER H. BURNETT" E.T.A. at scene 1900L/25.

#### POSSIBLE SUBMARINE OFF BRISBANE

H.M.A. Tug "HEROS" observed feather momentarily and suspected wake at 1830L/25 13 miles 221° from Cape Moreton. "WARRAMUNGA" proceeded 1637L/25 from N.W. Channel to investigate. Aircraft search was requested.

#### AIR RAIDS

Fall River Warning 2058L/25. All Clear 2123L/25.

Port Moresby Warning, Raid 0245L/26. All Clear 0317L/26.



"PETER H. BURNETT".

At 1000L/26 "ZANE" with "PETER H. BURNETT" in tow in position 033° 12' S. 161° 55' E., course 265°, speed 5 knots. Tug "ST. ARISTEL" ordered to take tow on arrival at about 0900L/27. "GYMPIE" and "MILDURA" will provide A/S escort. Air escort is being arranged 27/1 after "ST. ARISTEL" takes over tow. U.S. Destroyers "ZANE" and "TREVOR" will be further directed by C.S.W.P. All personnel have been accounted for.

At 1234L/26 position of tow 033° 05' S., 161° 40' E., course 265°, speed 5 knots.

At 0300L/27 "MILDURA" reported making contact in position 033° 10' S., 160° 31' E.

ENEMY SUBMARINE ACTIVITIES.

450 miles N.W. of Fremantle - sighted by aircraft.

Catalina reported sighting submarine, presumed to be enemy, in above position at 1415L/26. B.A.M.S. 5A area warned.

100 miles N.N.E. of Buna - sighted by aircraft.

Aircraft reported sighting and bombing without result enemy submarine in above position at 0333L/26. Course 060°.

100 miles S.E. of Sydney - by D/F.

At 0412L/26 D/F fix indicated enemy submarine within 75 miles of a position 100 miles S.E. of Sydney. "BUNDABERG", "ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" and "BOMBO" advised.

"ETTRICK BANK", "WANAKA" and "EMPIRE GRACE" ordered by A.C.N.B. to keep at least 150 miles clear of destination (Sydney) during dark hours, and to make port between 1630 and 2030.

N.O.I.C. Sydney reported by phone the safe arrival of "ETTRICK BANK". "WANAKA" from Townsville to Sydney instructed to close Port Stephens and proceed direct in daylight.

Between 1612L/26 and 1630L/26 escorts of O.C.65 - "BUNDABERG" and "ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" were reported by aircraft to have dropped depth charges in position 10 miles E. of Wilson's promontory - no results were sighted by aircraft and convoy proceeded normally. This was probably a known non-sub.

At 0344L/26 A.O.R. E.A. advised that an air search would commence at 0400L/26 for mother ship of an unidentified aircraft reported over Sydney.

ENEMY AIR RAID.

Port Moresby - Air raid in progress 0255L/27.

All Clear 0417L/27.

arrived Fremantle 234L/26 from escort duty.

arrived Fremantle 234L/26 from escort duty.

arrived Fremantle 234L/26 from escort duty.

Aircraft reported submarine crash dived in position 27 miles south of Port Moresby at 144L/26.



To 0900L/Monday, 25th January, 1943.

- "AUSTRALIA"  
"HENLEY"  
"SELFRIDGE") arrived Brisbane 0807L/24 from Percy Island.
- "SELFRIDGE" departed Brisbane 1041L/24 to Moreton Bay, departed Caloundra 1712L/24 to carry out exercises with U.S. Submarine seaward of Cape Moreton.
- "MUGFORD" departed Townsville 0918L/24.
- "VENDETTA" escorting T.N.27, arrived Fall River 1246L/24, and is to escort "DUNTROON" and "KADOMBA" to Port Moresby.
- "BENDIGO" escorting "YOCHOW" from Oro Bay passed Fall River 0915L/24, E.T.A. Port Moresby 1300L/25.
- LILLIPUT - Stage 11.
- "BALLARAT" departed Port Moresby 1031L/24, escorting "DUNDULA" to China Strait and "BONTEKOE" to Oro Bay, "DUNDULA" E.T.A. Fall River 1800L/25, "BONTEKOE" E.T.A. Oro Bay 1400L/26.
- "CASTLEMAINE" escorting "BURWAH", E.T.D. Thursday Island 1030L/25 for Darwin E.T.A. 0030L/29.
- "LATROBE" arrived Cairns, 0905L/24 from Townsville.
- "PIRIE" departed Cairns 1610L/24 for Port Moresby, E.T.A. 0800L/27.
- "SWAN" arrived Townsville 2148L/24 from Port Moresby, E.T.D. 0400L/26 escorting T.N.28 for Port Moresby, then to proceed Thursday Island and escort "ISLANDER" to Merauke and return.
- "KATOOMBA" arrived Townsville 1014L/24 from Port Moresby.
- "GLENELG" escorting "SWARTENHONDT" from Brisbane, now expects to arrive Townsville 0130L/26; escorting T.N.29, E.T.D. Townsville 1000L/26 for Fall River, E.T.A. 1600L/30.
- Sub-Chaser 746 towing 1 M.T.B. departed Brisbane 0600L/24.
- "WARRAMUNGA" is to exercise with Beaufort torpedo aircraft vicinity Cape Byron 25, 27 and 27/1, returning to Moreton Bay each evening.
- "GEELONG" escorting B.T.36, departed Brisbane 2335L/24; "GEELONG" will part company Whitsunday Passage E.T.A. 2300L/27.
- "KAPUNDA" escorting "ORMISTON" at 0701L/24 reported that she was proceed to Sydney at 11 knots, E.T.A. 1930L/25.
- U.S. Destroyer "TREVER" E.T.D. Sydney 0800L/25 for Wellington, E.T.A. daylight 29/1.
- "ARUNTA" arrived Sydney 1705L/24 from search for "PETER H. BURNETT".
- "KANIMELA" arrived Fremantle 2346L/24 from escort duty.
- U.S. Minesweeper "LARK" with "CAPE OTWAY" (lighthouse steamer) in company arrived Exmouth Gulf 0901L/24 from Fremantle.
- Hospital Ship "WANCANELLA" departed Brisbane 0900L/24 for Sydney, E.T.A. 2000L/25.

POSSIBLE SUBMARINE SOUTH OF PORT MORESBY

Aircraft reported submarine crash dived in position 17 miles South of Port Moresby at 1440L/24.



DAILY NARRATIVE.

2. FRIDAY, 24th JANUARY, 1943.

Arrived Moreton Bay at 2100L/23 from exercises ROBERT departed Brisbane at 1300L/23 from Challenger Bay.

INDICATIONS OF JAPANESE SUBMARINES IN CORAL SEA.

At 0358L/24 a good D/F fix was obtained on a Japanese submarine about 360 miles 104° from Milne Bay. Another good fix was obtained at 2144L/23 about 370 miles 135° from Milne Bay.

H.M.A.S. "MATTHEW FLINDERS" (Examination Vessel) - Commissioned at Brisbane 23/1.

AIR RAIDS.

Port Moresby - Warning 2117L/24. All Clear 2155L/24.  
Warning 0039L/25, Raid 0050L/25, All Clear 0109L/25.  
Yellow Warning 0301L/25, All Clear 0313L/25.  
Red Warning 0335L/25, All Clear 0440L/25.  
Red Warning 0516L/25, All Clear 0521L/25.

Fall River - Yellow Warning 0304L/25, Red Warning 0309L/25,  
All Clear 0352L/25.

Arrived Townsville from Port Moresby at 0546L/23.  
Departed Townsville at 1858L/23 for Cairns to boiler clean.  
Escorted T.M.25 arrived Port Moresby for Townsville at 1522L/23.  
E.T.D. Brisbane escorting C.T.23 1200L/24.  
Escorting DARVEL departed Darwin at 0728L/23 E.T.A. Thursday Island 1130L/23.  
Escorting TANGORA departed Port Moresby at 2222L/23 TANGORA E.T.A. Cairns 1101L/24 - SHAN E.T.A. Townsville 1800L/24.  
E.T.D. Cairns 1000L/25 for Port Moresby. FISIE will temporarily come under operational orders of H.O.I.C. Port Moresby.  
En route Fremantle to Sydney departed Albany at 1042L/23 E.T.A. Adelaide 1700L/23.  
Departed Fremantle at 0939L/23 for Exmouth Gulf (Airplane Tender) E.T.A. 12/25.  
Departed Durban at 0230L/23 E.T.A. Fremantle 1800L/2/2.  
Arrived Brisbane from Fall River at 2156L/23.  
Departed Brisbane at 1330L/23. E.T.A. Port Moresby 0600L/23.  
Arrived Port Melbourne at 0701L/23.  
AS 1910L/23 PETER H. HUBERTX reported - Stern damaged - drifting position 013° 40'S. 150° 05' E - (50 miles S.S.W. of position when attacked).  
At 1500L/23 ANURYA reported searching area of attack without result - and abandoning search E.T.A. Sydney 1800L/24.



MOBT SECRET:

DAILY NARRATIVE.

TO 0900L/SUNDAY, 24th JANUARY, 1943.

HOBART  
RALPH TALBOT } Arrived Moreton Bay at 2100L/22 from exercises HOBART departed Brisbane at 1300L/23 from Challenger Bay.

WARRAMUNGA Arrived Moreton Bay from exercises at 2220L/22.

MUGFORD Arrived Townsville at 1830L/23.

LE TRIOMPHANT Escorting O.C.63 departed Port Phillip at 0433L/23 returned Port Phillip at 1448L/23. having completed escort duties.

LATROBE Arrived Townsville from Port Moresby at 0546L/23. Departed Townsville at 1656L/23 for Cairns to boiler clean.

ROCKHAMPTON Escorting G.P.31 arrived Brisbane at 1101L/23 and departed at 1607L escorting P.G.31.

KAPUNDA Escorting ORMISTON is to proceed to Cowan for 3 hours to effect repairs, and sail when ready.

YANDRA Departed Newcastle escorting Newcastle portion C.O.65, at 0558L/23. To R/V with Sydney portion off Sydney.

BUNDABERG  
ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN } Escorting C.O.65 departed Sydney at 1553L/23.

BALLARAT Escorting T.N.26 arrived Port Moresby for Townsville at 1522L/23.

GEELONG E.T.D. Brisbane escorting C.T.26 1200L/24.

KALGOORLIE Escorting DARVEL departed Darwin at 0722L/23 E.T.A. Thursday Island 1130L/23.

SWAN Escorting TAROONA departed Port Moresby at 2223L/22 TAROONA E.T.A. Cairns 1101L/24 - SWAN E.T.A. Townsville 1800L/24.

PIRIE E.T.D. Cairns 1000L/25 for Port Moresby. PIRIE will temporarily come under operational orders of N.O.I.C. Port Moresby.

COOLEBAR En route Fremantle to Sydney departed Albany at 1045L/23 E.T.A. Adelaide 1700L/29.

W.B.PRESTON Departed Fremantle at 0939L/23 for Exmouth Gulf (U.S. Seaplane Tender) E.T.A. AM/25.

H.M.S. ATHENE Departed Durban at 0239L/23 E.T.A. Fremantle 1800L/3/2.

WANGANELLA  
(Hospital Ship) Arrived Brisbane from Fall River at 2155L/22.

MANUNDA  
(Hospital ship) Departed Brisbane at 1330L/23. E.T.A. Port Moresby 0900L/26.

GOLD STAR Arrived Port Melbourne at 0751L/23.

PETER H. BURNETT (Torpedoed at 2210L/22 420 miles 082° from Sydney.)

At 1910L/23 PETER H. BURNETT reported - Stern damaged - drifting position 033° 40'S. 159° 05' E - (50 miles S.S.W. of position when attacked).

At 1500L/23 ARUNTA reported searching area of attack without result - and abandoning search E.T.A. Sydney 1800L/24.







SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900L/Saturday, 23rd January, 1943.

U.S.S. "HILO" departed Fall River 0856L/22 for Sareba.

U.S.S. "TULSA" E.T.A. Sareba 1800L/22 from Bartle Bay, Goodenough Bay.

"BENDIGO" escorting "YOCHOW" E.T.A. Oro Bay 1400L/22 from Fall River. On completion of Lilliput - Stage 10, is to escort "YOCHOW" to Port Moresby for reloading for Stage 13.

"SWAN" escorting "TAROONA" arrived Port Moresby 1821L/21 from Townsville.

"KATCOMBA" escorting "JASON LEE" departed Port Moresby 2307L/21, "JASON LEE" E.T.A. Cairns 1800L/23. "KATCOMBA" E.T.A. Townsville 0800L/24.

"WARREGO" } escorting "MANTSUYCKER" departed Thursday Island 1150L/22 for  
"INVERELL" } Darwin.

"PATTERSON" arrived Townsville 1816L/22 escorting U.S. Army Transport "MAUI"

"ORMISTON" departed Townsville 2201L/21 to rendezvous "GOULBURN" at 1800L/22 to escort to Brisbane E.T.A. 1400L/24/1.

"VENDETTA" escorting T.N.27 departed Townsville 0840L/22 for Fall River, E.T.A. 1330L/24.

"KYBRA" arrived Townsville 1202L/22 from Brisbane.

"HOBART" departed Brisbane 0941L/22 to Moreton Bay.

"RALPH TALEOT" arrived Moreton Bay 0800L/22 from exercises.

"HOBART" } departed Caloundra 1525L/22 for exercises.  
"RALPH TALEOT" }

"ROCKHAMPTON" escorting P.G.31 ("WAROONGA") E.T.D. Caloundra 1500L/23.

Submarine Chasers 744 and 746 each towing 1 M.T.B. departed Brisbane 1101L/22 for Cairns.

"ARUNTA" departed Caloundra 1544L/22, E.T.A. Sydney 1000L/23, but now E.T.A. 1300L/23 at position of torpedoing of "PETER H. BURNETT".

"HOVEY" arrived Sydney 0814L/22 from escort duty.

"BUNDABERG" escorting Sydney section of O.C.63 arrived Sydney 0043L/22.

"LE TRIOMPHANT" returned Williamstown 1831L/22 from escort duty with C.O. 64, departed 2231L/22 to assume escort duty of O.C.64.

U.S.S. "ISABEL" escorting "KONINDA" departed Fremantle 1945L/22 for Exmouth Gulf, via Carnarvon.

U.S. Seaplane Tender "HERON" departed Geraldton 1705L/22.

"PETER H. BURNETT" TORPEDOED.

Sydney Radio intercepted at 2210L/22 from "PETER H. BURNETT" (U.S. Cargo Vessel 7176 tons gross, departed Newcastle 1034L/21 for San Francisco) - "S S S S 32° 54' S. 159° 32' E. Torpedoed." Position is about 420 miles 0820 from Sydney. A further intercept at 2326L/22 gave the same position and added "Am settling down", but at 2332L/22 Sydney Radio intercepted "May remain afloat".

A.C.N.B. issued a general warning to shipping and passed the S S S S to N.Z.N.B. and A.N.L.O. Noumea.

A.O.R.E.A. informed all H.M.A. Ships concerned. H.O.I.C. Sydney at 2335L/22 ordered "ARUNTA" to proceed and render assistance if



DAILY NARRATIVE

2000L/22, Friday, 2nd January -2- 342.

permitted and at 0219L/23 "ARUNTA" reported that she was proceeding and gave her E.T.A. at position 1600L/23. At 0501L/23 N.O.I.C. Sydney informed "ARUNTA" - "Report indicated ship may remain afloat. One Catalina being despatched at dawn to search. "GYMPIE" left Sydney at 2300L/22, U.S. Destroyer "ZANE" at 0130L/23 for position indicated. If towage possible "GYMPIE" to be detailed. Tug being despatched to meet." submarine.

LILLIPUT MOVEMENT.

N.O.I.C. Port Moresby has indicated that this movement will continue indefinitely. E.T.A. Oro Bay 1400L/23.

AIR RAIDS.

Port Moresby

escorting "JAMES RUSSEL LOWELL" arrived Thursday Island from Darwin at 1129L/22. To return Darwin... Warning 1452L/22. All Clear 1524L/22. Warning 2140L/22. Raid 2156L/22. All Clear 2335L/22. Raid 2400L/22. All Clear 0032L/23. Raid 0251L/23. All Clear 0421L/23.

Fall River

escorting... departed Townsville at 1815L/22 for Port Moresby - on completion "BALLARAT" temporary... Raid 1225L/23. All Clear 1314L/22. Warning 2120L/22, Raid 2122L/22. All Clear 2140L/22. Warning 0004L/23, All Clear 0548L/23.

Merauke

escorting... will rendezvous with... for... Raid 1426L/22. All Clear 1508L/22.

"YARRA"

escorting C.O.55 "SUNDASSEN" will detach with Sydney section "YARRA" to continue escort to Newcastle and escort C.O.55 to Sydney at 1800L/22.

"SUNDASSEN"

detailed for escort duties with C.O.55 - to take over from "YARRA" at rendezvous off Sydney at 1800L/22.

"SUNDASSEN"

at 0019L/21 - reported revised E.T.A. at Fremantle 2000L/21

"SUNDASSEN"

escorting "HARTSWORTH" departed Brisbane at 2113L/21 E.T.A. Townsville 0430L/22.

"HARTSWORTH"

joined C.O.54 in position vicinity Teafold Bay at 1800L/21. (Aircraft Report).

NEW ZEALAND SUBMARINE K.12 - departed Fremantle northbound at 1800L/21.

"SUNDASSEN"

arrived Albany from Fremantle at 1715L/21, thence to Adelaide and Sydney.

AIR RAIDS:

Darwin Air Raid Warning 2222L/21. All Clear 0000L/22. " " " 2254L/21 " " 0000L/22. Air Raid in Progress 2335L/21. Augusta Air Raid in Progress 21/1 (no time given). Darwin Air Raid in Progress 1426L/21. All Clear 1446L/21. Adelaide River Air Raid Warning 21/1. All Clear 0010L/22.



DAILY NARRATIVE.

~~TOP SECRET.~~

0900L/Friday, 22nd January, 1943.

- "HOBART" } to depart Cape Moreton for Challenger Bay at 1700L/23.  
 "RALPH TALBOT" } E.T.A. 1200L/25.
- H.M.S. "TRUSTY" (Submarine) departed Exmouth Gulf at 1400L/20.  
 "WARRAMUNGA" } departed Caloundra at 1205L/21 to carry out day and night  
 "ARUNTA" } full calibre firings seawards of Cape Moreton. On com-  
 "RALPH TALBOT" } pletion day firing "WARRAMUNGA" will exercise with U.S.  
 submarine.
- "BENDIGO" escorting T.H.25 (B) arrived Fall River at 1358L/20.  
 "BENDIGO" E.T.D. Fall River on operation LILLIPUT stage 10  
 PM/21. E.T.A. Oro Bay 1400L/22.
- "WARRECO" } escorting "JAMES RUSSEL LOWELL" arrived Thursday Island  
 "INVERELL" } from Darwin at 1137L/21. To return Darwin escorting  
 "MAETSUYCKER", E.T.D. 1101L/22 E.T.A. PM/25.
- "PIRIE" arrived Cairns from Townsville at 0855L/21.
- "BALLARAT" escorting CONVOY T.H.26 departed Townsville at 1816L/20  
 for Port Moresby - on completion "BALLARAT" is placed  
 temporarily under operational orders of N.O.I.C. Port  
 Moresby.
- "GOULBURN" escorting B.T.35 will rendezvous with and provide escort  
 for "CUMMISTON" en route to Brisbane from position south  
 of Percy Island at 1200L/22.
- "BUNDABERG" } escorting O.C.63 "BUNDABERG" will detach with Sydney sec-  
 "YANDRA" } tion "YANDRA" to continue escort to Newcastle and escort  
 C.O.65 to rendezvous off Sydney at 1600L/23.
- "ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" } detailed for escort duties with C.O.65 - to take over  
 "BUNDABERG" } from "YANDRA" at rendezvous off Sydney at 1600L/23.
- "KANIMELA" at 0018L/21 - reported revised E.T.A. at Fremantle 2000L/24
- "GLENELG" escorting "SWARTENHONDT" departed Brisbane at 2118L/21  
 E.T.A. Townsville 0430L/25.
- "LE TRIOMPHANT" joined C.O.64 in position vicinity Twofold Bay at 1620L/21.  
 (Aircraft Report).
- NETHERLANDS SUBMARINE K.12 - departed Fremantle northbound at 1249L/21.
- "COOLEBAR" arrived Albany from Fremantle at 1715L/21, thence to  
 Adelaide and Sydney.

ENEMY AIR RAIDS:

Darwin	Air Raid Warning	2228L/21.	All Clear	0005L/22.
" "	" "	2324L/21	" "	0021L/22.
" "	Air Raid in Progress	2353L/21.		
Augusta	Air Raid in Progress	21/1 (no time given).		
Merauke	Air Raid in Progress	1427L/21.	All Clear	1446L/21.
Adelaide River	Air Raid Warning	21/1.	All Clear	0010L/22.

"WEST POINT" arrived Auckland 1548L/19 from Port Melbourne.



To 0900L/Thursday, 21st January, 1943.

"HOBART" } about 1300L/22 are to proceed seaward of Cape Moreton  
 "RALPH TALBOT" } for exercises returning to Pile Light anchorage on  
 completion: 0600L/23 to proceed up river to fuelling  
 berth: "RALPH TALBOT" at 1200L and "HOBART" at 1215L/  
 23 to sail for Challenger Bay.

"RALPH TALBOT" departed Brisbane 1445L/20 for exercises.

"KATOOMBA" escorting Port Moresby section of T.N.25 arrived Port Moresby 0935L/20.

"LATROBE" departed Port Moresby 0631L/20 for patrol to south until 1600L/20 thence to Townsville, E.T.A. 2400L/22.

"WILCANNIA" escorting "ALAGNA" with "TERKA" in company departed Thursday Island 1020L/20 for Darwin.

"VENDETTA" escorting T.N.27 ("KATOOMBA" and "DUNTROON") E.T.D. Townsville 0630L/22 for Fall River, E.T.A. 1330L/24.

"SWAN" escorting "TAROONA" departed Townsville 2036L/19 for Port Moresby E.T.A. 1600L/21. "SWAN" is to escort "TAROONA" on return journey from Port Moresby.

"PIRIE" arrived Townsville 2254L/19 from Port Moresby departed 1724L/20 for Cairns E.T.A. 0830L/21.

"GLENELG" returned Moreton Bay 2133L/19 from exercises, E.T.D. PM/21 escorting "SWARTENHONDT".

"WARRAMUNGA" returned Moreton Bay 2241L/19 from exercises.

"GEELONG" arrived Brisbane 0445L/20 from escort duty.

"GYMPIE" } escorting Newcastle portion of C.O.64 departed  
 "ABRAHAM CRIJNSSSEN" } Newcastle 0949L/20 and arrived Sydney 1800L/20.

"DELORAINÉ" arrived Sydney 0244L/20.

"DELORAINÉ" } escorting C.O.64 departed Sydney 1635L/20.  
 "TOWNSVILLE" }

"WAGGA" returned Sydney 0822L/20 from working up in Broken Bay.

"KAPUNDA" } escorting G.P.31, including "BUNGAREE" departed  
 "ROCKHAMPTON" } Sydney 1038L/20.

"LE TRIOMPHANT" departed Williamstown 1705L/20 to rendezvous C.O.64 at 1700L/21 to provide additional escort until 0600L/22, and then return Port Melbourne, E.T.A. 1300L/22.

"ALLENWOOD" arrived Port Melbourne 0531L/20 from Sydney.

U.S. Minesweeper "LARK" with "CAPE OTWAY" (Lighthouse Steamer) in company departed Fremantle 1546L/20 for Exmouth Gulf. E.T.A. 1101L/24.

"LANAKAI" (Boom Gate Vessel) with lugger "BOYD" departed Fremantle 1046L/20 for Albany, via Bunbury, E.T.A. Bunbury 1400L/21.

"WEST POINT" arrived Auckland 1545L/19 from Port Melbourne.



DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0200L/Wednesday, 20th J. 2. 1943.

"PATTERSON" (U.S. Destroyer) departed Caloundra at 1111L/19, to rendezvous with U.S. Army Transport "MAUI", escorted by U.S. Destroyer "GRIMLEY" in position 23° 10' S., 159° 00' E.

SUBMARINE REPORTS: at 0200L/20 and escort "MAUI" to vicinity Townsville. "GRIMLEY" will proceed Sydney.

A.O.R. Eastern Area reported a submarine attack by Hudson at 2255L/20 about 120 miles E. of Newcastle. Bombs hung up. Search being continued.

A.O.R. Eastern Area reported sighting of submarine course 200° at 1047L/20 just south of Port Kembla in a position very close to shore and close astern of convoy which had passed without incident. Sighting considered to be rock or wash of passing vessel.

AIR RAIDS:

"Merauke"	Warning	1442L/20	All Clear	1447L/20.
Fall River	Warning	1028L/20	All Clear	1120L/20.
	"	1142L/20	- Raid in Progress	1145L/20 -
"DOONB"	Warning	1114L/20	All Clear	1150L/20.
	"	2114L/20	- Raid	2140L/20 - All Clear
				2315L/20.
"DARWIN"	Raid	0037L/21	All Clear	0333L/21.
Darwin	Warning	Raid	0040L/21	All Clear
Adelaide River	Warning	0044L/21.		

"SOLENGO" E.T.D. Brisbane escorting convoy B.F.35 - A.M./21.

"MAYALLA" departed Port Moresby at 1415L/19 to rejoin "STELLA" and "POLARIS" in Nelson area. E.T.A. Fall 22/21 landing sighting party at East Cape en route.

"LATHROP" arrived Port Moresby at 1331L/19, from operation LILLIPUT - Stage 9.

"BERNICO" escorting "YOCHON" on operations LILLIPUT - Stage 10, 11 & depart Fall River for Oro Bay PM/21 - E.T.A. Oro Bay 1400L/22.

"FINLGA" arrived Fall River from Brisbane at 1538L/19.

"BOWEN" returned to Sydney escorting "FALKENFELL" at 2228L/19.

"KINCORA" departed Westport at 1150L/19. E.T.A. Port Phillip for exercises 1800L/19.

"WOLFE" departed Fremantle 2020L/19 for Sydney calling at Albany E.T.A. 0200L/20, and Adelaide en route.

"ORANGE" (Hospital Ship) departed Base 17/1, E.T.A. Adelaide 1101L/20.

"MANTILLA" (Hospital Ship) departed Fall River 1530L/19. E.T.A. Brisbane 0700L/22.

SEVEN AIR RAIDS:

Augusta	Air Raid	Warning	1205L/17.	All Clear	1245L/19.
	"	"	2230L/19.	"	2315L/19.
Merauke	Air Raid	In Progress	1215L/19.		



DAILY NARRATIVE.

SECRET.

To 0900L/Wednesday, 20th January, 1943.

"PATTERSON" (U.S. Destroyer) departed Caloundra at 1111L/19, to rendezvous with U.S. Army Transport "MAUI", escorted by U.S. Destroyer "GRIDLEY" in position 23° 10' E., 159° 00' S. about 0600L/20 and escort "MAUI" to vicinity Townsville. When relieved "GRIDLEY" will proceed Sydney.

"HELM" (U.S. Destroyer) departed Townsville at 1516L/16.

"ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" arrived Newcastle escorting portion O.C.62 at 0804L/19. To escort C.O.64 to rendezvous off Sydney at 1630L/20.

"DELORAINE" } detailed to escort C.O.64 to take over escort from  
"TOWNSVILLE" } "GYMPIE" and "ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" at rendezvous off Sydney at 1630L/20.

"WILCANNIA" escorting "BABINDA" arrived Thursday Island from Darwin at 1252L/19. E.T.D. with "TERKA" escorting "ALAGNA" 0900L/20 - E.T.A. Darwin PM/25/1.

"DOOMBA" departed Port Phillip at 2251L/18 escorting O.C.63. Returned Port Phillip at 1721L/19 escorting C.O.63.

"SWAN" arrived Townsville from Port Moresby at 1846L/18 E.T.D. escorting "TAROONA" 2000L/19 for Port Moresby, E.T.A. 1600L/21.

"KALGOORLIE" escorting "DARVEN" arrived Darwin from Thursday Island at 0016L/19.

"GLENELG" E.T.D. Brisbane escorting convoy B.T.35 - A.M./21.

"WEYALLA" departed Port Moresby at 1415L/19 to rejoin "STELLA" and "POLARIS" in survey ground in Cape Nelson area. E.T.A. Tufi PM/21 landing sighting party at East Cape en route.

"LATROBE" arrived Port Moresby at 1331L/19, from operation LILLIPUT - Stage 9.

"BENDIGO" escorting "YOCHOW" on operations LILLIPUT - Stage 10, is to depart Fall River for Oro Bay PM/21 - E.T.A. Oro Bay 1400L/22.

"TULSA" arrived Fall River from Brisbane at 1539L/18.

"BOWEN" returned to Sydney escorting "FALKEFJELL" at 2225L/19.

"BINGERA" departed Westernport at 1130L/19. E.T.A. Port Phillip for exercises 1600L/19.

"COOLEBAR" departed Fremantle 2030L/18 for Sydney calling at Albany E.T.A. 0200L/20, and Adelaide en route.

"ORANJE" (Hospital Ship) departed Suez 17/1, E.T.A. Adelaide 1101L/2/2.

"WANGANILLA" (Hospital Ship) departed Fall River 1630L/19. E.T.A. Brisbane 0700L/23.

ENEMY AIR RAIDS:

Augusta Air Raid Warning 1210L/17. All Clear 1245L/19.  
" " " 2250L/19. " " 2313L/19.

Merauke Air Raid in Progress 1219L/19.



FURTHER TO ENEMY SUBMARINE ATTACKS OFF SYDNEY:

"KALINGO" N.O.I.C. Sydney reported "KALINGO" (2047 gross tons) torpedoed in position 100 miles East of Sydney at 0130L/18. Submarine surfaced 300 yards away after torpedoing. 2 firemen killed, no other casualties. Remainder of crew plus two passengers made Sydney in remaining life boat.

"MOBILUBE" (Torpedoed 60 miles East of Sydney at 2142L/18).

At 0107L/19 N.O.I.C. Sydney reported casualties as 3 killed 5 minor injuries. Torpedo struck under port quarter engine room. Ship was abandoned by as many as possible as precaution against shelling and returned later to ship. Neither submarine or torpedo tracks were seen "KAPUNDA" closed "MOBILUBE" very shortly after attack. "MOBILUBE" has arrived Sydney.

Following ships arrived Sydney -

- "FALKEFJELL" (tanker)
- "GULF OF MARACAIBO" (tanker)
- Convoy P.G.30.

N.O.I.C. Port Moresby reported at 2146L/19 aircraft sighted submarine on surface 20 miles south of Port Moresby at 1239L/19 H.D.M.L. "LLANGOLLEN" investigated with negative results. At 1545L/19 debris composed of sawn timber and palm leaves and one lifeboat with 4 white men rowing reported in position 25 to 30 miles south of Port Moresby. "LATROBE" and "LLANGOLLEN" will carry out search daylight 20/1.

Controlled Minefield at Newcastle - No. 4 group - accidentally fired whilst testing - no damage or casualties - written report follows. Reported by N.O.I.C. Newcastle at 1216L/19.

returned Port Melbourne 1800L/17 having completed escort of Melbourne portion of C.G.82.

escorting "PRESIDENT HAYES", "PRESIDENT HAYES" and "PRESIDENT ADAMS", departed Port Phillip 0811L/18 "PRESIDENT HAYES" E.T.A. Sydney 0800L/18, remainder E.T.A. Sydney 0800L/18.

returned Fremantle 0700L/18 from escort duties.

escorting "JAMES MONROE" arrived Fremantle 1130L/18.

escorting "JAMES MONROE" departed Darwin 0700L/18 for Thursday Island.

arrived Port Moresby 0817L/18 from Brisbane.

REMARKS ACTIVITY EAST OF DARWIN.

At 1700L/18 aircraft sighted a lifeboat full of men about 40 miles 0800 from Sydney. "KAPUNDA" was dispatched from Sydney at 1800L/18 to rescue.

At 0644L/19 Duty Staff Officer Sydney advised that this report had been checked with the pilot who stated that the boat was under sail and heading towards Sydney and the time of the sighting was daylight.

At 2130L/18 Sydney Radio intercepted from "KAPUNDA" (G.L. 1200, 1200 tons gross, departed Sydney empty 1700L/18 for San Pedro) "KAPUNDA" reported sighting. Position given was about 40 miles 0800 from Sydney. At 0800L/19 N.O.I.C. Sydney advised "KAPUNDA" sighting by "KAPUNDA". Ship reports 3 to 5 known casualties. Bulkheads bulging. Possibility salvage. U.S. Destroyer "THUNDER" leaving Sydney to endeavour to save. Log being dispatched.



To 0900L/Tuesday, 19th January, 1943.

- "WHYALLA" arrived Port Moresby 1041L/18 to fuel.
- "TERKA" arrived Thursday Island 1326L/18 from Cairns, and is to proceed Darwin after discharging of present cargo.
- "BENDIGO" departed Cairns 0415L/18 to rendezvous "KATOOMBA" and T.N.25 and escort portion B to Fall River, E.T.A. 1730L/20
- "SWAN" escorting "TAROONA", E.T.D. Townsville 2000L/19 for Port Moresby, E.T.A. 1600L/21.
- "WARRAMUNGA" } departed Brisbane 1630L/18 to carry out exercises with  
"GLENELG" } U.S. Submarine seaward of Cape Moreton.
- "PATTERSON" returned Brisbane 0712L/18 from exercises.
- "RALPH TALEOT" arrived Brisbane 0650L/18 from Melbourne.
- "ARUNTA" departed Brisbane 1635L/18 to Moreton Bay.
- "KYBRA" escorting B.T.34 departed Caloundra 1925L/18. Convoy will be dispersed at Capricorn Channel.
- S.C. 744 returned Brisbane 0736L/18 from escort duty.
- "BAGLEY" arrived Sydney 1457L/18 from Melbourne.
- "KAPUNDA" } detailed for G.P.31 E.T.D. Sydney 1000L/20.  
"ROCKHAMPTON" } At 2342L/18 further E.O.C. was made and ship stated to be pounding badly and at 0000L/19 immediate assistance was requested.
- "MILDURA" with Sydney section of O.C.62 arrived Sydney 1636L/18.
- U.S. Destroyer "GRIDLEY" after being relieved of escort of U.S. Army Transport "MAUI" (for Townsville) by destroyer from Brisbane is to proceed Sydney E.T.A. 0900L/22, for 5 day recreation period.
- "DOOMBA" returned Port Melbourne 1636L/17 having completed escort of Melbourne portion of C.O.62.
- "HOVEY" } escorting "PRESIDENT JACKSON", "PRESIDENT HAYES" and  
"MANLEY" } "PRESIDENT ADAMS", departed Port Phillip 0811L/18 "HOVEY" E.T.A. Sydney 0600L/22, remainder E.T.A. Noumea 0600L/23.
- "TROMP" returned Fremantle 0700L/18 from escort duties.
- U.S.S. "ISABEL" escorting "HARBADA" arrived Fremantle 1130L/18.
- "WARREGO" } escorting "JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL" departed Darwin 0622L/18  
"INVERELL" } for Thursday Island.
- Hospital Ship "WANGANELLA" arrived Port Moresby 0817L/18 from Brisbane.

#### SUBMARINE ACTIVITY EAST OF SYDNEY.

At 1730L/18 aircraft sighted a lifeboat full of men about 48 miles 086° from Sydney. "KAPUNDA" was despatched from Sydney at 1906L/18 to rescue.

At 0645L/19 Duty Staff Officer Sydney advised that this report had been checked with the pilot who stated that the boat was under sail and heading towards Sydney and the time of the sighting was confirmed.

At 2129L/18 Sydney Radio intercepted from "MOBILUBE" (U.S. Tanker, 10222 tons gross, departed Sydney empty 1720L/18 for San Pedro) "S.S.S.S. TORPEDOED HELP". Position given was about 45 miles 099° from Sydney. At 0023L/19 H.O.I.C. Sydney advised "KAPUNDA" standing by "MOBILUBE". Ship reports 3 to 5 known casualties. Bulkheads holding. Possibility salvage. U.S. Destroyer "TREVET" leaving Sydney to endeavour to tow. Tug being despatched."



At 0101L/19 N.O.I.C. Sydney advised Captain "MOBILUBB" considers ship will remain afloat "KAPUNDA" carrying out A/S patrol.

A.C.N.B. issued a general warning to shipping in the area ordered "TOWNSVILLE" escorting P.G.30, and 5 merchant vessels sailing unescorted west bound to Sydney not to approach within 100 miles of position during darkness. Also advised C.S.W.P., N.Z.N.B. and A.N.L.O. Noumea of the attack.

A.O.R.E.A. advised "TOWNSVILLE", "ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" (escorting O.C.62 to Newcastle) and "KAPUNDA" of the attack, and of the indication of a possible previous attack (the lifeboat sighting).

N.O.I.C. Port Melbourne warned U.S. Destroyers "MANLEY" and "HOVEY" and U.S.N. Transport "PRESIDENT JACKSON" and "BUNGAREE" and "DOOMBA".

At 0645L/19 Duty Staff Officer, Sydney, advised that in all 5 A.M.S's and 2 U.S. Destroyers had been despatched from Sydney to the area with orders to provide A/S escort for any shipping met.

Although only trainer aircraft were available, the best possible air search was to be arranged for first light this morning.

"LIPSCOMB LYKES" STRIKES REEF EAST OF NOUMEA.

At 2324L/18 Sydney Radio intercepted an S.O.S. from "LIPSCOMB LYKES" (U.S. cargo vessel, 8744 tons gross) which had struck a reef about 110 miles East of Noumea.

At 2346L/18 further S.O.S. was made and ship stated to be pounding badly and at 0008L/19 immediate assistance was requested as vessel was sinking, and all leaving ship.

POSSIBLE SUBMARINE ACTIVITY IN CORAL SEA.

At 1950L/16 "SWAN" had an Asdic contact about 50 miles 197° from Port Moresby, and fired 9 depth charges with unknown result.

At 1630L/18 "TULSA" had a possible submarine contact about 310 miles 162° from Port Moresby, and attacked with depth charges with no visible result. Could not regain contact after attack.

N.A.P. Boat "TOPSY" - commissioned 0900L/18 at Sydney.

N.A.P. Boat "ALEXANDER THOMSON" - commissioned 0800L/18 at Melbourne for full-time patrol duty.

AIR RAIDS.

Fall River Raid 1200L/18 All Clear 1233L/18.

Warning 1447L/18 All Clear 1516L/18.

Yellow Warning 2053L/18. Raid 2100L/18. All Clear 2137L/18.

(U.S. Gunboat) arrived Port Moresby at 1546L/18.

(U.S. Gunboat) departed Cairns at 1643L/17.

OTHER AIR RAIDS:

Fall River - Air Raid in Progress 1200L/17. All Clear 1233L/17.

Port Moresby - Air Raid Warning 0000L/18. All Clear 0100L/18.

Augusta - " " " 1114L/17. All Clear 1116L/18.



To 0900L/Monday, 18th January, 1943.

- "HOVEY" )  
"MANLEY" ) escorting "PRESIDENT JACKSON", "PRESIDENT ADAMS" and "PRESIDENT HAYES" E.T.D. Melbourne 0600L/18. At point 160° east, "HOVEY" detaches and proceeds to Sydney E.T.A. 0600L/22. The remainder proceed to Noumea E.T.A. 0600L/23.
- "SELFRIDGE" arrived Townsville at 1155L/17.
- "TOWNSVILLE" escorting P.G.30 departed Caloundra at 1000L/17 E.T.A. Newcastle portion 1700L/19 E.T.A. Sydney 2200L/19.
- "SWAN" escorting "GEORGE MATTHEWS" departed Port Moresby at 1617L/16. "SWAN" will proceed ahead of "GEORGE MATTHEWS" at Fitzroy Island light - E.T.A. Townsville 1200L/18.
- "PIRIE" escorting "DUNTROON" and "BOTH" arrived Port Moresby from Fall River at 1641L/16, and departed at 1317L/17 for Cairns E.T.A. 1300L/19.
- "KATOOMBA" escorting T.N.25 departed Townsville at 1455L/17 E.T.A. Port Moresby with portion (A) 1530L/20. "BENDIGO" joining from Cairns will escort portion (B) to Fall River, E.T.A. 1730L/20.
- H.M.S. "TRUSTY" arrived Exmouth Gulf from Colombo A.M./17.
- "GLENELG" arrived Brisbane from Sydney at 0340L/17.
- "DOOMBA" arrived Port Melbourne at 1836L/17. from escort duties with CO. 62.
- "ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" )  
"MILDURA" ) escorting O.C.62. "MILDURA" will detach off Sydney with Sydney section. "ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" will continue escort to Newcastle and remain Newcastle and escort C.O.64 to rendezvous off Sydney 20/1.
- "WHYALLA" arrived Fall River from Tufi area at 2201L/16, and departed for Port Moresby at 0630L/17 - E.T.A. 1400L/18.
- "LATROBE" escorting "KARSIK" on operation LILLIPUT - Stage 9, ordered by N.O.I.C. Port Moresby at 1826L/17 to escort "KARSIK" to position vicinity Brumer Island (South of Fall River). "KARSIK" will then proceed independently to Townsville and "LATROBE" proceed to Fall River.
- "GEELONG" escorting G.T.4 departed Gladstone at 1615L/17 for Townsville. E.T.A. 0600L/19.
- "VENDETTA" escorting U.S.S. "SPERRY" (Submarine Tender) departed Brisbane at 1445L/17. "VENDETTA" will part company on arrival longitude 160° West, and proceed to Townsville E.T.A. 0600L/21.
- "KYBRA" en route Sydney to Townsville ordered by A.C.N.B. at 1233L/17 to proceed Brisbane and escort convoy to vicinity of Capricorn Channel, then proceed Townsville.
- "HILO" (U.S. Gunboat) arrived Fall River from Port Moresby at 1544L/16.
- "TULSA" (U.S. Gunboat) departed Cairns at 1845L/17.

ENEMY AIR RAIDS:

Fall River	-	Air Raid in Progress	1258L/17.	All Clear	1330L/17.
		" " " "	0510L/18.		
Port Moresby	-	Air Raid Warning	0056L/18.	All Clear	0120L/18.
Augusta	-	" " "	1114L/17.	All Clear	1116L/18.







DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0800L/Saturday, 16th - 2 - July, 1943.

"HOBART" } departed Caloundra at 1404L/15 to carry out day and  
"VENDETTA" } night full calibre firing seaward of Cape Moreton on  
"PATTERSON" } 15/1.

TASK FORCE 44'S INTENTIONS

"HELM"

"AUSTRALIA" } E.T.D. Percy Island 2200L/22 for Brisbane, E.T.A. 0800L/24.  
"SELFRIDGE" }  
"HENLEY" }

"PHOENIX" } E.T.D. Dunk Island 23/1 for Palm Island.  
"MUGFORD" }  
"HELM" }

"HOBART" } escorting "VAN HEUTSEN" arrived Townsville from Fall  
"PATTERSON" } River at 0830L/15.  
"RALPH TALEBOT" }

"HOBART" } E.T.D. Moreton Bay 23/1 for Palm Island E.T.A. 25/1 for  
"PATTERSON" } duty in North East Area.  
"RALPH TALEBOT" }

"CASTLEMAINE" escorting "ISLANDER" arrived Thursday Island from Darwin  
at 1327L/15.

AIR RAIDS.

"DELOIRAIN" arrived with section of O.C.81 at 0257L/15.

PORT MORESBY WARNING 2004L/16. ALL CLEAR 2021L/16. WARNING 2140L/16,  
RAID 2141L/16. ALL CLEAR. WARNING, ALL CLEAR 2340L/16.  
E.T.A. 1200L/18.

"BOOMBA" departed Port Phillip escorting O.C.62 at 0011L/16.

"KALGOOLIE" escorting T.D.6 departed Thursday Island for Darwin at  
1628L/15 - E.T.A. PM/18.

"MUGFORD" escorting "TAROOMA" will detach "TAROOMA" after clearing  
Grafton Passage and proceed independently to Palm Island  
to rejoin C.Y.F.44.

A.N.S. "TRUSTY" (en route Colombo to Esmouth) reported E.T.A. 1000L/17.

"CAR" (U.S. Submarine) expected to arrive Esmouth Gulf at 1400L/18  
and departed southwards before dusk, same day.

"STACRA" departed Port Phillip at 1457L/15 - E.T.A. Western Port  
1900L/15.

"TRKA" departed Cairns at 0140L/15 for Thursday Island E.T.A.  
0800L/18.

"KIRRA" departed Sydney for Townsville at 1532L/15.

"WAGON" (U.S. Seaplane Tender) arrived Geraldton from Esmouth Gulf  
at 1027L/15.

"DE TRIUMPHANT" arrived Williamstown at 1522L/15 from exercises in  
Port Phillip.

ARMY AIR RAIDS:

Port Moresby - Air raid in progress 2058L/15. All clear 2358L/15.

Augusta - Air raid warning 1430L/15. All clear 1440L/15.

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DAILY NARRATIVE.

SECRET.

To 0900L/Saturday, 16th January, 1943.

"HOBART" } departed Caloundra at 1404L/15 to carry out day and  
"VENDETTA" } night full calibre firing seaward of Cape Moreton on  
"PATTERSON") 15/1.

"HELM" arrived Townsville at 1345L/15.

"TROMP" escorting "GOLD STAR" (en route to Sydney) departed Fremantle at 1117L/15. At 1200L/16 "TROMP" is expected to leave "GOLD STAR" and rendezvous with "REYNELLA" and escort to Fremantle. E.T.A. "GOLD STAR" at Melbourne en route to Sydney 0700L/23.

"KATOOMBA" escorting "VAN HEUTSZ" arrived Townsville from Fall River at 0530L/15.

"GEELONG" escorting G.T.3 departed Gladstone 0300L/15 for Townsville E.T.A. 0300L/17.

"CASTLEMAINE" escorting "ISLANDER" arrived Thursday Island from Darwin at 1327L/15.

"DELORRAINE" arrived Newcastle with section of O.C.61 at 0257L/15.

"BAGLEY" escorting "WEST POINT" (en route to Auckland) E.T.D. Port Phillip 1100L/16. "BAGLEY" will detach in position 360 miles S.E. of Sydney and proceed direct to Sydney E.T.A. 1200L/18.

"DOOMBA" departed Port Phillip escorting O.C.62 at 0011L/16.

"KALGOORLIE" escorting T.D.6 departed Thursday Island for Darwin at 1628L/15 - E.T.A. PM/18.

"MUGFORD" escorting "TAROONA" will detach "TAROONA" after clearing Grafton Passage and proceed independently to Palm Island to rejoin C.T.F.44.

H.M.S. "TRUSTY" (en route Colombo to Exmouth) reported E.T.A. 1000L/17.

"GAR" (U.S. Submarine) expected to arrive Exmouth Gulf at 1400L/16 and departed southwards before dusk, same day.

"BINGERA" departed Port Phillip at 1457L/15 - E.T.A. Western Port 1900L/15.

"TERKA" departed Cairns at 0140L/15 for Thursday Island E.T.A. 0600L/18.

"KYBRA" departed Sydney for Townsville at 1634L/15.

"HERON" (U.S. Seaplane Tender) arrived Geraldton from Exmouth Gulf at 1027L/15.

"LE TRIOMPHANT" arrived Williamstown at 1635L/15 from exercises in Port Phillip.

ENEMY AIR RAIDS:

Port Moresby - Air raid in progress 2039L/15. All clear 2057L/15.

Augusta - Air raid warning 1435L/15. All clear 1449L/15.

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To 0900L/Friday, 15th January, 1943.

- "PIRIE" escorting "BOTH" and "LORINNA" arrived Fall River 1024L/14 from Oro Bay; is to escort "DUNTROON" and "BOTH" to Port Moresby, and thence to Cairns.
- "LATROBE" escorting "KARSIK" arrived Fall River 1445L/13 from Port Moresby, and departed 1319L/14 for Oro Bay on LILLIPUT - Stage 9.
- U.S.S. "HILO" departed Fall River 1319L/14 for Sareba, return PM/15.
- "SWAN" escorting "TAROONA" arrived Port Moresby 0917L/14 from Fall River. Escorting "GEORGE MATTHEWS" E.T.D. Port Moresby 1900L/15 for Cairns.
- "MUGFORD" escorting T.N.24 arrived Port Moresby 1217L/14 from Townsville. Escorting "TAROONA" departed Port Moresby 1917L/14 for Cairns, E.T.A. 0900L/16.
- "ARUNTA" arrived Townsville 0552L/14 from Darwin, departed Townsville 1925L/14 for Brisbane.
- "HOBART" departed Brisbane 0945L/14 to Moreton Bay.
- "TULSA" departed Brisbane 0845L/14 for Fall River via Cairns, E.T.A. 1500L/17.
- "WARRAMUNGA" departed Brisbane 1531L/14 to carry out exercises with U.S. Submarine seaward of Cape Moreton.
- "GOULBURN" escorting "AASE MAERSK" arrived Brisbane 1805L/14.
- "GLENELG" escorting "MAETSUYCKER" from Sydney expected to arrive at outer end of swept channel Brisbane, at 0301L/15.
- "YANDRA" escorting O.C.61 including "BUNGAREE", arrived Sydney 1925L/14.
- "BUNDABERG" arrived Sydney 2107L/13 from Newcastle.
- "BUNDABERG" } detailed for C.O.63 to take over escort from "DELORAINÉ"  
"YANDRA" } at rendezvous off Sydney PM/16.
- "TOWNSVILLE" escorting G.P.30 departed Sydney 0745L/14, E.T.A. Brisbane 0445L/17.
- "KYBRA" E.T.D. Sydney PM/15 for Townsville.
- "BOMBO" departed Sydney 1331L/14 for Hobart E.T.A. 1600L/17.
- "LE TRIOMPHANT" departed Williamstown 0937L/14 for exercises in Port Phillip.
- U.S. Destroyer "BAGLEY" escorting "WEST POINT" E.T.D. Port Phillip Heads 1059L/16. "WEST POINT" E.T.A. Auckland 1700L/19.
- U.S. Destroyer "RALPH TALBOT" escorting "TRYON" departed Port Phillip 1051L/14, "TRYON" E.T.A. Efate 0800L/19, "RALPH TALBOT" E.T.A. Brisbane 1001L/18.
- "WARREGO" will be required for escort of "MAETSUYCKER" from Darwin to Exmouth Gulf prior to return to North Eastern area.
- Hospital Ship "MANUNDA" arrived Brisbane 2210L/13 from Fall River.
- Hospital Ship "WANGANILLA" departed Brisbane 1422L/14 for Port Moresby E.T.A. 0800L/18.



11.000L/Thursday, 14th - 2 - 1943

TASK FORCE 44's INTENTIONS.

- "PHOENIX" } Proceed from Palm Island to Dunk Island, E.T.D. Dunk with
- "MUGFORD" } Island 23/1 for Palm Island. E.T.D. Brisbane
- "HELM" } for Townsville P.M./10.
- "AUSTRALIA" } Retire from Palm Island to Percy Island, E.T.D. Percy
- "SELFRIDGE" } Island 20/1, E.T.A. Brisbane 22/1. From Bundaberg off
- "HENLEY" } Nancy.
- "HOBART" } E.T.A. Palm Island 22/1 from Moreton Bay, for duty in
- "PATTERSON" } north eastern area.
- "RALPH TALBOT" } departed Sydney at 0737L/13 escorting "WANTSUCKER" to

AIR RAID.

Port Moresby - Raid 2240L/14.

escort. All Clear 0100L/15. River at 1131L/13.  
Departed at 1200L/13 escorting "YANCOHA" to Port Moresby.  
E.T.A. 0800L/14.

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escorting C.C. 61. "YANCOHA" will detach with Sydney port  
"WANTSUCKER" will continue escort to and remain Newcastle  
and escort C.C. 63 to rendezvous off Sydney on 15/1.

departed Caloundra at 1231L/13 escorting R.G. 1 E.T.A.  
Gladstone 2100L/14.

arrived Cairns from Townsville at 1310L/13.

escort. "RALPH TALBOT" escorting "TRIN" will depart Port Melbourne at 0800L/14.  
"RALPH TALBOT" will part company with "TRIN" in vicinity  
longitude 125° 00' E. and then proceed to Brisbane.

E.T.D. Fremantle 22/1 for Diego Garcia E.T.A. 4/4.

will carry out exercises in Port Phillip on 14/1 and  
15/1. Then dock Williamstown 15/1 - undock 17/1.  
Provision ship 15/1.

arrived Whyalla from Adelaide at 1350L/13.

arrived Cairns from Thursday Island at 0300L/13.

E.T.D. Sydney at 1200L/14 for Hobart.

Commissioned at Brisbane 15/1.

At 1040L/13 H.O.I.C. Adelaide reported "MARY GAY"  
disabled at Kingscote (N.E. Kangaroo Island) with  
defective boiler stay into. "WANTSUCKER" will tow to Port  
Adelaide when weather permits.

(U.S. Seaplane Tender) departed Fremantle 01L for Geraldton at  
1700L/13 - E.T.A. 1000L/14.

arrived Brisbane from Sydney at 1215L/13.

when ready will depart Fremantle about 15/1 for Sydney  
via Melbourne.

Enemy Destroyer sighted by aircraft at 2240L/13 in  
position 100 miles East of Oro Bay - course 170°.

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To 0900L/Thursday, 14th January, 1943.

- "ADELAIDE" arrived Fremantle from escort duties with "ILE DE FRANCE" at 1530L/13.
- "VENDETTA" departed Brisbane at 1635L/13 to carry out exercises with U.S. Submarine seawards at Cape Moreton. E.T.D. Brisbane for Townsville P.M./16.
- "MILDURA" } departed Sydney at 1526L/13, escorting C.O.62, to  
 "ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" } take over Newcastle portion from "Bundaberg", off Sydney.
- "ROCKHAMPTON" escorting H.T. "KATOOMBA" arrived Sydney at 0709L/13.
- "GLENELG" departed Sydney at 0737L/13 escorting "MAETSUYCKER" to rendezvous with "GOULBURN" escorting "AASE MAERSK" at outer end of swept channel Brisbane at 2000L/14. "GLENELG" to escort "AASE MAERSK" to Caloundra and "GOULBURN" to escort "MAETSUYCKER" to Capricorn Channel. "MAETSUYCKER" is to proceed via Cairns and Thursday Island to Darwin.
- "SWAN" escorting T.N.23 arrived Fall River at 1131L/13. Departed at 1203L/13 escorting "TAROONA" to Port Moresby. E.T.A. 0900L/14.
- "DELORAINNE" } escorting O.C.61. "YANDRA" will detach with Sydney portio  
 "YANDRA" } "DELORAINNE" will continue escort to and remain Newcastle and escort C.O.63 to rendezvous off Sydney on 16/1.
- "GEELONG" departed Caloundra at 1321L/13 escorting B.G.1 E.T.A. Gladstone 2100L/14.
- "BENDIGO" arrived Cairns from Townsville at 1310L/13.
- "RALPH TALBOT" escorting "TRYON" will depart Port Melbourne at 0800L/14. "RALPH TALBOT" will part company with "TRYON" in vicinity longitude 159° 00' E. and then proceed to Brisbane.
- "TAMWORTH" E.T.D. Fremantle 22/1 for Diego Garcia E.T.A. 4/2.
- "LE TRIOMPHANT" will carry out exercises in Port Phillip on 14/1 and 15/1. Then dock Williamstown 16/1 - undock 17/1. Provision ship 18/1.
- "BERMAGUI" arrived Whyalla from Adelaide at 1530L/13.
- "TERKA" arrived Cairns from Thursday Island at 0955L/13.
- "BOMBO" E.T.D. Sydney at 1200L/14 for Hobart.
- "HEROS" (Tug) Commissioned at Brisbane 13/1.
- "MARY CAM" At 1044L/13 N.O.I.C. Adelaide reported "MARY CAM" disabled at Kingscote (N.E. Kangaroo Island) with defective boiler stay tube. "WARRAWEE" will tow to Port Adelaide when weather permits.
- "HERON" (U.S. Seaplane Tender) departed Exmouth Gulf for Geraldton at 1700L/12 - E.T.A. 2000L/14.
- "WANGANILLA" arrived Brisbane from Sydney at 1317L/13.
- "GOLDSTAR" when ready will depart Fremantle about 15/1 for Sydney via Melbourne.
- Enemy Destroyer sighted by aircraft at 2242L/13 in position 100 miles East of Oro Bay - course 270°.



To 0900L/Wednesday, 13th January, 1943.

- "KATOOMBA" escorting "VAN HEUTSZ" to Townsville departed Fall River 1630L/12. E.T.A. 0800L/15.
- U.S.S. "HILO" arrived Fall River 1631L/12.
- "LATROBE" escorting "KARSIK" departed Port Moresby 1336L/12 for Fall River, E.T.A. 1600L/13, for onward routing to Oro Bay, E.T.D. Fall River 1300L/14. E.T.A. Oro Bay 1430L/15.
- "PROTRERO" arrived Port Moresby 1631L/12 from Samarai.
- "ARUNTA" on passage Darwin to Townsville passed Thursday Is. 1542L/12.
- "SWAN" departed Cairns 1725L/10 to rendezvous T.N.23 and escort to Fall River.
- "MUGFORD" arrived Townsville 0611L/11 from Coral Sea.
- "AASE MAERSK" departed Townsville 0105L/12 for Brisbane. "GOULBURN" is to assume escort in vicinity of Capricorn Channel at 1700L/13.
- "GEEKLONG" escorting G.P.29A less "TULAGI" arrived Brisbane 0726L/12.
- "BUNDABERG" arrived Newcastle 0054L/12 from escorting O.C.60.
- "ROCKHAMPTON" escorting "KATOOMBA", E.T.A. Sydney 0600L/13.
- "BOMBO" towing lighter, arrived Sydney 1357L/12 from Hobart.
- "GYMPIE" ) E.T.D. Sydney 23/1 for Brisbane on completion of first  
"BOWEN" ) phase of working up period.
- "WAGGA" E.T.D. Sydney 27/1 for Brisbane on completion of first phase of working up period.
- "TOWNSVILLE" detailed for G.P.30.
- "GLENELG" E.T.D. Sydney Heads 0700L/13 escorting "MAETSUYCKER" to rendezvous "GOULBURN" escorting "AASE MAERSK" at outer end of swept channel Brisbane at 2000L/14, "GLENELG" to escort "AASE MAERSK" to Caloundra, and "GOULBURN" to escort "MAETSUYCKER" to Capricorn Channel. "MAETSUYCKER" is to proceed via Vairns and Thursday Island to Darwin. Onward escort from Thursday Island is to be arranged by N.O.I.C. Darwin.
- "HOVEY" ) Escorting "PRESIDENT JACKSON", "PRESIDENT ADAMS" and  
"MANLEY" ) "PRESIDENT HAYES" (ex Guadalcanal) entered Port Phillip 1359L/12.
- "DOOMBA" escorting Melbourne portion of C.O.61 entered Port Phillip 1509L/12 and arrived Port Melbourne 1801L/12.
- "BAGLEY" escorting "WEST POINT" from Brisbane entered Port Phillip 1425L/12.
- "RALPH TALBOT" escorting U.S. Transport "TRYON" (ex Espiritu Santo) entered Port Phillip 1211L/12.
- "CASTLEMAINE" escorting "ISLANDER" to Thursday Island departed Darwin 0805L/12. E.T.A. 1430L/15.
- "WARREGO" ) escorting "JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL" arrived Darwin 1810L/12  
"INVERELL" ) from Thursday Island.
- "WILCANNIA" escorting "KOOLIGA" and "BABINDA" arrived Darwin 1710L/12 from Thursday Island.



In 1942/1943, 12th Feb, 1942 -2-

"EMERALD" arrived Townsville from Port Moresby at 0610L/11 and started for Cairns to boiler clean at 1840L/11. E.T.A.

TASK FORCE 44's DISPOSITION.

At 1747L/9, Comsowespac informed C.T.F.44 that continuous patrol of Coral Sea was no longer required and disposition of Task Force was to be modified to maintain -

- A. Task Group of 1 Cruiser and 2 Destroyers at short notice Barrier Reef anchorages.
- B. One group available north east area at longer notice for upkeep and training, but not required while one group absent for special escort duty in mid February.
- C. One group Moreton Bay drills, practices and duties.

AIR RAIDS.

Merauke -	Warning	1532L/12
	Raid	1540L/12
	Warning	1602L/12.
	All Clear	1618L/12.
	Warning	1705L/12.
	All Clear	1710L/12.

"PATRICK" returned Brisbane from escort duties at 0740L/11.

"MORNING" departed Port Phillip escorting U.C.61 including "MORNING" will proceed north from Sydney with U.C.22, U.C.1.C. Brisbane will provide onward escort from Cape Moreton to Capricorn Channel.

"MORNING" escorting U.C.22 departed Caloundra at 1931L/11.

"MORNING" (U.S. Destroyer) arrived Sydney for fuel at 0612L/11, departed at 1112L/11 to rejoin "MORNING" and convey on route to Melbourne, E.T.A. 1400L/12.

"MORNING" departed Sydney for Melbourne at 0800L/11 E.T.A. 1600L/12.

"MORNING" departed Adelaide for Whyalla at 1332L/11 E.T.A. 2300L/12.

"MORNING" escorting 5 Motor Launches arrived Sydney at 1800L/11.

"MORNING" escorting seven landing craft E.T.A. Sydney 0615L/12 for Port Stephens, then to return Sydney.

"MORNING" (Boat Vessel) arrived Brisbane from Sydney at 1335L/11.

"MORNING" departed Sydney for Brisbane at 1812L/11 E.T.A. 0300L/12.



To 0900L/Tuesday, 12th January, 1943.

- "BENDIGO" arrived Townsville from Port Moresby at 0610L/11 and departed for Cairns to boiler clean at 1840L/11. E.T.A. 2400L/12.
- "WARRAMUNGA" } arrived Caloundra at 1000L/11 from exercises with  
 "VENDETTA" } allied submarine off Cape Moreton.
- "WARRAMUNGA" departed Caloundra at 1559L/11 to carry out full calibre day and night firing to seaward of Cape Moreton, commencing 1800L/11.
- "ARUNTA" departed Darwin at 0924L/11 for Thursday Island.
- "MUGFORD" escorting Convoy T.N.24 departed Townsville at 1310L/11. E.T.A. Port Moresby 1600L/14.
- "MILDURA" } escorting P.G.29 arrived Sydney at 1420L/11.  
 "KAPUNDA" }
- "ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" arrived Sydney with section of O.C.60 at 1753L/11.
- "MILDURA" } detailed to escort C.O.62, departing Sydney to  
 "ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" } rendezvous and take over escort from "BUNDABERG" at Sydney PM/13.
- "GLENELG" } E.T.D. Sydney escorting G.P.30 1030L/13 "TOWNSVILLE"  
 "TOWNSVILLE" } will return Sydney as escort for P.G.30 "GLENELG" will come under operational control of N.O.I.C. Townsville.
- "PATTERSON" returned Brisbane from escort duties at 0740L/11.
- "DOOMBA" departed Port Phillip escorting O.C.61 including "BUNGAREE" will proceed north from Sydney with G.P.23, N.O.I.C. Brisbane will provide onward escort from Cape Moreton to Capricorn Channel.
- "GOULBURN" escorting B.T.33 departed Caloundra at 1951L/11.
- "MANLEY" (U.S. Destroyer) arrived Sydney for fuel at 0613L/11, departed at 1112L/11 to rejoin "HOVEY" and convoy en route to Melbourne, E.T.A. 1400L/12.
- "ALLENWOOD" departed Sydney for Melbourne at 0600L/11 E.T.A. 1600L/14.
- "BERMAGUI" departed Adelaide for Whyalla at 1333L/11 E.T.A. 2300L/12.
- "BIRCHGROVE PARK" escorting 5 Motor Launches arrived Sydney at 1654L/11
- "BIRCHGROVE PARK" escorting seven landing craft E.T.D. Sydney 0515L/12 for Port Stephens, then to return Sydney.
- "KOOMPARTOO" (Boom Vessel) arrived Brisbane from Sydney at 1836L/11.
- "WANGANELLA" departed Sydney for Brisbane at 1912L/11 E.T.A. 0900L/13.
- "WANGANELLA" arrived Albany 0600L/12 from escorting S.U.S.; departed Albany 1300L/12 escorting "SANTO" (bound Colombo), "WANGANELLA" E.T.A. Fremantle 1400L/12.
- "SANTO" } arrived Fremantle 0800L/12 from escorting S.U.S.  
 "SANTO" }
- "SANTO" returned Fremantle 0800L/12 from escorting S.U.S.
- "SANTO" departed Brisbane 1800L/12 for Esmerald Gulf, E.T.A. 1800L/11.
- "SANTO" escorting "SANTO" arrived Darwin 1800L/12 from Thursday Island.



To 0900L/Monday, 11th January, 1943.

TASK GROUP 44.3	}	E.T.A. Grafton Passage 1830L/10 and Palm Island
("AUSTRALIA", "HELM"		
"HENLEY")		
TASK GROUP 44.7	}	0700L/11 from Coral Sea. "MUGFORD" to detach
("PHOENIX", "MUGFORD"		
"SELFRIDGE")		

after entering Grafton Passage and proceed  
Townsville E.T.A. 0700L/11.

"WHYALLA" departed Fall River 0417L/10 for Tufi.

"KATOOMBA" escorting "VAN HEUTSZ", E.T.A. Fall River PM/10 or AM/11 from Oro Bay. "VAN HEUTSZ" is to complete discharge Fall River and if condition of ship is satisfactory to carry troops to Port Moresby as soon as empty.

"PIRIE" escorting "BOTH" and "LORINNA" departed Fall River 1211L/10 for Oro Bay on LILLIPUT - Stage 8.

"TERKA" departed Thursday Island 0925L/10 for Cairns E.T.A. PM/12.

"WARREE" towing lighter, arrived Port Moresby 1621L/10 from Fall River.

"PLATYPUS" arrived Cairns 1210L/10 from Thursday Island.

"VICTORIA" arrived Townsville 0315L/8 from Brisbane - to fuel "MUGFORD" and proceed Palm Island.

"ECHUCA" arrived Maryborough 1500L/9 from Townsville.

"BAGLEY"	}	escorting "WESTPOINT", departed Brisbane 0955L/10,
"PATTERSON"		

"PATTERSON" to part company about 2030L/10 and return  
Brisbane, "BAGLEY" and "WEST POINT" E.T.A. Melbourne 1400L/12

"GEELONG" after rendezvous with "ROCKHAMPTON" will escort G.P.29A to Brisbane.

"GOULBURN" E.T.D. Brisbane PM/11 escorting B.T.33.

"TOWNSVILLE" Arrived Sydney 1835L/9 from escorting C.O.61.

"GOOLGWAI" departed Newcastle 0628L/10 with 5 motor boats in company.  
Returned Newcastle 1516L/10.

"BIRCHGROVE PARK" departed Sydney 0701L/10 to rendezvous 5 Motor Boats off Norah Head and escort to Sydney.

"DELORAINIE"	}	escorting C.O.61 departed Sydney 1736L/9.
"YANDRA"		

"ROCKHAMPTON" departed Sydney 0855L/9 escorting G.P.29A.

"HOPKINS"	}	departed Sydney 1904L/9 for Noumea.
"SOUTHARD"		

"GLENELG" E.T.D. Sydney about 13/1 for Brisbane for two days sleeve target practice and A/S practice, thence to Townsville.

"KANIMBLA" arrived Albany 0830L/10 from escorting S.U.5; departed Albany 1336L/10 escorting "ASSOCIATED" (bound Colombo), "KANIMBLA's" E.T.A. Fremantle 1400L/25.

"GOLD STAR"	}	arrived Fremantle 0930L/10 from Exmouth Gulf.
"ISABEL"		
"LARK"		

"DUBBO" returned Fremantle 0926L/10 from escorting S.U.5.

"HERON" departed Geraldton 1930L/9 for Exmouth Gulf, E.T.A. 1900L/11.

"CASTLEMAINE" escorting "ISLANDER" arrived Darwin 1837L/9 from Thursday Island.



DAILY NARRATIVE.

TO BRISBANE / SUNDAY 10th JANUARY, 1942.

"ARUNTA" returned Darwin 1936L/10. Operation Hamburger successful. on E.T.D. AM/11 for Townsville. Fremantle 1000L/13.

Hospital Ship "MANUNDA" departed Port Moresby 1230L/9 for Fall River. Arrived 1101L/10, departed 1530L/10 for Brisbane E.T.A.

"WARREGO" 0700L/14. Thursday Island at 1036L/9, after escorting "SIBILLA" to Horebuka.

"WARREGO" } Escorting "GENERAL" departed Thursday Island at 1415L/9  
"LIVERELL" } for Darwin at 1530L/9.

At 0420L/10 "RALPH TALBOT" had R.D.F. and then good sound contact 52 miles 074° from Wilson's Promontory Light. Depth charges were dropped with undetermined result.

SUBMARINE ATTACKED BY JAPANESE CONVOY.

At 1113L/10 aircraft reported submarine being shelled by Japanese convoy 5 miles off Gasmata. At 1127L/10 aircraft reported submarine still being attacked by Japanese Destroyers.

Departed Darwin at 0820L/9 on Operation HAMBURGER (Tino).

AIR RAIDS.

Fall River - Warning 1449L/10.

All Clear 1457L/10.

Port Moresby- Raid 2212L/10.

All Clear 2245L/10.

"HUMPHREYS" departed Newcastle at 1936L/9 escorting Newcastle portion of C.O. 51. To rendezvous "SIBILLA" and "YANDEA" off Sydney Heads.

"KAMUNDA" arrived Brisbane at 1800L/9, escorting Brisbane portion of C.P. 22, and . . . . . at 1415L/9 escorting P.C. 22. E.T.A. Sydney 2000L/11.

"SIBILLA" Arrived Fall River from Yait at 1032L/9.

"CYAN" To depart Townsville and R/V with convoy U.S. 23 in vicinity Fitzroy Island light at 0600L/10 and escort to Fall River - thence to Port Moresby and return Townsville.

"ENGADNER" departed Brisbane for Horebuka at 1540L/9. E.T.A. 0700L/12.

"MANUNDA" returned Port Phillip at 1200L/9 after completing escort duties.

"OSLO" } "OSLO" escorting H.F. 22 will detach from convoy in  
"SIBILLA" } vicinity Capricorn Channel and R/V with H.F. "KATONRA"  
"ROCKHAMPTON" } and proceed to R/V with "ROCKHAMPTON" (escort of G.P. 22A)  
in position 40 miles S.E. of Brisbane.

"ROCKHAMPTON" will then return to Sydney escorting "KATONRA".

"OSLO" will escort "S.V. LIVANO" from G.P. 22A to Brisbane -

"OSLO" will depart Brisbane and escort remainder of G.P. 22A northbound.

"SIBILLA" after landing serious medical case at Horebuka, departed at 1800L/9 to rejoin C.O. 51.

"RALPH TALBOT" escorting U.S. 23 "HOLLAND" departed Port Phillip at 1242L/9.

"SIBILLA" departed Sydney at 1837L/9, for working up exercises at Broken Bay.



MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

TO 0900L/SUNDAY 10th JANUARY, 1943.

- "ADELAIDE" parted company from "ILE DE FRANCE" at 2330L/8 in position 18° 08'S. 93° 08'E. E.T.A. Fremantle 1600L/13.
- "VAN GALEN" arrived Fremantle from Exmouth Gulf at 1704L/9.
- "WARREGO" returned Thursday Island at 1036L/9, after escorting Bay "BIDELIA" to Merauke.
- "WARREGO" } Escorting "J.R. LOWELL" departed Thursday Island at 1418L/9  
"INVERELL" } for Darwin E.T.A. P.M./12.
- "HOBART" Arrived Brisbane from Cid Harbour at 0930L/9.
- "PATTERSON" returned to Moreton Bay at 0929L/9 after A.A. exercises with "HOBART".
- "BAGLEY" } Escorting "WEST POINT" E.T.D. Brisbane 1000L/10 for  
"PATTERSON" } Melbourne.
- "ARUNTA" (Hospital Ship) departed Darwin at 0820L/9 on Operation HAMBURGER (Timor).
- "SELFRIDGE" departed Townsville at 0630L/9.
- "WARRAMUNGA" } departed Brisbane at 1534L/9, to carry out exercises with  
"VENDETTA" } allied submarine, seaward of Cape Moreton - to return vicinity Caloundra 11/1.
- "TOWNSVILLE" departed Newcastle at 1026L/9 escorting Newcastle portion of C.O.61. To rendezvous "DELORAIN" and "YANDRA" off Sydney Heads.
- "KAPUNDA" } Arrived Brisbane at 1200L/9, escorting Brisbane portion  
"MILDURA" } G.P.29, and departed Caloundra at 1418L/9 escorting P.G.29. E.T.A. Sydney 2300L/11.
- "WHYALLA" Arrived Fall River from Tuffi at 1059L/9.
- "SWAN" To depart Townsville and R/V with convoy T.N.23 in vicinity Fitzroy Island light at 0600L/10 and escort to Fall River - thence to Port Moresby and return Townsville.
- "ENGADINE" departed Brisbane for Noumea at 1340L/9. E.T.A. 0700L/12.
- "DOOMBA" returned Port Phillip at 1300L/9 after completing escort duties.
- "GEELONG" } "GEELONG" escorting B.T.32 will detach from convoy in  
"GOULBURN" } vicinity Capricorn Channel and R/V with H.T."KATOOMBA"  
"ROCKHAMPTON" } and proceed to R/V with "ROCKHAMPTON" (escorting G.P.29A) in position 40 miles S.E. of Brisbane.  
"ROCKHAMPTON" will then return to Sydney escorting "KATOOMBA".  
"GEELONG" will escort "G.M. LIVANOS" from G.P.29A to Brisbane -  
"GOULBURN" will depart Brisbane and escort remainder of G.P.29A northbound.
- "BUNDABERG" after landing serious medical case at Westernport, departed at 1500L/9 to rejoin O.C.60.
- "RALPH TALBOT" escorting U.S.S. "HOLLAND" departed Port Phillip at 1344L/9.
- "WAGGA" departed Sydney at 1627L/9, for working up exercises at Broken Bay.



DAILE NARRATIVE  
22 0800L / SATURDAY, 9 JANUARY, 1943.

-2-

Reporting "MIDELLA" arrived "KARAKETI" 1130L/8 from Thursday Island "MIDELLA" arrived safely after temporary grounding.

"BUNGAREE" arrived Geelong from Sydney at 1445L/9.

"GOOLGWAI" arrived Newcastle from Port Stephens with 5 motor boats in company at 1130L/9.

Arrived Port Moresby 1928L/7 from Fall River; escorting "OPERATIONS LILLIPUT" and "SPARKS" departed 1058L/8, "HENRI" R.T.A.

Townsville 0800L/11, "KORUP" and "SPARKS" R.T.A. STAGE 8 - Will depart Fall River at 1300L/10 E.T.A. Oro Bay 1430L/11.

Escorting T.M. 22 arrived Port Moresby 1717L/8. STAGE 9 - "LATROBE" escorting "KARSIK" E.T.D. Port Moresby 0630L/12. E.T.A. Oro Bay 1430L/14. Thursday Is. from Townsville.

"STUART" at 1005L/9 N.O.I.C. Townsville reported. Anticipate "STUART" will be ready for service 17/1. Endeavour being made to improve on this time.

Arrived Cairns 0813L/8 from Townsville.

"MAUNGANUI" (Hospital Ship) arrived Wellington from Fremantle at 0740M/9.

Escorting "L. 23", "DORINDON" and "L. 2002A", E.T.A. Townsville 1800L/8 for Port Moresby E.T.A. 1800L/11.

"CENTAUR" (2222 gross tons) takeover as Hospital Ship at 0900L/9 at Melbourne. Townsville 1800L/7 from Cid Harbour.

"WANGANELLA" (Hospital Ship) arrived Sydney from Melbourne at 1528L/9.

"VAN HEUTSZ" (on operation LILLIPUT - STAGE 7). 0133L/8.

At 1724L/9 "KATOOMBA" (escort for "VAN HEUTSZ" 4,500 tons) reported "VAN HEUTSZ" sustained extensive damage from one direct hit and two near misses. Intend continue discharge until 0600L/10 then to sail with "VAN HEUTSZ" for Fall River. Casualties reported 1 killed, 2 wounded.

Arrived Brisbane 1045L/8 from Sydney.

ENEMY CONVOY.

Returned Brisbane 1121L/8; escorting "STARS" departed.

Reported as 2 cruisers, 3 destroyers, 2 transports, sighted about 1900L/9 in position 90 miles N.E. Buna. Course 90°.

Last sighting at 0330L/10, in position 70 miles E. of Gasmata. Course 25°.

Reported as 1 cruiser, two destroyers, three transports. Allied aircraft have been continuously attacking and at 0200L/10 reported direct hit on 7000 tons transport - ship on fire.

At 0305L/10 aircraft reported - dropping flares.

Departed Newcastle 1515L/8 for Port Stephens.

Arrived Newcastle 1418L/8 having completed escort of "OCEAN".

Arrived Sydney 0859L/8 from escorting "OCEAN".

Departed Sydney 1455L/7 for working up and Broken Bay.

E.T.D. Sydney 0800L/11 for Melbourne.

Departed Sydney 1045L/8 for Brisbane.

Escorting "FREDERICK JACKSON", "FREDERICK ADAMS" and "FREDERICK HAYES", departed Queensland 1400L/8, ROYAL R.T.A. Sydney 10/1, remainder E.T.A. Melbourne 1400L/12.

Returned Port Melbourne 1800L/8 from 1/8 sweep ahead of "MIRACAS" "LUCAS" and departed Port Phillip 2141L/8 escorting "OCEAN".



MOST SECRET:

DAILY NARRATIVE  
TO 0900L/SATURDAY, 9 JANUARY, 1943.

WARREGO Escorting BIDEZIA arrived MERAUKE?1130L/8 from Thursday Island BIDEZIA arrived safely after temporary grounding off MERAUKE.

PALUMA Arrived Fall River 0846L/8.

BENDIGO Arrived Port Moresby 1922L/7 from Fall River; escorting YOCHOW and SWARTENHONDT, departed 1058L/8, BENDIGO E.T.A. Townsville 0800L/11, YOCHOW and SWARTENHONDT E.T.A. Cairns 2000L/10.

LATROBE Escorting T.N. 22 arrived Port Moresby 1717L/8.

INVERELL Escorting JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL arrived Thursday Is. from Townsville.

TEKA Arrived Thursday Island 1740L/8 from Cairns.

WEERUTTA Arrived Cairns 0915L/8 from Townsville.

SWAN Escorting TN 23, DUNTROON and TAROONA, E.T.D. Townsville 1900L/9 for Port Moresby E.T.A. 1500L/11.

AASE NAERSEK Arrived Townsville 1900L/7 from Cid Harbour.

COLAC Arrived Townsville 0750L/8 from Port Moresby.

VENDETTA Escorting TS11, arrived Brisbane 0158L/8.

WARRAMUNGA Returned Brisbane 0339L/8.

WARRAMUNGA }  
VENDETTA } Departed Caloundra 1733L/8 for firing seaward of Cape Moreton.

ENGADINE Arrived Brisbane 1045L/8 from Sydney.

GEELONG Returned Brisbane 1121L/8; escorting BT32 departed Caloundra 1445L/8.

KAPUNDA }  
MILDURA } Escorting PG29 including MERKUR, E.T.D. Caloundra 1500L/9.

PATTERSON Departed Brisbane 1645L/8 for Moreton Bay.

GOOLGWAI Departed Newcastle 1512L/8 for Port Stephens.

TOWNSVILLE Arrived Newcastle 1415L/8 having completed escort of OC59.

ROCKHAMPTON Arrived Sydney 0636L/8 from escorting OC59.

GYMPIE }  
BOWEN } Departed Sydney 1425L/7 for working up and Broken Bay.

ALLENWOOD E.T.D. Sydney 0500L/11 for Melbourne.

KOOMPARTOO Departed Sydney 1842L/8 for Brisbane.

U.S. DESTROYERS }  
MANLEY } Escorting "PRESIDENT JACKSON", "PRESIDENT ADAMS" and  
HOVEY } "PRESIDENT HAYES", departed Guadalcanal 1400L/5. HOVEY  
E.T.A. Sydney 10/1. remainder E.T.A. Melbourne 1400L/12.

DOOMBA Returned Port Melbourne 1245L/8 from A/S sweep ahead of AMERICAN LEGION and departed Port Phillip 2141L/8 escorting OC60.



RALPH TALBOT ) E.T.D. Port Phillip Bay anchorage 0900L/9, HOLLAND for  
HOLLAND ) Pearl Harbour via Fiji, RALPH TALBOT to r/v U.S. transport  
TRYON 11/1 and escort to Melbourne.

MARY CAM Arrived Adelaide 0711L/8 from Whyalla.

BOMBO Departed Hobart 1520L/8 towing one concrete lighter to  
Sydney E.T.A. a.m./14.

VANGALEN Departed Exmouth Gulf for Fremantle E.T.A. 1000L/9.

ISABEL ) Departed Exmouth Gulf for Fremantle E.T.A. 2200L/9.  
LARK )  
GOLDSTAR )

ARUNTA Arrived Darwin 1903L/7 from Thursday Island.

HOSPITAL SHIP Arrived Port Moresby 0741L/8 from Brisbane.  
MANUNDA

HOSPITALSHIP Departed Port Melbourne 1735L/7 for Sydney E.T.A.1400L/9.  
WANGANELLA.

ENEMY CRUISER IN SOLOMONS SEA.

Enemy cruiser sighted by aircraft in various positions  
south of New Britain from 0840L/8 was about 110 miles East of Lae at  
0155L/9, course 290° speed 20 knots.

PLATFIS departed Thursday Island at 0830L/7 for Cairns.

COULBURN Arrived Sydney escorting FORNAN at 2118L/7. Departed at  
1847L/7 for Brisbane.

BEHLONG previously ordered to rendezvous with convoy T.S.11 in vicinity  
Capricorn Channel at 0700L/8 and escort to Brisbane, reported  
at 1203L/7: Unable to overtake T.S.11, returning Brisbane  
E.T.A.1200L/8.

WICCA (A.N.S.) E.T.D. Sydney 1130L/9, for working up exercises in Broken  
Bay. To return Sydney 0900L/30.

ROCKHAMPTON E.T.D. Sydney 0800L/9 escorting convoy to Capricorn Channel  
then return to Sydney.

WINGRA departed Port Melbourne at 0800L/7 for exercises in Port Phillip  
Bay.

DECORAIN ) detailed for escort duty with C.G.81 to take over escort  
PIANRA ) from Townsville at rendezvous off Sydney p.m./9.

U.S.S. TRUSTY (Submarine) departed Colombo at 2300L/8, en route to  
Exmouth Gulf E.T.A. 2000L/14.

WARLEY (U.S. Destroyer) at Brisbane E.T.D. about 7/1 escorting WEST POINT  
to Melbourne - TRASKY will then proceed to Sydney.

WILCARRIA escorting MANUNDA and MOOLIGA departed Thursday Island  
at 1837L/7 for Darwin E.T.A.1900L/11.

POSSIBLE ENEMY SUBMARINE sighted off Albany by coastwatcher at 1235L/7.

OPERATIONS LILIPUT: At 1441L/7 H.O.L.C. Port Moresby reported: Operatio  
LILIPUT - Sarge C. Sailing delayed for 48 hours owing to  
breakdown in lightering at Ore Bay.

ENEMY AIR RAID Port Moresby - Air Raid Warning 2300L/7. All clear



To 0900L/Friday, 8th January, 1943.

- "WHYALLA" departed Fall River at 0450L/7 for Tufi (60 miles S.E. of Buna)
- "WARREGO" departed Thursday Island at 0807L/7 escorting "BIDELIA" to Merauke then to return to Thursday Island.
- "PATTERSON" (U.S. Destroyer) arrived Brisbane at 0715L/7 from Sydney.
- "DOOMBA" departed Melbourne at 0855L/7 to carry out A/S sweep ahead of "AMERICAN LEGION" (en route to Tongatuba). To return Melbourne in time to carry out D/F calibration with U.S. "HOLLAND" at 0800L/8.
- "PIRIE" escorting convoy T.N.21 arrived Fall River from Townsville at 2030L/6.
- "BENDIGO" escorting "BALIKPAPAN" arrived Fall River from Oro Bay at 1214L/6 after completion of LILLIPUT (Stage 6). Departed for Port Moresby at 1324L/6 to escort "SWARTENHONDT" and "YOCHOW" to Townsville E.T.D.1022L/8.
- "WARRAMUNGA" ) departed Caloundra at 2143L/6 for exercises with allied  
"VENDETTA" ) submarine.
- "SELFRIDGE" (U.S. Destroyer) arrived Townsville at 1805L/7.
- "HOBART" departed Cid Harbour at 1400L/7 for Brisbane via Capricorn Channel E.T.A.0800L/9.
- "RALPH TALBOT" (U.S. Destroyer) escorting U.S.S."HOLLAND" (Submarine Tender) will depart Melbourne 9/1 for Pearl Harbour via Fiji. At sunrise 11/1 "RALPH TALBOT" will detach and rendezvous with "TRYON" (U.S. Transport) en route to Melbourne and escort her to destination.
- "PLATYPUS" departed Thursday Island at 0820L/7 for Cairns.
- "GOULBURN" arrived Sydney escorting "YUNNAN" at 2119L/7. Departed at 1847L/7 for Brisbane.
- "GEELONG" previously ordered to rendezvous with convoy T.S.11 in vicinity Capricorn Channel at 0700L/6 and escort to Brisbane, reported at 1203L/7: Unable to overtake T.S.11, returning Brisbane E.T.A.1200L/8.
- "WAGGA" (A.M.S.) E.T.D. Sydney 1130L/9, for working up exercises in Broker Bay. To return Sydney 0900L/20.
- "ROCKHAMPTON" E.T.D. Sydney 0900L/9 escorting convoy to Capricorn Channel then return to Sydney.
- "BINGERA" departed Port Melbourne at 0900L/7 for exercises in Port Phillip Bay.
- "DELORAIN" ) detailed for escort duty with C.O.61 to take over escort  
"YANDRA" ) from Townsville at rendezvous off Sydney p.m./9.
- H.M.S."TRUSTY" (Submarine) departed Colombo at 2230L/4, en route to Exmouth Gulf E.T.A.2000L/14.
- "BAGLEY" (US. Destroyer) at Brisbane E.T.D.about 7/1 escorting "WEST POINT" to Melbourne - "BAGLEY" will then proceed to Sydney.
- "WILCANNIA" escorting "BABINDA" and "KOOLIGA" departed Thursday Island at 1937L/7 for Darwin E.T.A.1902L/11.

POSSIBLE ENEMY SUBMARINE sighted off Albany by coastwatcher at 1215L/7.

OPERATIONS LILLIPUT: At 1441L/7 N.O.I.C. Port Moresby reported: Operatio  
LILLIPUT - Stage 8. Sailing delayed for 48 hours owing to  
breakdown in lighterage at Oro Bay.

ENEMY AIR RAID: Port Moresby - Air Raid Warning 2310L/7. All Clear  
2317L/7.



To 0900L/Thursday, 7th January, 1943.

- "WAREE" towing barge, departed Fall River 0427L/5 for Port Mores
- "COLAC" departed Port Moresby 1811L/5 for Townsville E.T.A.0700L,
- "ARUNTA" departed Thursday Island 1236L/6 for Darwin.
- "KALGOORLIE" escorting "ALAGNA" and "PERIOD" with "PLATYPUS" in company arrived Thursday Island 0936L/6 from Darwin.
- "CASTLEMAINE" escorting "ISLANDER" departed Thursday Island 0850L/6 for Darwin.
- "WARREGO" arrived Thursday Island 1824L/6 from Port Moresby.
- "TERKA" departed Cairns 2300L/5 for Thursday Island.
- "INVERELL" escorting "JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL" departed Townsville 0747L for Thursday Island E.T.A.1930L/8.
- "LATROBE" escorting T.N.22 departed Townsville 1930L/5 for Pt.Moresb
- "WEERUTTA" departed Townsville 1813L/6 for Cairns, E.T.A.0900L/8.
- "ECHUCA" departed Townsville 1634L/6 for Maryborough.
- "BAGLEY" arrived Brisbane 1146L/6 from Coral Sea.
- "WEST POINT" arrived Brisbane 0700L/6 from Noumea.
- "PATERSON" with 2 A.L.C. in company departed Newcastle 0605L/6 for Port Stephens.
- "KAPUNDA" ) escorting G.P.29, departed Sydney 1031L/6 E.T.A.Brisbane  
"MILDURA" ) 0730L/9.
- "PING WO" departed Sydney 0741L/6 for Port Stephens.
- "GYMPIE" ) E.T.D. Sydney 1300L/7 for Broken Bay to work up, E.T.A.  
"BOWEN" ) Sydney on return 0900L/16.
- "DELORAIN" escorting Newcastle portion of C.O.60 departed Newcastle 0858L/6, arrived Sydney 1633L/6.
- "BUNDABERG" ) escorting C.O.60 including "BUNGAREE" departed  
"ABRAHAM CRIJNSEN" ) Sydney 1606L/6.
- "RALPH TALBOT" arrived Williamstown 1310L/6 from Brisbane.
- "AMERICAN LEGION" arrived Port Melbourne 1443L/6 from Brisbane.
- "BINGERA" arrived Port Melbourne 1606L/6 from exercises in Port Phillip.
- "MARY CAM" departed Whyalla 0430L/7 for Adelaide, E.T.A.0630L/8.
- "ADELAIDE" is to escort "ILE DE FRANCE" at the former's best sustained speed as far as fuel will permit, then to return Fremantle.

GENERAL.

ENEMY CONVOY IN SOLOMONS SEA:

An enemy convoy estimated by aircraft to consist of 8 vessels made up of 4 warships and 4 transports, was observed in various positions ranging from 15 miles from Gasmata on course 225°, to about 105 miles E. of Salamaua at 0500L/7, course 290° speed 20 knots.

Aircraft attacked it, claiming one transport hit and left in flames, with severe explosions - no survivors.

AIR RAID:

Port Moresby - Raid 1244L/8. All Clear 1252L/8.







DAILY NARRATIVE.

SECRET.

To 0900L/Tuesday, 5th January, 1943.

- "PHOENIX" } departed Brisbane 0730L/4 to carry out A/A day and  
"MUGFORD" } night full calibre practices 4/1.
- U.S.S. "HILO" departed Fall River 0400L/4 with one M.T.B. for Tufi.
- "KATOOMBA" escorting "VAN HEUTZ" departed Port Moresby 1500L/4 for Oro Bay, E.T.A. 1400L/6.
- "ARUNTA" } escorting T.N.20 arrived Port Moresby 1158L/4.  
"WARREGO" }
- "ARUNTA" is to complete with fuel and proceed with all convenient despatch to Darwin for temporary duty.
- "WARREGO" is to proceed with despatch to Thursday Island E.T.A. 1700L/6 and escort "BIDELIA" to Merauke, returning independently to Thursday Island to escort "JAMES RUSSEL LOWELL", with "INVERELL", from Thursday Island to Darwin.
- "COLAC" escorting "KATOOMBA" to Magnetic Island E.T.D. Port Moresby 1930L/5, "KATOOMBA" for Sydney.
- "CASTLEMAINE" arrived Thursday Island 0915L/4 from Port Moresby.
- "SWAN" arrived Cairns 1229L/4 from Fall River.
- Subchaser 746 and YMS 9, 49, 50 (Motor M/S) arrived Brisbane 1641L/4 from Noumea.
- "GEELONG" escorting B.T.21, departed Pile Light 1545L/4, E.T.A. Townsville 1945L/7.
- "KAPUNDA" } detailed for G.P.29, E.T.D. Sydney 1030L/6.  
"MILDURA" }
- "YANDRA" arrived Sydney 1751L/4 from Brisbane.
- "GLENELG" is to detach with Sydney section of C.C.58 off Sydney.
- "DELORAINÉ" is to continue escort to and remain Newcastle and escort C.O.60 to rendezvous off Sydney 6/1.
- "BUNDABERG" } detailed for C.O.60, to take over escort from  
"ABRAHAM CRIJNSSSEN" } "DELORAINÉ" off Sydney p.m./6.
- "ORARA" departed Melbourne 1702L/4 for S.C.F.18.
- "DOOMBA" departed Fawcner Beacon 1927L/4 to assume escort duties with O.C.59.
- "BINGERA" departed Westernport 1059L/4 for exercises in Port Phillip, entered Port Phillip 1515L/4.
- "ADELAIDE" E.T.D. Fremantle 0800L/5 escorting "ILE DE FRANCE" to vicinity of Colombo where "ADELAIDE" refuels, "ILE DE FRANCE" to proceed Bombay.
- "TAMWORTH" is to be sailed from Fremantle for Eastern Fleet at first opportunity.
- "PRESTON" departed Exmouth Gulf 1400L/3, E.T.A. Fremantle 1600L/5.
- U.S.S. "ISABEL" (Small patrol vessel) escorting "KOOLINDA" departed Fremantle 1030L/4 for Exmouth Gulf via Carnarvon.

ASV INDICATION OF POSSIBLE SUBMARINE: Aircraft ASV contact not confirmed by sighting indicated possibility of large submarine in position 135° 53 miles from Lakes Entrance at 1319L/4. Convoy escorts and U.S. Destroyer "RALPH TALBOT" were advised.  
H.M.A.S. "BUNBURY" (A.M.S.) Commissioned at Brisbane 3/1.



To 0900L/Monday, 4th January, 1943.

- "ARUNTA" at 1703L/3 N.O.I.C. Townsville ordered "ARUNTA", on completion of escort duties with T.N.20 to wait at Port Moresby and escort "KATOOMBA" and other ships ready for Townsville.
- "ADELAIDE" escorting "ILE DE FRANCE" E.T.D. Fremantle A.M./5. "ADELAIDE" will escort to position 24°20' S. 95° 35' E. C. in C. E.F. has been requested to arrange onward cover from that position.
- "WARRAMUNGA" } departed Brisbane at 1800L/3 for Moreton Bay, to work up.  
 "VENDETTA" } "VENDETTA" will then relieve "ARUNTA" in N.E. area about 12/1. "ARUNTA" will then exercise with "WARRAMUNGA". "STUART" and "VENDETTA" are to carry out exercises in company at a later date.
- "TROMP" returned Fremantle from escort duties with "NESTOR" at 0735L/3.
- "MUGFORD" returned Brisbane at 0655L/3 from exercises with U.S. Submarine "GROWLER".
- "HENLEY" departed Townsville at 0750L/3 for Palm Island.
- "RALPH TALBOT" escorting "AMERICA LEGION" departed Brisbane at 0850L/3 for Melbourne. E.T.A. 1400L/6.
- "COLAC" escorting "BOTH" arrived Fall River at 2204L/2. Departed for Townsville at 1236L/3 - calling at Port Moresby for fuel.
- "KATOOMBA" arrived Port Moresby from Townsville at 1146L/3.
- "KATOOMBA" escorting "VAN HEUTSZ" on operation LILLIPUT Stage 7. E.T.D. Port Moresby 1400L/4. E.T.A. Oro Bay 1400L/6.
- "PIRIE" departed Townsville at 1358L/3, escorting T.N.21 to Fall River.
- "PIRIE" escorting "BOTH" on operation LILLIPUT Stage 8 is to leave Fall River at 1430L/9. Later stages will arrive Oro Bay at intervals of at least 3 days.
- "BROOME" arrived Townsville from Port Moresby at 0223L/2.
- "GEELONG" with B.T.31 will rendezvous with T.S.11 ("CREMER", "CANBERRA", "TASMAN" and "MERKUR") in vicinity Capricorn Channel at 0700L/6, and escort to Brisbane.
- "WHYALLA" departed Fall River at 1515L/3 for Port Moresby for fuel - E.T.A. 1330L/4. Ship has suffered only superficial damage above waterline from near misses.
- "SWAN" at 1035L/2 reported: Intend clearing China Strait to Southwards with "DUNTROON" at 1930L/2 and proceeding via direct route to Grafton Passage. "DUNTROON" due Townsville 1800L/4.
- "TERKA" arrived Cairns from Thursday Island at 1015L/3.
- "MANUNDA" (Hospital Ship) departed Brisbane at 1153L/3, for Port Moresby E.T.A. 0700L/7.

UNCONFIRMED REPORT OF ENEMY SUBMARINE: Sighted by aircraft at 1330L/3 in position 50 miles south of Port Moresby. Aircraft will carry out search at first light 4/1.



MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE

TO 0900L/SUNDAY, 3rd JANUARY, 1943.

- "ARUNTA" } departed Cairns to escort Convoy T.N.20 to  
"WARREGO" } to Port Moresby. E.T.A. 1100L/4. MacLaren Harbour.
- "YANDRA" } departed Brisbane for Sydney at 0355L/2  
"KIANGA" }
- "PIRIE" - escorting "EMPIRE HAMBLE" arrived Townsville  
at 2115L/2.
- "PIRIE" - at 1617L/2 N.O.I.C. Townsville reported: Intend  
sailing Convoy T.N.21 escorted by "PIRIE" to Fall  
River, via Grafton Passage. E.T.A. 1730L/6.
- "TROMP" - escorting "NESTOR" (en route to Durban), departed  
Fremantle at 1103L/2. "TROMP" returning Fremantle  
A.M./3.
- "TREVER" } arrived Sydney from Brisbane at 0845L/1  
"ZANE" }
- "SHAW" (U.S. Destroyer) departs Sydney about noon 2/1 for Wellington.  
E.T.A. noon 5/1.
- "RALPH TALBOT" (U.S. Destroyer) arrived Brisbane at 0710L/2
- "CASTLEMAINE" - departed Port Moresby at 1346L/2 for Thursday Is.  
E.T.A. 2000L/3.
- "ECHUCA" - escorting B.T.30 arrived Townsville at 0731L/2.
- "DOOMBA" - arrived Port Melbourne from escort duties at 1525L/2.
- "KANIMBLA" - having escorted S.U.5 as far as practicable to the  
eastward from Fremantle, is to rendezvous with U.S.  
Tanker "ASSOCIATED" at Albany A.M./10 and escort her  
to position: 07° 16' S. 84° 57' E. - then to return  
Fremantle.
- "COLAC" - completion of Lilliput Stage 5, will sail for  
Townsville - calling at Port Moresby for fuel, if  
required.
- "SWAN" - escorting "DUNTROON", arrived Fall River from Port  
Moresby at 1135L/2.
- "MILDURA" - departed Newcastle, escorting C.O.59 at 0550L/2.  
To R/V with Sydney portion off Sydney P.M./2.  
Arrived Sydney at 1759L/2.
- "ROCKHAMPTON" } departed Sydney escorting C.O.59 at 1400L/2.  
"TOWNSVILLE" } To take over from "MILDURA" at R/V.
- "BINGERA" - arrived Westernport from Port Phillip at 2022L/2
- "MANUNDA" (Hospital Ship), arrived Brisbane at 0600L/2 from Fall River.



U.S. M/S CRAFT: At 1459L/2, N.O.I.C. Brisbane reported three U.S. Wooden Minesweepers (135 feet) departed Noumea at 0600L/1 for Brisbane. E.T.A. 1300L/4.

"WHYALLA" attacked by enemy aircraft: At 1345L/2 reported: Emergency enemy aircraft - Help - Maclaren Harbour. At 1435L/2 WHYALLA at Maclaren Harbour (vicinity Oro Bay) reported: Attacked by 18 aircraft, 1 for proceeding to Fall River to land 2 badly wounded and for fuel.

ENEMY AIR RAIDS: escorting "VAN HEEMSKERK" arrived Port Moresby from Thursday Island at 0658L/5L.

"WHYALLA" Port Moresby - Air Raid Warning 1936L/2  
 Merauke - All clear 1225L/2  
 Augusta - Air Raid Warning 1200L/2  
 " " - All clear 1227L/2.

"SSAN" escorting "MOUNTBATTEN" departed Port Moresby for Fall River at 1600L/1 E.T.A. 0900L/2.

"PLATONER" departed Townsville for Port Moresby at 0631L/1 - E.T.A. 0830L/2.

"MORSHAM" arrived Fremantle from Adelaide at 1716L/1.

"PLATONER" en route to Townsville with G.P.28, ordered by N.O.I.C. Brisbane at 1511L/1 to rendezvous with "WANDANA" off Caloundra at 2258L/1 and escort to Townsville.

"DOONBA" departed Port Phillip at 2200L/1 escorting G.C.58.

"ORARA" arrived Melbourne from S.C.F.18 at 0843L/1.

"WILDURA" arrived Newcastle with convoy G.C.57 at 0409L/1. Detailed to escort Newcastle portion G.C.58 to rendezvous off Sydney p.m./2.

"ROCHAMPTON" } detailed to escort G.C.58 and take over from "WILDURA"  
 "TOWNSVILLE" } at rendezvous off Sydney p.m./2.

"YANDRA" } at 1230L/1 N.O.I.C. Brisbane reported: Anticipate  
 "KIANGA" } sailing "YANDRA" with "KIANGA" in company to Sydney, E.T.A. Caloundra 0100L/2.

"S.S. TRIUMPHANT" returned Port Melbourne from exercises at 1830L/1.

"CHILDS" (U.S. Seaplane Tender) departed Fremantle at 1102L/1 for Exmouth Gulf - E.T.A. 1400L/5.

"TOURIN" paid off at Sydney a.m. 1st January, 1943.

"BASILISK" (Port Moresby) commissioned 31st December under command of A/Commander R.E.A. Hunt, R.A.N.

"WAMPLEY" commissioned at Port Moresby 31st December under command of Lt. Cdr. C. F. Symonds, R.N., as tender to "BASILISK".

"WANGARELLA" (Hospital Ship) departed Fremantle at 1438L/1 - E.T.A. Melbourne 0800L/6.



DAILY NARRATIVE.

SECRET.

To 0900L/Saturday, 2nd January, 1943.

"TJERK HIDDEN" departed Fremantle at 0301L/1 to rendezv  
"ILE DE FRANCE" in position 85 miles S.W. of Cape  
Leeuwin at 1300L/2 and provide A/S escort to Fremantle

"MUGFORD" departed Brisbane at 1404L/1 to carry out exercises  
with U.S. Submarine "GROWLER". Then to return  
Brisbane E.T.A. 0800L/3.

"TREVER" )  
"ZANE" ) U.S. Destroyers departed Caloundra at 0817L/1 for  
Sydney after escorting "AMERICAN LEGION" to Brisbane.

"CASTLEMAINE" escorting "VAN HEEMSKERK" arrived Port Moresby from  
Thursday Island at 0856L/31.

"BENDIGO" escorting "BALIKPAPAN" departed Port Moresby at  
0700L/1 E.T.A. Oro Bay 1430L/3.

"KALGOORLIE" )  
"PLATYPUS" ) escorting "PERIOD" and "ALAGNA" departed Darwin at  
0837L/1 E.T.A. Thursday Island 0930L/6.

"SWAN" escorting "DUNTROON" departed Port Moresby for Fall  
River at 1600L/1 E.T.A. 0900L/2.

"KATOOMBA" departed Townsville for Port Moresby at 0631L/1 -  
E.T.A. 0830L/3.

"HORSHAM" arrived Fremantle from Adelaide at 1710L/1.

"LATROBE" en route to Townsville with G.F.28, ordered by N.O.I.C.  
Brisbane at 1511L/1 to rendezvous with "WANDANA" off  
Caloundra at 2359L/1 and escort to Townsville.

"DOOMBA" departed Port Phillip at 2300L/1 escorting O.C.58.

"ORARA" arrived Melbourne from S.C.F.18 at 0845L/1.

"MILDURA" arrived Newcastle with convoy O.C.57 at 0409L/1.  
Detailed to escort Newcastle portion C.O.59 to  
rendezvous off Sydney p.m./2.

"ROCKHAMPTON" )  
"TOWNSVILLE" ) detailed to escort C.O.59 and take over from "MILDURA"  
at rendezvous off Sydney p.m./2.

"YANDRA" )  
"KIANGA" ) at 1230L/1 N.O.I.C. Brisbane reported: Anticipate  
sailing "YANDRA" with "KIANGA" in company to Sydney,  
E.T.D. Caloundra 0100L/2.

"LE TRIOMPHANT" returned Port Melbourne from exercises at 1830L/1.

"CHILDS" (U.S. Seaplane Tender) departed Fremantle at 1140L/1 for  
Exmouth Gulf - E.T.A. 1400L/3.

"TOORIE" paid off at Sydney a.m. 1st January, 1943.

"BASILISK" (Port Moresby) commissioned 31st December under command  
of A/Commander R.B.A. Hunt, R.A.N.

"MATAFELE" commissioned at Port Moresby 31st December under  
command of Lt. Cdr. C. F. Symonds, R.N. as tender to  
"BASILISK".

"WANGANELLA" (Hospital Ship) departed Fremantle at 1432L/1 - E.T.A.  
Melbourne 0200L/6.

is to continue escort to Newcastle and remain to  
escort C.O.59 to rendezvous off Sydney 3/1.

arrived Hobart 0700L/31 from Melbourne.

escorting "TARMA" and "ALAGNA" arrived Darwin  
1900L/31 from Thursday Island.



DAILY NARRATIVE.

OST SECRET.

To 0900L/Friday, 1st January, 1943.

TASK GROUP 44.3 E.T.D. Palm Island a.m./3 for Coral Sea to rendezvous Task Group 44.5 at 0800L/4, "BAGLEY" ("AUSTRALIA", "HENLEY" AND "HELM") to proceed Sydney E.T.A. a.m./7, T.G.44.3 E.T.A. Palm Island p.m./11.

"HOBART" } E.T.A. Grafton Passage a.m./5, Cid Harbour a.m./6,  
"SELFRIDGE" } from Coral Sea, E.T.D. p.m./7, E.T.A. Brisbane, p.m./9.

TASK GROUP 44.7 E.T.D. Moreton Bay p.m./5, E.T.A. Cid Harbour a.m./  
("PHOENIX", "MUGROD"7, E.T.D. p.m./8 passing out of Grafton Passage  
"RALPH TALBOT") p.m./9, to rendezvous T.G.44.3 1000L/10.

"PATTERSON" E.T.D. Sydney p.m./5 E.T.A. Brisbane a.m./7.

"COLAC" escorting "BOTH" departed Fall River 1300L/30 on LILLIPUT stage 5.

"BROOME" departed Fall River 1500L/30 for Port Moresby, arrived 1506L/31; escorting "CREMER" and "TASMAN" for Cairns departed Port Moresby 1800L/31, "BROOME" E.T.A. Townsville 1800L/2.

"CASTLEMAINE" escorting "VAN HEEMSKERK" E.T.A. Port Moresby 1300L/1 is to fuel at Port Moresby and proceed to Thursday Island.

"WILCANNIA" escorting "DARVEL" and "BABINDA" arrived Thursday Island 1517L/31 from Darwin.

"TERKA" departed Thursday Island 1600L/31 for Cairns E.T.A. 1700L/3.

"ARUNTA" departed Townsville 1034L/31 for Cairns, arrived 1815L/31.

"ARUNTA" }  
"WARREGO" } are to rendezvous T.N.20 off Fitzroy Island at 0600L/2 and escort to Port Moresby, E.T.A. 1100L/4.

"PIRIE" E.T.D. Townsville 3/1 escorting "CHARON" and "WEST CACTUS" to Fall River.

"GOULBURN" departed Caloundra 1800L/31 to rendezvous "YUNNAN" at Dent Island at 0800L/2 and escort to Sydney E.T.A. 0600L/8.

"PHOENIX" }  
"WARRAMUNGA" }  
"VENDETTA" } arrived Brisbane 1625L/31 from Sydney.

U.S. Submarine "GROUPER" arrived Brisbane 0535L/31.

"TULSA" arrived Brisbane 0332L/31 from Fall River.

"INVERELL" escorting "JAMES RUSSEL LOWELL" departed Sydney 1256L/31 for Townsville E.T.A. 2400L/4.

"TOWNSVILLE" arrived Sydney 1218L/31 from Newcastle.

"ENGADINE" arrived Sydney 0854L/31 from Fremantle.

"KAPUNDA" escorting Sydney section of O.C.57 arrived Sydney 1917L/31.

"MILDURA" is to continue escort to Newcastle and remain to escort C.O.59 to rendezvous off Sydney 2/1.

"BOMBO" arrived Hobart 0700L/31 from Melbourne.

"KALGOORLIE" escorting "TAMBAR" and "ALAGNA" arrived Darwin 1902L/30 from Thursday Island.



POSSIBLE SUBMARINE OFF MORETON BAY:

"PHOENIX" At 0520L/31, U.S. Submarine "GROUPE" in position 112° Caloundra Light 8.5 miles heard what was considered to be an echo ranging on 18 kc/s. AOREA was requested to arrange air search. N.O.I.C. Brisbane advised at 0807L/31 that "GOULBURN" was proceeding to investigate.

At 1235L/31 N.O.I.C. Brisbane advised "PHOENIX" and at 1615L/31, U.S. Destroyers "TREVOR" and "LATROBE".

At 1343L/31 N.O.I.C. Brisbane advised that interrogation of "GROUPE"'s personnel indicated reasonable probability of transmissions being of enemy origin and that he intended to use "WARRAMUNGA" or "VENDETTA" to continue A/S patrol after "GOULBURN"'s departure.

POSSIBLE SUBMARINE OFF CAPE NATURALISTE:

R.D.F. plots indicated possible enemy submarine in vicinity Cape Naturaliste from 2340L/30 to 0700L/31.

AIR RAIDS AND WARNINGS:

Townsville - Yellow Warning 1430L/31.

"LATROBE" escorting All Clear - 28 day 1436L/31. Brisbane changed to Townsville E.T.A. 2200L/4.

Merauke - Warning

"CASTLEBRAINE" escorting "VAN HORN" departed Thursday Island at 1000L/30 - Raid Port Moresby 1355L/31.

"VIANDRA" departed Sydney at 225L/30, to overtake and escort G.P.28 - with "LATROBE".

"KATOOMBA" will depart Townsville for Port Moresby about 31/12 - to be temporarily transferred to N.O.I.C. Port Moresby's operational control.

"VIRIE" will depart Townsville as escort for next convoy to Port Moresby E.T.A. 4/1 "VIRIE" will relieve "BOONE" in that area.

"GOLIBURN" ordered by N.O.I.C. Brisbane at 1721L/30 to proceed as necessary to rendezvous with "YUNNAN" at Sent Island at 0800L/31, and provide escort to Sydney, then return to Brisbane.

"MELIC" } returned Fall River from operations TACKHAMMER at 2140L/30 - TACKHAMMER successfully completed.

"TOWNVILLE" escorting Newcastle portion C.O.58 departed Newcastle at 1130L/30 to rendezvous with Sydney portion off Sydney.

"MELORAIN" } escorting C.O.58 departed Sydney at 1315L/30.

"MUNBAR" vicinity Townsville reported at 2200L/30 - Operation 518 completed at 2225L/30. Gave E.T.A. Sydney at 0100L/31.

"MORRIS" returned to Port Phillip from exercises with "LE TRIUMPHANT" at 1215L/30.

"MARRIOTT" returned to Cairns from search for one missing aircraft at 1400L/30.

"MORRIS" arrived Darwin from Groote Eylandt at 1700L/30.

"MORRIS" (U.S. Seaplane Tender) arrived Geraldton 1245L/30.



DAILY NARRATIVE.

SECRET.

To 0900L/Thursday, 31st December, 1942.

- "PHOENIX"  
"WARRAMUNGA"  
"VENDETTA" } departed Sydney at 1151L/30 for Brisbane, E.T.A.  
1600L/31. arrived Brisbane at 0700L/31.
- "KANIMBLA" with S.U.5 (5 small Dutch merchantmen) and "WALLAROO"  
arrived Fremantle at 0905L/30. When ready S.U.5 will  
sail for Adelaide - escorted to vicinity of Albany,  
then disperse.
- "ARUNTA" departed Fall River at 1529L/29 - arrived Townsville at  
1815L/30. proceeding Gladstone with appendicitis case.  
will rejoin convoy at 1800L/31.
- "TREVOR" } U.S. Destroyers, escorting "AMERICAN LEGION" (U.S.  
"ZANE" } Auxiliary) on direct route from Espiritu Santo to  
Brisbane E.T.A. Cape Moreton 1500L/1. "TREVOR" and  
"ZANE" will part company as necessary to arrive Sydney  
A.M./2. destroyers will dock at Cockatoo 02/12 and 1/12
- "VAN GALEN" with "GOLDSTAR" and "WHIPPOORWILL" in company departed  
Fremantle at 1101L/30 for Exmouth Gulf - E.T.A. A.M./2.
- "LE TRIOMPHANT" returned to Port Melbourne from exercises in Port  
Phillip at 1831L/30.
- "LATROBE" escorting convoy G.P.28 departed Sydney at 1108L/30 for  
Brisbane thence to Townsville E.T.A. 2200L/4.
- "CASTLEMAINE" escorting "VAN HEEMSKERK" departed Thursday Island at  
1000L/30 - E.T.A. Port Moresby 1300L/1.
- "YANDRA" departed Sydney at 1255L/30, to overtake and escort  
G.P.28 - with "LATROBE".
- "KATOOMBA" will depart Townsville for Port Moresby about 31/12 -  
to be temporarily transferred to N.O.I.C. Port Moresby's  
operational control.
- "PIRIE" will depart Townsville as escort for next convoy to  
Port Moresby E.T.A.4/1 "PIRIE" will relieve "BROOME"  
in that area.
- "GOULBURN" ordered by N.O.I.C. Brisbane at 1721L/29 to proceed as  
necessary to rendezvous with "YUNNAN" at Dent Island at  
0800L/2, and provide escort to Sydney, then return to  
Brisbane.
- "COLAC" } returned Fall River from operations TACKHAMMER at 2149L/  
"BROOME" } 20 - TACKHAMMER successfully completed.
- "TOWNSVILLE" escorting Newcastle portion C.O.58 departed Newcastle  
at 1135L/30 to rendezvous with Sydney portion off Sydney.
- "DELORAINE" } escorting C.O.58 departed Sydney at 1915L/30.  
"GLENELG" }
- "BUNGAREE" vicinity Townsville reported at 2202L/30 - Operation  
GIN completed at 2227L/30. Gave E.T.A. Sydney at  
0100L/5.
- "DOOMBA" returned to Port Phillip from exercises with "LE  
TRIOMPHANT" at 1219L/30.
- "WARREGO" returned to Cairns from search for one missing aircraft  
at 1400L/30.
- "TOLGA" arrived Darwin from Groote Eylandt at 1756L/29.
- "HERON" (U.S. Seaplane Tender) arrived Geraldton 1245L/30.



DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0800L/Wednesday, 30<sup>th</sup> 2. December, 1942.

Task Force 44 will withdraw by groups to Moreton Bay for exercises and practices during January and early February.

"ALBACORE" (U.S. Submarine) arrived Brisbane at 0730L/30.

"SWAN" at 1151L/30 N.O.I.C. Port Moresby reported: Intend "SWAN" escorting "DUNTROON" will proceed Fall River from Port Moresby to embark sick for passage to Townsville.

"ECHUCA" escorting convoy E.T.30 reported at 1600L/30: "CHARON" proceeding Gladstone with appendicitis case. "HAREE" (Tug) Will rejoin convoy at 1800L/31. towing 2 barges to Fall River, E.T.A. 22/2, and return on completion of

"MAUNGANUI" (Hospital Ship) arrived Fremantle at 0558L/30 and departed for Wellington at 1840L/30 E.T.A. 9/1.

"SOUTHARD" } U.S. Destroyers will dock at Cockatoo 29/12 and 1/1.  
"HOPKINS" }

"CAPITAIN" is to escort "VAN HEEMSTRA" direct to Port Moresby.

ENEMY AIR RAID:

arrived Thursday Island 1050L/29 from Cairns.

AUGUSTA - Air Raid 1526L/30

arrived off Cairns 1345L/29.

All Clear 1616L/30.

departed Cairns 0102L/30 to search for missing Douglas aircraft in vicinity.

escort "DUNTROON", departed Townsville 2005L/29 for Port Moresby, "DUNTROON" to return Townsville, "SWAN" to proceed to Cairns for boiler cleaning and minor repairs.

departed Caloundra 1201L/29 escorting E.T.30 including "POYANG" E.T.A. 2000L/1.

Sub Chaser 744 - arrived Brisbane 0820L/29.

"YORNSVILLE" arrived Newcastle 1112L/29 having completed escort of O.G.55.

P.B. "LE TRIOMPHANT" departed Port Phillip 1824L/29 for exercises.

"DOUBRA" completed escort of C.G.57 at 1631L/29 and proceeded to rendezvous with "LE TRIOMPHANT" for exercises.

U.S. Seaplane Tender "HEBER" departed Fremantle 1411L/29 for Geraldton E.T.A. 1400L/30.

"TOLGA" arrived Darwin 1756L/29 from Thursday Island via Groota Dylandt.

Hospital Ship "MANUNDA" arrived Fall River 1101L/29 from Port Moresby.

GENERAL.

"YALDONA", to have been escorted by "WARRAGO" to Fall River, is held up at Townsville with turbine trouble. Her onward passage has been cancelled.

LILLIPUT - STAGE 3.

"COLAD" escorting "ROTE" E.T.B. Fall River 1300L/30. E.T.A. Oro Bay 1430L/31.

LILLIPUT - STAGE 2.

"RODIGO" escorting "BALIKPAPAN" E.T.B. Fall River 1300L/2. E.T.A. Oro Bay 1430L/3.



DAILY NARRATIVE.

MOST SECRET.

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

Task Force 44 will withdraw by groups to Moreton Bay for exercises and practices during January and early February.

Task Group 44.3 - "AUSTRALIA", "HENLEY" and "HELM".

Task Group 44.5 - "HOBART", "SELFRIDGE" and "BAGLEY".

Task Group 44.7 - "PHOENIX", "MUGFORD" and "RALPH TALBOT".

"MUGFORD" arrived Brisbane 0655L/29.

"WAREE" (Tug) departed Port Moresby 1111L/29 towing 2 barges to Fall River, E.T.A. AM/2, and return on completion of discharge.

"ARUNTA" escorting "BOTH" and "WANAKA" arrived Fall River 1300L/29 from Port Moresby.

"CASTLEMAINE" is to escort "VAN HEEMSKERK" direct to Port Moresby.

"TERKA" arrived Thursday Island 1050L/29 from Cairns.

"BUNGAREE" arrived off Cairns 1345L/29.

"WARREGO" departed Cairns 0103L/30 to search for missing Douglas aircraft in vicinity.

"SWAN" escorting "DUNTROON", departed Townsville 2005L/29 for Port Moresby, "DUNTROON" to return Townsville, "SWAN" to proceed to Cairns for boiler cleaning and minor repairs.

"ECHUCA" departed Caloundra 1201L/29 escorting B.T.30 including "POYANG" E.T.A. 2000L/1.

Sub Chaser 744 - arrived Brisbane 0820L/29.

"TOWNSVILLE" arrived Newcastle 1112L/29 having completed escort of O.C.56.

F.S. "LE TRIOMPHANT" departed Port Phillip 1624L/29 for exercises.

"DOOMBA" completed escort of C.O.57 at 1631L/29 and proceeded to rendezvous with "LE TRIOMPHANT" for exercises.

U.S. Seaplane Tender "HERON" departed Fremantle 1411L/29 for Geraldton E.T.A. 1400L/30.

"TOLGA" arrived Darwin 1756L/29 from Thursday Island via Groote Eylandt.

Hospital Ship "MANUNDA" arrived Fall River 1101L/29 from Port Moresby.

GENERAL.

"TAROONA", to have been escorted by "WARREGO" to Fall River, is held up at Townsville with turbine trouble. Her onward passage has been cancelled.

LILLIPUT - STAGE 5.

"COLAC" escorting "BOTH" E.T.D. Fall River 1300L/30.  
E.T.A. Oro Bay 1430L/31.

LILLIPUT - STAGE 6.

"BENDIGO" escorting "BALIKPAPAN" E.T.D. Fall River 1300L/2.  
E.T.A. Oro Bay 1430L/3.



2908/Thursday, 29th October, 1942.

LILLIPUT - STAGE 8.

Will be carried out by "BOTH", loading at Fall River on completion Stage 5.

N.O.I.C. Port Moresby at 1136L/29 requested N.O.I.C. Townsville to make one A.M.S. available at Port Moresby by A.M./3 to relieve "COLAC" as escort for Lilliput Movement, for which 2 A.M.S.'s will be required continuously until 12/1 at least.

SUBMARINE REPORTED SOUTH OF TASMANIA.

An Argentine yachtsman who arrived Wellington 27/12 having sailed alone from Capetown reported sighting a large 3 funnel ship with submarine in company course south in position about 15 miles off S.W. Cape (S.W. Point of Tasmania) at 1900L/9/12. D.N.I. Wellington grades the report C.4. This may have been "ACQUITANIA" and "TROMP".

UNIDENTIFIED AIRCRAFT OVER FREMANTLE AREA.

R.D.F. Plots and Sound Locators indicated unidentified aircraft over Perth and Fremantle areas about 1500L/29. A.O.R. W.A. ordered a search to locate possible carrier. At 1908L/29 "KANIMBLA", "TROMP" and "WALLAROO" were informed by signal.

SUBMARINE REPORTED EAST OF COOKTOWN.

Aircraft reported sighting at 0730L/28 (sic) an object possible submarine course 120° in position 075° 130 miles from Cooktown.

AIR RAID.

Port Moresby - Warning 2041L/29.

All Clear 2053L/29.

- "ARABIAN CRUISER" arrived Sydney at 1859L/28 having completed escort duties with P.G. 37.
- "TUNA" (U.S. Submarine) arrived Brisbane at 0605L/28.
- "MASCARENE" reported at 2200L/29. Operations ABLE, GAIN and ADAM complete. . . . .
- "MASCARENE" (Hospital Ship) departed Port Moresby for Fall River E.T.A. 1100L/29.
- "WILLIAM P. COBY" (U.S. Merchant Ship) en route Colombo to Wellington, direct, reported at 0709L/28, that at 1330L/28 net, attacked and apparently destroyed enemy submarine in position 00°10' N. 078°10' E. (440 miles South of Colombo).

RECENT AIR RAIDS:

Darwin	Air Raid Warning	1136L/28.	All Clear	1100L/28.
Batchelor	"	"	"	"
"	"	"	"	"
"	"	"	"	"
Augusta	"	"	"	"

Unknown ship giving correct group (considered to be "UNION" or "WINDY BALDWIN") reported at 1925L/28: Heavy weather - damage to deck plate - cracked fore-deck (in position 300 miles S.W. of Backstairs Passage). Heavyweight cargo - please radio instructions - suggest Adelaide for repairs. At 1845L/28 H.S. originated a message to all ships in Area 52 - Vessel making signal 0800L/28 should proceed to Adelaide via Backstairs Passage.



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

- "ARUNTA" escorting "WANAKA" and "BOTH" departed Port Moresby 28/12 for Fall River, E.T.A. 1800L/29.
- "CASTLEMAINE" (at Thursday Island) ordered by N.O.I.C. Townsville at 1503L/28 to proceed with necessary despatch to Merauke and escort "VAN HEEMSKERK" to Thursday Island, E.T.D. Merauke 0700L/29. Air cover has been arranged. "CASTLEMAINE" departed Thursday Island at 1946L/28 to rendezvous with "VAN HEEMSKERK" at 1101L/29.
- "SWAN" escorting "DUNTROON" arrived Townsville from Fall River at 1430L/28.
- "BALLARAT" arrived Townsville from Fall River at 0605L/28.
- "BENDIGO" escorting convoy T.N.19 arrived Port Moresby from Townsville at 1032L/28.
- "DOOMBA" escorting O.C.57 departed Port Phillip at 2335L/28.
- "ROCKHAMPTON" } escorting O.C.58 "ROCKHAMPTON" will detach with Sydney  
"TOWNSVILLE" } section off Sydney. "TOWNSVILLE" will continue escort to  
and remain Newcastle, and escort C.O.58 to rendezvous off Sydney on 30/12.
- "ROCKHAMPTON" arrived Sydney at 0115L/29 with Sydney portion O.C.56.
- "DELORAIN" } detailed for convoy C.O.58 to take over convoy from Towns-  
"GLENELG" } ville at rendezvous off Sydney p.m./30.
- "LE TRIOMPHANT" departed Port Melbourne at 1520L/28 for full calibre firing in Port Phillip.
- "BOMBO" departed Port Phillip 1912L/28 E.T.A. Hobart 1400L/31.
- "MATAFELE" departed Port Moresby at 0730L/28 for Port Romilly (Gulf of Papua) E.T.A. P.M./29.
- "ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" arrived Sydney at 1059L/28 having completed escort duties with P.G.27.
- "TUNA" (U.S. Submarine) arrived Brisbane at 0605L/28.
- "BUNGAREE" reported at 2209L/29: Operations ABLE, CAIN and ADAM complete.
- "MANUNDA" (Hospital Ship) departed Port Moresby for Fall River E.T.A. 1100L/29.
- "WILLIAM P. CODY" (U.S. Merchant Ship) en route Colombo to Wellington, direct, reported at 0209L/26, that at 1330L/24 met, attacked and apparently destroyed enemy submarine in position 00°10' N. 078°10' E. (440 miles South of Colombo).

ENEMY AIR RAIDS:

Darwin	Air Raid Warning	1138L/28.	All Clear	1149L/28.
Batchelor	" " "	1128L/28.		
	" " "	1138L/28.	All Clear	1813L/28.
Augusta	" " on	0815L/28.	All clear	0840L/28.

Unknown ship giving corrupt group (considered to be "OLIVER WOOLCOTT" or "HENRY BALDWIN") reported at 1926L/28: Heavy weather - damage to deck plate - cracked fore-deck (in position 500 miles S.W. of Backstairs Passage). Heavyweight cargo - please radio instructions - suggest Adelaide for repairs. At 1645L/28 N.B. originated a message to all ships in Area 5A - Vessel making signal 0826Z/28 should proceed to Adelaide via Backstairs Passage.



DAILY NARRATIVE.

TO 0900L MONDAY, DECEMBER 28th, 1942.

- BROOME - is to return to Port Moresby for fuel.
- COLAC - on completion of operation Tackhammer is to proceed FALL RIVER for LILLIPUT - stage 5.
- BENDIGO - is to carry out LILLIPUT - stage 6.
- SWAN - departed Fall River 1500L/26 escorting DUNTROON E.T.A. Townsville 1100L/28 E.T.D. Townsville 2000L/29 escorting DUNTROON to PORT MORESBY, E.T.A. 1600L/31.
- ARUNTA - escorting TN 18 arrived Port Moresby 1115L/27.
- CASTLEMAINE - escorting JAMES COOK arrived Thursday Island 1650L/27 from DARWIN.
- LITHGOW - escorting KURUMBA arrived Brisbane 2025L/27 from Townsville.
- GEELONG - arrived Brisbane 0130L/27 from escorting GT2.
- GOULBURN - returned Brisbane 0135L/28 from escorting KATOOMBA.
- INVERELL - E.T.D. Sydney 1500L/29 for Darwin via Townsville
- PIRIE - departed Sydney 0629L/27 for Townsville, escorting "EMPIRE HAMBLE", E.T.A. 2030L/1.
- WALLAROO - is to RV KANIMBLA escorting SU5 at 1500L/28 about 265 miles 280° from Fremantle and provide A/S escort to Fremantle.
- WILCANNIA - escorting DARVEL and BABINDA, departed Darwin 1415L/27 for Thursday Island, E.T.A. 1830L/31.

UNIDENTIFIED AIRCRAFT NORTH OF CAIRNS.

AORNE Area report a single engined aircraft probably enemy about 95 miles 050° from Cocktown between 2110 and 2155L/27. Our aircraft began a search of the area at dawn.

"VAN HEEMSKERK" ATTACKED BY AIRCRAFT.

At 1012L/27 one Zero floatplane attacked S.S. "VAN HEEMSKERK" at MERAUKE. The ship was hit, damaging the forecastle and forward hatch. Three native seamen were killed and 4 wounded. There were no casualties among military personnel. Loading is to be continued after wreckage cleared away.



AIR RAIDS.

AUGUSTA - RAID IN PROGRESS 1036L/27, ALL CLEAR 1045L/27.  
 WARNING 1313L/27, ALL CLEAR 1317L/27.

PORT MORESBY - WARNING 0626L/28.  
 RAID IN PROGRESS 0628L/28.  
 ALL CLEAR 0651L/28.



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

BALLARAT - departed Fall River 1730/25 for Townsville E.T.A. 0600L/28, to boiler clean.

TULSA - departed Fall River 0730L/26 for Brisbane for repair to asdic dome.

ARUNTA - is to return to Townsville on completing escort of TN18, escorting any ship ready.

WARREGO - ETD Townsville PM/28 escorting TAROONA to Fall River and back.

U.S. Submarine "WAHOO" - arrived Brisbane 0455L/26.

ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN - arrived Brisbane 1718L/26 from escorting GP27; departed Caloundra 1753L/26, escorting PG27.

BANGALOW  
(Cable Ship) - arrived Sydney 2040L/25.

MILDURA - departed Sydney 0648L/25 for Newcastle, departed Newcastle 1146L/26 escorting C057.

MILDURA)  
KAPUNDA) - escorting C057, departed Sydney 1825L/26.

INVERELL - ETD Sydney 1500L/28 for Darwin, via Townsville for fuel.

F.S. LE TRIOMPHANT - returned Port Melbourne 1802L/26 from exercises in Port Phillip.

DOOMBA - arrived Port Melbourne 1445L/26, from escorting C056.

HORSHAM - departed Adelaide 1602L/26 for Fremantle ETA 2100L/1.

"COLAC" ATTACKED BY AIRCRAFT.

At 1119L/26 "COLAC" (on operation LILLIPUT - Stage 4) signalled "Enemy aircraft. Help" and gave her position about 10 miles off Oro Bay.

N.A.P. LAUNCH "ANNALAWÉ".

RIAWÉ

Commissioned at Launceston 26/12 for Devonport patrol.

CHANGES IN SYDNEY DEPOT NAMES.

As from January 1, 1943, Balmoral Naval Depot (at present PENGUIN II) will be renamed PENGUIN, and Garden Island including Naval Base Headquarters (at present PENGUIN) will become KUTTABUL.

AIR RAIDS.

"AUGUSTA"  
(MERAUKE) Raid in progress 1338L/26.  
All clear 1345L/26.

S.S. "VAN HEEMSKERK" was bombed by single Zero plane off entrance to Augusta between 1315 and 1340L/26. No damage.

PORT MORESBY. Warning 0123L/27.  
All Clear 0144L/27.



DAILY NARRATIVE.

SECRET.

To 0900L/Saturday, 26th December, 1942.

- "WHYALLA" departed Fall River 0415L/25 on Operation Tackhammer.
- "SWAN" escorting "DUNTROON" departed Port Moresby 1400L/25 for Fall River, E.T.A. 0800L/26.
- "BENDIGO" escorting B.T.29, arrived Townsville 1215L/25; escorting T.N.19 departed Townsville 1830L/25 for Port Moresby.
- "LITHGOW" escorting "KURUMBA", arrived Townsville 2330L/24 from Fall River. Departed Townsville 1123L/25 for Brisbane, E.T.A.0600L/28, escorting "KURUMBA".
- "WEERUTTA" arrived Townsville 0841L/25 from Gladstone.
- "BUNGAREE" departed Mackay 1900L/24.
- "LATROBE" E.T.D. Sydney A.M./30 for Townsville.
- U.S. Cruiser "CHESTER" )
- U.S. Destroyer "LANSDOWNE" ) Departed Sydney 0932L/25.
- "KAPUNDA" ) detailed for C.O.57, E.T.D. Newcastle 1100L/26,
- "MILDURA" ) "MILDURA" E.T.D. Sydney 0630L/26 for Newcastle to take over convoy, and to be joined by "KAPUNDA" P.M./26 at rendezvous off Sydney.
- "LE TRIOMPHANT" departed Port Melbourne 0805L/25 for exercises in Port Phillip.
- "DOOMBA" escorting O.C.56, departed Port Phillip 0205L/26.
- "HORSHAM" E.T.D. Adelaide P.M./26 for Fremantle.
- "KANIMELA" escorting S.U.5 from Colombo, E.T.A. Fremantle 1900L/29.

GENERAL.

At 1659L/25 aircraft reported sighting a large submarine in the southern entrance to St. George's Channel, course 210°, speed 20 knots, which crash dived.

AIR RAIDS:

Port Moresby - Raid in Progress	2039L/25.
All Clear	2109L/25.
Warning	0158L/26.
All Clear	0245L/26.

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MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

TO 0900L/FRIDAY, 25th DECEMBER, 1942.

"NEW ORLEANS" (U.S. Cruiser) } arrived Sydney from Guadalcanal  
"SHAW" (U.S. Destroyer) } area at 1301L/24.  
"LANSLOWNE" (U.S. Destroyer) }

"ARUNTA" escorting T.N.18 departed Townsville at 1810L/24 for Port Moresby E.T.A. 1400L/27.

"KAPUNDA" Arrived Sydney at 1800L/24 with Sydney portion of  
"MORESBY" O.C.55.

"EAGLEY" (U.S. Destroyer) departed Townsville at 1805L/24.

"GEELONG" escorting G.T.2 departed Gladstone at 0615L/24 for Townsville E.T.A. 1115L/28.

"TJERK RIDDES" departed Geraldton 1150L/24 for Fremantle, arrived 2120L/24.

"SWAN" escorting convoy T.N.17 arrived Port Moresby at 0723L/24.

"DELOBAINES" escorting Newcastle portion of C.O.58 arrived Sydney at 1807L/23.

"HORSHAM" arrived Adelaide from Melbourne at 1521L/24 - en route to Fremantle.

"LE TRIOMPHANT" returned to Port Melbourne at 1745L/24 from trials to again exercise in Port Phillip 25/12.

"ECHUCA" arrived Brisbane at 1155L/24 - after handing over escort of "KATOOMBA" to "GOULBURN"

"KALGOORLIE" escorting "ALAGNA" and "TAMAR" departed Thursday Island for Darwin at 1448L/24 - E.T.A. 1800L/29.

"BALLARAT" escorting "TAROOMA" arrived Fall River at 1930L/23.

"GOULBURN" departed Brisbane at 0145L/24 to rendezvous with H.T. "KATOOMBA" and escort to Whitsunday Passage - thence return to Brisbane.

"COLAC" escorting "JAPARA" departed Fall River at 1300L/24, on Operation LILLIPUT Stage 4.

"WHYALLA" returned Fall River at 1030L/24.

"ENGADINE" departed Fremantle for Sydney at 0006L/24. E.T.A. 0800L/31.

"WANGANILLA" (Hospital Ship) E.T.A. Fremantle from Colombo 31/12.

"ANUNDA" (Hospital Ship) departed Brisbane at 1204L/24 E.T.A. Port Moresby 0900L/28.

"UKI" at Port Melbourne - paid off at 1145L/24.

"IRON MASTER" (en route Melbourne to Port Kembla in Convoy O.C.55) arrived Port Kembla at 2300L/24, and reported having run ashore in thick fog, 13 miles north of Wollongong and 400 yards off shore at 1700L/24. Vessel aground until 2110L/24, refloated under own power, but making water in No.1 Port bilge. Vessel was detached from O.C.55 with "MORESBY" as



escort for Port Kembla - foggy weather experienced during afternoon. Further report will be made by N.O.I.C. Sydney after interrogating C.O. "MORESBY".

3 EXPLOSIONS reported off Cape Northumberland at 1830L/24 by lighthousekeeper - (explosions were reported in this area between 1820L/16 and 1905L/16).

ENEMY AIR RAIDS.

Port Moresby Air Raid Warning 2003L/24 All Clear 2016L/24

Pall River " " " 1347L/24 " " 1417L/24.

ALLIED AIR ATTACK at 1631L/24 on 5000 ton transport at CASMATA. Result two direct hits - reported by aircraft at 1825L/24, to be sinking.



DAILY NARRATIVE

SECRET.

To 0900L/Thursday, 24th December, 1942.

- "AASE MAERSK" arrived Townsville 0751L/23 from Dunk Island.
- "BALLARAT" departed Fall River 1200L/22 to rendezvous T.N.17 and escort "TAROONA" TO Fall River.
- "COLAC" escorting "BALIKPAPAN" returned Fall River from LILLIPUT Stage 2.
- "BROOME" escorting "BANTAM" departed Fall River 1400L/22 for LILLIPUT Stage 3.
- "SWAN" escorting T.N.17 to Port Moresby ordered by N.O.I.C. Townsville at 1510L/23 to return to Townsville on completion of duty escorting any ships ready. At 1636L/23 N.O.I.C. Port Moresby indicated that he intended "SWAN" to escort "DUNTROON" to Fall River E.T.A. p.m./25 for evacuation of sick to Townsville.
- U.S. Submarine "GATO" arrived Brisbane 0616L/23.
- "GEELONG" E.T.A. Gladstone 0800L/24. on return from escort duty.
- "DELORAINÉ" escorting C.O.56, departed Newcastle 1043L/23.
- "ROCKHAMPTON" } Escorting C.O.56, departed Sydney 1717L/23.  
"TOWNSVILLE" }
- "ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" escorting G.P.27, departed Sydney 1203L/23. E.T.A. Brisbane 0025L/26.
- "GLENELG" returned Sydney 0809L/23 from Broken Bay.
- U.S. Destroyer "SOUTHARD" arrived Sydney 1318L/23 from Brisbane.
- "LE TRIOMPHANT" departed Port Melbourne 1003L/23 for exercises in Port Phillip.
- "VAN GALEN" returned Fremantle 2034L/23 from escorting "AQUITANIA".
- U.S.S. "CHILDS" arrived Fremantle 2028L/22 from Exmouth Gulf.
- "TJERK HIDDÉS" (on passage Darwin/Fremantle) departed Exmouth Gulf 1014L/23 E.T.A. Geraldton 2100L/23 for fuel.
- "CASTLEMAINE" escorting "JAMES COOK" departed Darwin 1634L/23 for Thursday Island, E.T.A. 1930L/28.
- "WILCANNIA" escorting "DARVEL" and "BABINDA" arrived Darwin 1610L/23 from Thursday Island.
- U.S.S. "WEST POINT" arrived Wellington 0354L/23 from Melbourne.

POSSIBLE SUBMARINE REPORTS:

At about 1130L/23 a civilian reported sighting a submarine 5 miles East of Cape Banks (about 60 miles W.N.W. of Portland) 3 miles to sea. He stated it was moving slowly and in sight for 15 minutes during which time periscope and conning tower were clearly visible, course unknown. Visibility was poor. Aircraft search was negative. N.O.I.C. Adelaide suggested that sighting may have been of "HORSHAM" (Port Phillip/Adelaide). At 1810L/23 "HORSHAM" reported that at 1100L/23 she was in position about 10 miles 134° from 1130/1145L sighting, that she sighted no submarine and that visibility was poor.

At 1015L/23 "TROMP" (escorting "NESTOR" Melbourne/



Fremantle in position off Cape Nelson (just west of Portland) sighted white rockets bearing 190° possibly from Merchant Ship "MOMBA" (Fremantle/Melbourne). "TROMP's" investigation revealed nothing.

An investigating aircraft located "MOMBA" proceeding on her course and found that she was not responsible for the flares.

From 1545 to 1715L/23 "TROMP" had Asdic contact about 46 miles 200° from Cape Banks, and dropped 15 depth charges with no visible result.

A.O.R. Southern area detailed 2 Ansons to search for submarines from 10 miles S.E. of Cape Banks between bearings of 203° and 218° to depth of 120 miles, beginning 0530L/24.

"ECHUCA" SHORT OF FUEL:

"ECHUCA" (escorting "KATOOMBA" Sydney/Townsville) reported at 1400L/23 to A.C.N.B. (R) N.O.I.C's Sydney, Brisbane, and Townsville - that fuel consumption was 24 tons daily at 10 knots, due to mechanical defects and that fuel was insufficient to complete passage. Permission requested to proceed Brisbane with convoy and refuel, E.T.A. Brisbane 1100L/24. Duty Captain telephoned N.O.I.C. Brisbane who at 2154L/23 ordered "GOULBURN" to rendezvous "ECHUCA" at 0900L/24 and escort "KATOOMBA" to Whitsunday Passage, thence returning Brisbane, "ECHUCA" to proceed Brisbane on relief.

H.M.A.S. "BASILISK" (Port Moresby) is to be commissioned 1st January, 1943.

H.M.A.S. "MARRAWAH" paid off at Melbourne 22/12.

H.M.A.S. "KOOMPARTOO" (Boom Gate Vessel) commissioned at Sydney 23/12 under command of Lieutenant G. G. Moss, R.A.N.R.(S).

ENEMY AIR RAIDS:

Port Moresby - Warning 2116L/23  
All Clear 2122L/23.

Warning 2242L/23  
All Clear 2232L/23.

Darwin - Warning 1125L/23  
All Clear 1220L/23.

Fall River - Warning 0513L/24.



DAILY NARRATIVE.

SECRET.

To 0900L/Wednesday, 23rd December, 1942.

- "TROMP" departed Port Phillip at 1751/22, escorting "NESTOR" E.T.A. Fremantle 0730L/23.
- "TRIUMPHANT" arrived Williamstown from Sydney at 1105L/22.
- "DEVONSHIRE" escorting "AQUITANIA" departed Fremantle at 2200L/22 for Aden E.T.A. 0700L/2/1/43. "VAN GALEN" will provide A/S escort until 2300L/22.
- "HORSHAM" departed Port Melbourne with O.C.55 at 0247L/22, thence Fremantle, via Adelaide.
- "ECHUCA" departed Sydney escorting H.T. "KATOOMBA" for Townsville at 0544L/22. E.T.A. 1338L/26.
- "MILDURA" escorting Sydney portion O.C.54 arrived Sydney at 0437L/22 "MILDURA" or "ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" detailed for G.P.27. E.T.D. Sydney 1030L/23.
- "LITHGOW" with "KURUMBA" departed Fall River at 1420L/22 for Townsville.
- "DELORAINÉ" with Newcastle portion of C.O.54 arrived Newcastle at 1317L/22.
- "SOUTHARD" (U.S. Destroyer) departed Brisbane at 0945L/22 E.T.A. Sydney 1200L/23.
- "O. BANNON" (U.S. Destroyer) departed Brisbane at 1059L/22 escorting "HUNTER LIGGETT" and "AMERICAN LEGION". When in position 450 miles E.N.E. Brisbane "HUNTER LIGGETT" will proceed independently to Noumea E.T.A. dawn/25/42. "O. BANNON" escorting "AMERICAN LEGION" will proceed Espiritu Santo E.T.A. 26/42.
- "PATTERSON" (U.S. Destroyer) E.T.D. Dunk Island 0600L/22 for Sydney E.T.A. 1830L/24.
- "TEPKA" arrived Cairns from Thursday Island at 1315L/22.
- "GRAYSON" (U.S. Destroyer) escorting "CRESCENT CITY", "PRESIDENT HAYES", "PRESIDENT JACKSON", and "PRESIDENT ADAMS" arrived Wellington from Brisbane at 1328L/22.
- "ENGADINE" E.T.D. Fremantle p.m./23 for Melbourne.
- "BANGALOW" departed Brisbane at 0755L/22 - E.T.A. Sydney 0600L/25.
- "MANUNDA" (Hospital Ship) arrived Brisbane at 1655L/22.
- "GOLDSTAR" arrived Fremantle at 0745L/22.
- R.D.F. PLOTS INDICATE UNKNOWN OBJECT - possible submarine - in vicinity Cape Naturaliste, W.A., between 2321L/21 and 0704L/22.
- ENEMY SUBMARINE reported by N.O.I.C. Darwin. At 1930L/22 Yirrkala Mission reported - submarine submerged half mile off shore - course N.W. position 70 miles South of Cape Wessel, Graded B.2.

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To 0900L/Tuesday, 22nd December, 1942.

- "YUNNAN" departed Townsville 2317L/20 for Dunk Island.
- "VICTORIA" departed Townsville 1828L/21 for Brisbane, E.T.A. 1300L/23.
- "POLARIS" arrived Fall River 1700L/20.
- "SWAN" departed Cairns 1117L/21 to rendezvous T.N.17 off Fitzroy Island at 1300L/21 and escort to rendezvous "BALLARAT" which escorts "TAROONA" to Fall River. E.T.A. 2300L/23, "SWAN" escorting portion B to Port Moresby, E.T.A. 0800L/24.
- "WARREGO" departed Townsville 0410L/21 for Cairns to boiler clean, arrived 1800L/21.
- "ARUNTA" arrived Townsville 1416L/21 from Port Moresby.
- "GEELONG" escorting "CREMER", "VAN HEUTZ", "BONTEKOE" and "TASMAN" to Whitsunday Passage, departed Gladstone 0630L/22, returning Gladstone to escort "YCHOW", "SWARTENHONDT" and "CLEVELAND"ABBE", E.T.D. early A.M./24.
- "BENDIGO" escorting B.T.29 and "BUNGAREE" departed Caloundra 1339L/21.
- "MILDURA" is to detach with Sydney section O.C.54 off Sydney.
- "DELORAINE" is to continue escort to and remain Newcastle and escort C.O.56 to rendezvous off Sydney 23/12.
- "MILDURA" } detailed for G.P.27, E.T.D. Sydney 1030L/23.  
"ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" }
- "ROCKHAMPTON" } escorting P.G.26, arrived Sydney 0600L/21, detailed  
"TOWNSVILLE" } for C.O.56 to take over escort from "DELORAINE" p.m./23.
- "GIPPSLAND" arrived Sydney 0851L/21 from Broken Bay.
- "ECHUCA" escorting "KATOOMBA", E.T.D. Sydney 0515L/22 for Townsville.
- Hospital Ship "MANUNDA" departed Fall River 1545L/18 for Brisbane E.T.A. 0700L/22.

GENERAL: A storm warning was issued by A.C.N.B. to all ships in Areas 5B and 5C of a cyclone centre 26° S. 154° E. (about 40 miles East of Maryborough) at 0600L/22 moving South East.

AIR RAIDS AND WARNINGS:

Melbourne	}	Yellow	1145L/21
Geelong		White	1205L/21.
Yallourn			
Port Moresby		Warning	2232L/21
		Raid	2242L/21
		All Clear	2317L/21
		Raid	0029L/22
		All Clear	0112L/22.



To 0900L/Monday, 21st December, 1942.

"MORESBY" } escorting C.O.55 departed Sydney at 1617L/20.  
"KAPUNDA" }

"TROMP" arrived Port Phillip at 2035L/20. When ready "NESTOR" and "TANDA" escorted by "TROMP" will depart for Fremantle.

Operations SLEDGE HAMMER. (Troop movements between Fall River and Porlock Harbour - and Porlock Harbour and Oro Bay.).

"COLAC" } At 1506L/19 N.O.I.C. Port Moresby reported:  
"BROOME" } Operations SLEDGE HAMMER successfully completed  
"BALLARAT" } 0230L/19. E.T.A. Fall River 2000L/19.

Operations TACK HAMMER.

"WHYALLA" } Before 1030L/28 will embark 600 A.I.F. at Beli Beli,  
"COLAC" } Goodenough Island and proceed to disembark them at  
"BROOME" } Oro Bay. E.T.A. 2300L/28.

Operations LILLIPUT - Stage 4.

"COLAC" escort "JAPARA" is to leave Fall River at 1300L/24, and proceed to Oro Bay.

"ADELAIDE" escorting "AQUITANIA" arrived Fremantle at 0930L/20.

"WARREGO" arrived Townsville from Port Moresby at 2028L/20. To proceed Cairns for boiler cleaning.

"HOPKINS" (U.S. Destroyer) arrived Sydney at 1720L/20.

"TJERK HIDDES" at 1855L/19 N.O.I.C. Darwin reported "TJERK HIDDES" had successfully completed last of three operations with great efficiency. Situation in Timor no longer warrants her retention.  
At 0929L/20 departed Darwin for Fremantle.

"LE TRIOMPHANT" departed Sydney at 2035L/20 for Melbourne to work up. E.T.A. 0600L/22.

"TULSA" (U.S. Gunboat) departed Fall River from Porlock Harbour at 0635L/20.

"HERON" (U.S. Seaplane Tender) arrived Fremantle from Exmouth Gulf at 0927L/20.

"BANGALOW" (Cable Repair Ship) departs Brisbane for Sydney at 0600L/22.

"WHIPPOORWILL" (U.S. Minesweeper) arrived Fremantle at 1005L/19.

ENEMY AIR RAIDS:

Port Moresby - Air Raid Warning 2145L/20. All Clear 2158L/20.

" " " 2219L/20 " " 2325L/20.

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MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

TO 0900L/SUNDAY, 20th DECEMBER, 1942.

- "AUSTRALIA" - T.G.44.3 - E.T.D. Dunk Island 1400L/22  
and destroyers to R.V. T.G.44.5 ("HOBART" and destroyers)  
at 1000L/23 about 210 miles N.E. of Cairns;  
E.T.A. Palm Island 1600L/30.
- "HOBART" - E.T.A. Palm Island 1600L/24; E.T.D. Palm Island  
and destroyers 1000L/28, to R.V. T.G.44.3 at 1000L/29 about 210  
miles N.E. of Cairns.
- "MUGFORD" - Departed Sydney 1042L/19 for rendezvous.
- "WARREGO" - Departed Port Moresby 1930L/18 for Townsville.
- "ARUNTA" - Escorting "JASON LEE" arrived Port Moresby  
1158L/19, escorting "WESTRALIA" and "GEORGE  
MATHEWS" departed 1400L/19 for Cairns E.T.A.  
1500L/21.
- "BALLARAT" - Is to R.V. TN.17 about 150 miles out from Port  
Moresby after daylight 23/12, escort "TAROONA" to  
Fall River, and thence to Townsville, proceeding  
thence to Cairns to boiler clean.
- "KALGOORLIE" - Escorting "BURWAH" arrived Thursday Island 1348L/19  
from Darwin.
- "TERKA" - Departed Thursday Island 0842L/19 for Cairns  
E.T.A. 0700L/22.
- "TOLGA" - Departed Thursday Island 0800L/19 E.T.A. Groote  
Eylandt 1500L/21, thence Darwin.
- "WILCANNIA" - Escorting "DARVEL" and "BABINDA" departed Thursday  
Island 0815L/19 for Darwin.
- "SWAN" - Arrived Cairns 0710L/19 from Dunk Island.
- "GEELONG" - E.T.A. Gladstone Wharf 0800/20 for escort duty.
- U.S. Destroyers } Escorting U.S. Transports "HUNTER LEGGETT" and  
"O'BANNON" } "AMERICAN LEGION", arrived Brisbane 0858L/19  
"SOUTHARD" } from Guadalcanal.
- "WIZAR" - Departed Brisbane 0719L/19 for San Francisco  
E.T.A. 5/1.
- "ROCKHAMPTON" } Escorting G.P.26 with "BUNGAREE" arrived Brisbane  
"TOWNSVILLE" } 0050L/19; escorting P.G.26 departed Caloundra  
0630L/19.
- "BENDIGO" - Escorting B.T.25 and "BUNGAREE", E.T.D. Pile Light  
2000L/20.
- "ABRAHAM CRIJNSSSEN" - Escorting C.O.55, departed Newcastle 0921L/19,  
arrived Sydney 1727L/19.
- "PING WO" } - Arrived Sydney 1731L/19 from Port Stephens.  
"ALLENWOOD" }
- "TOORIE" - Arrived Sydney 1227L/19 from Melbourne.
- U.S. Transport "WEST POINT" departed Port Melbourne 0901L/19 for  
Wellington.



"DOOMBA" - Arrived Port Melbourne 1147/19 from escorting  
C.O.54.

"TJERK HIDDES" - Returned Darwin 1610L/19 from Operation HAMBURGER.

POSSIBLE SUBMARINE REPORT.

An aircraft on patrol at 1220L/19 read a message  
written in the sand on WESSEL Island by a dweller on the island :  
"Submarine north of here yesterday".

AIR RAID.

PORT MORESBY - Raid 2156L/19.



To 0900L/Saturday, 19th December, 1942.

- "SWAN" departed Dunk Island at 0925L/18, with mail and ratings for T.G.44.3. Thence for convoy duty with T.N.16 (T.N.16 delayed 48 hours "SWAN" at 1525L/18 ordered by N.O.I.C. Townsville to proceed Cairns and await further orders).
- "ARUNTA" after escorting "JASON LEE" to Port Moresby "ARUNTA" ordered by N.O.I.C. Townsville at 1831L/18 to return Townsville escorting any ships ready ("ARUNTA" previously ordered to escort T.N.16 to Fall River).
- "VAN GALEN" will rendezvous with "ADELAIDE" and "AQUITANIA" in position 240 miles S. of Fremantle and provide A/S escort to Fremantle.
- "HOPKINS" } U.S. Destroyers, escorting "PRESIDENT JACKSON",  
 "GRAYSON" } "PRESIDENT ADAMS", "PRESIDENT HAYES" and "CRESENT CITY"  
 E.T.D. Brisbane for Wellington 1040L/18, E.T.A.1630L/22.
- "OBANNON" } U.S. Destroyers, escorting U.S. Transports "AMERICAN  
 "FANNING" } LEGION" and "HUNTER LIGGETT", departed Guadalcanal at  
 "SOUTHARD" } 1530L/15 for Brisbane E.T.A. during daylight 19/12.  
 At 2000L/16 "FANNING" will detach and proceed independently to Noumea.
- "WILCANNIA" en route to Darwin, arrived Thursday Island from Townsville at 1530L/18.
- "WARREGO" escorting T.N.15 arrived Port Moresby at 0735L/18.
- "ABRAHAM CRIJNSSSEN" arrived Newcastle at 1635L/18, having completed escort duties with O.C.53. To escort C.O.55 to rendezvous off Sydney, 19/12.
- "DOOMBA" escorting C.O.54 departed Port Phillip at 0015L/19.
- "KAPUNDA" escorting Sydney, Port Kembla portion of O.C.53 arrived Sydney at 0543L/18.
- "LITHGOW" at 1535L/18 N.O.I.C. Townsville requested N.O.I.C. Port Moresby to instruct "LITHGOW" to escort "KURUMBA" to Brisbane via Grafton Passage. On arrival Brisbane "LITHGOW" will undergo refit.
- "TJERK HIDDES" departed Darwin at 0241L/18 for Aliambata, Timor.
- "TOLGA" arrived Thursday Island from Cairns at 0840L/18.
- "BIRCHGROVE PARK" arrived Sydney from Jervis Bay at 1813L/18.
- "ALLENWOOD" } at 1642L/18 "ASSAULT" reported: Intending sailing in  
 "PATERSON" } company "ALLENWOOD" to Sydney and "PATERSON" to  
 Newcastle.
- "W.B.PRESTON" (U.S. Seaplane Tender) departed Fremantle for Exmouth Gulf at 1623L/18, E.T.A.1400L/20.
- "SOEDOE" (Dutch) Overdue at Brisbane from Cairns, (E.T.A.15/12) sighted off Caloundra at 1823L/18.

REPORT OF ENEMY SUBMARINE SIGHTING:

At 2345L/18, N.O.I.C. Darwin reported: Reliable native reports submarine on surface off Cape Wessel headed West then submerged.



R.D.F. report of (unknown object) possible Enemy Submarine:

At 0250L/19 N.O.I.C. Fremantle reported R.D.F. indicated (unknown object) possible enemy submarine at 0050L/19, in vicinity Cape Naturaliste - 100 miles South of Fremantle.

ENEMY AIR RAIDS:

Port Moresby - Air Raid Warning 2226L/18  
All Clear 2240L/18

Darwin - Air Raid Warning 2134L/18.

"MIZAR" ordered by C.S.W.P.F. at 1240L/18 - when ready 19/12 - to depart Brisbane for San Francisco.

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To 0900L/Friday, 18th December, 1942.

- "AUSTRALIA" } E.T.A. Grafton Passage 0800L/18, Dunk Island  
 "PATTERSON" } 1400L/18, from Coral Sea.  
 "HELM" }
- "SWAN" E.T.D. Townsville 0900L/18 for Dunk Island with 12 ratings for "AUSTRALIA" and mail for T.G.44.3.
- Operation SLEDGE HAMMER - Postponed 24 hours, is now due to commence tonight.
- Operation LILLIPUT -
- "COLAC" Escorting "BALIKPAPAN", E.T.D. Fall River 1300L/20.
- "BROOME" Escorting "BANTAM", E.T.D. Fall River 1300L/22. Ships to arrive Oro Bay 0100L/22, and 0100L/24 respectively, remain until off loading is completed, departing Oro Bay during dark hours if possible.
- "ARUNTA" Escorting T.N.14, arrived Fall River 1007L/17.
- "TERKA" Arrived Thursday Island 0144L/17 from Darwin.
- "SWAN" Escorting "TAROONA", arrived Townsville 0752L/17 from Fall River; escorting T.N.16, E.T.D. Townsville 1800L/18. "ARUNTA" will rendezvous about 150 miles 164° from Port Moresby and escort portion "A" ("TAROONA") to Fall River, "SWAN" escorting portion "B" ("DUNTROON" and "MACUMBA") to Port Moresby. "ARUNTA" is to escort "TAROONA" on return voyage Fall River/Townsville.
- "GEELONG" on arrival at Whitsunday Passage with B.T.28, is to proceed to Gladstone to fuel and escort convoy E.T.D. 20/12 from Gladstone and Port Alma to Whitsunday Passage returning thence to Brisbane.
- "VAN HEUTZ" } E.T.D. Port Alma 20/12, escorted to Whitsunday  
 "CREMER" } Passage thence to Townsville independently.  
 "PONTEKOE" }  
 "TASMAN" }
- "ROCKHAMPTON" } E.T.D. Caloundra 1800L/18 escorting P.G.26.  
 "TOWNSVILLE" }
- "KAPUNDA" Was to detach with Sydney Section O.C.53 off Sydney.
- "ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" to continue escort to and remain Newcastle and escort C.O.55 to rendezvous off Sydney 19/12.
- "KAPUNDA" } detailed to take over C.O.55 from "ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN"  
 "MORESBY" } p.m./19.
- "INVERELL" is to be sailed from Sydney for Darwin when "YANDRA" becomes available, and is to come under N.O.I.C. Darwin's administrative and operational control.
- F.S. "LE TRIOMPHANT" returned Sydney 1753L/17 from trials.
- "ACHILLES" Arrived Williamstown 0905L/17. Departed 0800L/18 for Noumea.
- "TAMWORTH" Departed Fremantle 1945L/17 to rendezvous "ENGADINE" at 1800L/18 and escort to Fremantle.
- "VAN GALEN" Returned Fremantle 1034L/17. "ALCOA POLARIS" (Wellington/Fremantle E.T.A. 16/12) was not met.



"PLATYPUS" (Depot Ship) is to be sailed from Darwin as early as practicable for Cairns where she will assume duties of base depot ship for destroyers and A.M.Ss. employed in N.E. Area.

"TROMP" departed Wellington 1730L/16 for Melbourne.  
E.T.A. 0700L/21.

Hospital Ship "MANUNDA" arrived Port Moresby 0833L/17 from Brisbane, departed 1600L/17 for Fall River, E.T.A. 1100L/18.

SUBMARINE SIGHTING:

At 0845L/17 aircraft saw a submarine diving in position about 15 miles N.W. of Mambare Bay, 40 miles to the north of Gona. Submarine described by C.S.W.P. as "presumably enemy".

"CASTLEMAINE" CASUALTIES:

"CASTLEMAINE" reports casualties in seamen gunners as result of air attacks 15/12 as 4 killed and 5 wounded. N.O.I.C. Darwin will supply further particulars after "CASTLEMAINE's" arrival.

AIR RAIDS AND WARNINGS:

Port Moresby -	Warning	2031L/17.
	All Clear	2140L/17
	Warning	2305L/17.
	All Clear	2338L/17.
	Warning	0035L/18
	Raid	0130L/18
	All Clear	0147L/18.
Townsville -	Yellow	1733L/17/
	White	1740L/17.



To 0900L/Thursday, 17th December, 1942.

"KALGOORLIE" escorting "BURWAH" departed Darwin at 0630L/16 for Thursday Island E.T.A. 1530L/19.

"ROCKHAMPTON" } escorting G.P.26 including "BUNGAREE" departed  
"TOWNSVILLE" } Sydney at 1123L/16.

"ARUNTA" at 0856L/16, N.O.I.C. Port Moresby ordered "ARUNTA" on completion of escort duties with T.N.14, to proceed to rendezvous with "JASON LEE" off Stephens Island at 1700L/18 and escort to Port Moresby.

"DOOMBA" arrived Melbourne at 2219L/15, having completed escort duties with C.O.53. Until further notice "DOOMBA" is at 8 hours notice for steam - to effect repairs.

"GEELONG" escorting B.T.28 departed Brisbane at 0324L/16. E.T.A. Whitsunday Passage 1600L/18, where "GEELONG" will part company.

"ACHILLES" E.T.A. Melbourne 0600L/17.

"GOULBURN" returned Brisbane from escort duties with B.T.27, at 0227L/16.

"SWAN" escorting "TAROONA" departed Fall River 0800L/15 for Grafton Passage and Townsville. E.T.A. 0800L/17.

"DELORAINÉ" } escorting C.O.54 departed Sydney at 1346L/16.  
"MILDURA" }

"MORESBY" arrived Sydney at 1528L/16 after escorting Newcastle portion C.O.54 to rendezvous off Sydney.

"WARREGO" escorting T.N.15 to Port Moresby. Ordered by N.O.I.C. Townsville at 1627L/16 to return to Townsville with despatch on completion of this duty.

"TJERK HIDDES" returned Darwin from operations Hamburger at 2016L/16.

OPERATION HAMMER: At 1606L/15 N.O.I.C. Port Moresby reported: Both operations successfully completed.

"LITHGOW" } E.T.A. Fall River 1000L/16 - E.T.D.  
"KARSIK" } for Oro Bay 1300L/17.

"COLAC" } Arrived Fall River 2257L/15 -  
"BROOME" } E.T.D. for Porlock Harbour 17/12.  
"BALLARAT" }

Operations SLEDGE HAMMER and LILLIPUT will commence on 17th and 18th December respectively.

SUBMARINE K.12 arrived Fremantle at 1151L/16.

FLYING FISH (U.S. Submarine) arrived Brisbane at 0517L/16.

to avoid two submarines reported by aircraft about 050° 28 and 80 miles respectively from Cape Wessel at 1412L/15.

"ISLANDER" (1598 tons gross, which departed Darwin 1255L/13 for Cairns, escorted by "CASTLEMAINE", which has now assumed escort of "PERIOD" and "JAMES COOK" in vicinity of Cape Wessel) was ordered by N.O.I.C. Darwin at 1634L/15 to steer a mean course of 150° for 60 miles, thence Thursday Island zigzagging in daylight and moonlight. A.O.R.N.E.A. detailed a Catalina to provide A/S patrol over "ISLANDER".



DAILY NARRATIVE.

~~SECRET~~

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"DELORAINÉ" ) escorting C.O.54 departed Sydney at 1346L/16.  
"MILDURA" )

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"WARRECO" escorting T.N.15 to Port Moresby. Ordered by N.O.I.C. Townsville at 1627L/16 to return to Townsville with despatch on completion of this duty.

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"TERKA" (M/S) on passage Darwin to Thursday Island E.T.A. PM/18 was ordered by N.O.I.C. Darwin at 1351L/15 to close to the land, and round Cape Wessel after dark, and was given a course south of the aircraft sightings.

Aircraft which attacked submarine described as possible "I" class, about 75 miles O66 from Cape Wessel at 1412L/15 claimed no hit but possible damage.

OPERATION HAMMER.

At 1423L/15 "COLAC" reported that Operation HAMMER was completed 0443L/15, E.T.A. Fall River 2300L/15.

ORO BAY OPERATIONS.

At 1446L/15 "LITHGOW" reported that "KARSIK's" operations were again successful. Oro Bay was unable to off load 30 tons of small arms and ammunition. Tanks and rations were landed. E.T.A. Fall River 1030L/16.

ENEMY DESTROYERS.

Six enemy destroyers were sighted at 2130L/15 in St. Georges Channel.

Fairmiles 425 and 814 launched at Sydney 15/12.

AIR RAIDS - PORT MORESBY.

Warning 2005L/15  
 Yellow 2044L/15.  
 Warning 2047L/15.  
  
 Blue 2144L/15  
 Blue 2230L/15  
 All Clear 2247L/15.  
 Warning 0046L/16.  
 Raid 0047L/16.  
 All Clear 0110L/16.



To 0900L/Tuesday, 15th December, 1942.

"MILDURA" } escorting convoy P.G.25 arrived Sydney at 1257L/14.  
 "INVERELL" }

"WILCANNIA" arrived Townsville from Sydney at 1130L/14 - thence to Darwin.

"ARUNTA" escorting T.N.14 arrived Townsville from Cairns at 0600L/14.

"DELORAINIE" } escorting O.C.52. "DELORAINIE" will detach with  
 "MORESBY" } Sydney portion off Sydney. "MORESBY" will continue escort to and remain Newcastle and escort C.O.54 to rendezvous off Sydney. "DELORAINIE" arrived Sydney at 1645L/14.

"DELORAINIE" } detailed to escort convoy C.O.54. To take over  
 "MILDURA" } escort from "MORESBY" at rendezvous off Sydney p.m./16.

"WARREGO" arrived Townsville from Fall River at 1850L/14. "WARREGO" E.T.D. escorting convoy T.N.15 for Port Moresby 1800L/15 E.T.A. 1800L/18.

"GLENELG" departed Sydney at 0900L/15 for working up exercises in Broken bay - to return at 0900L/23.

"DOOMBA" departed Port Phillip at 2330L/14 escorting convoy O.C.53.

"KALGOORLIE" returned to Darwin at 1114L/14, after an unsuccessful search for further survivors from "ARMIDALE".

"ROCKHAMPTON" } detailed to escort convoy G.P.26 including "BUNGAREE"  
 "TOWNSVILLE" } N.O.I.C. Brisbane will arrange onward escort of "Bungaree" from Cape Moreton to vicinity Lady Elliott Island.

"SWAN" escorting "TAROONA" arrived Fall River from Port Moresby at 1200L/14. E.T.D. for Townsville 0800L/15.

"PING WO" arrived Newcastle at 1258L/14.

"BIRCHGROVE PARK" departed Sydney for Jervis Bay at 0751L/14.

"NEW ORLEANS" (U.S. Cruiser) E.T.D. Guadalcanal 12/12 for Sydney, to undergo minimum repairs required to make seaworthy. Estimated speed of advance 5 to 6 knots.

"MIZAR" (U.S. Supply Ship) arrived Brisbane from Sydney at 0910L/14.

ENEMY AIR RAID: Port Moresby - Air Raid Warning 1944L/14.  
 Air Raid in Progress 1958L/14.

OPERATIONS HAMMER:

"COLAC" } ordered by N.O.I.C. Port Moresby at 1451L/14 to  
 "BALLARAT" } disembark troops at Oro Bay and not Cape Sudest.  
 "BROOME" } To arrive off Oro Bay about 2300L/14.

COCOS ISLAND:

At 1455L/14 Cocos reported 9 twin engined planes passed over at 1320L/14. 1 detached and remained overhead 50 minutes. Approach from S.E.



To 0900L/Monday, 14th December, 1942.

"COLAC" arrived Fall River 1029L/12 from Port Moresby.

"COLAC" }  
 "BALLARAT" } departed Fall River 0300L/13 on operation  
 "BROOME" } HAMMER.

"LITHGOW" escorting "KARSIK" returned Fall River 0905L/12 from Oro Bay.

"WARREGO" escorting "BAN HONG LIONG" and "VAN SPILBERGEN" arrived Fall River 1600L/11, departed 1500L/12 for Townsville.

"SWAN" escorting T.N.13 arrived Port Moresby 0735L/13, escorting "TAROONA", departed 1600L/13 for Fall River, E.T.A. 1100L/14.

"WHYALLA" departed Port Moresby 1341L/13 for Goodenough Island, E.T.A. a.m./15.

"ARUNTA" departed Cairns 1900L/13 for Townsville. E.T.D. Townsville 1800L/14 escorting "DAVID BUSHNELL" and "CHARON" for Fall River E.T.A. 1100L/17.

U.S. Destroyers "GRAYSON" and "HOPKINS" escorting three transports, arrived Brisbane 0931L/13 from Guadalcanal.

"GLENELG" returned Sydney 0529L/13 from Port Stephens.

"WESTRALIA" arrived Sydney 1730L/13 from Port Stephens.

"GOLDSTAR" which departed Sydney 1825L/12 with C.O.53, E.T.A. Fremantle 2200L/22.

"MIZAR" departed Sydney 2000L/12 for Brisbane.

"VIGILANT" returned Darwin 0939L/12.

"CASTLEMAINE" departed Darwin 1255L/13, escorting "ISLANDER" towards Thursday Island and to rendezvous "PERIOD" and "JAMES COOK" vicinity Cape Wessel and escort to Darwin.

"TERKA" departed Darwin 0715L/13 for Thursday Island E.T.A. p.m./18 to relieve "TOLGA".

Hospital Ship "MANUNDA" departed Brisbane 1341L/13 for Port Moresby E.T.A. 0800L/17.

OPERATION HAMMER:

At 0025L/14 "COLAC" signalled Port Moresby "Enemy aircraft Help" from a position just off Oro Bay, and about 100 air miles from Port Moresby. At 0031L/14 "BALLARAT" also reported enemy aircraft. At 0202L/14 "COLAC" repeated her signal from a position 5 miles S. and 4 miles E. of her 0025 position and gave her course as 150° and speed 8 knots. At 0418L/14 "COLAC" asked for fighter cover at 0500L/14 about 10 miles off Porlock Harbour, course 090°, speed 12 knots and requested N.O.I.C. Port Moresby's further orders.

DESTROYER BOMBED NEAR RABAU:

At 0943L/13 aircraft bombed destroyer in St. Georges Channel. Destroyer was heading full speed for Rabaul, course 350° and aircraft dropped 4 bombs, claiming near misses.

ENEMY FORCE:

Five enemy warships, variously described as 1 light cruiser and 4 destroyers, as 5 destroyers, and as 2 light cruisers



and 3 destroyers, were shadowed by aircraft from 1404L/13 when they were about 80 miles North of Madang until 0320L/14 when they were about 30 miles North of Buna, course 225° speed 30 knots. They were attacked several times by aircraft with unobserved results. At 0600L/14 they were sighted about 90 miles N.E. of Buna course 060°, speed 10 knots.

A.L.C.A. 202 sank at Port Stephens 2200L/10 during night exercises. Refloated 0215L/13; while being towed sank again in 13 fathoms.

AIR RAIDS:

Port Moresby - Warning 2055L/13.  
Raid in progress 2102L/13  
All Clear 2124L/13.

Raid in Progress 2354L/13.  
All Clear 0109L/14.

Warning 0127L/14.  
Raid in progress 0137L/14.  
All clear 0158L/14.



DAILY NARRATIVE.

SECRET.

TO 0900L Sunday, 13th December, 1942.

- "HOBART" } arrived Dunk Island from Coral Sea at 1315L/12.
- "BAGLEY" }
- "SELFRIDGE" E.T.A. Dunk Island from Cairns at 2000L/12.
- "ARUNTA" at Cairns, ordered by N.O.I.C. Townsville at 1113L/12, to sail for Townsville for fuel - to arrive daylight 14/12.
- "TROMP" escorting "MAURETANIA" departed Sydney at 1309L/12 for Wellington.
- "DOOMBA" arrived Port Melbourne from escort duties with C.O.52 at 1519L/12.
- "ROCKHAMPTON" departed Newcastle at 1201L/12 escorting Newcastle portion C.O.53 arrived Sydney at 1946Z/12.
- "CASTLEMAINE" arrived Darwin from escort duties at 1904L/12.
- "WHYALLA" escorting Convoy T.N.12 arrived Port Moresby at 0852L/12.
- "GLENELG" departed Sydney at 0532L/12, escorting seven landing force barges to Port Stephens, arrived 1745L/12, then to return Sydney.
- "MILDURA" } departed Caloundra at 0608L/12, escorting P.G.25
- "INVERELL" } E.T.A. Sydney 1200L/14.
- "KAPUNDA" } departed Sydney at 1825L/12, escorting convoy
- "ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" } C.O.53, including U.S. "GOLDSTAR", bound Fremantle.
- "DURRAWEEEN" E.T.D. Port Melbourne 0800L/14 to exercise with "HORSHAM" in Port Phillip. On completion to proceed to S.C.F.6.
- "TOLGA" arrived Cairns from Thursday Island at 0700L/12.
- "BINGERA" arrived Williamstown at 0925L/12.
- "TOORIE" arrived Williamstown from Adelaide at 1435L/12.
- "MIZAR" (U.S. Stores ship) departed Sydney for Brisbane at 2000L/12 E.T.A. 1300L/14.
- "ILE DE FRANCE" departed San Francisco 8th December for Bombay via Honolulu, Wellington and Fremantle, E.T.A. Fremantle about 31/12.
- "AQUITANIA" (U.S.18) escorted by "ACHILLES" departed Wellington at 0630L/12. "ADELAIDE" will relieve "ACHILLES" as escort in position 300 miles S.W. of Port Phillip "ACHILLES" will then proceed to Melbourne to fuel E.T.A. 0600L/17 thence to Noumea. "ADELAIDE" and "AQUITANIA" E.T.A. Fremantle 1000L/20.

ENEMY AIR RAID:

Fall River - Air Raid in Progress 2155L/12. All Clear 2206L/12.

ENEMY SUBMARINE: Sighted by aircraft in position 40 miles North of Buna at course 335°.

- "GRAYSON" } U.S. Destroyers escorting 3 troop transports
- "HOPKINS" } departed Guadalcanal about 1400L/9 for Brisbane E.T.A. 0900L/13.

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*[Handwritten signature]*



DAILY NARRATIVE.

SECRET.

To 0900L/12th December, 1942.

"COLAC" )  
"BROOME" ) E.T.D. Fall River 0300L/13 and with assistance of  
"BALLARAT" ) landing craft will disembark troops Dyke Acland Bay  
at 2330L/13, returning Fall River on completion.

"COLAC" departed Port Moresby 0846L/11 for Fall River,  
E.T.A. 1101L/12.

"TULSA" arrived Fall River 1243L/11 from Cairns.

"WEEERUTTA" on passage Sydney to Townsville arrived Coff's  
Harbour 0845L/10 and departed 1500L/11, E.T.A.  
Gladstone 18/12.

"SWAN" arrived outside entrance Cairns escorting U.S.S.  
"HILO" towing 4 M.T.Bs.; departed outside entrance  
Cairns 0755L/11 to rendezvous Convoy T.N.13 off  
Fitzroy Island and escort to Port Moresby E.T.A.  
1600L/13.

"GEELONG" returned Brisbane 1603L/11 from escort duty with  
B.T.26.

"GOULBURN" escorting "MERKUR" departed Caloundra 1728L/11,  
E.T.A. Whitsunday Passage 0100L/14, where  
"GOULBURN" will part company.

"MILDURA" )  
"INVERELL" ) escorting P.G.25, E.T.D. Caloundra 1500L/12.

"ROCKHAMPTON" arrived Newcastle 1932L/11 from escorting O.C.51.

"TROMP" escorting "MAURETANIA" arrived Sydney 0804L/11,  
E.T.D. 1300L/12 for Wellington.

"TOWNSVILLE" escorting Sydney portion of O.C.51, and "BUNGAREE"  
arrived Sydney 1229L/11.

"KAPUNDA" )  
"ABRAHAM CRIJNSSSEN" ) detailed for C.O.53, to take over escort from  
"ROCKHAMPTON" at rendezvous off Sydney at  
1830L/12.

"WESTRALIA" E.T.D. Port Stephens 1000L/13 for Sydney, E.T.A.  
1800L/13.

"DOOMBA" escorting O.C.52, departed Port Phillip 2305L/11.

"BINGERA" arrived Westernport 1300L/11 from Port Phillip,  
departed Westernport 1618L/11 for Port Phillip,  
anchored Portsea 2048L/11.

"WHIPPOORWILL" (U.S. Minesweeper) arrived Geraldton 0900L/11,  
departed 1900L/11 for Exmouth Gulf, E.T.A.  
1800L/13.

"TJERK HIDDES" departed Timor 0505L/11, with 87 Portugese men,  
women and children, 49 sick and wounded A.I.F., 192  
Dutch troops, and 64 Australian troops on board.  
Arrived Darwin 1856L/11.

"KANIMBLA" escorting Convoy S.U.5 (consisting of 5 K.P.M. ships)  
E.T.D. Colombo p.m./11 for Fremantle, E.T.A.  
0900L/1/1.

DNI

.../



GENERAL.

Three transports carrying troops, with destroyer escorts, departed Guadalcanal about 1400L/9 for Brisbane, E.T.A. 0900L/13.

MEN ON RAFT OFF PALM ISLAND:

Four men were reported on raft off Palm Island, Challenger Bay at 1640L/11. "EGBERT BENSON" and "TIME" were ordered to carry out search.

H.M.A.S. "SEEKA" (N.A.P. Sydney):

Commissioned at 0900L/11.

AIR RAIDS:

Port Moresby - Warning 2110L/11, All Clear 2126L/11.

Batchelor - Warning 1139L/11, All Clear 1214L/11.



To 0900L Friday, 11th December, 1942.

- "TJERK HIDDES" departed Darwin on operation HAMBURGER at 0920L/10 with 4 officers and 18 other ranks A.I.F.
- "KALGOORLIE" arrived Darwin with survivors from "ARMIDALE" at 1045L/10.
- "BROOME" with "POLARIS" in company arrived Fall River at 2250L/9.
- "GOULBURN" anticipates departing Brisbane at 1100L/11 escorting convoy B.T.27.
- "TOWNSVILLE" with Sydney portion of O.C.51, will detach off Sydney. "ROCKHAMPTON" will continue to escort remainder to Newcastle. To remain Newcastle and escort C.O.53 to rendezvous off Sydney on 12/12; at 1328L/10 "TOWNSVILLE" reported condenser leaking, requiring 48 hours alongside for repairs.
- "GAWLER" with "TRINITY" arrived Exmouth Gulf 7/12. E.T.D. for Diego Garcia 15/12.
- "WARREGO" ordered by N.O.I.C. Townsville to return to Townsville with despatch on completion of escort duties with convoy T.N.12 to Fall River.
- "ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" arrived Sydney from Newcastle at 1925L/9.
- "WESTRALIA" E.T.D. Port Stephens 1000L/13 for Sydney. E.T.A. 1800L/13. ("ASSAULT" personnel transferred ashore to Naval Camp, Nelsons Bay, Port Stephens AM/10/12.)
- "LITHGOW" escorting "KARSIK" departed Fall River for ORO BAY (15 miles South of BUNA) at 0330L/10.
- "ECHUCA" will remain at Jervis Bay for exercises 14/12. Depart to arrive Sydney 0700L/15.
- "INVERELL" (escorting C.O.52.) will detach and proceed to Coff Harbour to land officer requiring medical attention.
- "GROWLER" (U.S. Submarine) arrived Brisbane at 0626L/10.
- "ACHILLES" on relief as escort for convoy U.S.18 by "ADELAIDE" at 1000L/15; will proceed Melbourne to fuel, thence Noumea with moderate despatch.
- "LANAKAI" (Boom Gate vessel) commissioned at Fremantle 10/12/42.
- "FLYING CLOUD" (N.A.P.) Commissioned 10/12/42 under Skipper J. A. Sykes, R.A.N.V.R. (N.A.O.).

"ARMIDALE" Survivors: At 0010L/11 N.O.I.C. Darwin reported: Today's air and sea search unsuccessful. "VIGILANT" returning with serious engine defects. Further air search ordered. When second boat left raft on 5/12, there were more than 60 survivors left on raft. On 7/12 aircraft reported 25 to 30 survivors and on 8/12 20 at most, but there is possibility that raft had then split into sections.



To 0900L/Thursday, 10th December, 1942.

"LITHGOW" to escort "KARSIK", which departed Port Moresby 1500L/8 for Fall River, E.T.A. 1700L/9, from Fall River to Oro Bay.

"WARREE" arrived Port Moresby 1901L/8 from Milne Bay.

"TOLGA" departed Thursday Island 0706L/9 for Cairns, E.T.A. PM/12.

"SWAN" is to rendezvous Convoy T.N.13 ("GEORGE MATHEWS", "PAINE", "WINGATE", "WILLIS VAN DEVENTER" and "BOTH") at 0900L/11 5 miles off Fitzroy Island light, and escort to Port Moresby, E.T.A. 0600L/13.

"BARALABA" arrived Brisbane 0117L/10 from Townsville via Bowen.

"ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" escorting C.O.52, departed Newcastle 1013L/9.

"DELORAINNE" } escorting C.O.52, departed Sydney 1703L/9.  
"MORESBY" }

"MILDURA" } escorting G.P.25, departed Sydney 0933L/9, E.T.A.  
"INVERELL" } Brisbane 2230L/11.

"GYMPIE" arrived Sydney 1337L/9 from Brisbane.

"ECHUCA" arrived Sydney 1121L/9 from Port Stephens E.T.D. PM/9 for Jervis Bay, E.T.A. 0600L/10, to return Sydney AM/13.

"WILCANNIA" departed Sydney 1445L/9 for Townsville E.T.A. PM/14.

"ADELAIDE" arrived Williamstown 1505L/9 from escorting "MAURETANIA".

"TOORIE" departed Adelaide 1200L/9 for Melbourne. E.T.A. Port Phillip 0530L/12.

Hospital Ship "MANUNDA" arrived Fall River 1240L/8 from Port Moresby.

"ARMIDALE" Survivors:

At 2202L/9 N.O.I.C. Darwin reported that "KALGOORLIE" had picked up 29 survivors from the boat sighted by aircraft, made up of 26 Naval personnel and 3 A.I.F., and expected to arrive Darwin 1130L/10. Darwin reported only 3 A.I.F. other ranks on board "ARMIDALE" when sunk. Search for the rafts was still continuing under difficult conditions.

Unidentified Planes off N.E. Coast:

V.A.O.C. sighted 1 single engined float monoplane with circle marking at 1938L/9 about 35 miles S.E. of Bowen. At 1945L/9 it was joined by a second float plane. N.O.I.C. Townsville could not identify.

At 2105L/9 unidentified aircraft were recorded by R.D.F. about 15 miles S.E. of Whitsunday Passage.

Unidentified S.S.S.

At 1253L/9 King Island Radio received on 800 metres "S" sent three times - signal then ceased.



Unidentified Lights N.W. of Darwin:

"KALGOORLIE" reports having sighted bright flashing lights at 2145L/6, bearing 099° from a position about 144 miles 3000 from Darwin. No friendly vessel was in vicinity. N.O.I.C. Darwin considers possibly parent ship for midget submarine which may have caused unidentified loop crossing 5/12.

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To 0900L/Wednesday, 9th December, 1942.

- "DOOMBA" arrived Port Melbourne at 1225L/8, having completed escort duties with C.O.51.
- "CASTLEMAINE" departed Darwin at 0356L/8, escorting "ALAGNA" towards Thursday Island, then to rendezvous with "BURWAH" and "ISLANDER" in position 300 miles E.N.E. of Darwin.
- "SWAN" out from Townsville, ordered by N.O.I.C. Townsville at 1535L/8 to return Townsville. To depart for Challenger Bay at 1500L/9, then to rendezvous with and relieve "HENLEY" and escort "HILO" towing 4 M.T.Bs. to Cairns.
- "AUSTRALIA" } Task Group 44.3 departs Palm Island at 1000L/10  
 "PATTERSON" } clearing Grafton Passage at 1900L/10 "VICTORIA"  
 "HELM" } (oiler) will proceed to Townsville.
- "HOBART" } Task Group 44.5 will rendezvous with Task Group 44.3  
 "SELFRIDGE" } at 1000L/11 in position 220 miles N.E. Cairns; then  
 "BAGLEY" } enter Grafton Passage at 0800L/12 arriving Dunk  
 "HENLEY" } Island at 1400L/12.  
 "VICTORIA" departs Townsville in time to reach Dunk Island by 1400L/12. On return to N.E. Area "MERKUR" collects mail at Townsville and proceeds to Dunk Island.  
 Task Group 44.5 departs Dunk Island at 1300L/16 and will rendezvous with Task Group 44.3 at 1000L/17 in same position as previous rendezvous (220 miles N.E. Cairns). At 0800L/18 Task Group 44.3 enters Grafton Passage arriving Dunk Island at 1400L/18. On relief by "MUGFORD", "PATTERSON" proceeds to Sydney for overhaul.
- "ECHUCA" departed Sydney at 0541L/8 with 5 landing barges for Port Stephens. Then to return Sydney.
- "ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" arrived Newcastle at 0209L/8 after escort duties with O.C.50.
- "MILDURA" } detailed to escort convoy G.P. 25 departing Sydney  
 "INVERELL" } at 0936L/9.
- "STUART" arrived Townsville from Cairns at 2020L/8.
- "WARREGO" } departed Townsville at 1930L/8 escorting convoy T.N.  
 "WHYALLA" } 12. Convoy splits 150 miles from Port Moresby and "WHYALLA" escorts portion A to Port Moresby E.T.A. 0600L/12. "WARREGO" escorts portion B to Fall River E.T.A. 1200L/12.
- "WEERUTTA" departed Sydney at 0632L/8 for Townsville, calling at Coffs Harbour and Gladstone en route.
- "TOOWOOMBA" } arrived Diego Garcia from Fremantle at 1615L/7.  
 "CESSNOCK" }
- "TULSA" (U.S. Gunboat) departed Cairns towing 2 M.T.Bs. at 1440L/8.
- "W.B.PRESTON" (U.S. Seaplane Tender) arrived Fremantle from Exmouth Gulf at 1029L/8.
- "HERON" (U.S. Seaplane Tender) arrived Geraldton at 1010L/8, and departed at 1905L/8 for Exmouth Gulf E.T.A. p.m. 10/12.



"TROUT" (U.S. Submarine) arrived Fremantle at 0930L/8.

"PHOENIX" (U.S. Cruiser) } arrived Sydney at 0731L/8.  
 "MUGFORD" (U.S. Destroyer) }

"BINGERA" will carry out Full Calibre firing in Port Phillip between 0800L/ and 1200L/9.

"MARY CAM" at 1929L/7 N.O.I.C. Port Adelaide reported "MARY CAM" cannot proceed to sea until Aux. feed pump has been replaced.

"ARMIDALE" Survivors.

At 2002L/8 N.O.I.C. Darwin reported Catalina located raft 280 miles N.W. of Darwin but was unable to alight. "VIGILANT" off N.W. corner Melville Island, directed to proceed to raft, probable E.T.A. that vicinity 1400L/9.

At 0002L/9 N.O.I.C. Darwin reported: In addition to raft Catalina located one boat containing 25 persons in position 150 miles N.W. of Darwin "KALGOORLIE" has been despatched to locate boat. Aircraft will assist.

"TJERK HIDDIES" (en route Fremantle to Darwin). At 1636L/8, when 360 miles from Darwin, broke W/T silence with the message HELP no further details available.

"FITZROY" (Dredge) en route Melbourne to Adelaide reported at 1930L/8: Experiencing extreme weather. Is there safe anchorage Portland Bay tonight. N.B. replied at 2214L/8: Harbour master reports anchorage unsafe with present wind and swell.

Submarine (now considered enemy by N.O.I.C. Fremantle) sighted by aircraft at 2215L/8 in position 220 miles N.W. of Geraldton.

Enemy Destroyers attacked by aircraft:

At 1042L/8 aircraft reported 6 enemy destroyers in St. Georges Channel. One burning from allied bombs. 6 destroyers in St. Georges Channel attacked by Allied aircraft at 1645L/8. Result 2 direct hits - damage unknown.

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To 0900L/Tuesday, 8th December, 1942.

- "TOLGA" arrived Thursday Island 1956L/7 from Cairns.
- "STUART" departed Cairns 1530L/7 for Townsville.
- "SWAN" departed Townsville 0925L/7 for Challenger Bay with mails, and ratings for "AUSTRALIA" and is to return Townsville: is to rendezvous U.S.S. "HILO" (M.T.B. Depot Ship) towing 4 M.T.Bs. escorted by "HENLEY", E.T.A. position about 25 miles N.E. of Townsville, 1500L/8, and relieve "HENLEY" as local escort. "SWAN" is to escort to entrance Cairns Channel and return independently to Townsville.
- "WARREGO" escorting "DUNTROON" arrived Townsville 0652L/7 from Port Moresby.
- "WHYALLA" } escorting T.N.11, E.T.D. Townsville at 1800L/8. "WHYALLA"  
 "WARREGO" } escorting portion A ("DUNDULA", "TAROONA", "WESTRALIA" and "STAGEN" to Port Moresby, "WARREGO" escorting portion B ("BAN HONG LIONG" and "VAN SPILBERGEN") to Fall River.
- "GEELONG" escorting B.T.26, departed Caloundra 1109L/7, E.T.A. Whitsunday Passage 2000L/9.
- "GOULBURN" escorting "AASE MAERSK" and "MERKUR" (ex Townsville) arrived Brisbane 1725L/7.
- "GYMPIE" departed Brisbane 1345L/7, E.T.A. Sydney 1500L/9.
- "PIRIE" arrived Sydney 0531L/7 from Melbourne.
- "DELORAIN" } escorting P.G.24, arrived Sydney 0755L/7.  
 "ECHUCA" }
- "BOWEN" arrived Sydney 1315L/7 from Maryborough.
- "MORESBY" arrived Sydney 1559L/7 from escort duty with O.C.50.
- "ABRAHAM CRIJNSSSEN" was to continue escort to and remain Newcastle and escort C.O.52 to rendezvous off Sydney p.m./9.
- "DELORAIN" } detailed for C.O.52, to take over escort off Sydney  
 "MORESBY" } p.m./9.
- "TROMP" departed Port Melbourne 1601L/7 to rendezvous and relieve Adelaide as escort for "MAURETANIA" and escort to Sydney, Adelaide to proceed to Melbourne.
- "BUNGAREE" departed Geelong 1601L/7 to join O.C.51.
- "DOOMBA" escorting O.C.51, including "BUNGAREE" departed Port Phillip 0103L/8.
- "TOORIE" E.T.D. Adelaide a.m./9 for Sydney via Melbourne.
- H.M.S. "ENGADINE" (Aircraft Transport) departed Durban 1502L/6 for Fremantle E.T.A. 1400L/19.
- "CASTLEMAINE" escorting "ALAGNA" E.T.D. Darwin 8/12, to rendezvous "ISLANDER" and "BURWAH" and escort to Darwin.
- Hospital Ship "MANUNDA" departed Port Moresby 0800L/7 for Fall River E.T.A. 1100L/8.

~~DM~~

L. Thomas



"ARMIDALE" SURVIVORS.

At 1120L/7, N.O.I.C. Darwin reported that "KALGOORLIE" had picked up boat with 20 survivors including Commanding Officer who stated that raft bearing 80 men was left about 300 miles 300° from Darwin, with only small quantity of food and water. N.O.I.C. Darwin stated that air search and dropping of foodstuff and water was being arranged but prospect of survival seemed very slender. N.O.I.C. Darwin requested that a flying boat be sent to Darwin immediately for rescue operations. At 1537L/7 the raft was located by aircraft about 278 miles 304° from Darwin. N.O.I.C. Darwin at 1616L/7 stated that he was despatching "VIGILANT" but would recall her if a flying boat were available.

At 1642L/7 C.S.W.P. informed N.O.I.C. Darwin that a Catalina was being despatched from Cairns, E.T.A. Darwin 0600L/8. Another Catalina was to stand by at Cairns. At 1650L/7 N.O.I.C. Darwin advised that C.O. "ARMIDALE" reported that ship was hit by two aircraft torpedoes and probably one bomb, and sank at 1530L/1 within 3 minutes. Shot down one bomber and one fighter and 1 fighter probable. Survivors were machine-gunned in water. Party remained together for 21 hours when C.O. decided to navigate motor boat to bring relief, taking worst wounded with him. Two died on passage. Nominal list of 20 survivors to be forwarded includes 3 N.E.I. Army personnel.

At 2007L/7 N.O.I.C. Darwin advised that in view of the impending arrival of flying boat he had cancelled orders to "VIGILANT".

At 2335L/7 C.S.W.P. advised that aircraft had sighted raft and wreckage in same position as 1537L/7 position with 25 to 35 personnel in three groups near each other, some being on wreckage. The sighting was not visible beyond two miles. Latest sighting was 1626L/7.

"G.M. BMBIRICOS" which grounded in Gage Road 4/12 was reported by N.O.I.C. Fremantle at 1705L/6 refloated and returning to harbour. Diver's report shows bottom undamaged except for 20 feet of starboard bilge keel distorted. Lloyd's Register have granted seaworthy certificate.

"UKI" at 1151L/7 ordered by N.O.I.C. Port Melbourne to return forthwith from S.C.F.6 to be paid off.

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To 0900L Monday, 7th December, 1942.

- "BROOME" departed Fall River at 0650L/6 for Watutu Point, Goodenough Island.
- "BUNGAREE" arrived Geelong at 0935L/6.
- "ROCKHAMPTON" departed Sydney at 0125L/6 to rendezvous with "TOWNSVILLE" escorting C.O.51 and becomes additional escort.
- "BUNDABERG" arrived Sydney from Jervis Bay at 0620L/6.
- "SWAN" arrived Townsville from Fall River at 1755L/6.
- "WHYALLA" arrived Townsville from Sydney at 1931L/6.
- "BARALABA" E.T.D. Bowen 1300L/6, E.T.A. Brisbane 2200L/9.
- "TULSA" (U.S. Gunboat) arrived Cairns escorting "ROBIN BENTLEY" with 2 M.T.B's at 1830L/5.
- "WAREE" (tug) arrived Fall River at 1245L/6.
- "WEST POINT" en route Bombay to Fremantle E.T.A. 1700L/16.
- "MIZAR" (U.S. Stores Ship) arrived Sydney at 1200L/6.
- "MANUNDA" arrived Port Moresby from Brisbane at 1400L/6.
- "STUART" (at Cairns) reported at 0855L/6 serious accident in No. 2 boiler room. Four ratings critically injured. Consider main stop valve No. 2 boiler room blown out. Investigation below not yet possible. Further damage may be found.  
 At 1225L/6 "STUART" advised propose proceeding to Townsville P.M. Monday 7th - approved by N.O.I.C. Townsville at 2039L/6.  
 At 1630L/6 Base E.O. at Townsville stated most unlikely repairs could be undertaken at Townsville if casting required.  
 At 2210L/6 "STUART" requested authority from C.S.W.P. to proceed to Sydney on one boiler for complete survey, refuelling at Challenger Bay en route.

COCOS ISLAND BOMBED;

Fremantle cable station received a report from COCOS ISLAND that three aircraft were overhead at 1407L/6, and that bombs were dropped at 1433L/6. Installation undamaged but all medical supplies destroyed.

- "KALGOORLIE" (proceeding to assist survivors of "ARMIDALE")  
 At 1706L/6 reported being attacked by two enemy aircraft, after being shadowed. Attack ceased at 1750L/6.  
 At 0025L/7 "KALGOORLIE" reported recovered "ARMIDALE" boat and 20 survivors - position 168 miles N.W. of Darwin, in vicinity of above attack.

ENEMY AIR RAID: Port Moresby - Air Raid Warning 0150L/7.  
 All Clear 0201L/9.

DNI

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"G. M. EMBIRICOS" grounded on Hall's Bank, Gage Roads, evening of 4/12. Tug failed to refloat 5/12. Oil fuel and cargo being discharged into lighters. Expect to refloat this week.

Submarine sighted by Aircraft.

At 2136L/6 N.L.O. Port Moresby reported: Aircraft on landing reported sighting submarine near Yule Island (70 miles N.W. Port Moresby) at 1806L/6. Made no attempt to submerge. No other details available. Aircraft will search area 7/12.

"KINI"

(previously reported - rudder carried away) arrived Hobart at 2036L/6.

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MOST SECRET.

D.N.I COPY.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900L/Sunday, December 6th, 1942.

- "PHOENIX"  
"MUGFORD" - E.T.D. Palm Island 2100L/5 for Sydney,  
E.T.A. 0715L/8.
- "WAREE" - towing steel lighter, with Auxiliary tug "KAURI"  
in company arrived Porlock Harbour 1000L/5  
from Port Moresby.
- "SWAN" - departed Fall River 1626L/4 for Townsville,  
E.T.A. 1830L/6.
- "WARREGO" - escorting "DUNTROON" departed Port Moresby 0800L/5  
for Townsville, E.T.A. 0600L/7.
- "TOLGA" - departed Cairns 1840L/4 for Thursday Island,  
E.T.A. 1700L/7.
- "ARUNTA"  
"STUART" - arrived Cairns 1435L/5 from Port Moresby. "ARUNTA"  
is to boiler clean.
- "STUART" - to proceed Townsville to fuel.
- "KATOOMBA" - escorting "ANHUI" arrived Townsville 1200L/5 from  
Port Moresby.
- "BARALABA" - departed Townsville 0025L/5 for Bowen to bunker,  
thence Brisbane.
- "BOWEN" - departed Maryborough 0600L/5 for Sydney E.T.A.  
1500L/7.
- "DELORAINÉ"  
"ECHUCA" - escorting G.P.24, arrived Brisbane 0450L/5,  
escorting P.G.24, departed Caloundra 0550L/5,  
E.T.A. Newcastle 0600L/7, Sydney 1000L/7.
- "INVERELL" - departed Newcastle 0850L/5 escorting C.O.51,  
arrived Sydney 1706L/5.
- "TOWNSVILLE" - departed Sydney 1620L/5, escorting C.O.51.
- "ROCKHAMPTON" - to depart Sydney on completion of repairs to  
join C.O.51.
- "URALBA" - departed Sydney 1830L/5 for Brisbane.
- "BUNDABERG" - E.T.A. Sydney 0500L/6 from Jervis Bay.
- 1000L/5.
- "BINGERA" - departed Westernport for exercises in Port  
Phillip.
- "BUNGAREE" - to have departed Port Melbourne 0430L/6 for  
Geelong.
- "SPRINGDALE" - arrived Port Melbourne 1301L/5 from Adelaide.
- "DOOMBA" - arrived Port Melbourne 1653L/5, having completed  
escort of C.O.50.
- "GRELKA"  
(p.m.b.) - arrived Whyalla 1200L/5 from ADELAIDE.

21.



- "ADELAIDE" - departed Fremantle 0840L/5 escorting "MAURETANIA" to RV with "TROMP" about 215 miles S.W. of Cape Otway at 1800L/8, "ADELAIDE" proceeding thence to Port Phillip E.T.A. 1101L/9.
- "VAN GALEN" - is to provide A/S escort till 2300L/5, then returning Fremantle.
- "TROMP" - is to continue escort to Sydney, or so far as she thinks fit.
- "TJERK HIDDES" - departed Fremantle 0930L/5 for Darwin, E.T.A. 0800L/9 for duty in evacuation of Lancer Forces.
- "CASTLEMAINE" - departed Darwin 0519L/5 escorting "TULAGI" to position about 160 miles 053° from Darwin.
- "KALGOORLIE" - departed Darwin 1248L/5 to proceed to assistance of survivors of "ARMIDALE" in boat located by aircraft about 160 miles 295° from Darwin at about 1130L/5.

POSSIBLE ENEMY SUBMARINE IN CORAL SEA.

A good D/F fix was obtained of a suspected Japanese submarine about 460 miles 138° from Fall River at 0235L/5. There was no allied shipping in the area.

DARWIN - UNIDENTIFIED LOOP CROSSING.

N.O.I.C. Darwin reported unidentified crossing at 2330L/5. Signatures suggested submarine. No A/S vessel was available but all other possible measures were taken.

UNIDENTIFIED VESSEL OFF WILSON'S PROMONTORY.

At 0212L/6 W.S.S. Wilson's Promontory sighted an unidentified vessel, one masthead light and both sidelights visible, bearing 035°, course 225°, distance 10 miles. When challenged by W.S.S. vessel extinguished all lights and did not answer. Latest report was that vessel passed westbound, considered by W.S.S. to be small. Sighting by R.D.F. plot. Aircraft despatched by A.O.R. from Laverton at about 0700L/6 to investigate.

VESSEL IN DISTRESS S. OF HOBART.

At 0630L/6 N.O.I.C. Hobart reported that "KINI" had carried away rudder at 0505L/6 and required urgent assistance. "KINI" (1388 tons gross) was on passage Port Kembla/Hobart, E.T.A. 0930L/6, and was about 18 miles S. of mouth of Derwent. N.O.I.C. Hobart despatched Examination Vessel to her assistance. "COOMBAR" (M/S) E.T.D. 0700L/6 to assist.

"PING WO" - While berthing at No. 8 Dyke Newcastle on 1st December, "PING WO" came into collision with steam hopper "GRAFTON", due to fault of "GRAFTON", which was not damaged. "PING WO's" hull was not damaged, but 10 feet of sponson was fractured and rendered unserviceable. Damage has been surveyed by Engineer Officer on staff N.O.I.C. Newcastle, and can be made good in Newcastle.



To 0900L/Saturday, 5th December, 1942.

"ARUNTA" } departed Port Moresby at 1526L/4 to boiler clean and  
"STUART" } refit at Cairns - E.T.A. 1500L/5.

"SWAN" escorting convoy T.N.11(A) arrived Fall River at 1348L/4.

"LITHGOW" arrived Fall River from Port Moresby at 1713L/3.

"WARRAGO" } escorting convoy T.N.11(B) arrived Port Moresby at  
"COLAC" } 0930L/4.

"GAWLER" with U.S. "TRINITY" (oiler) departed Fremantle at 1935L/3 for Exmouth Gulf - E.T.A. 0900L/7. "GAWLER" and "TRINITY" will proceed in company from Exmouth Gulf to Diego Garcia - E.T.D. will be advised later.

"GOULBURN" at 1445L/4 N.O.I.C. Townsville reported "MERKUR" with "AASE MAERSK" in company would sail for Brisbane so as to pass through Whitsunday Passage at 1400L/5. "GOULBURN" has been ordered to intercept and escort to destination.

"DOOMBA" escorting O.C.50 departed Port Phillip at 2233L/4.

DESTROYER TO PROCEED FORTHWITH TO DARWIN FROM FREMANTLE.

At 2226L/4 C.S.W.P. ordered C.T.F. 51 to direct one destroyer to proceed forthwith to Darwin at best speed. Duty in connection with evacuation of LANCER forces.

"PING WO" departed Newcastle at 0649L/4 for Pt. Stephens.

"BARALABA" arrived Townsville from Pt. Moresby at 0900L/4.

"PIRIE" departed Pt. Phillip at 1914L/4 for Sydney - E.T.A. 0400L/7.

"URALABA" (controlled Mining Tender) will depart Sydney 5/12 for Brisbane.

"CHILDS" (U.S. Seaplane Tender) departed Fremantle for Exmouth Gulf at 1402L/4.

"MEADE" (U.S. Destroyer) } departed Sydney at 0831L/4 for Noumea.  
"NAVAJO" (Fleet Tug) }

"BUNDABERG" at 1431L/4 "BUNDABERG" reported having attacked suspect submarine in position 10 miles of Jervis Bay (035°09'S. 150°57'E) Asdic contact very good. Patch oil on surface. Position was buoyed, and information requested from N.O.C.S. if any wreck is in that position. At 1721L/4, N.O.C.S. replied. No. non-sub echo plotted in position indicated, but in July "GEORGES LIVANOS" torpedoed 3 miles North (035°06'S. 150°57'E.) of position of "BUNDABERG'S" attack. At 1230L/4 aircraft reported possible submarine sighted 12 miles north of position of "Bundaberg's" attack, (course and position unknown). Graded by A.O.R. E.A. C.4.

"ARMIDALE" At 0955L/4 N.O.I.C. Darwin reported. Regret nothing further seen or heard of "ARMIDALE."

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To 0900L/Friday, 4th December, 1942.

"HOBART" } E.T.D. Palm Island 1100L/4 for operations area.  
 "SELPRIIDGE" }  
 "BAGLEY" }

"PHOENIX" } E.T.A. Palm Island 1700L/5 on arrival "PHOENIX" and  
 "MUGFORD" } "MUGFORD" are to fuel and depart Sydney for overhaul.  
 "PATTERSON" } C.N.S. is to return Sydney in "PHOENIX" - E.T.A. 8/12.  
 "HELM" }

"AUSTRALIA" } to be based at Palm Island.  
 "PATTERSON" }  
 "HENLEY" }

"VICTORIA" } departed Townsville 0942L/3 for Challenger Bay.  
 "MERKUR" }

"SWAN" on completion of escort duties with T.N.11 is to return to Townsville with despatch.

"PHOENIX" } are to proceed to Palm Island reaching Sydney 8/12.  
 "SWAN" }

"STUART" } departed Townsville 1910L/2 for Port Moresby -  
 "ARUNTA" } E.T.A. 0700L/4.

"ROCKHAMPTON" } detailed for C.O.51 to take over escort from  
 "TOWNSVILLE" } "INVERELL" off Sydney 1630L/5.

"MILDURA" escorting O.C.49 including U.S.S. "GOLDSTAR" arrived Sydney 1805L/3.

"INVERELL" having escorted O.C.49 to Newcastle is to escort C.O.51 to rendezvous off Sydney 5/12.

"TROMP" arrived Burnie 0740L/3 from Melbourne departed 0750L/3 arrived Port Melbourne 1920L/3.

"BUNGAREE" arrived Melbourne 1409L/3 from Sydney. Expected to complete unloading civil cargo 5/12 and proceed Geelong.

HOSPITAL SHIP "MANUNDA" departed Brisbane 1958L/2 for Port Moresby E.T.A. 1400L/6.

"ARMIDALE" - At 1206L/3 N.O.I.C. Darwin reported that repeated attempts to communicate with "ARMIDALE" has proved unsuccessful and considered that she had possibly been sunk by aircraft or damaged by them and subsequently located by enemy cruisers. Air search was continuing.

"KURU" returned Darwin 1756L/3. One officer and two ratings slightly wounded, superficial damage to ship and damage to centre engine, expected to be repaired easily.

ENEMY ACTIVITY OFF BUNA:

1740L/3 aircraft sighted one cruiser about 15 miles N. of Buna.



INDICATIONS OF ENEMY ACTIVITY OFF PORT MORESBY:

Aircraft reported sighting periscope in vicinity of Basilisk Passage at 1000L/3. Aircraft search for 4 hours was negative. Three merchant ships used the Passage during 3/12.

N.O.I.C. Port Moresby reported that R.D.F. plot indicated undetermined vessel in vicinity of Basilisk Beacon about 2000 and 2100L/3. "STUART" and "ARUNTA" were ordered to search the area, and "WARR GO" and "COLAC" escorting T.N.11 were ordered to await news of negative search before approaching within 20 miles of Basilisk Beacon.

One Hudson was to take off at daylight to assist. At 0735L/4 N.O.I.C. Port Moresby signalled "WARREGO" - "All clear. Proceed into harbour".

"BURWAH" was refloated at 1820L/3. Hull and machinery undamaged. E.T.A. P.M/5 for Thursday Island and Darwin.

ENEMY AIR RAIDS:

DARWIN - Warning 1059L/3 All clear 1131L/3.

FALL RIVER - Warning 1121L/3

PORT MORESBY - Warning - All clear 2125L/3.

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To 0900L/Thursday, 3rd December, 1942.

"AUSTRALIA" will depart vicinity Brisbane for Challenger Bay so as to arrive at 1800L/3.

"HOBART" } E.T.D. depart Palm Island 0900L/5, clearing Grafton  
 "SELFRIDGE" } Passage at 0700L/4, to rendezvous with "PHOENIX",  
 "BAGLEY" } "MUGFORD", "PATTERSON" and "HELM" at 1800L/15 in  
 "HENLEY" } position, 280 miles east of Cooktown. After  
 making rendezvous "PHOENIX" will proceed to  
 Sydney. "MUGFORD", "PATTERSON", "HELM" will  
 proceed in company to Palm Island entering  
 Cumberland Channel, daylight 6/12.

"ADELAIDE" } returned to Fremantle at 0925L/2, after escorting  
 "HEMMSKERCK" } convoy O.W. to rendezvous with "GAMBIA".

"DOOMBA" arrived Port Melbourne at 1929L/1, having completed escort duties with C.O.49.

"BUNDABERG" departed Sydney for Jervis Bay at 1945L/2.

"DELORAINÉ" } departed Sydney at 0927L/2 escorting convoy G.P.24.  
 "ECHUCA" }

"CASTLEMAINE" arrived Darwin from Operations HAMBURGER at 1009L/2 with 77 civilians refugees. "ARMIDALE" E.T.A. 3/12 both ships intact. "KURU" very slightly damaged but returning, making good speed.

"GOULBURN" escorting B.T.25, departed Brisbane at 0318L/2. "GOULBURN" will part company at Whitsunday Passage.

"TROMP" departed Pt. Phillip with Netherlands Minister onboard at 2111L/2 for Burnie, then to return immediately to Melbourne.

"KAPUNDA" escorting Newcastle portion C.O.50 departed Newcastle at 1555L/2.

"MORESBY" } escorting Sydney portion C.O.50 will take  
 "ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" } over Newcastle portion C.O.50 from "KAPUNDA"  
 at rendezvous off Sydney at 1330L/2 -  
 departed Sydney at 1247L/2.

"LITHCOW" departed Port Moresby for Fall River at 1726L/2.

"ARNTA" } E.T.D. Townsville 1900L/2 for Port Moresby.  
 "STUART" }

"KATOOMBA" escorting "ANHUI" departed Port Moresby at 1400L/2 for Townsville - E.T.A. 1200L/5.

"TOLGA" arrived Cairns at 1101L/2 from Thursday Island.

"SPRINGDALE" departed Adelaide at 0630L/2 for Melbourne - E.T.A. 0630L/6.

"SOUTHERN CROSS" arrived Darwin at 1532L/2 and reported mines rendered safe in vicinity of Cape Jahleel.



GENERAL."BURWAH" AGROUND:

At 1805L/2 N.O.I.C. Cairns reported "further attempts to refloat "BURWAH" with assistance tug "UTAH" and "TOLGA" unsuccessful. Intend discharge cargo. Channel clear".

ENEMY AIR RAIDS:

Pt. Moresby - Air Raid Warning	1539L/2	All clear	1544L/2.
" " "	1552L/2	" "	1616L/2.
Fall River - " " "	1435L/2	" "	1539L/2.
" " "	0548L/3	" "	0620L/3.

ENEMY ACTIVITIES VICINITY BUNA:

1. At 2140L/2 aircraft reported sighting enemy submarine in position 85 miles North of BUNA.
2. Several times during 2/12 aircraft sighted at least 4 enemy destroyers in different positions on various courses between GASMATA and BUNA.

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To 0900L/Wednesday, 2nd December, 1942.

"AUSTRALIA" departed Caloundra 1558L/1 for Challenger Bay.

"MERKUR" returned Townsville 1707L/1.

"KATOOMBA" at 1059L/1 N.O.I.C. Townsville ordered N.O.I.C. Pt. Moresby to sail "KATOOMBA" to Townsville -  
At 2100L/1 arrived Port Moresby from Fall River.

"SWAN" } escorting T.N.11 departed Townsville 1100L/1.  
"WARREGO" }  
"COLAC" }

"SWAN" } on completion of duty with T.N.11 are to return to  
"WARREGO" } Townsville with despatch.

"ARUNTA" arrived Townsville 1545L/1 from Port Moresby  
"STUART" " " 1750L/1 " " "

"TULSA" departed Brisbane 0645L/1 to R.V. "ROBIN BENTLEY" and  
escort to Cairns.

"PING WO" departed Port Stephens 0727L/1 arrived Newcastle 1127L/1.

"KAPUNDA" arrived Newcastle 0519L/1 from escorting C.O.48.

"MORESBY" returned Sydney 1127L/30 from escorting "KATOOMBA".

"WHYALLA" departed Sydney 2036L/1 for Townsville.

"DOOMBA" returned Port Melbourne 1937L/1 from escorting C.O.49.

"PIRIE" E.T.D. Melbourne P.M/4 for Sydney.

"TJERK HIDDIS" departed Fremantle 1600L/1 to rendezvous  
"DEVONSHIRE" escorting "MAURETANIA" at 1600L/2 and provide  
A/S escort to Fremantle.

HOSPITAL SHIP "MANUNDA" arrived Brisbane 0845L/1 from Port Moresby.

OPERATION HAMBURGER:

"ARMIDALE" 1134L/1 - attacked from air by large formation about  
278 miles 283° from Darwin - Appealed for  
fighter protection.  
1500L/1 - attacked again about 22 miles 145° from 1134L  
position.

"KURU" - Attacked from air at 1305L/1, 1621L/1, 1856L/1 and 1912L/1  
on second last occasion by 9 aircraft. At 1912L/1,  
signalled "Help" and gave position about 246 miles  
295° Darwin.  
2035L/1 aircraft sighted 2 cruisers, course 100°, speed  
25 knots, about 108 miles 296° from KURU's 1912L/1  
position. N.O.I.C. Darwin informed Armidale.

ENEMY DESTROYERS OFF BUNA:

Four enemy destroyers, having been shadowed by air-  
craft, were sighted at 0310L/2 just north of Buna apparently un-  
loading.

Our aircraft had attacked this force, but claimed no  
hits. Liberators shot down 8 of 30 zeros which intercepted B.1  
7's shot down 2 of 20 zeros which intercepted.



BURWAH AGROUND:

At 0956/30 N.O.I.C. Cairns reported "BURWAH" (2317 tons gross, Bowen/Cairns) aground in Cairns Channel. It was hoped to refloat her at 1700L/1 but attempts failed and at 1750L/1 N.O.I.C. Cairns reported that the discharge of cargo had commenced.

AIR RAIDS PORT MORESEY -

Warning 2241L/1 All clear 2325L/1.

HORN ISLAND -

Warning 2110L/1 All clear 2120L/1.

MINE EXPLOSION IN PALM PASSAGE:

N.O.I.C. Cairns reported at 1019L/1 that fishing boat "DAWN" heard and felt at 1420L/26 an explosion in Palm Passage, which N.O.I.C. Townsville considers was the detonation of one of our mines in Palm Passage caused by fish.

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To 0900L/Tuesday, 1st December, 1942.

"AUSTRALIA" arrived Brisbane from Sydney at 0744L/30.

"BAGLEY" departed Townsville at 1427L/30 for Challenger Bay, Palm Is.

"ARUNTA" } N.O.I.C. Port Moresby advised at 1259L/30. Intend sailing  
 "STUART" } "ARUNTA" and "STUART" for Townsville with moderate despatch  
 to replenish with essential stores. LILLIPUT operation  
 will not take place for at least 3 days. "ARUNTA" and  
 "STUART" departed at 1501L/30 - E.T.A. Townsville 1700L/1/  
 12.

"GOULBURN" arrived Brisbane from escort duties at 1031L/30.

"PORTLAND" (U.S. Cruiser) }  
 "MEADE" (U.S. Destroyer) } arrived Sydney from Solomons area at 1001L/  
 "NAVAJO" (U.S. Fleet Tug) } 30.

"DOOMBA" escorting O.C.49 including U.S. "GOLDSTAR" departed Port Phillip at 2235L/30.

"DELOIRINE" } detailed to escort G.P.24 departing Sydney 0930L/2/12.  
 "ECHUCA" }

"BUNGARIE" departed Sydney 1720L/30/11 for Geelong - E.T.A. 0800L/3/12.

"LITHGOW" at Fall River ordered by N.O.I.C. Port Moresby at 1636L/30 to proceed to Port Moresby with despatch.

"KATOOMBA" in vicinity Fall River ordered by N.O.I.C. Port Moresby at 1250L/30 to return to Port Moresby with despatch. Departed Fall River 1500L/30 - E.T.A. Port Moresby 1700L/1/12.

"KAPUNDA" will detach Townsville and Sydney portion of convoy O.C.48 off Sydney and continue escort C.O.50 to rendezvous with Sydney portion off Sydney at 0030L/3/12.

"TOWNSVILLE" with Sydney portion O.C.48 arrived Sydney at 1813L/30.

"MORESBY" } detailed for convoy C.O.50 to take over from  
 "ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" } "KAPUNDA" at rendezvous off Sydney Heads. at  
 0030L/3/12.

"BARALABA" departed Port Moresby at 1758L/30 E.T.A. Townsville 1101L/4/12.

"GEELONG" escorting "TJISDANE" arrived Brisbane at 1935L/30.

"WHYALLA" E.T.D. Sydney 1/12 for surveying duties in N.E. area calling at Townsville for fuel and provisions.

"CASTLEMAINE" } between Darwin and Timor on operation HAMBURGER,  
 "ARMIDALE" } report being attacked by enemy aircraft, fighters and  
 bombers over a period from 1039L/30 to 2030L/30 when last  
 attack ceased was reported. N.O.I.C. Darwin at 1301L/30  
 ordered "CASTLEMAINE" and "ARMIDALE" to proceed with  
 operation and advised that Beaufighters had departed to  
 assist.

ENEMY AIR RAID:

Port Moresby - Air Raid Warning 1701L/30.  
 All clear at 1722L/30.

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SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900L/Monday, 30th November, 1942.

"BAGLEY" arrived Townsville 1505L/29.

"AASE AMERSK" } departed Townsville 1428L/29.  
"MERKUR" }

"LITHGOW" escorting "KURUMBA" arrived Fall River 1519L/29 from Port Moresby.

"TOLGA" departed Thursday Island 0705L/29 for Cairns - E.T.A. P.M./2.

"SWAN" } escorting T.N.11 - E.T.D. Townsville 1200L/1 - "SWAN"  
"WARREGO" } to escort portion A ("KATOOMBA", "TAROONA", "S. JACOB")  
"COLAC" } to Fall River, "WARREGO" and "COLAC" to escort portion  
"B" ("DUNTROON", "TASMAN", "KARSIK", "CENTAUR" and  
"EGBERT BENSON") to Port Moresby.

"TULSA" detailed to R.V. S.S. "ROBIN BENTLEY" (towing 2 M.T.B's from Noumea) 2/12 and escort to Cairns.

"GEELONG" departed Brisbane 0800L/29 to rendezvous "TJISDANE" and escort to Brisbane - E.T.A. 30/11.

"BUNGAREE" departed Newcastle 0550L/29 - arrived Sydney 1455L/29.

"BUNDABERG" } escorting P.G.23 arrived Sydney 1455L/29.  
"ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" }  
"BINGERA" arrived Port Melbourne 1301L/29 from escorting C.O.48.

"MARTINDALE" (p.m.b.) departed Whyalla 0030L/29 for Adelaide - E.T.A. 0630L/29.

OPERATION HAMBURGER.

"KURU" departed Darwin 2210L/28.

"CASTLEMAINE" } departed Darwin 1242L/29.  
"ARMIDALE" }

UNIDENTIFIED VESSEL OFF N. COAST OF NEW GUINEA.

At 0110L/30 aircraft reported unidentified vessel with 2 wake lines astern in Dampier Strait, course 180°, speed 20 knots, disappeared.

At 0500L/30 aircraft reported A.S.V. contact on vessel about 75 miles 338° from Buna.

ENEMY DESTROYERS ATTACKED BY AIRCRAFT.

At times from 0900 to 1330L/29 4 enemy destroyers in company were sighted by aircraft in various positions in northern entrances to Vitiaz and Dampier Straits. At 1330L/29 they were attacked by aircraft which reported 2 direct hits on one destroyer which was left stationary and burning off Tolikawa Island (about 125 miles E. of Madang), and one direct hit on another which slowed to ½ speed but did not burn.

1710L/29 - 4 destroyers in northern entrance to Dampier Strait, 1 apparently damaged, speed 3 knots, 3 others circling.

1830L/29 - 4 destroyers in northern entrance to Dampier Strait - course 060°, 20 knots.

0230L/30 - 3 destroyers about 135 miles W. of Rabaul course 075° speed 30 knots.



OPERATION GULLIVER.

1211L/29 - "KATOOMBA" and "BALLARAT" ordered by N.O.I.C. Port Moresby to return to Fall River forthwith.

At 1228L/29 "KATOOMBA" reported - "Am being shadowed constantly by enemy reconnaissance aircraft. Intend returning Fall River - E.T.A. 1030L/30".

1930L/29 - "KATOOMBA" reported "attacked 14 miles N.E. of Buna Road. No casualties "BALLARAT" or "KATOOMBA". "KATOOMBA" has very minor mechanical disarrangement. Asdic search almost futile. Hainicote Bay appears full of coral rocks and reef. Shot one certain and one probable. Others hit."

AIR RAIDS.

PORT MORESBY:	Warning	1105L/29	All clear	1125L/29.
	"	2059L/29	" "	2228L/29.
	Raid	0129L/30	" "	time corrupt.
	"	0259L/30	" "	0407L/30.

DARWIN:	Warning	1240L/29		
	Raid	1251L/29		
	All clear	1310L/29.		

FALL RIVER:	Warning	1107L/29		
	All clear	1202L/29.		

UNSUBSTANTIATED REPORT OF SUBMARINE AT SYDNEY:

"MARLENE" (Motor Patrol Boat) reported that while on patrol outside Boom at Sydney at 2225L/28 she sighted a periscope approaching her. Three depth charges were dropped only one of which fired. In daylight on 29th other vessels reported oil and bubbles near the west gate of Boom, and more depth charges were dropped. A crossing of No. 4 Loop had been reported at 2125L/28, but N.O.I.C. Sydney considered it was "non-submarine". Western Gate of Boom is  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile inside No. 12 loop on which no crossing was registered throughout. Divers were to investigate in vicinity of "MARLENE'S" operation.

Later at 1619L/29 N.O.I.C. Sydney reported that he considered no submarines were present.

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MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

TO 0900L/SUNDAY, 29th NOVEMBER, 1942.

"AUSTRALIA" with C.N.S. on board, departed Sydney at 0309L/29  
E.T.A. Moreton Bay 0745L/30.

"KATOOMBA" ) departed Porlock Harbour at 1430L/28 on operation  
"BALLARAT" ) GULLIVER. (At 1055L/28 N.O.I.C. Port Moresby advised  
that operation GULLIVER would be advanced 24 hours).

"DELOBARINE" arrived Newcastle at 1852L/27 having completed escort  
of convoy O.C.47, and departed at 1156L/28 escorting  
Newcastle portion of C.O.49. Arrived Sydney at  
1921L/28.

"BUNDABERG" ) departed Brisbane at 2031L/27 E.T.A. Sydney  
"ABRAHAM CRIJNSSSEN" ) 1200L/29.

"LITHGOW" escorting "KURUMBA" departed Port Moresby at 0900L/28 -  
E.T.A. Fall River 1900L/29.

"GOULBURN" departed Brisbane at 0514L/28 escorting B.T.24  
"MANGOLA" and "POELAU LAUT" to position "Y".  
On arrival at position "Y" (off Hervey Bay)  
disperse convoy and proceed to anchor in Hervey  
Bay.  
"GOULBURN" will rendezvous with B.T.25 ("STAGEN"  
and "VAN SPILBERGEN") in position "X" (Capricorn  
Channel) at 1830L/1/12 and escort B.T.25 to position  
"Y" then return to Brisbane.

"MILDURA" ) escorting convoy C.O.49 departed Sydney at 1813L/28.  
"INVERELL" )

"SPRINGDALE" (Mine Destructor Deperming Sweeper) E.T.D. Adelaide  
for Melbourne 2/12.

"TOLGA" arrived Thursday Island from Cairns at 0650L/28.

"BUNGAREE" E.T.D. Newcastle 0300L/29 - E.T.A. Sydney 0900L/29.

"WARRAMUNGA" At 2227L/28 N.O.I.C. Sydney reported progressive  
circle steering and A/S trials satisfactorily  
completed.

"TROMP" arrived Williamstown at 1651L/28 - having completed  
exercises in Port Phillip.

"TROUT" (U.S. Submarine) departed Caloundra at 1811L/28 for  
Fremantle.

"HERON" (U.S. Seaplane Tender) departed Fremantle for Exmouth  
Gulf at 0925L/28.

U.S.S. "GOLDSTAR" arrived Port Phillip at 0759L/28.

"MANUNDA" (Hospital Ship) departed Port Moresby 1900L/27 for  
Brisbane E.T.A. 1300L/1/12.

"TJISDANE" (9200 tons) with 700 U.S. troops, departed Wellington  
1200L/28, for Brisbane E.T.A. 30/11.

"PIRIE" Full calibre shoot will be carried out in Port Phillip -  
afternoon and evening 1/12 and sub-calibre using  
searchlights - evening 30/11.



GERMAN SHIP "RAMSES" sunk in Indian Ocean.

At 2215L/28 "ADELAIDE" (with convoy O.W.) reported above ship en route KOBE to Germany via BATAVIA sunk in position 022° 10' South 099° 05' East approx.) 1100 miles out from Fremantle. Ship sank by self scuttling assisted by gunfire from "ADELAIDE" and "HEEMSKERK". "ADELAIDE" has on board 78 German prisoners and 10 Norwegians, survivors of "AUST" and "KATTEGA".

On turning over convoy O.W. to "GAMBIA", "ADELAIDE" intends returning to Fremantle at maximum speed. Master of "AUST" reports 2 further supply ships and 2 tankers expected to leave KOBE shortly, possibly by similar route. One ship "RHAKOTIS", probably now at BATAVIA. No casualties on either side and no damage to our ships.

At 2325L/28 "ADELAIDE" reported Norwegian officers have reason to believe "RAMSES" was to rendezvous with German raider either 29/11 or 30/11.

When first sighted "RAMSES" was in position 023° 20' S. 099° 13' E. course 197° speed 11 knots. Before scuttling made following W/T signal -

" Y. Y. Y. 023° 09' S. 099° 25' ? E. P. U. L. "

ENEMY AIR RAIDS.

Port Moresby

Air Raid Warning at 1055L/28 All clear 1110L/28.  
Air Raid at 2008L/28 All clear 2027L/28.

Darwin

Air Raid Warning 1252L/28 All clear 1355L/28.

Fall River

Air Raid 0245L/28 All clear 1110L/28.

ENEMY SUBMARINES North of Buna.

At 1135L/28 N.O.I.C. Port Moresby reported total sightings of submarines 100 miles North of Buna about 0800L/28 as 19, and subsequent sighting of 7 in position 25 miles North of Buna at 1117L/28.

LOOP CROSSING on No. 4 loop reported by N.O.I.C. Sydney at 2125L/28. "KYBRA" ordered to take necessary action.



MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE

To 0900L/Saturday, November 28th, 1942.

"BROOME" - arrived Fall River 0130L/27 from Port Moresby.

"WARRE" - towing lighter, and with auxiliary tug "KAURI" in  
(Tug) company, departed Port Moresby 1435L/27 for  
Porlock Harbour, ETA 1800L/30.

"MERKUR" - returned Townsville 1320L/27 from Challenger Bay.

"GOULBURN" - returned Brisbane 1645L/27 from escorting BT23.

"GEELONG" - returned Brisbane 0255L/27 from escorting BT22.

"ROCKHAMPTON" - arrived Sydney 1835L/27 from escorting OC47.

"DOOMBA" - departed Port Phillip 2150L/27, escorting OC48.

"TROMP" - departed Williamstown 0801L/27 for exercises in  
Port Phillip.

Hospital Ship

"MANUNDA" - arrived Port Moresby 0952L/27 from Fall River.

SUBMARINES SIGHTED IN SOLOMONS SEA.

At 1456L/27 N.L.O. Port Moresby advised that aircraft reported on landing having sighted one submarine about 80 miles 042° from Buna, and two others 10 miles further north, at about 0832L/27. All appeared to crash dive.

FAIRMILE NO. 3.

Launched at Brisbane 26/11.

ENEMY AIR RAIDS.

DARWIN Raid in progress 1130L/27  
All clear 1300L/27

PORT MORESBY	Warning	1907L/27	All clear	1943L/27
	"	2046L/27	" "	2049L/27
	"	2148L/27	" "	2155L/27
	"	0143L/28	" "	0155L/28

"KAPUNDA's" 'CHECK' SIGNAL.

At 1920L/27 "KAPUNDA" (escorting C.O.48) signalled N.O.I.C Port Melbourne - "Check", and at 1945L/27 - "S.S. intercepted 038° 30' S. 148° E. Approximate tons 2500, 2 masts, funnel amidships. Gave name "AGNES" (Norwegian). Bound Melbourne steering 260°." At 2234L/27 N.O.I.C. Port Melbourne replied - "Mate. Correct." Position given is about 80 miles 063° from Wilson's Promontory.

SUBMARINES NORTH OF BUNA.

Aircraft sighted 14 submarines about 90 miles North of Buna at 0737L/28.



To 0900L/Friday, 27th November, 1942.

"COLAC" returned Townsville at 2131L/26 from Challenger Bay.

"MILDURA" returned to Sydney at 0724L/26.

"LITHGOW" } escorting convoy "K" arrived Pt. Moresby from  
"WARREGO" } Townsville at 0850L/26.

"TAMWORTH" arrived Fremantle from Albany at 0956L/26.

"DOOMRA" arrived Pt. Melbourne at 0155L/26, after completing escort duties C.O.47.

"VAN GALEN" returned Fremantle at 1653L/26, from escort duties with convoy O.W.

"WARREGO" escorting "WILLIS VAN DEVENTER" departed Pt. Moresby at 1935L/26 for Townsville via Grafton Passage - E.T.A. 0200L/29.

"KATOOMBA" } On operations GULLIVER are to rendezvous with "MULIAMA"  
"BALLARAT" } at Northern entrance to China Strait at 1300L/27 and escort to position "C" (09° 15.5'S. 149° 31'E.) At 0800L/28th "PALUMA" will rendezvous and lead ships to Porlock Harbour. "KATOOMBA" and "BALLARAT" are to depart Porlock Harbour at 1430L/29 on special enemy search to intercept and destroy submarines expected to be discharging troops and cargo in Buna vicinity. A.M.S. will depart from area no later than 0200L/30 and repeat the search P.M.30/11.

"LITHGOW" will depart Port Moresby escorting "KURUMBA" so as to arrive Fall River P.M.30/11 and await completion of GULLIVER movement.

"AUSTRALIA" intends departing Sydney at 2100L/28 and proceed direct to Moreton Bay - E.T.A. 0515L/30.

"BINGERA" towing seine net vessel "THREE CHEERS" arrived Sydney from Jervis Bay at 1826L/25. Departed for Westernport at 1339L/26.

"SILVERSIDES" (U.S. Submarine) arrived Brisbane at 0518L/25.

"WHIPPOORWILL" (U.S. Submarine) departed Fremantle for Exmouth Gulf at 2100L/26.

"MILDURA" } detailed to escort convoy C.O.49 to take over convoy  
"INVERELL" } from "DELORAINE" at rendezvous off Sydney at P.M.28/11.

"MAUNDA" (Hospital Ship) departed Fall River at 1101L/27 - E.T.A. Port Moresby 0800L/27.

"MAURETANIA" departed Colombo at 2130L/25 for Fremantle - E.T.A. P.M.3/12.

"GLADSTONE" (A.M.S.) successfully launched at Maryborough at 1400L/26th November, 1942.

ENEMY SUBMARINE in vicinity/sighted by aircraft at 2310L/26; attacked by aircraft at 0235L/27. Estimated result - near miss.

Enemy Air Raids: DARWIN - Air raid in progress 1613L/26  
All clear 1730L/26.  
Air raid in progress 0510L/27  
Air Raid Warning 0711L/27.  
PORT MORESBY - Air Raid Warning 1243L/26 All clear 1252L/26.  
Air Raid in progress 0256L/27 All clear 0344L/27



To 0900L/Thursday 26th November, 1942.

"PATTERSON" departed Townsville 2047L/25 for Challenger Bay, Palm Island.

"BROOME" departed Port Moresby 1200L/25 escorting "JESSIE APPELEGATE" to Bruner Island (about 27 miles W.S.W. of Samarai). "JESSIE APPELEGATE" E.T.A. Fall River 1300L/26.

"BALLARAT" is to rendezvous "BROOME" 1 mile north of Bruner Island, 0900L/26 and escort "JESSIE APPELEGATE" to Fall River. "BROOME" is to return Port Moresby.

U.S. Submarine "SILVERSIDES" arrived Brisbane 0514L/25.

U.S. Submarine "TROUT" E.T.D. Caloundra 1830L/28 for Fremantle.

"TOWNSVILLE" escorting C.O.48 departed Newcastle 1022L/25.

"KAPUNDA" escorting C.O.48 departed Sydney 1644L/25.

"MORESBY" departed Sydney 0535L/25, escorting "KATOOMBA" to Capricorn Channel. "KATOOMBA" thence to Townsville unescorted, "MORESBY" returning to Sydney.

"EUNDABERG" ) escorting G.P.23 departed Sydney 0913L/25,  
"ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" ) E.T.A. Caloundra 1500L/27.

"MILDURA" E.T.A. Sydney 0700L/26.

"INVERELL" arrived Sydney 1607L/25.

"DOOMBA" arrived Port Phillip 2237L/25 having completed escort of Melbourne portion of C.O.47 with stragglers.

"TROMP" arrived Williamstown 1131L/25 from Sydney.

U.S. Minesweeper "WHIPPOORWILL" having departed Fremantle 1032L/24 with U.S. Minesweeper "LARK" for Exmouth Gulf, returned Fremantle 0430L/25 with engine defects.

"CASTLEMAINE" escorting "DARVEL" arrived Darwin 1453L/25.

"ARMIDALE" returned Darwin 1453L/25 from escorting "WANAKA".

#### ENEMY DESTROYERS SIGHTED.

0800L/25 Two destroyers sighted by aircraft in Dampier Strait about 8 miles W. of New Britain, course 065° speed 25 knots.

1100L/25 Four destroyers sighted by a/c about 87 miles 074° from 0800L/25 sighting, course 070° speed 25 knots.

#### POSSIBLE SUBMARINE REPORT.

Coast Watcher, Murray Island, (about 110 miles 070° from Thursday Island) reported noise of underwater engine heard to west at 0630L/25 and 1340L/25. Bubbling of water seen off South East of Island, just beyond reef, thought to be submarine. No known small craft in vicinity.







DAILY NARRATIVE.

SECRET.

To 0900L/Wednesday 24th November, 1942. 2 ships burning between  
"TAMWORTH" departed Albany at 1622L/24 for Fremantle - E.T.A. 0800L/27.

"SWAN" escorting "TORRENS" arrived Townsville at 1302L/24.

"BUNDABERG" } E.T.D. Sydney 0900L/25 escorting convoy G.P.23.  
"ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" }

"STUART" arrived Port Moresby from Fall River at 0730L/24 for  
refuelling.

"TOWNSVILLE" } detailed to escort convoy C.O.48 departing Newcastle  
"KAPUNDA" } 25th November. "TOWNSVILLE" arrived Newcastle from  
Sydney at 1848L/24 to assume escort duties.

"PATTERSON" (U.S. Destroyer) arrived Townsville at 1122L/24.

"CESSNOCK" ) with "GOLDMOUTH" (Tanker) departed Fremantle at  
"TOOWOOMBA" ) 2021L/21. They will be overtaken by, and form part  
of O.W. convoy 670 miles out from Fremantle, and  
will be detached in position approximately 500 miles  
east of Diego Garcia. Then proceed to Diego Garcia  
to fuel. E.T.A. 1200L/7/12, thence to Kilindini  
E.T.A. 1900L/15/12.  
"GOLDMOUTH" will be detached at Diego Garcia for  
Bombay.

"ADELAIDE" ) departed Fremantle at 1931L/24 escorting convoy O.W.  
"HEEMSKERK" ) to rendezvous with "GAMBIA" at 1800L/29.  
"VAN GALEN" ) "VAN GALEN" will part company at 2400L/25 and return  
to Fremantle.

"DOOMBA" departed Port Phillip at 2258L/24, escorting O.C.47.  
"DOOMBA" will rendezvous with "DELORAINNE" at position  
"D" at 1100L/25 - then return Melbourne.  
"ROCKHAMPTON" will escort remaining ships of C.O.47  
as far as Wilson's Promontory - E.T.A. 0800L/25, and  
await O.C.47 and rejoin "DELORAINNE" as escort.

"MILDURA" ) ordered by N.O.I.C. Sydney at 0951L/24 to return Sydney  
"INVERELL" ) when weather moderates.

"LARK" ) U.S. Minesweepers, departed Fremantle for Exmouth  
"WHIPPORWILL" ) Gulf at 1032L/24.

"PING WO" arrived Pt. Stephens from Newcastle at 1043L/24.

"TOLGA" departed Cairns 1815L/24 - E.T.A. Thursday Island 1400L/27.

"GOULBURN" escorting convoy B.T. 23 - departed Brisbane at 2018L/24.

"TROMP" at 1045L/24 reported - On account of very bad weather  
E.T.A. Pt. Phillip not yet known.

GENERAL.

ENEMY ACTIVITIES:

- At 1630L/24 - 5 destroyers reported in Vitiaz Strait -  
course S.E.
- At 2155L/24 - located by allied aircraft off Lae and  
attacked.
- At 0043L/25 - aircraft reported 1 vessel burning, 1  
proceeding Lae, 3 off Cape Cretin -  
course south.



ENEMY ACTIVITIES (Contd.)

At 0100L/25 - aircraft reported 2 ships burning between Lae and Finchaven. Three others circling around. Convoy proceeding up Vitiaz Strait.

"WARRAMUNGA" commissioned 0900L/Monday 23rd, Commander E.F.V. Dechaineux, D.S.C., R.A.N. in command. to refuel.

"URALBA" (Controlled Mining Tender) commissioned 1230L/Monday 23rd, under command of Lieutenant F.J. French, R.A.N.R.(S).

S.S.S.S. from CORNWALL (12,000 tons) at 1351L/24. "ATCOMBA" thence

Sighted submarine in position 150 miles S.E. of Gabo

At 1431L/24. "CORNWALL" reported submarine about half mile off.

At 1516L/24. All ships in area 5B. warned.

"TOMP" at 0143L/25 returned Sydney escorting "NESTOR" and departed E.T.A. Port Phillip 1500L/24.

"TAMMORTH" arrived Adelaide 11/23 from Adelaide.

ENEMY AIR RAIDS Fremantle 0920L/25 from escorting "AQUITANIA".

PORT MORESBY - Air raid in progress at 2057L/24. "D STAR".

G.O. 47 1200L/25 "DEBORAH" All clear at 2118L/24. in position about 50 miles E27° from Gabo Island. 5 ships (of a total of 8) separated from Air Raid in progress at 0032L/25.

"DEBORAH" reported convoy still hove to about 60 miles E28° from Gabo Id. All clear at 0115L/25. in position D

(about 25 miles west of Wilson's Promontory) during daylight

"BENGAL" arrived Colombo A.M. 23/11 from Diego Garcia.

0455L/24 "ASPANIA MARIAGE" (ex G.O. 47) passed Wilson's Promontory, westbound.

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G.O. 47 2100L/25 "BOONIA" departed Parker Beachon to assume escort duties of G.O. 47.

2130L/25 - Vessels of convoy were ordered by H.C.S.O.

not to proceed to sea but to anchor at Portsea and await further instructions.

G.O. 48 1000L/25 - "MILDURA" reported "Convoy and escort dispersed by very heavy weather. Have lost touch and hove to since 2300L/24.

1541L/25 - H.O.I.C. Sydney ordered "MILDURA", if unable to proceed with convoy, to take shelter and report intentions.

1830L/25 - "MILDURA" reported - "Weather conditions make it impossible to take shelter. Will have to ride it out.

Wind S.E. Force 10. Precipitous sea and swell Visibility 800 yards. My position about 25 miles S.E. of Gabo Island Speed 2 knots.

1800L/25 - "MILDURA" advised H.O.I.C. Sydney that she was proceeding to Jervis Bay. Convoys whereabouts unknown.

A.G.S.E.A. intends to have aircraft search 24/11, weather permitting.

1000L/25 - "INVERELL" (having been out of touch with convoy since 0700L/25) reported - "Have now abandoned search for convoy. Experiencing rising seas. Intend making Jervis Bay E.T.A. 1800L/25.

UNIDENTIFIED AIRCRAFT S.E. OF JERVISVILLE.

At 1045L/25 one unidentified twin engined aircraft approached from north east direction to within seven miles of Cape Cleveland. Aircraft was not sighted.





To 0900L/Tuesday 24th November, 1942.

- ✓ "ERKUR" } departed Townsville 1232L/23 for Challenger Bay.
- ✓ "AASE MAERSK" } "GARDLONG" will part
- ✓ "STUART" E.T.D. Fall River 1600L/23 for Port Moresby to refuel.
- ✓ "TULSA" returned Brisbane 1841L/23 from escorting B.T.21.
- ✓ "MORESBY" escorting "KATOOMBA" - E.T.D. Sydney 1800L/24 - E.T.A. entrance to Capricorn Channel 0500L/27, "KATOOMBA" thence to Townsville unescorted, "MORESBY" returning to Sydney.
- ✓ "WHYALLA" } escorting P.G.22 arrived Sydney 1111L/23.
- ✓ "TOWNSVILLE" }
- ✓ "SUB-CHASER 479" departed Sydney 1103L/23 for Noumea - E.T.A. 0700L/27.
- ✓ "TROMP" at 0149L/23 returned Sydney escorting "NESTOR" and departed E.T.A. Port Phillip 1500L/24.
- ✓ "TANWORTH" arrived Albany 0922L/23 from Adelaide.
- ✓ "VAN GALEN" returned Fremantle 0920L/23 from escorting "AQUITANIA".
- ✓ "TJERK HIDDES" returned Fremantle 1950L/ 3 from escorting "GOLD STAR".

C.O.47 1200L/23 "DELORAINÉ" reported convoy hove to in position about 50 miles 227° from Gabo Island. 5 ships (of a total of 8) separated from convoy during night. 2000L/23 "DELORAINÉ" reported convoy still hove to about 60 miles 203° from Gabo Island and unable to arrive in position D (about 33 miles west of Wilson's Promontory) during daylight 24/11. 0455L/24 "ASPASIA NOMIKOS" (ex C.O.47) passed Wilson's Promontory, westbound.

O.C. 47 2003L/23 "DOOMBA" departed Fawkes Beacon to assume escort duties of O.C.47. 2128L/23 - Vessels of convoy were ordered by N.C.S.O. not to proceed to sea but to anchor at Portsea and await further instructions.

O.C.46 1000L/23 - "MILDURA" reported "Convoy and escort dispersed by very heavy weather. Have lost touch and hove to since 2300L/22. 1521L/23 - N.O.I.C. Sydney ordered "MILDURA", if unable to proceed with convoy, to take shelter and report intentions. 1650L/23 - "MILDURA" reported - "Weather conditions make it impossible to take shelter. Will have to ride it out. Wind S.E. Force 10. Precipitous sea and swell Visibility 800 yards. My position about 25 miles S.E. of Gabo Island Speed 2 knots. 1800L/23 - "MILDURA" advised N.O.I.C. Sydney that she was proceeding to Jervis Bay. Convoys whereabouts unknown. A.O.R.E.A. intends to have aircraft search 24/11, weather permitting. 1005L/23 - "INVERELL" (having been out of touch with convoy since 0700L/22) reported - "Have now abandoned search for convoy. Experiencing rising seas. Intend making Jervis Bay E.T.A. 1800L/23.

UNIDENTIFIED AIRCRAFT N.E. OF TOWNSVILLE.

At 1041L/23 one unidentified twin engined aircraft approached from north east direction to within seven miles of Cape Cleveland. Aircraft was not sighted.



To 0900L/Monday 23rd November, 1942.

✓ "GEELONG" escorting B.T.22 departed Caloundra at 1425L/22.  
E.T.A. Townsville 1600L/25. "GEELONG" will part  
company about 0600L/25 and return to Brisbane.

✓ "TOLGA" arrived Cairns from Thursday Island at 1045L/22.

✓ "KANIMBLA" ordered by Naval Board at 1451L/22 to proceed to  
Colombo on completion of patrol in Indian Ocean,  
and be prepared to escort K.P.M. ships to Fremantle  
E.T.D. no later than 10th December.

LILLIPUT OPERATIONS Two A.M.S. will escort each flight of LILLIPUT  
movements from Milne Bay to destination and during  
unloading. In addition at least one destroyer will  
accompany each flight from Milne Bay to vicinity of  
Cape Nelson (110 miles N.W. of Milne Bay). Two destroyers  
will be detailed for this additional escort if possible.  
"STUART", "KATOOMBA", "BALLARAT" will depart from Fall  
River with first flight at 0600L/Zero day. "STUART"  
will detach vicinity Cape Vogel and return to Fall River.  
"STUART" and "ARUNTA" will depart from Fall River with  
second flight at 1100L/Zero + 1. All ships in second  
flight will anchor at Porlock Bay at 0800L/Zero + 2.  
One escort will detach in Cumberland Channel (off Cape  
Nelson). "STUART" is to return to Port Moresby to fuel.  
"ARUNTA" is to return to Fall River. One A.M.S. will  
return from BUNA and arrive at Porlock Bay at 0700L/Zero + 2,  
and act as A/S screen for second flight.

✓ "LITHGOW" } escorting convoy "K" including "KURUMBA" departed  
"WARREGO" } Townsville at 1800L/22. E.T.A. Pt. Moresby 0800L/26.

✓ "TROMP" departed Sydney at 0812L/22 to rendezvous with and escort  
"NESTOR" to Sydney - arrived Sydney at 0149L/23.

"INVERELL" (with "MILDURA") escorting O.C.46, reported "Unable to  
maintain contact with convoy since 0700L/22."

✓ "BUNGAREE" reported at 2050L/22, Operations LOUIS completed - E.T.A.  
Newcastle 2000L/27. To join C.O. convoy Wednesday 2nd  
December.

"PIRIE" will carry out full calibre shoot in Port Phillip -  
afternoon and morning of Monday, 23rd November.

✓ Two enemy destroyers reported at 1755L/22 to be in position 120 miles  
north of Buna.

At 2345L/22 Allied aircraft claimed 1 direct hit on stern  
of one destroyer.

ENEMY AIR RAID - DARWIN: Air raid in progress at 0400L/25.

ENEMY SUBMARINE reported in vicinity of MISIMA ISLAND at 1845L/22  
Graded E.4.

At 0108L/23 C.S.W.P. advised all ships in South West  
Pacific Area.

✓ "MANUNDA" HOSPITAL SHIP departed Brisbane at 0956L/22 - E.T.A. Fall  
River 1101L/26.

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Possible submarine report from "RESEARCH"

At 0345L/21 "RESEARCH" (at outside anchorage Cairns)

reported to H.Q.I.C. CAIRNS.

"Have detected strong high yawing effect in northerly direction 1  
mile off fairway buoy. An getting underway."



MOST SECRET

DAILY NARRATIVE

To 0900L/Sunday, November 22nd.

- At 1000L/21 "BUNGAREE" signalled aircraft - "Please investigate submarine pattern of ... Please investigate N.E. of fairway buoy Cairns area".
- At 1415L/21 "BUNGAREE" reported - "An anchored in position 0230° Cape Grafton (CAIRNS) 17 miles. Contact lost."
- ✓ "BROOME" escorting "WILLIS VAN DEVENTER", returned Port Moresby 1806L/20.
- ✓ "WATO" Arrived Port Moresby 0200L/19 from Cairns without lighters, tow having parted at 1400L/17 about 240 miles 1940 from Port Moresby. N.O.I.C. Port Moresby is endeavouring to have Catalinas search, and "WATO" is standing by for aircraft sighting.
- ✓ "BUNGAREE" Reported at 2052L/20 - "Operation BERNARD (1) and (2) and BILL completed"; arrived at outside anchorage, Cairns, 0400L/21 and departed 1102L/21.
- ✓ "WHYALLA" } escorting G.P. 22 arrived Brisbane 0841L/21; escorting  
✓ "TOWNSVILLE" } P.G. 22 departed Caloundra 1025L/21, E.T.A. Newcastle 1000L/23 Sydney 1400L/23.
- ✓ "GOULBURN" returned Brisbane 0138L/21 from escorting BT21.
- U.S. SUBMARINE E.T.D. Caloundra 1900L/28 for Fremantle. by V.A.S.C.
- "TROUT"
- ✓ "GEELONG" E.T.D. Pile Light Brisbane 1000L/22 escorting BT 22 U.S.S. "VICTORIA" and "BENJAMIN FRANKLIN".
- ✓ "PING WO" departed Port Stephens 0730L/21, arrived Newcastle 1140L/21.
- ✓ "MORESBY" escorting Newcastle portion of CO 47 departed Newcastle 0948L/21, and arrived Sydney 1815L/21.
- ✓ "ROCKHAMPTON" } escorting Sydney portion of CO 47 departed Sydney 1713L/21.  
✓ "DELORAINÉ" }
- ✓ "MORESBY" E.T.D. Sydney 1300L/24 escorting H.T. "KATOOMBA" to entrance to Capricorn Channel, whence "KATOOMBA" will proceed independently to Townsville, "MORESBY" returning to Sydney.
- ✓ "TROMP" E.T.D. Sydney 0600L/22 to R.V. "NESTOR" and escort to Sydney.
- ✓ "DOOMBA" arrived Port Melbourne 1148L/21, having completed escort of Melbourne portion of CO 46.
- ✓ U.S. SEAPLANE arrived Fremantle 0902L/21 from Exmouth Gulf.  
TENDER "CHILDS"
- ✓ "CASTLEMAINE" departed Darwin 0503L/21 escorting "KOOLIGA" to vicinity Cape Wessel and for rendezvous "DARVEL"
- ✓ HOSPITAL SHIP arrived Brisbane 0546L/21 from Fall River.  
"MANUNDA"

General

Possible Submarine report from "BUNGAREE"

✓ At 0945L/21 "BUNGAREE" (at outside anchorage Cairns) reported to N.O.I.C. CAIRNS.  
"Have detected strong high revving effect in northerly direction 1 mile off fairway buoy. Am getting underway."



To 2000L Saturday, 21st November, 1945.

At 1000L/21 "BUNGAREE" signalled aircraft - "Please investigate submarine astern of us" and 1020L/21 - "Please investigate N.E. of fairway buoy Cairns area". Investigations resulted nil sightings at 1035L/21.

At 1415L/21 "BUNGAREE" reported - "Am anchored in position 3050 Cape Grafton (CAIRNS= 17 miles. Contact lost."

Enemy Destroyers in Solomons Sea:

1530L/21 - aircraft reported four destroyers about 180 miles East of Lae course 230° at 30 knots. 1600L/21 - position reported about 15 miles South and West of 1530 position course and speed unchanged. 1630L/21 - position reported about 14 miles South and West of 1600 position course 260° speed 30 knots.

1700L/21 - position reported about 12 miles West of 1630 position course and speed unchanged.

1712L/21 - N.L.O. Port Moresby reported - "4 B 26's attacking. Torpedo Beauforts standing by for night attack."

Un identified Sightings off Kiama

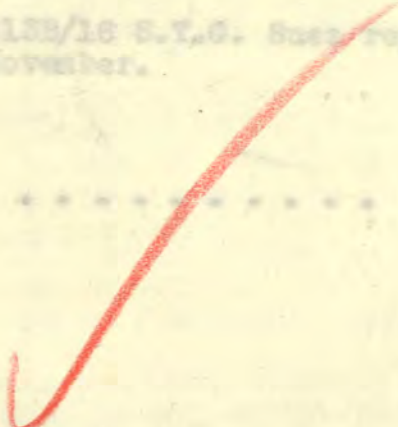
Owing to a series of unidentified sightings by V.A.O.C. observer, army watcher and marine pilot from 1755L/20 to 2030L/20 off KIAMA (about 7 miles south of Port Kembla) "TROMP" was despatched by A.C.N.B. with COMSOUWESPAC'S concurrence from Sydney (E.T.D. 0600L/22) to R.V. and escort "NESTOR", carrying important service cargo to Sydney.

"PATRICK" departed Sydney for Newcastle at 0811L/20.

"DOUGLAS" departed Port Phillip at 2257L/20 escorting convoy G.C.43.

"BROCK" departed Port Moresby at 1402L/19 to intercept and escort "WILLIS VAN DEWATER" from vicinity Stephens Island to Port Moresby.

"MAURETANIA" at 1015L/18 S.Y.G. Suez reported "MAURETANIA" sailed 15th November.





MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900L Saturday, 21st November, 1942.

"SWAN" ordered by C.S.W.P. at 1157L/20, to proceed forthwith, and rendezvous with "TORRENS" (Norwegian) escorted by "MACDONOUGH" (U.S. Destroyer) either before dark 21/11 or after dawn 22/11. "SWAN" will then escort "TORRENS" to Townsville via Capricorn Channel.

✓ "GEELONG" returned to Brisbane at 0741L/20, after escort duties with convoy B.T.20.

✓ "LITHGOW" arrived Townsville from Cairns at 0420L/20.

✓ "WARREGO" arrived Townsville from Port Moresby at 2017L/19.

"LITHGOW" } E.T.D. Townsville 1800L/22 escorting convoy "K"  
"WARREGO" } including "KURUMBA". E.T.A. Port Moresby 0800L/26.

✓ "MORESBY" arrived Newcastle at 0810L/20, escorting Newcastle portion O.C. 45.

✓ "ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" arrived Sydney at 0015L/20 escorting Sydney portion of O.C.45.

✓ "VAN GALEN" departed Fremantle at 2000L/20, escorting "AQUITANIA" till 2300L/21, then to return Fremantle.

"TJERK HIDDES" departed Fremantle escorting till 2300L/22 U.S. "GOLDSTAR" en route to Melbourne E.T.A. 0930L/28. On completion escort duties "TJERK HIDDES" returns to Fremantle.

✓ "PATTERSON" departed Sydney for Newcastle at 0811L/20.

"DOOMBA" departed Port Phillip at 2257L/20 escorting convoy O.C.46.

✓ "BROOME" departed Port Moresby at 1402L/19 to intercept and escort "WILLIS VAN DEVENTER" from vicinity Stephens Island to Port Moresby.

"MAURETANIA" at 1013B/16 S.T.O. Suez reported "MAURETANIA" sailed 16th November.

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To 0900L/Thursday, 19th November, 1942.  
To 0900L/Friday, 20th November, 1942.

"VICTORIA" } escorting convoy S.P.21 including U.S.S. "VICTORIA".  
 ✓ "KATOOMBA" } escorting "BANTAM", "BALIKPAPAN", "JAPARA" and  
 ✓ "BALLARAT" } "JOHN B. ASHE" arrived Fall River 1300L/19 from  
 Townsville. and Ft. Sembla portion of C.O.46  
 departed Newcastle at 0750L/18.  
 ✓ "TOLGA" departed Thursday Island 0729L/19 for Cairns - E.T.A.  
 1700L/22. May at 1615L/18 escorting Sydney  
 portion C.O.46.  
 ✓ "LITHGOW" departed Cairns 1130L/19 for Townsville.  
 returned to Brisbane at 0945L/19 after completion of  
 "BUNGAREE" reported at 0200L/19. "Operation Bet completed".  
 "MERKUR" departed Townsville 0350L/19 for Challenger Bay.  
 completed escort of C.O.46.  
 ✓ "GOULBURN" departed Brisbane 1641L/19, escorting B.T.21.  
 departed Port Moresby at 0100L/18 arrived Fall River  
 ✓ "TULSA" returning Brisbane from escorting northbound  
 convoy is to rendezvous with "GOULBURN" and B.T.  
 21 20/11 and to assume escort of convoy. "GOULBURN"  
 is to return Brisbane when relieved, for repairs  
 to A/S gear.

"DELOIRINE" } detailed for C.O.47 to take over convoy from  
 "ROCKHAMPTON" } MORESBY off Sydney p.m./21.  
 ✓ "BINGERA" arrived Jervis Bay 0916L/18 from Flinders Naval Depot.  
 ordered to proceed to Pt. Moresby with convoy and  
 "MARRAWAH" departed Port Phillip 2051L/18 for S.C.F. 18.  
 Fall River pending further instructions.  
 "BOMBO" arrives Williamstown 1710L/19 from Sydney.  
 arrived Darwin from operation at 1945L/18.  
 ✓ "KALGOORLIE" returned Darwin 0923L/19 from ALIAMBATA (Eastern  
 Timor). Thursday Island from Cairns at 1415L/18.

✓ HOSPITAL SHIP "MANUNDA" departed Fall River 1101L/17 for Brisbane  
E.T.A. 0900L/21. Hamburg.

"BARTLEY" (U.S. Destroyer) departed Townsville at 1132L/17.  
 "SAN JUAN" (U.S. Cruiser) departed Sydney at 1456L/18 for Noumea.  
 E.T.A. 0750L/21.....

"ALHESIA" (U.S. Supply Ship) in tow of BONOMA (U.S. Fleet Tug) escorted  
by U.S. Subchaser 479, arrived Sydney from Noumea  
at 1845L/18.

"FAURO SHIP" arrived Fall River 10/11 after her encounter with  
Japanese submarine (or light craft) off Misima Island on  
18/11.

R.N.A.S. "HORSHAM" (A.M.S.) commissioned at Melbourne at 0800L/Wed-  
nesday 18th November. Full calibre shoot will be  
carried out by "HORSHAM" P.M. 19/11.

OPERATIONS "SPARROW" title has been altered to "LANCE", and latter  
will be used in all future references to that force.

NAVY ACTIVITIES - BUNA AREA.

At 1840L/18 two destroyers and one cruiser sighted 25  
miles north of Buna

At 2230L/18 this force reported in Buna Bay.

At 0055L/19 R.L.C. Pt. Moresby advised following results by  
Allied aircraft:

2/11  
de Thomas



To 0900L/Thursday, 19th November, 1942.

"WHYALLA" } escorting convoy G.P.22 including U.S.S. "VICTORIA".  
"TOWNSVILLE" } Departed Sydney at 1040L/18.

"MILDURA" escorting Newcastle and Pt. Kembla portion of C.O.46 departed Newcastle at 0750L/18.

"INVERELL" departed Sydney at 1613L/18 escorting Sydney portion C.O.46.

"GOULBURN" returned to Brisbane at 0945L/18 after completion of escort duties with B.T.18.

"DOOMBA" arrived Port Melbourne at 2201L/17, having completed escort of C.O.45.

"STUART" departed Port Moresby at 0106L/16 arrived Fall River 1901L/18.

"SWAN" departed Sydney for Brisbane at 1945L/18. Thence Townsville after exercising with submarines in Brisbane area.

"TAMWORTH" departed Adelaide at 1831L/18 for Albany - B.T.A. 0900L/23.

"ARUNTA" } escorting portions B. and C. of "LILLIPUT" were  
"BROOME" } ordered to proceed to Pt. Moresby with convoy and arrived at 1900L/18. Portion C is to remain at Fall River pending further instructions.

"CASTLEMAINE" arrived Darwin from operation at 1945L/18.

"TOLGA" arrived Thursday Island from Cairns at 1415L/18.

"KURU" (Boom Defence Launch) departed Darwin at 2119L/18 for Betano - operation Hamburger.

"BAGLEY" (U.S. Destroyer) departed Townsville at 1132L/17.

"SAN JUAN" (U.S. Cruiser) departed Sydney at 1459L/18 for Noumea. B.T.A. 0700L/21.

"ALHENA" (U.S. Supply Ship) in tow of SONOMA (U.S. Fleet Tug) escorted by U.S. Subchaser 479, arrived Sydney from Noumea at 1649L/18.

"FAURO CHIEF" arrived Fall River 15/11 after her encounter with Japanese submarine (or light craft) off Misima Island on 12/11.

H.M.A.S. "HORSHAM" (A.M.S.) commissioned at Melbourne at 0800L/Wednesday 18th November. Full calibre shoot will be carried out by "HORSHAM" P.M. 19/11.

OPERATIONS "SPARROW" title has been altered to "LANCER", and latter will be used in all future references to that force.

ENEMY ACTIVITIES - BUNA AREA.

At 1840L/18 two destroyers and one cruiser sighted 28 miles north of Buna

At 2230L/18 this force reported in Buna Bay.

At 0055L/19 N.L.O. Pt. Moresby advised following results by Allied aircraft:

D.M.  
L. Thomas



Direct hit on cruiser followed by eight explosions - burning fiercely - destroyer standing by. Other destroyer received direct hit - appeared to split open and seems to have sunk.

designated Task Group 44.8, based at Challenger Bay from 0800L/17, E.T.D. 1800L/21 to rendezvous "ONDINA", "BENGAL", "KANIMBLA" in operations area at 1000L/21.

Task Group 44.8 enters Grafton passage 0800L/23, "ONDINA" on arrival Fremantle at 0935L/18, reported that she and "BENGAL" were attacked by two Japanese raiders (15,000 and 10,000 tons). Leaving 7.0.44.8 26/11. E.T.D. 44.8 reaches Challenger Bay 29/11 to fuel.

"ONDINA" claims to have hit 15,000 ton raider aft and amidships. After an explosion raider sank. Second raider hit "ONDINA" with two torpedoes and gunfire - then broke off the action to pick up survivors from first raider. 11 from Townsville.

No naval personnel injured, but master, chief engineer and three Chinese killed.

at E.T.D. 18 arrived Townsville 2105L/18.

"BENGAL" F.O. Ceylon reports arrival Diego Garcia at 1312L/17. "BENGAL" requested 48 hours at 4 hours' notice for steam, to effect engine repairs. Approval granted. arrived Port Moresby 1805L/17.

"BENGAL" reported the action as follows :-

escorting "MATAFLE" departed Port Moresby 1721L/18 (P.M.S.) Sighted two Japanese raiders. Turned away with "ONDINA", who was given rendezvous for 24 hours later, and ordered to act independently. escorting "MORRES" and "CLAN MATHESON" arrived Port Moresby 1845L/17 and departed 1805L/17 E.T.D. Townsville

"BENGAL" then turned for and engaged enemy. Larger raider hit at 3,000 yards in after magazine and set heavily on fire. Later a second very large explosion seen on this raider who was not subsequently sighted.

departed Newcastle 0631L/17.

Second raider drawn away from tanker. Engagement broken off by "BENGAL", who retired behind a smoke screen. U.C.44.

Both raiders KUNIKAWA MARU class, larger which was sunk approximately 10,000 tons, smaller 8,000 tons add each firing broadside of four from main armament. L/17 having completed escort of Newcastle portion of U.C.44, arrived Sydney 0735L/17.

"BENGAL" casualties nil.

detailled for U.P.22 - E.T.D. Sydney 1000L/18.

"KANIMBLA" reported at 1811L/17: Returning to Fremantle E.T.A. 23rd November.

detailled for U.C.46 - E.T.D. Newcastle 15/11.

At 0101L/19 (1401Z/18) reported hearing on 500 KC/s RRR maximum strength. No D/F bearings obtained. "KANIMBLA'S" position corrupt but probably within 20 miles of 18°S. 89°E. i.e., about 250 miles N.W. of "BENGAL'S" engagement. She proposes to remain in that area for 48 hours. P.M.22.

escorting Melbourne portion of U.C.45 entered Port Phillip 1908L/17.

arrived Adelaide 0808L/17 from Melbourne - E.T.D. P.M.18 for Albany.

escorting "PAKUTARIA" - E.T.A. Fremantle 185L/18.

escorting "SULESTAR" arrived Fremantle 0938L/17.

departed Fremantle 0631L/18 for patrol

arrived Auckland 17/11 from Sydney.



✓ MONITOR SHIP "MAMUDA" arrived Fall River 1200L/16 from Port  
To 0900L/Wednesday 18th November, 1942.

- ✓ "HOBART" } designated Task Group 44.6, based at Challenger Bay from 0900L/17, E.T.D. 1000L/21 to rendezvous with Task Group 44.4 in operations area at 1000L/22.  
 ✓ "SELFRIDGE" }  
 ✓ "BAGLEY" } Task Group 44.4 enters Grafton passage 0800L/23, and arrives Challenger Bay 23/11 to fuel and provision.  
 ✓ "HENLEY" } T.G.44.4 E.T.D. Challenger Bay before dark 27/11 relieving T.G.44.6 28/11. T.G. 44.6 reaches Challenger Bay 29/11 to fuel.
- ✓ "BAGLEY" arrived Townsville 0625L/17.
- ✓ "AASE MAERSK" E.T.A. Challenger Bay 18/11 from Townsville.
- ✓ "MERKUR" E.T.D. Townsville 0400L/19 for Challenger Bay.
- ✓ "KURUMBA" } ex B.T.18 arrived Townsville 2105L/16.  
 ✓ "MERKUR" }
- ✓ "STUART" escorting "FORT PINE" departed Fall River 1300L/16, arrived Port Moresby 1605L/17.
- ✓ "PROTRERO" (P.M.B.) escorting "MATAFELE" departed Port Moresby 1721L/16 E.T.A. Porlock Harbour P.M./20.
- ✓ "WARREGO" escorting "NORDNES" and "CLAN MATHESON" arrived Port Moresby 1245L/17 and departed 1605L/17 E.T.A. Townsville 1900L/19.
- ✓ "COLAC" arrived Townsville 2124L/16 from Fall River.
- ✓ "PING WO" departed Newcastle 0631L/17.
- ✓ "ROCKHAMPTON" arrived Sydney 1930L/16 from escorting O.C.44.
- ✓ "MILDURA" departed Sydney 1312L/17 for Newcastle.
- ✓ "WHYALLA" departed Newcastle 0245L/17 having completed escort of Newcastle portion of O.C.44, arrived Sydney 0725L/17.
- "WHYALLA" } detailed for G.P.22 - E.T.D. Sydney 1000L/18.  
"TOWNSVILLE" }
- "MILDURA" } detailed for C.O.46 - E.T.D. Newcastle 18/11.  
"INVERELL" }
- ✓ "SWAN" proposes to carry out R.D.F. trials and full calibre night firing off Sydney P.M./18 and then proceed to Townsville - E.T.A. P.M./22.
- ✓ "DOOMBA" escorting Melbourne portion of C.O.45 entered Port Phillip 1909L/17.
- ✓ "TAMWORTH" arrived Adelaide 0603L/17 from Melbourne - E.T.D. P.M./18 for Albany.
- ✓ "VAN GALEN" escorting "AQUITANIA" - E.T.A. Fremantle 1245L/18.
- ✓ "TJERK HIDDEN" escorting "GOLDSTAR" arrived Fremantle 0959L/17.
- ✓ K.12 departed Fremantle 0031L/18 for patrol
- ✓ "DOMINION MONARCH" arrived Auckland 17/11 from Sydney.



✓ HOSPITAL SHIP "MANUNDA" arrived Fall River 1200L/16 from Port To 0900L/Tuesday, 17th Moresby, 1942.

✓ HOSPITAL SHIP "MAUNGANUI" departed Fremantle 16/11 - E.T.A. Colombo 26/11.

✓ "LOLAINE" } arrived Sydney at 1200L/16, escorting P.C.21.

✓ "CATALINA"

GENERAL.

✓ "ONDINA" departed Cairns at 1235L/15 to R.V. with convoy "L" sighted by Catalina at 1045L/17 in position 3250 Rottneet Island 220 miles. C. in C. Eastern Fleet has been informed. Catalina was able to divert "MAUNGANUI" to render medical assistance required by "ONDINA".

✓ "BENGAL", "MARYBOROUGH", "IPSWICH" and "ERLING BROVIC" were ordered by C. in C. Eastern Fleet at 1740L/17 to remain at Diego Garcia until situation regarding "ONDINA" is clear.

✓ "KANIMELA" was ordered by C. in C. Eastern Fleet at 2014L/17 to return to Fremantle forthwith.

✓ "VAN CALEN" departed Fremantle at 1828L/16 to R.V. with "AQUITANIA", and escort to Fremantle - E.T.A. 1400L, Wednesday 18th.

ENEMY AIR RAID:

✓ "WILLIAM B. PEEBLES" (U.S. Submarine Tender) departed Fremantle at 16FALL RIVER - Warning 0443L/18.

All Clear 0540L/18.

✓ "HENDER" (U.S. Seaplane Tender) arrived Fremantle from Smooth Gulf at 0745L/18.

✓ "TULSA" (U.S. Gunboat) departed Brisbane at 2055L/18 escorting convoy B.T.13 to Whitsunday Passage, where "TULSA" will detach at 0800L/19.

"MARRAVAH" will carry out full calibre firing in Port Phillip during afternoon Wednesday 18th.

"PIRIE" will carry out full calibre firing in Port Phillip during forenoon and afternoon of Tuesday 17th.

✓ "SONDOR" (Dutch Naval Store Ship) departed Serauke 15/11 for Darwin via Thursday Island.

✓ "MANUNDA" (Hospital Ship) departed Port Moresby 15/11 for Fall River - E.T.A. 1100L/16.

✓ "KAPAPA" at 1815L/16 R.C.E.S. Port Adelaide reported that tug had returned to Port Adelaide with crew of "KAPAPA".

"KANIMELA", "BENGAL", "SONDINA"

At 1921L/16 C. in C. E.F. ordered "BENGAL" to report her position.

At 0110L/18 "KANIMELA" reported - Nothing found at scene of action. Am proceeding to Diego Garcia to render medical assistance "ONDINA", and assist temporary repairs to "BENGAL".

A.E. 18 "ONDINA" repeated request for medical assistance. The position given was received correct.

At 1215L/18 M.C.I.C. Fremantle ordered "ONDINA" to signal her bearing and distance from her route position "1".

At 1742L/16 C. in C. E.F. ordered "KANIMELA" to establish direct communication with "ONDINA" on 500 KC/a.



To 0900L/Tuesday, 17th November, 1942.

- ✓ "GEELONG" departed Brisbane escorting convoy B.T.20 at 1341/16.
- ✓ "D. LORRAINE" } arrived Sydney at 1101L/16, escorting P.G.21.
- ✓ "MILDURA" }
- ✓ "WARREGO" departed Cairns at 1235L/15 to R.V. with convoy "L" and escort to Port Moresby - E.T.A. 1400L/17.
- ✓ "KALGOORLIE" departed Darwin at 0747L/16 for Aliambata (Eastern Timor) E.T.A. 2100L/17.
- ✓ "DOOMBA" departed Port Phillip at 2140L/16 escorting O.C.45
- ✓ "BOMBO" departed Sydney at 1222L/16 for Melbourne - E.T.A. 1700L/20.
- ✓ "BINGERA" departed Westernport at 0730L/16 for Jervis Bay E.T.A. 1600L/18.
- ✓ "VAN GALEN" departed Fremantle at 1928L/15 to R.V. with "AQUITANIA", and escort to Fremantle - E.T.A. 1400L, Wednesday 18th.
- ✓ "WILLIAM B. PRESTON" (U.S. Submarine Tender) departed Fremantle at 1018L/16 for Exmouth Gulf.
- ✓ "HERON" (U.S. Seaplane Tender) arrived Fremantle from Exmouth Gulf at 0745L/16.
- ✓ "TULSA" (U.S. Gunboat) departed Brisbane at 2055L/15 escorting convoy B.T.19 to Whitsunday Passage, where "TULSA" will detach at 0300L/19.
- "MARRAWAH" will carry out full calibre firing in Port Phillip during afternoon Wednesday 18th.
- "PIRIE" will carry out full calibre firing in Port Phillip during forenoon and afternoon of Tuesday 17th.
- ✓ "SOEDOE" (Dutch Naval Store Ship) departed Merauke 15/11 for Darwin via Thursday Island.
- ✓ "MANUNDA" (Hospital Ship) departed Port Moresby 15/11 for Fall River - E.T.A. 1100L/16.
- ✓ "KAPARA" at 1515L/15 N.O.I.C. Port Adelaide reported that tug had returned to Port Adelaide with crew of "KAPARA".

"KANIMBLA", "BENGAL", "ONDINA"

At 1921L/15 C. in C. E.F. ordered "BENGAL" to report her position.

At 0110L/16 "KANIMBLA" reported - Nothing found at scene of action. Am proceeding to Diego Garcia to render medical assistance "ONDINA", and assist temporary repairs to "BENGAL".

A.M. 16 "ONDINA" repeated request for medical assistance. The position given was received corrupt.

At 1216L/16 N.O.I.C. Fremantle ordered "ONDINA" to signal her bearing and distance from her route position "A".

At 1742L/16 C. in C. E.F. ordered "KANIMBLA" to establish direct communication with "ONDINA" on 500 KC/s.

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To 0900L/Monday, 16th November, 1942.

"PHOENIX"  
 "MUGFORD"  
 "PATTERSON"  
 "HELM"

} departed Cid Harbour 1900L/15 for operations area.

"HOBART"  
 "SELPRIIDGE"  
 "HENLEY"  
 "BAGLEY"

} E.T.D. Cid Harbour 2100L/16 for Challenger Bay, of Palm Island - E.T.A. 0900/17.

"AASE MAERSK" arrived Townsville 1941L/15 from Cid Harbour - C.T.P. 44 desires her to Challenger Bay 18/11.

✓ "TOLGA" departed Cairns 1915L/15 for Thursday Island E.T.A. 1500L/18.

✓ "WARREGO" departed Cairns 1235L/15 to R.V. convoy "L" and escort to Port Moresby - E.T.A. 1400L/17.

✓ "WATO" (Tug) - departed Cairns 0935L/15 for Port Moresby, towing 3 barges - E.T.A. 0800L/19.

✓ "ARUNTA" arrived Townsville 1938L/14 from Port Moresby.

"ARUNTA"  
 "KATOOMBA"  
 "BALLARAT"

} escorting convoy "O", departed Townsville 1742L/15, "KATOOMBA" and "BALLARAT" to escort portion "A" to Fall River, E.T.A. 1800L/18, "ARUNTA" to R.V. "BROOME" and then escort portion "B" to Fall River - E.T.A. 2400L/18, "KATOOMBA" and "BALLARAT" will escort portion "A" onwards from Fall River.

"GEELONG" escorting northbound convoy, E.T.D. Pile Light, Brisbane 0559L/16.

✓ "TULSA" escorting northbound convoy, departed Pile Light, Brisbane 1905L/15.

✓ "TAMWORTH" departed Williamstown 0610L/15 for Adelaide - E.T.A. 0400L/17.

"TJERK HIDDES" departed Fremantle 1854L/11 to R.V. "GOLDSTAR" and escort to Fremantle.

✓ "ARMIDALE" arrived Darwin 1512L/15 from Thursday Island.

✓ "MARYBROUGH" } and "ERLING BROVIG" arrived Diego Garcia 1300L/15  
 "IPSWICH" } from Fremantle.

✓ HOSPITAL SHIP "MANUNDA" arrived Port Moresby 1801L/14 from Brisbane.

GENERAL.

COLLISION IN O.C.44.

At 1730L/15 "WHYALLA" reported "ZVIR" and "SKAGERAAK" collided. "ZVIR" badly damaged port side forward. Hove to "LIMERICK" standing by. "SKAGERAAK"s bow badly damaged and able to make 8 knots. Position 37°27'S. 150°17'E (about 17 miles E. of Cape Howe). Moderate South West gale.

At 1915L/15 "WHYALLA" reported "ZVIR" foundered. Survivors picked up by "LIMERICK".

~~D.V.I.~~



GENERAL (Contd.)

TO 0900L/SUNDAY, 15TH NOVEMBER, 1942.

"ZVIR", "SKAGERAAK" and "LIMERICK" departed Melbourne 2256L/13 together with 11 other vessels escorted by C.O. "WHYALLA" and "ROCKHAMPTON" for Adelaide and Fremantle.

"ZVIR" (5607 tons gross) had a cargo of ironstone and was bound for Newcastle.

"SKAGERAAK" (4244 tons gross) has a cargo of ironstone and is bound for Newcastle.

"LIMERICK" (8724 tons gross) has a general cargo and is bound for Sydney.

SUBMARINE REPORT OFF HERVEY BAY.

Army Post, Vernon Point, Hervey Bay reported sighting conning tower 330° 9 miles course westerly at 0945L/15. R.A.A.F. Bundaberg asked by N.O.I.C. Brisbane to provide air search.

H.M.A.S. "BOWEN" (A.M.S.)

15/11.

ENEMY AIR RAID.

PORT MORESEY - WARNING 1333L/15. Completed convoy.

ALL CLEAR 1356L/15.

"YULSA"  
(U.S. Gunboat)

- E.I.D. Brisbane 1800L/15 escorting Convoy, E.T. 10.

"MATAFELE"

- arrived Port Moresby 1045L/13.

"BOMBO"

- has been ordered to depart Sydney at 1100L/16 and proceed to Melbourne for refit.

LILLIPUT  
CONVOY

- To depart Townsville a.m. 15/11 escorted by 1 Destroyer and 2 A.M.S. Convoy is to split at position "Z". Portion "A" will proceed direct to Fall River with 2 A.M.S. escorts. Remainder of convoy will proceed to position "Y", with destroyer, where convoy will be met by "BODMER". Convoy will again split. The destroyer will escort "B" to Fall River. Portion "C" under escort of "BODMER" will proceed to Port Moresby. Portion "A" less "JOHN B. ASHE" will sail from Fall River a.m. 19/11 under escort of 2 A.M.S. to destination.

"PING HO"

- arrived Newcastle from Port Stephens at 1100L/14.

"PIPIE"

- will carry out gun trials, mine sweeping, and depth charges equipment trials in Port Phillip on Tuesday, November 17th.

WAINWILE (N.L. 613)

at Sydney, has completed all trials satisfactorily and will commission at 0900L/Monday, 16th November.

"BINGERA"

- will be at Jarvis Bay from Wednesday, 18th to Wednesday, 25th November.

"DOMINION  
KORAPCH"

- at 0650L/14. N.O.I.C. Sydney reported departure of "DOMINION KORAPCH" for Auckland E.T. 0700L/17.



DAILY NARRATIVE

MOST SECRET.

TO 0900L/SUNDAY, 15TH NOVEMBER, 1942.

- "TAMWORTH" - arrived Williamstown at 1555L/14, after escorting C.O. 44. To depart for Adelaide and Fremantle.
- "WARRNAMBOOL" - arrived Port Melbourne at 1632L/14 to refit after escorting C.O. 44.
- "WARREGO" - will rendezvous with convoy "L" (en route Townsville to Port Moresby) in vicinity of Fitzroy Island at 1430L/15, thence via Grafton Passage to Port Moresby E.T.A. 1400L/17.
- "BROOME" - arrived Port Moresby at 1110L/14, escorting "MONTORO" and "JANNSENS".
- "WALLAROO" - with U.S. "TRINITY" arrived Fremantle from Geraldton at 1215L/14.
- "DELORAINES" } - arrived Brisbane at 0240L/14, escorting Brisbane  
"MILDURA" } portion of G.P. 21, and departed at 0508L/14 escorting P.G. 21. E.T.A. Sydney 1400L/16.
- "INVERELL" - arrived Sydney from Newcastle at 1903L/14 escorting Newcastle portion of C.O. 45.
- "MORESBY" - escorting Sydney portion of C.O. 45 will rendezvous  
"ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" with Newcastle portion off Sydney Heads and escort completed convoy.
- "TULSA" - E.T.D. Brisbane 1600L/15 escorting Convoy B.T. 10.  
(U.S. Gunboat)
- "MATAFELE" - arrived Port Moresby 1049L/13.
- "BOMBO" - has been ordered to depart Sydney at 1100L/16 and proceed to Melbourne for refit.
- LILLIPUT CONVOY - To depart Townsville a.m. 15/11 escorted by 1 Destroyer and 2 A.M.S. Convoy is to split at position "Z". Portion "A" will proceed direct to Fall River with 2 A.M.S. escorts. Remainder of convoy will proceed to position "Y", with destroyer, where convoy will be met by "BROOME". Convoy will again split. The destroyer will escort "B" to Fall River. Portion "C" under escort of "BROOME" will proceed to Port Moresby. Portion "A" less "JOHN B. ASHE" will sail from Fall River a.m. 19/11 under escort of 2 A.M.S. to destination.
- "PING WO" - arrived Newcastle from Port Stephens at 1105L/14.
- "PIRIE" - will carry out gun trials, mine sweeping, and depth charges equipment trials in Port Phillip on Tuesday, November 17th.
- FAIRMILE (M.L. 813) at Sydney, has completed all trials satisfactorily and will commission at 0900L/Monday, 16th November.
- "BINGERA" - will be at Jervis Bay from Wednesday, 18th to Wednesday, 25th November.
- "DOMINION MONARCH" - at 0653L/14. N.O.I.C. Sydney reported departure of "DOMINION MONARCH" for Auckland E.T.A. 0700L/17.



"MINYAK TANAH" - (Dutch Naval Stores ship) departed Cairns at 1250L/14 on operations Augusta.

"STURGEON" (U.S. Submarine) - departs Brisbane at 1400L/15.

"KAPARA" - reported at 1000L/14. Little prospect of salvage, sea breaking over vessel - further news later. N.C.S.O. Adelaide advises that Salvage Officer is preparing to send "WOONDA" (Tug) and barge, but will await further news before despatching.

"ONDINA" (Dutch Tanker previously in company of H.M.I.S. "BENGAL") reported at 0148L/14 in P.L. "Want immediate medical assistance". F.O. Ceylon asked "ONDINA" to report her position, course and speed in Merchant Navy Code. "KANIMBLA" has been advised, original message.

ENEMY AIR RAIDS

"VAN GALEN" Fall River Warning at 1923L/15  
All clear at 1931L/15.

"WALLABOO" Port Moresby Warning at 1255L/15  
All Clear at 1411L/15.

"CHINA PA" returned Darwin 1700L/13 with R.N.S. party. Two mines rendered safe Vernon Island area (Clarence Strait).

Hospital ship "MANGABELLA" departed Port Phillip 0130L/13 for Fremantle.

GENERAL

"PAURO CHRIST" was slightly damaged as a result of her encounter with enemy submarine or small lightly armed surface vessel off KISIMA ISLAND 2100L/12. Effect on enemy unknown.

"KAPARA" AGROUND

On S.E. side of Flinders Island. At 1222L/13 hold and engine room were reported flooded and ship hard and fast on reef. The "POMEROY" departed Port Adelaide 1145L/13 to render assistance. "KAPARA" crew, except her captain and two members, has been landed. At 0330L/14 "KAPARA" reported that she was bumping heavily.

"BENGAL"

Was ordered by N.O.I.C. Fremantle at 1156L/13, if not satisfied that she had sufficient fuel to reach Diego Garcia to signal a rendezvous to "KANIMBLA" to escort her to Diego Garcia.

C. in C. E.F. at 1742L/13 advised N.O.I.C. Fremantle that "IPSWICH", "WANCOROUGH" and "WILING BROVIG" will be held at Diego Garcia until it is certain that they will not be required.

ENEMY PLANE WEST OF BROOME

A Catalina on patrol reported sighting one twin engined low winged monoplane presumed enemy at 1230L/13 about 300 miles west of Broome.



MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900L/Saturday, 14th November, 1942.

- ✓ "HENLEY" departed Brisbane 1639L/13 to join T.F. 44. Broome, stemming  
✓ "TOLGA" arrived Cairns 1800L/13 from Thursday Island.  
✓ "GOULBURN" departed Brisbane 1325L/13 to escort B.T. 18 including  
"EUNGAREE"  
✓ "INVERELL" arrived Newcastle 0620L/13 having completed escort of  
O.C.43.  
"SEA MIST" (P.M.B.) arrived Sydney 1119L/13 from Port Kembla.  
✓ "TAMWORTH" escorting O.C.44 departed Port Phillip 2003L/13.  
"MARRAWAH" arrived Port Melbourne 0855L/13 from Wilson's Promontory  
area.  
"BINGERA" departed Port Melbourne 0855L/13 arrived F.N.D. 1840L/13.  
"VAN GALEN" will rendezvous "AQUITANIA" 17/11 and escort to Fremantle.  
✓ "WALLAROO" escorting "TRINITY" departed Geraldton 1831L/13 for  
Fremantle - E.T.A. 1500L/14.  
"CHINA PA" returned Darwin 1700L/13 with R.M.S. party. Two  
mines rendered safe Vernon Island area (Clarence Strait).  
✓ Hospital Ship "WANGANELLA" departed Port Phillip 0136L/13 for  
Fremantle.

GENERAL.

- ✓ "FAURO CHIEF" was slightly damaged as a result of her encounter  
with enemy submarine or small lightly armed surface vessel  
off MISIMA ISLAND 2100L/12. Effect on enemy unknown.

✓ "KAPARA" AGROUND:

On S.E. side of Flinders Island. At 1222L/13  
hold and engine room were reported flooded and ship hard and fast  
on reef. Tug "FOREMOST" departed Port Adelaide 1145L/13 to  
render assistance. "KAPARA'S" crew, except her captain and two  
members, has been landed. At 0330L/14 "KAPARA" reported that she  
was bumping heavily.

"BENGAL"

Was ordered by N.O.I.C. Fremantle at 1156L/13,  
if not satisfied that she had sufficient fuel to reach Diego Garcia  
to signal a rendezvous to "KANIMBLA" to escort her to Diego Garcia.

C. in C. E.F. at 1742L/13 advised N.O.I.C.  
Fremantle that "IPSWICH", "MARYBOROUGH" and "ERLING BROVIC" will be  
held at Diego Garcia until it is certain that they will not be  
required.

ENEMY PLANE WEST OF BROOME:

✓ A Catalina on patrol reported sighting one twin  
engined low winged monoplane presumed enemy at 1230L/13 about 300  
miles west of Broome.



UNIDENTIFIED SIGHTING OFF BROOME: 942.

Senior Military Officer reported sighting of single funnel steamer about 15 miles off coast near Broome, steaming S.W. at 1600L/12, not sighted since. N.O.I.C. Fremantle and M.M.S. cannot identify. U.S. Seaplane tender "CHILDS" at Exmouth Gulf informed. N.O.I.C. Darwin and C.T.F. 51 have this.

ENEMY AIR RAID: "ARUNTA" R.T.D. Port Moresby 1600L/12 escorting "DUNIRCON", "S.J.FIELD", "ARON LEE", "GEORGE MATHEWS". Convoy will disperse at Fitzroy Island. Destination of "ARUNTA" Townsville. Fall River - Warning 0501L/14.

"KALOOBIE" escorting "BURNAN" arrived All clear 0520L/14. /12.

"LINGOW" arrived Cairns.....Fall River at 1550L/12.

"HWA" (U.S. Destroyer) departed Brisbane at 0135L/12.

"WALLAROO" escorting U.S. "TRINITY" arrived Geraldton from Fremantle at 1651L/12.

"TOWNVILLE" arrived Sydney at 2130L/12 after detaching from convoy O.C.43, off Sydney Heads. "INVERELL" will continue escort of Newcastle portion and remain Newcastle, until assuming escort of C.O.43.

"COULBURN" escorting convoy B.7.15 with "BURGAREE" in company, will depart vicinity of Cape Merton at 1900L/13.

"KAPUNDA" departs Sydney for Broken Bay at 1530L/12, for working up exercises - returns Sydney at 0900L/23.

"BOHO" towing concrete lighter arrived Sydney from Hobart at 2002L/12.

"KAPARA" (328 tons gross) aground on reef on Flinders Island (15 miles west of Waterloo Bay, on eastern extremity of Great Australian Bight) at 0204L/13. "KAPARA" was en route Neptune Island to Streaky Bay.

At 0443L/13 "KAPARA" reported - Will land crew at daylight. Engine room and hold flooded. Salvage Board and owners have been advised.

"BURGAREE" will carry out full calibre firing in Port Phillip between 1000L/13 and 1100L/13.

"GLENNELG" (A.M.S) Basin Trial completed satisfactorily at Sydney 10th November 1942.

"LATROBE" (A.M.S.) Full Power circle steering and astern trials satisfactorily completed at Sydney. Speed 15.61 knots. Ship taken over 12th November.

ENEMY SUBMARINE: reported by N.O.I.C. Port Moresby to be shelling "PABO CHIEF" (15 ton Air/Sea rescue) off KIRIMA ISLAND (110 miles east of Milne Bay) at 2000L/12.

"WANGAREE" (Hospital Ship) departed Melbourne at 2201L/12 - E.P.A. Fremantle 0700L/17.

"LINDRICK" at 2230L/12 advised position course and speed. A.O.R. is cancelling air search.

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To 0900L/Friday, 13th November, 1942.

- ✓ "ARMIDALE" departed Thursday Island at 1200L/12 - E.T.A. Darwin 1500L/15.
  - ✓ "WILCANNIA" arrived Sydney at 1203L/12 from Newcastle.
  - ✓ "ARUNTA" E.T.D. Port Moresby 1600L/12 escorting "DUNTROON", "S.J.FIELD", "JASON LEE", "GEORGE MATHEWS". Convoy will disperse at Fitzroy Island. Destination of "ARUNTA" Townsville.
  - ✓ "KALGOORLIE" escorting "BURWAH" arrived Darwin at 1705L/12.
  - ✓ "LITHGOW" arrived Cairns from Fall River at 1550L/12.
  - "HELM" (U.S. Destroyer) departed Brisbane at 0135L/12.
  - ✓ "WALLAROO" escorting U.S. "TRINITY" arrived Geraldton from Fremantle at 1631L/12.
  - ✓ "TOWNSVILLE" arrived Sydney at 2130L/12 after detaching from convoy O.C.43, off Sydney Heads. "INVERELL" will continue escort of Newcastle portion and remain Newcastle, until assuming escort of C.O.45.
  - "GOULBURN" escorting convoy B.T.18 with "BUNGAREE" in company, will depart vicinity of Cape Morton at 1900L/13.
  - ✓ "KAPUNDA" departs Sydney for Broken Bay at 1330L/12, for working up exercises - returns Sydney at 0900L/23.
  - ✓ "BOMBO" towing concrete lighter arrived Sydney from Hobart at 2002L/12.
  - ✓ "KAPARA" (846 tons gross) aground on reef on Flinders Island (15 miles west of Waterloo Bay, on eastern extremity of Great Australian Bight) at 0204L/13. "KAPARA" was en route Neptune Island to Streaky Bay.
- At 0448L/13 "KAPRAR" reported - Will land crew at daylight. Engine room and hold flooded. Salvage Board and owners have been advised.
- "BINGERA" will carry out full calibre firing in Port Phillip between 1000L/13 and 1100L/13.
  - ✓ "GLENELG" (A.M.S) Basin Trial completed satisfactorily at Sydney 10th November, 1942.
  - ✓ "LATROBE" (A.M.S.) Full Power circle steering and astern trials satisfactorily completed at Sydney. Speed 15.61 knots. Ship taken over 12th November.
  - ✓ ENEMY SUBMARINE: reported by N.O.I.C. Port Moresby to be shelling "FAURO CHIEF" (19 ton Air/Sea rescue) off MISIMA ISLAND (110 miles east of Milne Bay) at 2000L/12.
  - ✓ "WANGANELLA" (Hospital Ship) departed Melbourne at 2201L/12 - E.T.A. Fremantle 0700L/17.
  - "LIMERICK" at 2220L/12 advised position course and speed. A.O.R. is cancelling air search.

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1142/11 "HELM" reported "Waled on waterline fore and aft. Proceeding at 3 knots. Tanker hit and presumed lost. One enemy raider believed sunk and other not hit.

1202/12 - "WANGANELLA" departed Fremantle for position at 15 knots to return to Fremantle by 1600L/12. (C. in C. E.F. informed).

C. in C. E.F. issued a general warning to all shipping in the area.



To 0900L/Thursday, 12th November, 1942.

"HOBART" } departed Brisbane 2057L/11 for Cid Harbour.  
 "PHOENIX" }  
 "MUGFORD" } (Hobart/Sydney, leaving 11/11) proceeded 2057L/11  
 "PATTERSON" } to sea route to St Cuthbert Island for 24 hours.  
 "BAGLEY" }

"HELM" arrived Brisbane 1356L/11 from Melbourne.

"SELFRIDGE" departed Sydney 1138L/11 for Cid Harbour - E.T.A. 1430L/13.

"GEELONG" escorting "AASE MAERSK" departed Brisbane 1740L/11 for Cid Harbour - E.T.A. 1100L/14.

"FARRAGUT" arrived Brisbane 0621L/11 from Sydney.

"GRIFFIN" (U.S. Submarine tender) } departed Brisbane 1505L/11.  
 "FARRAGUT" }

"COLAC" escorting "TAROONA" and "CHARON" arrived Fall River 1400L/10. from Cairns.

"ARMIDALE" escorting "DARVEL" arrived Thursday Island 1020L/11 from Darwin - to return Darwin as soon as possible.

U.S. Submarine "SPEARFISH" arrived Brisbane 0515L/11.

"TULSA" returned Brisbane 2117L/11 from escorting B.T.16.

"DELOIRINE" } escorting G.P.21 including "BUNGAREE" departed Sydney  
 "MILDURA" } 1430L/11.

"KURUMBA" departed Sydney 1746L/11 to overtake and join G.P.21.

"ROCKHAMPTON" departed Sydney 1253L/11 to rendezvous Newcastle Port Kembla sections of C.O.44.

"WHYALLA" } escorting C.O.44 departed Sydney 1727L/11.  
 "WARRNAMBOOL" }

"PING WO" arrived Port Stephens 0940L/12 from Newcastle.

"WALLAROO" escorting "TULAGI" departed Darwin 0723L/10 to rendezvous "BURWAR" daylight 12/11 and escort to Darwin.

Hospital Ship "MANUNDA" departed Brisbane 0130L/11 for Port Moresby E.T.A. 0530L/15.

#### GENERAL.

##### "BENGAL" SHELLED:

"BENGAL" and tanker "ONDINA" (6,300 tons) departed Fremantle 1700L/5 for Diego Garcia - E.T.A. 1800L/17. 1634L/11 - "BEGAL" reported - "We are being shelled. My position 19°38'S. 93°05'E." (about 1430 miles N.W. of Fremantle.

1656L/11 - "Still firing. Enemy raider burning strongly aft."

1705L/11 repeated at 1757L/11 - "Still in contact with enemy." My position 285 19°38'S. 93°05'E."

2144L/11 "BENGAL" reported "Holed on waterline fore and aft. Proceeding at 9 knots. Tanker hit and presumed lost. One enemy raider believed sunk and other not hit.

0056L/12 - "KANIMELA" departed Fremantle for position at 18 knots to return to Fremantle by 1000L/21. (C.in C. E.F. informed).

C. in C. E.F. issued a general warning to all shipping in the area.



To 0900L/Wednesday 11th November, 1942.

"BOMBO":

(Hobart/Sydney, towing lighter) proceeded 0002L/11 after having been hove to at Gabo Island for 32 hours.

"WILCANNIA":

Detailed to escort C.O.44 from Newcastle to rendezvous off Sydney was reported by N.O.I.C. Newcastle at 0959L/11 to be unable to do so, owing to fractured rudder flange. Temporary repair is to be arranged to enable passage to Sydney.

"ARUNTA" arrived Port Moresby from Townsville at 1101L/10 escorting convoy "H".

"DORNA" } escorting convoy C.O.42 arrived Port Phillip at 1921L/10.

"MANSOUR" } .....

"DESLAINE" escorting Sydney section of C.O.42 arrived Sydney at 2647L/9.

"WILCANNIA" escorting Newcastle portion of C.O.42 arrived Newcastle at 0720L/9.

"ROCKHAMPTON" } escorting P.O.20 arrived Sydney at 1825L/9.

"ALBERTA NELSEN" }

"BROOME" intends departing Townsville at 1330L/11 escorting convoy "J.C." "STUART" will rendezvous with "BROOME" and convoy off Fitzroy Island light at 0600L/12 and escort "C" portion to Fall River S.T.A. 1420L/14. "BROOME" escorting "J" portion to Port Moresby - E.T.A. 0900L/14.

"SCORPION" } C.T.F. 44 departs vicinity Cape Norton at 2400L/11  
"TERRIBLE" } for Cid Harbour via Capricorn Channel - E.T.A.  
and three destroyers } 1000L/13.

"STELLA" (survey vessel) arrived Fall River from Cairns at 2230L/9.

"WARRIOR" arrived Adelaide from Whyalla at 1222L/10.

"YALGA" departed Thursday Island at 0840L/10 E.T.A. Cairns 1000L/12.

"AMERICA" (U.S. Supply Ship) towed by "SONORA" (U.S. Fleet Tug) and escorted by U.S. Sub chaser 476, will arrive Sydney from Ketchikan about 20th November.

"FAIR HUNT" (U.S. Destroyer) departed Sydney at 0917L/10 for Brisbane.

"SHEPHERD" (at Sydney) ordered at 1721L/10 to join C.T.F. 44, when ready at Cid Harbour without delay.

"SPERRY" (U.S. Submarine Tender) will rendezvous with U.S. Destroyer (to be detailed by C.T.F. 44) in position 320 miles E.N.E. of Brisbane at 0800L/12 and then proceed to Brisbane.

GENERAL

"BOMBO" (en route Hobart to Sydney towing lighter) reported to W.S.S. Gabo Island at 1842L/10. Have been hove to for 24 hours.

POSSIBLE SUBMARINE SIGHTING: (graded C.4.) at 0900L/10 in position 29037°E, 155°32'S (105 miles south of Brisbane).



To 0900L/Wednesday 11th November, 1942.

- ✓ "LITHCOW" escorting "KARSIK" departed Fall River at 0800L/10.  
E.T.A. Townsville 0700L/13.
- ✓ "ECHUCA" escorting "KURUMBA" arrived Sydney from Brisbane at 1135L/10.
- ✓ "KURUMBA" is to sail with G.P.21 at 1400L/11 for Townsville and Port Moresby.
- ✓ "PIRIE" arrived Williamstown at 1045L/9.
- ✓ "ARUNTA" arrived Port Moresby from Townsville at 1101L/10 escorting convoy "H".
- ✓ "DOOMBA" } escorting convoy C.O.43 arrived Port Phillip at 1023L/10.  
✓ "TAMWORTH" }
- ✓ "DELORAINÉ" escorting Sydney section of O.C.42 arrived Sydney at 2347L/9.
- ✓ "WILCANIA" escorting Newcastle portion of O.C.42 arrived Newcastle at 0720L/9.
- ✓ "ROCKHAMPTON" } escorting P.C.20 arrived Sydney at 1625L/9.  
✓ "ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" }
- ✓ "BROOME" intends departing Townsville at 1330L/11 escorting convoy "J.C." "STUART" will rendezvous with "BROOME" and convoy off Fitzroy Island light at 0600L/12 and escort "Q" portion to Fall River E.T.A. 1430L/14. "BROOME" escorting "J" portion to Port Moresby - E.T.A. 0900L/14.
- ✓ "HOBART" } C.T.F. 44 departs vicinity Cape Morton at 2400L/11  
✓ "PHOENIX" } for Cid Harbour via Capricorn Channel - E.T.A.  
and three destroyers } 1000L/13.
- ✓ "STELLA" (survey vessel) arrived Fall River from Cairns at 2230L/9.
- ✓ "BERMAGUI" arrived Adelaide from Whyalla at 1228L/10.
- ✓ "TOLGA" departed Thursday Island at 0640L/10 E.T.A. Cairns 1000L/13.
- ✓ "ALHENA" (U.S. Supply Ship) towed by "SONOMA" (U.S. Fleet Tug) and escorting by U.S. Sub chaser 479, will arrive Sydney from Neumea about 20th November.
- ✓ "FAR AGUT" (U.S. Destroyer) departed Sydney at 0917L/10 for Brisbane.
- ✓ "SELFRIDGE" (at Sydney) ordered at 1731L/10 to join C.T.F. 44, when ready at Cid Harbour without delay.
- ✓ "SPERRY" (U.S. Submarine Tender) will rendezvous with U.S. Destroyer (to be detailed by C.T.F. 44) in position 320 miles E.N.E. of Brisbane at 0800L/12 and then proceed to Brisbane.
- GENERAL.
- ✓ "BOMBO" (en route Hobart to Sydney towing lighter) reported to W.S.S. Gabo Island at 1640L/10. Have been hove to for 24 hours.
- ✓ POSSIBLE SUBMARINE SIGHTING: (graded C.4.) at 0908L/10 in position 29007'S. 153032'E (105 miles south of Brisbane).



To 0900L/Tuesday, 10th November, 1942.

- ✓ "BALLARAT" escorting "TASMAN" and "GENERAL VERSPIJCK" departed Fall River 2241L/8 for Townsville - E.T.A. 0600L/12.
- ✓ "LITHGOW" escorting "KARSK" arrived Fall River 2241L/8 from Port Moresby.
- ✓ "POLARIS" arrived Fall River 2241L/8.
- ✓ "TOLGA" arrived Thursday Island 1550L/9 from Cairns.
- ✓ "WATO" (Tug) arrived Cairns 1130L/9 from Port Moresby.
- ✓ "MINJAKTANAH" (R.N.N. Store Ship) departed Townsville 0755L/9 for Cairns E.T.A. 0900L/10 thence Thursday Island and Meranke.
- ✓ U.S. Submarine "SARGO" arrived Brisbane 0501L/9 from Fremantle.
- ✓ "ROCKHAMPTON" escorting P.C.20 with "ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" reported at 0827L/8 that "ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" was unable to keep up owing to engine defect.
- ✓ "DELORAINE" to detach off Sydney with Sydney section of O.C.42.
- ✓ "WILCANNIA" to continue escort of O.C.42 to Newcastle and escort C.O.44 from Newcastle to rendezvous off Sydney 11/11.
- ✓ "MORESBY" } detailed for C.O.44 to take over escort from "WILCANNIA".  
"WHYALLA" }
- ✓ "DELORAINE" } detailed for G.P.21 E.T.D. Sydney 1400L/11.  
"MILDURA" }
- ✓ "WARRNAMBOOL" arrived Sydney 0545L/9 from Townsville.
- ✓ "HELM" departed Port Phillip 0724L/9 for Brisbane E.T.A. Caloundra 1400L/11.
- ✓ "PIRIE" arrived Port Phillip 0740L/9 from Adelaide.
- ✓ "GOLDSTAR" departed Melbourne 2001L/9 for Fremantle E.T.A. 2000L/17.
- ✓ "DOOMBA" departed Port Melbourne 1501L/9 for escort duties with O.C.43.
- ✓ "BERMAGUI" departed Whyalla 0430L/9 for Adelaide E.T.A. 1730L/10.
- ✓ "VAN GALEN" escorting U.S.S. "TRINITY" arrived Fremantle 1335L/9.
- ✓ "CASTLEMAINE" returned Darwin 1053L/9 from OPERATION HAMBURGER.
- ✓ "ARMIDALE" having escorted "DARVEL" from Darwin until 2130L/9 was to rendezvous "KOOLIGA" at about 0730L/10 and escort to Darwin.
- ✓ "ILE DE FRANCE" arrived Auckland 9/11 from Hobart.

Hospital Ship "MAUNGANUI" departed Wellington 1044L/5 for Fremantle.

#### G E N E R A L.

- ✓ "MAROSA" secured Williamstown 1730L/9.
- ✓ H.M.A.S. "BOWEN" (A.M.S.) commissioned Brisbane 9/11.



To 0900L/Monday 9th November, 1942.

✓ "ECHUCA" escorting "KURUMBA" departed Brisbane for Sydney at 0911L/8 - E.T.A. 0530L/10.

✓ "CHESTER" (U.S. Cruiser) } arrived Sydney from Espiritu Santos at  
✓ "FARRAGUT" (U.S. Destroyer) } 0931L/8.

"HELM" departing Williamstown at 0530L/9 for Brisbane - E.T.A. Caloundra 1400L/11.

✓ "ARMIDALE" departed Darwin 0827L/8 escorting "DARVEL" towards Thursday Island, and to rendezvous with "BURWAH".

✓ "YANDRA" arrived Sydney at 2202L/7, escorting Sydney portion of O.C.41.

✓ "WHYALLA" arrived Sydney from Newcastle at 1115L/8 after escort duties with O.C.41.

"HOLLAND" arrived Williamstown at 1621L/8.

✓ "WAIPORI" (H.M.N.Z.S.) A/S Patrol vessel) departed Norfolk Island on 8/11 for Newcastle - E.T.A. 0800L/12.

✓ "MANUNDA" (Hospital Ship) arrived Brisbane from Sydney at 0920L/8.

✓ "MAROSSA" (1,513 tons previously aground 20 miles N.W. of Wilson's Promontory) due to enter Port Phillip in tow of tug "JAMES PATTERSON", at 0600L/9.

✓ "ROCKHAMPTON" } escorting G.P.23, arrived Brisbane  
✓ "WARREN CHILJESSEN" } 1025L/7, and departed 1453L/7 escort-  
..... E.T.A. Sydney 1500L/8.

✓ "OPENDOORN" - returned Brisbane 0540L/7, from escorting B.T.13.

✓ "GOULBURN" } returned Brisbane 0615L/7 from escorting  
✓ "HESTER" } B.T.14.

✓ "TILGA" - departed Brisbane 3005L/7 escorting B.T.15, E.T.A. Townsville 1600L/10.

✓ "STONESTILLS" - escorting C.O.43, departed Newcastle 0800L/7.

✓ "TAMBOURAY" } escorting C.O.43, departed Sydney 1715L/7.  
✓ "INTREPID" }

"YANDRA" is to detach with Sydney section of O.C.41, off Sydney.

"WHYALLA" is to continue escort of O.C.41 to Newcastle then return Sydney.



MOST SECRET.

U.S. Supply Ship DAILY NARRATIVE Melbourne 1355L/7

TO 0900L/SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8th, 1942.

- ✓ "HOBART" } returned Brisbane 0301L/7 from escorting O.C.42;  
✓ "PHOENIX" } full calibre day and night practices. completed  
✓ "MUGFORD" } escort of O.C.42.  
✓ "HENLEY" }
- ✓ "BALLARAT" - departed Adelaide 0621L/7 for Melbourne.  
✓ "BALLARAT" - escorting "TASMAN" and "GENERAL VERSPIJCK"  
arrived Fall River 1400L/6.
- ✓ "LITHGOW" - escorting "KARSIK", departed Port Moresby  
(U/S Trawler) 0800L/7 for Fall River E.T.A. 1500L/8,  
thence Townsville.
- ✓ "WATO" (Tug) - departed Port Moresby 2000L/6 for Cairns,  
E.T.A. 0600L/10.
- ✓ "ARUNTA" - E.T.D. Townsville 0200L/8 escorting  
Convoy "H.P." to rendezvous with "COLAC"  
at 1500L/8 off Fitzroy Island and proceed  
in company to a point about 145 miles  
S.S.E. of Port Moresby where convoy will  
split, "ARUNTA" escorting portion "H" to  
Port Moresby E.T.A. 1000L/10, and "COLAC"  
"P" portion to Fall River E.T.A. 1400L/10.
- ✓ "ROCKHAMPTON" } escorting G.P.20, arrived Brisbane  
✓ "ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" } 1025L/7, and departed 1453L/7 escort-  
ing P.G.20. E.T.A. Sydney 1500L/9.
- ✓ "GEELONG" - returned Brisbane 0540L/7, from escorting  
B.T.15.
- ✓ "GOULBURN" } returned Brisbane 0615L/7 from escorting  
✓ "ECHUCA" } B.T.14.
- ✓ "TULSA" - departed Brisbane 2005L/7 escorting B.T.16,  
E.T.A. Townsville 1600L/10.
- ✓ "TOWNSVILLE" - escorting C.O.43, departed Newcastle 0840L/7.
- ✓ "TAMWORTH" } escorting C.O.43, departed Sydney 1715L/7.  
✓ "INVERELL" }
- "YANDRA" is to detach with Sydney section of O.C.41, off Sydney.
- "WHYALLA" is to continue escort of O.C.41 to Newcastle then  
return Sydney.



- ✓ U.S. Supply Ship } arrived Port Melbourne 1655L/7  
 "GOLDSTAR" } from Sydney.
- "DOOMBA" - departed Port Phillip 0043L/7, escorting O.C.42;  
 arrived Port Melbourne 1543L/7, having completed  
 escort of C.O.42.
- ✓ "PIRIE" - departed Adelaide 0931L/7 for Melbourne.  
 E.T.A. Port Phillip 0730L/9.
- ✓ "MARY CAM" - arrived Whyalla 0805L/7 from Adelaide.  
 (M/s Trawler)
- ✓ "GAWLER" - arrived Fremantle 0805L/7 from Albany.
- ✓ "ARMIDALE" - escorting "TULAGI", arrived Darwin 1443L/7  
 from Thursday Island.

GENERAL.

- ✓ "HOLLAND" in tow of tugs "WOONDA", "EAGLE" and "EURO"  
 entered Port Phillip at 0815L/8.
- ✓ "HELM" entered Port Phillip 0822L/8, E.T.A. Nelson's  
 Pier Williamstown 1045L/8.
- ✓ H.M.A.S. "LATROBE" (A.M.S.) - Commissioned at Sydney 6/11  
 under command of Lieutenant Commander B.T. Brewster, R.N.
- ✓ M.L.1129. - Commissioned at Sydney 7/11 under command  
 of Sub-Lieutenant Godden, R.A.N.V.R.



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To 0900L Saturday, 7th November, 1942.

✓ "HOBART"  
"PHOENIX"  
"MUGFORD"  
"HENLEY" } departed Brisbane at 1111L/6 for full calibre day and night practices.

✓ "BAGLEY"  
"PATTERSON" } U.S. Destroyers leave vicinity Cape Moreton at 1700L/6 to rendezvous with U.S. submarine tenders "SPERRY" and "FULTON" in position, 480 miles east of Brisbane at 1800L/7 and escort to Brisbane.

✓ "SAN JUAN" (U.S. Cruiser) arrived Sydney from Noumea at 1405L/6.

✓ "CASTLEMAINE" departed Darwin at 0430L/6 on operations "Hamburger".

✓ "INVERELL" arrived Sydney from Broken Bay at 0821L/6.

✓ "TOWNSVILLE" arrived Newcastle from Sydney at 1552L/6.

"TOWNSVILLE"  
"INVERELL" } detailed to escort convoy C.O.43. "TAMWORTH" to be additional escort to Melbourne, and then relieve "DOOMBA".

✓ "WARREGO" arrived Cairns from Townsville at 0700L/6.

✓ "STELLA" (Survey Vessel) departed Cairns for Fall River at 0630L/6.

✓ "TOLGA" departed Cairns at 1840L/6 for Thursday Island.

"DOOMBA" E.T.D. departure from Gellibrand Light 2000L/6 - escorting O.C.42.

✓ "BOMBO" towing one concrete lighter departed Hobart at 1715L/6. E.T.A. Sydney 11/11.

✓ "ORANJE" (Hospital Ship) departed Sydney at 1252L/6 for Aden.

✓ "MANUNDA" departed Sydney for Brisbane at 1255L/6.

U.S.S. "HOLLAND". Further information -

At 2001L/6 aircraft sighting showed "HOLLAND" being towed by "WOONDA" in position 39° 01' S. 142° 14' E. Speed 3 knots. At 2355L/6 "EAGLE" departed Portland after bunkering. Will rendezvous with "HOLLAND" and escort, in position 39° 08' S. 143° 11' E. at 1101L/7 (off Cape Otway).

✓ "RUSHCUTTER" reported at 1538L/5: Number one loop out of operation.

AIR RAID.

Port Moresby:

Air Raid Warning 1345L/6.  
All Clear 1350L/6.



MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900L Friday, 6th November, 1942.

- "STELLA" - arrived Cairns 0920L/5 on passage from Townsville to Fall River.
- ✓ "BROOME" - departed Cairns 0500L/5, arrived Townsville 1805L/5 for A/S patrol of Cleveland Bay.
- "SOEDOE" (R.N.N. Supply Ship) - departed Cairns 1930L/4 for Thursday Island.
- ✓ "WARREGO" - escorting "GEORGE TAYLOR" arrived Townsville 0155L/5 from Port Moresby, departed Townsville 1815L/5 for Cairns to boiler clean, E.T.A. 0800L/6.
- U.S. Cruiser "CHESTER" )  
U.S. Destroyer "FARRAGUT" ) E.T.A. Sydney AM/9 from Espiritu Santo.
- "DOOMBA" - arrived Port Melbourne 2034L/5 from escorting C.O.41.
- "BINGERA" - departed Westernport 0930L/5 for exercise in Port Phillip. Entered Port Phillip 1445L/5.
- ✓ "MARY CAM" (M/S Trawler) - departed Adelaide 5/11 for Whyalla to relieve "BERMAGUI" as guard ship; "BERMAGUI" E.T.D. Whyalla 9/11 for Adelaide to dock and refit.
- "PIRIE" - subject to satisfactory trial, E.T.D. Adelaide AM/6 for Melbourne.
- ✓ "VAN GALEN" - departed Fremantle 1955L/5 to rendezvous U.S.S. "TRINITY" and escort to Fremantle E.T.A. 1102L/9.
- ✓ "BENGAL" - with tanker "ONDINA" departed Fremantle 1700L/5 for Diego Garcia E.T.A. 1800L/17, "ONDINA" thence to Abadan, "BENGAL" to Colombo E.T.A. 1800L/22.
- ✓ "TJERK HIDDÉS" - returned Fremantle 1414L/5 from escort duties.
- ✓ "GAWLER" - departed Albany 2015L/5 for Fremantle E.T.A. 1101L/7.
- ✓ "CASTLEMAINE" - escorting "DARVEL" returned Darwin 1453L/5.
- ✓ "ILE DE FRANCE" - arrived Hobart 1250L/5 from Fremantle, departed 1907L/5 for Auckland E.T.A. 0800L/9.

GENERAL.

- Tug "EAGLE" on passage from Melbourne to the assistance of U.S.S. "HOLLAND", arrived at Portland 2100L/5.  
Air reconnaissance reports progress of "HOLLAND" is very slow.
- ✓ H.M.A.S. "GYMPIE" (A.M.S.) - commissioned at Brisbane 4/11.

ENEMY AIR RAID:

PORT MORESBY - Warning 1900L/5. All Clear



DAILY NARRATIVE.

MOST SECRET.

To 0900L Thursday, 5th November, 1942.

- ✓ "ROCKHAMPTON" } departed Sydney at 0822L/4 escorting convoy  
G.P.20.
- ✓ "ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" }
- ✓ "WARRNAMBOOL" - departed Townsville for Sydney at 0827L/4. E.T.A. A.M./10.
- ✓ "BENDIGO" - arrived Brisbane from Townsville at 0525L/4.
- ✓ "ARMIDALE" - departed Thursday Island at 1230L/4, escorting "TULAGI" en route to Darwin.
- ✓ "DOOMBA" - departed Port Phillip at 1745L/4, escorting O.C.41, including "BUNGAREE".
- ✓ "WILCANNIA" - departed Newcastle at 1004L/4 escorting Newcastle portion C.O.42.
- ✓ "DELORAINÉ" - departed Sydney at 1907L/4 with Sydney portion of C.O.42, including U.S.S. "GOLDSTAR" (Stores Ship).
- ✓ "TOLGA" - arrived Cairns from Thursday Island at 1110L/4.
- ✓ "STELLA" - (Survey Ship) - departed Townsville at 0954L/4. E.T.A. Fall River 8/11.
- ✓ "BROOME" - ordered by N.O.I.C. Townsville, to sail from Cairns to carry out A/S patrol for vessels anchoring in Cleveland Bay.
- ✓ "INVERELL" (at Broken Bay) ordered to return to Sydney at 0900L/6. Required for convoy duties P.M./7.
- ✓ "SAN JUAN" (U.S. Cruiser) departed Noumea 1101L/4 for Sydney E.T.A. P.M./6. Ship requires docking.

AIR RAID - FALL RIVER.

Air Raid Warning at 1004L/4. All Clear at 1118L/4.

GENERAL.

- ✓ "MANUNDA" (Hospital Ship) arrived Sydney from Brisbane at 0855L/4.
- ✓ S.S.S.S. from "ROSEVILLE" (Norwegian) in position 173 miles east of Sydney at 1330L/4. A.C.N.B. consider sighting by "ROSEVILLE" is possibly one of three small auxiliary craft from New Zealand bound for Sydney.
- ✓ "BALLARAT" en route Cairns to Fall River, escorting "TASMAN" and "GENERAL VERSPIJCK". Reported at 1900L/4: Asdic gear broken down, cannot locate trouble.

~~D.V.I.~~  
Lieut. Thomas



DAILY NARRATIVE.

BT SECRET.

To 0900L Wednesday, 4th November, 1942.

- ✓ "POLARIS" (Survey Ship) - arrived Fall River 1348L/3 from Townsville.
- "PALUMA" - arrived Fall River 1348L/3.
- ✓ "WARREGO" - escorting "GEORGE TAYLOR", departed Port Moresby 2400L/2 for Townsville. E.T.A. 0700L/5.
- "BARALABA" - departed Port Moresby 1101L/3 for Cape Rodney with R.A.A.F. equipment (about 95 miles E.S.E. of Port Moresby) E.T.A. 1200L/4.
- ✓ "BALLARAT" - departed Cairns 1225L/3 to rendezvous "TASMAN" and "GENERAL VERSPIJCK" off Fitzroy Island and escort to Fall River, E.T.A. 1100L/6.
- ✓ "SOEDOE" (R.N.N. Storeship) - arrived Cairns 0850L/3.
- "WARPNAMBOOL" - arrived Townsville 1711L/3 from Thursday Island. E.T.D. Townsville 0700L/4 for Sydney.
- ✓ "TULSA" - returned Brisbane 2222L/2 from escort duty.
- ✓ "GEELONG" - departed Brisbane 2125L/2, escorting B.T.15 to Whitsunday Passage.
- "DELORAINÉ" - arrived Sydney 0118L/4 from escorting O.C.40.
- "WILCANNIA" - to escort Newcastle section of O.C.40 to Newcastle and take over escort of C.O.42.
- "BUNGAREE" - E.T.D. Port Phillip 4/11 with O.C.41 for Sydney to coal.
- ✓ "MARYBOROUGH" } departed Fremantle 2000L/3, in company with "ERLING BROVIG", for Diego Garcia E.T.A. PM/15, "IPSWICH" }  
✓ "IPSWICH" } thence to Kilindini E.T.A. 24/11, "ERLING BROVIG" to }  
Bombay, and "MARYBOROUGH" to Colombo, E.T.A. 20/11.
- ✓ "HEEMSKERCK" } arrived Fremantle 0951L/3 from escort duty. }  
✓ "TJERK HIDDES" } "DOMINION MONARCH" arrived Fremantle 1040L/3. }
- ✓ "TJERK HIDDES" - departed Fremantle 1931L/3 escorting "DOMINION MONARCH" till 2300L/4 then returning Fremantle.
- "CASTLEMAINE" - departed Darwin 1102L/3 to rendezvous "DARVEL" about 160 miles 055° from Darwin and escort to Darwin.

GENERAL.

"HOLLAND" - At 1530L/3 "HOLLAND", "HELM" and tug "WOONDA" in company but not towing were reported by search aircraft in position 38°19' S. 137°51' E. (about 155 miles S. of Backstairs Passage) course East, slow speed.

- ✓ "MOMBA" Off. - "MOMBA" reported aground in Hinchinbrook Channel 24/10 arrived Townsville 1557L/3.

ENEMY AIR RAIDS -

FALL RIVER -	Warning 1535L/3.	All Clear 1539L/3.
	Warning 1700L/3.	All Clear 1945L/3.
PORT MORESBY-	Warning 1930L/3.	All Clear 1942L/3.



DAILY NARRATIVE.

MOST SECRET.

*It is known*

To 0900L Tuesday, 3rd November, 1942.

"HOBART"	} Arrived Brisbane at 1033L/2, from operations in Coral Sea area.
"PHOENIX"	
"MUGFORD"	
"BAGLEY"	
"HENLEY"	
"PATTERSON"	} Arrived Thursday Island 1730L/31 from Fort Moresby.

✓ "BUNGAREE" - arrived Geelong from Auckland at 0831L/2.

✓ "GEELONG" - returned Brisbane at 1750L/2, after carrying out local M/S and A/S duties.

E.T.D. "GEELONG" escorting convoy B.T.15 from Brisbane 2010L/2. E.T.A. Townsville 0500L/6.

✓ "BALLARAT" - is to rendezvous with "TASMAN" and "GENERAL VERSPIJCK", in position 270°, 5 miles from Fitzroy Island Light, at 0900L/3. Thence via Grafton Passage to Fall River, E.T.A. 1900L/5.

✓ "WILCANNIA" - reported at 1845L/2 as follows: Intend proceeding independently with "BARWON". "DELORAINE" escorting remainder of convoy O.C.40, who are unable to keep up.

✓ "YANDRA" - departed Newcastle at 0551L/2, escorting Newcastle portion of C.O.41, owing to engine defect in "MORESBY", "YANDRA" will not detach at Sydney but will continue escort convoy with "WHYALLA".

✓ "WHYALLA" - departed Sydney 1323L/2, escorting Sydney portion of C.O.41

✓ "STELLA" (Survey vessel) arrived Townsville from Sydney at 2240L/2.

✓ "BINGERA" - will carry out exercises in Westernport and vicinity 2nd and 3rd November.

✓ "PRESTON" (U.S. Seaplane Tender) arrived Fremantle from Exmouth Gulf, at 1014L/2.

✓ "HERON" (U.S. Seaplane Tender) departed Fremantle at 1014L/2 for Exmouth Gulf.

"SEADRAGON" (U.S. Submarine) arrived Brisbane from Fremantle at 0450L/2.

"MANUNDA" (Hospital Ship) departed Brisbane at 1515L/2 - E.T.A. Sydney 0600L/4.

✓ U.S. "HOLLAND" - Further information -

1. Aircraft sighting at 1650L/2, gave position 38°08' S. 136°57' E. Course 096. Speed 2 knots. "HELM" was in company. Wind 20-25 knots. Direction W.N.W.

2. U.S. Navy D.S.O. Brisbane reported at 2050L/2: "HOLLAND" stopped in position 38°06' S. 136°59' E. Jury steering gear carried away. (Tugs have been passed this information).

3. "EAGLE" (Tug) departed Melbourne, and should arrive at above position at 1200L/4.

4. "WOONA" (Tug). E.T.A. 0300L/3.



To 0900L Monday, 2nd November, 1942.

- ✓ "LITHGOW" - returned Port Moresby 1643L/31, escorting "KARSIK", "MULIAMA" and "VAN SPILBERGEN" from Stephen Island.
- "BARALABA" - arrived Port Moresby 2355L/31 from Fall River.
- ✓ "ARMIDALE" - arrived Thursday Island 1730L/31 from Port Moresby.
- ✓ "TOLGA" - departed Thursday Island 0740L/1 for Cairns, E.T.A. AM/3.
- ✓ "STUART" - departed Townsville 0905L/1, arrived Cairns 1930L/1.
- ✓ "COLAC" - departed Townsville 2046L/31, arrived Cairns 0700L/1, to await orders.
- ✓ "BROOME" - departed Townsville 2046L/1, arrived Cairns 0825L/1 to await orders.
- ✓ "KATOOMBA" - returned Townsville 0530L/1 from Willis Island.
- ✓ "BENDIGO" - arrived Townsville 0700L/1, escorting "WEST CACTUS" and "BAN HONG LIONG" from Fall River, and departed Townsville 1638L/1 for Brisbane, E.T.A. 0600L/4.
- "GOULBURN" } - escorting ZK18, E.T.D. Pile Light, Brisbane, 1000L/2.
- "ECHUCA" = }
- "GEEELONG" - escorting ZK18A, E.T.D. Pile Light, Brisbane 2000/2.
- ✓ "YANDRA" - arrived Newcastle 1441L/1, having completed escort of O.C.39.
- ✓ "TOWNSVILLE" - arrived Sydney 0728L/1 escorting O.C.39.
- ✓ "INVERELL" - departed Sydney 1711L/1 for working up exercises in Broken Bay - to return to Sydney 9/11.
- "DOOMBA" - departed Port Phillip 0107L/1 escorting O.C.40.  
- Arrived Port Melbourne 1430L/1, having completed escort of C.O.40.
- "BUNGAREE" - E.T.A. Port Phillip 0300L/2 from Auckland.
- ✓ "VAN GALEN" } returned Fremantle 1130L/1 from escort duties.
- "TJERK HIDDES" }
- ✓ "HEEMSKERCK" } departed Fremantle 1630L/1 to escort "DOMINION MONARCH",
- "TJERK HIDDES" } to return Fremantle 3/11.
- ✓ Hospital Ship "MANUNDA" - arrived Brisbane 1025L/1 from Fall River.
- ✓ Hospital Ship "WANGANELLA" - arrived Port Phillip 1313L/1 from Brisbane.

GENERAL.

At 2121L/1 Comsowespac requested A.C.N.B. to have a tug proceed to the assistance of U.S.S. "HOLLAND" in position 38° 21' S. 136° 53' E. (about 240 miles from Adelaide and 400 from Melbourne). U.S.S. "HOLLAND" (submarine tender) on passage Fremantle/Brisbane was stopped, her rudder having carried away from hull, together with top and bottom of rudder skeg, entire weight about 15 tons hanging on rudder post bearing. N.O.I.C. Port Adelaide despatched tug "WOONDA" at 0315L/2, speed of advance 10 knots. "HELM" has been informed by Comsowespac.

ENEMY AIR RAIDS AND WARNINGS.

PORT MORESBY: Warning 0932L/1. Raid in progress  
All Clear 1049L/1 All Clear 2113L/1.

TOWNSVILLE: Yellow warning 1625L/1. All Clear 1652L/1.



900 Sunday 1st November, 1942.

Task Force 42 - is returning to Brisbane from operations area, E.T.A.

WARREGO arrived Port Moresby at 1101Z/31 from Fall River area.

GOULBURN returned Brisbane at 1204Z/31 from escort duties.

ECHUCA detached from convoy at 0002Z/31 arrived Brisbane at 2330L/31.

GEELONG escorting tug ST GILES with YOCHOW in tow, arrived Brisbane at 0525Z/31.

PING WO departed Sydney for Port Stephens at 0650Z/31 - arrived at 2001Z/31.

DOOMBA escorting O.C.40 departed Melbourne at 2200Z/1/11.

STUART escorting TAROONA, arrived Townsville from Port Moresby at 1659Z/31

U.S. Submarine WARRNAMBOOL departed Thursday Island at 1710Z/31 E.T.A. Townsville 2200Z/2/11

ROCKHAMPTON } escorting P.G.19 arrived Sydney at 1703Z/31  
ABRAHAM CRISSENSSEN }

WHYALLA ) have been detailed to take of escort duties of C.O.41  
MORRSEY ) from YANDRA, after rendezvous off Sydney at P.M. 2/11.

BARALABA departed Fall River at 1000Z/30, E.T.A. Port Moresby 0930Z/1/11

FORCEFUL (Tug) arrived Darwin from Port Hedland at 1240Z/31

p.m. ILE DE FRANCE departed Fremantle at 2100L/31 E.T.A. Hobart 1400Z/3

ORANJE (Hospital Ship) will depart Sydney 5/11 for Middle East.

U.S. Submarine SNAPPER arrived Brisbane at 0545Z/31 from Albany.

ENEMY AIR RAIDS.

PORT MORESBY

Air raid on progress at 0255Z/1/11  
All clear at 0547Z/1/11

FALL RIVER

Warning at 0042Z/1/11  
All clear at 0110Z/1/11.

SUSPICIOUS LIGHTS SEEN BY SEAFARER

Master and Torres Strait pilot of "J. S. LUTHER" report having sighted two lights at 0400L/31 after dispersal of northbound convoy from Brisbane, close to starboard bow, very close together, in position about 30 miles N. of western entrance to Harvey Bay. Lights were still visible fifteen minutes later when left stern set at dawn over from northwards no object was visible.  
"TARANA" (Small Coaster) and "CAPT. LEWIS" (Lighthouse vessel) may have been in vicinity.



DAILY NARRATIVE.

TOP SECRET.

To 0900L Saturday, 31st October, 1942.

Task Force 44 - is returning to Brisbane from operations area, E.T.A. P.M./2.

- "BARALABA" - arrived Fall River 1500L/28 from Port Moresby.
- "ARMIDALE" - departed Port Moresby 0905L/30 for Thursday Island. E.T.A. Ince Point, Wednesday Island, 1800L/31.
- "STUART" - escorting "TAROOMA", departed Port Moresby 0200L/30 for Townsville E.T.A. 1800L/31.
- "WATO" - towing barge, departed Thursday Island 1630L/30 for Port Moresby, E.T.A. A.M./3.
- "POLARIS" - departed Townsville 0808L/30 for Fall River, E.T.A. A.M./2.
- "KURUMBA" - arrived Townsville 1620L/30 from Brisbane.
- U.S. Submarine "AMBERJACK" - arrived Brisbane 0620L/30.
- "SAMUEL BENBOW" - arrived Sydney 1310L/30 from Newcastle.
- "TOWNSVILLE" - escorting O.C.39 is to be detached off Sydney with Sydney section.
- "YANDRA" - is to continue escort of O.C.39 to Newcastle, remain there and escort C.O.41 to rendezvous off Sydney 2/11.
- "BINGERA" - departed Port Melbourne 0925L/30 arrived F.N.D. 1830L/30.
- "GAZLER" - arrived Albany 1438L/30 from Adelaide.
- U.S. Minesweeper "WHIPPOORWILL" - arrived Fremantle 0805L/30 from Albany.
- Transport "ILDE DE FRANCE" - arrived Fremantle 0846L/30 from Durban.
- Hospital Ship "MANUNDA" - departed Fall River 28/10, E.T.A. Brisbane 1200L/31.

GENERAL.

POSSIBLE ENEMY SUBMARINE ACTIVITY:

Sydney Radio reports that each morning this week from midnight to 0600L, very strong station on 6980 Kc/s. has been causing interference over Port Moresby from same frequency. Monterey knows all about this station which is 2,000 miles away; exact location uncertain.

R.D.F. BEARING FROM PORT MORESBY:

R.D.F. Station, Port Moresby, at 2307L/30 obtained strong first class bearings 139° true distance unknown, of surface vessel using call sign R.S. NO on 6650 Kc/s. Call sign is not known here.

SUSPICIOUS LIGHTS NORTH OF HERVEY BAY:

Master and Torres Strait pilot of "J. R. LOWELL" report having sighted two lights at 0400L/28 after dispersal of northbound convoy from Brisbane, close to starboard bow, very close together, in position about 30 miles N. of eastern entrance to Hervey Bay. Lights were still visible fifteen minutes later when left astern but at dawn even from mastheads no object was visible.

"TINANA" (Small Coaster) and "CAPE LEEUWIN" (Lighthouse vessel) may have been in vicinity.



DAILY NARRATIVE

2.

FRIDAY, 20th October, 1942.

H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" arrived Port Melbourne at 1150L/29 having completed escort  
H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" was paid off into reserve at Sydney 26/10 and  
recommissioned in reserve with reduced complement 27/10 while under-  
going conversion to A.L.C. carrier. "COMBAT", "GEORGE TAYLOR" and  
"PAUL KING" arrived Port Moresby at 0800L/29.

"MARRAWAH"s" OPERATIONS:

"MARRAWAH" reports having examined 28/10 position of  
possible mine reported north of Flinders Island with negative result;  
mine moored near Clarke Island has been rendered safe, and "MARRAWAH"  
has proceeded to wreck "MAROSA" to render assistance to salvage party  
landed R.M.S. party and gear at Foster and proceeded to Welshpool,  
E.T.A. 31/10, to coal.

ENEMY AIR RAIDS AND WARNINGS:

PORT MORSEBY	-	Warning 0613L/30	All Clear 0640L/30.
		Warning 1655L/30	All Clear 1727L/30.
HORN ISLAND	-	Warning 1017L/30	All Clear 1019L/30.
FALL RIVER	-	Raid in progress 0010L/31.	All Clear 0054L/31.

"BENDIGO" departed Fall River at 2200L/29, escorting "SAN HONG LIONG",  
"THE HOLLAND" and "WEST EACHTUS". "BENDIGO" will depart Fall  
River at 0900L/30 and join "BENDIGO" at sea. E.T.A. Townsville  
0800L/1/11.

"MARRAWAH" } escorting F.G.13 departed Brisbane at 1900L/29,  
"MARRAWAH" } E.T.A. Sydney 0430L/1/11.

U.S. Submarine "SABRY" and "SCORPION" arrived Brisbane at 0425L/29.

U.S. Destroyer "HELAN" departed Sydney at 1730L/29 to rendezvous with  
U.S. Submarine Tender "HOLLAND" in vicinity 36° 05' S. 154° 00' E.,  
thence through Bass Strait. ("HOLLAND" is en route Fremantle to  
Brisbane.)

U.S. Escort "TULSA" departed Brisbane at 1050L/29, escorting north-  
bound convoy, E.T.A. Townsville 0900L/1/11. "TULSA" will detach  
from convoy at Whitehead Passage.

ENEMY AIR RAIDS:

Port Moresby - Warning sounded at 0258L/30.  
All Clear 0430L/30.

"MARRAWAH" (Hospital Ship) departed Brisbane at 1545L/29 - E.T.A.  
Melbourne 1800L/1/11.

"HELAN" (Special Ship) en route Darwin to Melbourne, and Sydney.  
E.T.A. Melbourne 17th November.

"MARRAWAH" (Cargo S/S 2021 gross tons), is 1000L/29, E.T.A. Townsville  
reported "MARRAWAH" still aground in Hinchinbrook Channel (about  
40 miles SW of Townsville). (Vessel grounded at 1450L/24.)



DAILY NARRATIVE.

200L/Friday, 30th October, 1942.

"MOMBA" arrived Port Melbourne at 1148L/29 having completed escort of C.O.39.

"STUART" } escorting "JASON LEE", "GORGON", "GEORGE TAYLOR" and  
"ARMIDALE" } "PAUL WINGATE" arrived Port Moresby at 0901L/29.

"ARMIDALE" will depart Port Moresby at 0900L/30 for Thursday Island  
E.T.A. Ince Point 1800L/31.

"DELORAINNE" } departed Sydney at 1732L/29 escorting C.O.40.  
"WILCANNIA" }

"WHYALLA" escorting Newcastle portion of C.O.40, departed Newcastle  
at 1045L/29 and arrived Sydney at 1842L/29.

"LITHGOW" departed Port Moresby at 1545L/28, to rendezvous with "VAN  
"SPILBERGEN", "MULIANA" and "KARSIK" at Stephens Island.  
E.T.A. 1900L/29.

"DUBBO" arrived Fremantle from Albany at 0715L/29.

"TAMWORTH" arrived Sydney, from exercises in Jervis Bay area, at 0738L/29

"BENDIGO" departed Fall River at 2301L/28, escorting "BAN HONG LIONG",  
"VAN HEEMSKERK" and "WEST CACTUS". "DILGA" will depart Fall  
River at 2000L/28 and join "BENDIGO" at sea. E.T.A. Townsville  
0600L/1/11.

"ROCKHAMPTON" } escorting P.G.19 departed Brisbane at 1900L/29,  
"ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" } E.T.A. Sydney 0430L/1/11.

U.S. Submarines "SAURY" and "SWORDFISH" arrived Brisbane at 0425L/29.

U.S. Destroyer "HELM" departed Sydney at 1852L/29 to rendezvous with  
U.S. Submarine Tender "HOLLAND" in vicinity 38° 00' S. 134° 00' E.,  
thence through Bass Strait. ("HOLLAND" is en route Fremantle to  
Brisbane.)

U.S. Gunboat "TULSA" departed Brisbane at 1054L/29, escorting north-  
bound convoy, E.T.A. Townsville 2000L/1/11. "TULSA" will detach  
from convoy at Whitsunday Passage.

ENEMY AIR RAID.

Port Moresby - Warning sounded at 0358L/30.  
All Clear 0410L/30.

"WANGANILLA" (Hospital Ship) departed Brisbane at 1545L/29 - E.T.A.  
Melbourne 1200L/1/11.

"NESTOR" (Special Ship) en route Durban to Melbourne, and Sydney.  
E.T.A. Melbourne 17th November.

"MOMBA" (Cargo M/S 3021 gross tons). At 1055L/28, N.O.I.C. Townsville  
reported "MOMBA" still aground in Hinchinbrook Channel (about  
60 miles 327° from Townsville). (Vessel grounded at 1435L/24.)

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To 0900L Thursday, 29th October.

- "HENLEY" departed Brisbane 0819L/28, presumably to join T.F.44.
- "WARRNAMBOOL" arrived Thursday Island 1701L/28 from Darwin.
- "LITHGOW" departed Port Moresby 1545L/28 to rendezvous "VAN SPILBERGEN", "MULIAMA" and "KARSIK" in Great North Eastern Channel at 1900L/29.
- "BARALABA" on passage Port Moresby/Fall River now expects to arrive at 1200L/29.
- "KATOOMBA" escorting "EKATERINI COUMANTAROU" arrived Townsville 1330L/28 from Port Moresby, and departed 1715L/28 for Willis Island (about 280 miles N.E. of Townsville). E.T.A. 0730L/30 to pick up sick O.I.C. W/T station there and convey him to Cairns.
- "GOULBURN" escorting "BANTAM" bound for Townsville, departed Brisbane 0955L/28. "GOULBURN" will part company at 1100L/30.
- "WILCANNIA" } detailed for C.O. 40, to take over escort from "WHYALLA"  
"DELORAINIE" } off Sydney P.M./29.
- "MORESBY" escorting Sydney portion of O.C. 38, and "GOLDSTAR" arrived Sydney 0412L/28.
- "WHYALLA" having completed escort of Newcastle portion of O.C.38, arrived Newcastle 1124L/28.
- "DOOMBA" departed Fawcner Beacon at 0032L/29 to assume escort of O.C.39.
- "MARRAWAH" departed Welshpool 0101L/28 to investigate mine reports north of Flinders Island and at Clarke Island.
- U.S. Submarine Tender "HOLLAND" } departed Fremantle 2220L/27 "HOLLAND"  
R.N.N. Destroyer "VAN GALEN" } for Brisbane, "VAN GALEN" and  
" " " "TJERK HIDDES" } "TJERK HIDDES" escorting to vicinity  
longitude 125° E. thence returning  
Fremantle.
- U.S. Minesweeper "WHIPPERWILL" departed Albany 0911L/28 for Fremantle.

GENERAL.

SUBMARINE SIGHTING REPORT.

Pilot and observer on training flight from Bairnsdale reported that at 0823L/28 in position about 80 miles 239° from Gabo Island at a height of 1800 feet they saw a large white wash which they considered to be caused by a submarine submerging. On circling the spot they saw a dark shadow which they considered larger than that of a whale, together with what was thought to be the feather of a periscope on an easterly course. Duration of sighting was approximately one minute.

"YOCHOW'S" ENGINE DEFECTS.

At 1646L/28 N.O.I.C. Brisbane reported that "YOCHOW" had developed engine defects 27/10 necessitating towage by "KURUMBA" to Hervey Bay. After consultation with Comsowespac "KURUMBA" was ordered to continue passage independently to Townsville. "GEELONG" is standing by "YOCHOW" pending arrival of Tug "ST. GILES" to tow her to Brisbane, E.T.A. Brisbane of "GEELONG", "ST. GILES" and "YOCHOW" P.M./31.

ENEMY AIR RAIDS AND WARNINGS.

Townsville -	Warning Yellow	1749L/28.	
Perth -	Warning	0914L/28.	All Clear 0930L/28.
Port Moresby-	Warning	2125L/28.	All Clear 2140L/28.
	Warning	0050L/29.	All Clear 0138L/29.
	Raid in progress	0325L/29.	All Clear 0424L/29.

UNIDENTIFIED CROSSINGS AT DARWIN.

N.O.I.C. Darwin reported unidentified crossings on No. 1 loop at 2317L/28 and 0216L/29. Crossings were similar to those recorded 8/8 and 16/8.

PORT MELBOURNE INTERCEPT OF JAPANESE MORSE.

At 0035L/29 W/T Office Port Melbourne intercepted Japanese morse signals on 425 Kc/s. (L.D.W.).



To 0900L Wednesday, 28th October, 1942.

"DUBBO" departed Albany for Fremantle at 1317L/27 E.T.A. 1000L/29.

"DRESBY" detached from O.C.38 with Sydney section of convoy.

"WHYALLA" continuing as escort to Newcastle, of remainder.  
To remain at Newcastle and escort C.O.40, and rendezvous with Sydney portion off Sydney 29/10.

"ECHUCA" } departed Sydney at 0755L/27, escorting convoys  
"ROCKHAMPTON" } Z.K.18 and G.P.19.  
"ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" }

"TOWNSVILLE" } departed Sydney at 1628L/28 escorting C.O.39.  
"YANDRA" }

"STUART" departed Cairns at 0430L/27 to rendezvous with "ARMIDALE" and Convoy "F", vicinity Fitzroy Island - thence to Port Moresby via Grafton Passage - E.T.A. 1600L/28.  
"STUART" will anchor in position 198° 1 mile from P.W.S.S. and maintain A/S watch.

"GEELONG" at 1803L/27 H.O.I.C. Brisbane ordered "GEELONG" escorting convoy B.T.11, to detach "JAMES R. LOWELL" (to proceed independently) and escort "KURUMBA" towing "YOCHOW" to nearest suitable anchorage in Hervey Bay (off Bundaberg). "KURUMBA" will then proceed to Townsville independently - "GEELONG" is to stand by "YOCHOW", awaiting arrival of tug, then escort both to Brisbane. (No further details to hand.)

"BARALABA" departed Port Moresby at 2230L/25, E.T.A. Fall River 1400L/28.

"MARRAWAH" at 1009L/27 ordered to proceed to Welshpool forthwith to embark R.M.S. party and proceed at daybreak 28/10 to position where mines are moored in vicinity of Clarke Island.

"VIGILANT" out from Darwin, ordered by H.O.I.C. Darwin at 1521L/27, to return to harbour.

"FORCEFUL" (Tug) departed Port Hedland at 0100L/27 for Darwin E.T.A. dawn 31/10.

"WATO" (Tug) en route Darwin to Port Moresby arrived at Thursday Island at 1705L/27.

"TOLGA" (Aux. M/S) arrived Thursday Island at 1704L/27 from Groote Eylandt

U.S. Submarine "SARGO" E.T.D. Fremantle for Brisbane 2000L/29.

U.S. Submarines "SAURY" and "SWORDFISH" departed Sydney at 0928L/27 for Brisbane.

U.S. Seaplane Tender "CHILDS" departed Fremantle for Exmouth Gulf at 0946L/27.

U.S. Submarine Tender "HOLLAND" will depart Fremantle for Brisbane about 2000L/27, escorted by R.N.H. Destroyers "VAN GALEN" and "TJERK HIDDES", who will return to Fremantle on reaching 125° east.

U.S. Destroyer "HENLEY" arrived Brisbane from Sydney at 1542L/27.

#### GENERAL.

"DOOMBA" will carry out full calibre shoot in Port Phillip on afternoon 28/10. "BINGERA" will do likewise from 0900L to 1200L/29/1.

"KOROWA" will carry out full calibre firing vicinity Wilson's Promontory, commencing 1600L/28.

FALL RIVER - Air Raid Warning 0555L/28. All Clear 0605L/28.

DARWIN - Air Raid Warning 1214L/27 All Clear 1222L/27.

No further details.



To 0900L/Tuesday, 27th October, 1942.

"AUSTRALIA" } arrived Sydney 1625L/26 from Brisbane.  
"SELFRIDGE" }

"WARREGO" having departed Fall River at 1721L/24 for operations to northward reported at 1200L/26 that A/S sweeps completed.

"BENDIGO" escorting "WEST CACTUS" and "VAN HEEMSKERK" arrived Fall River 2036L/25, from Cairns.

"POLARIS" arrived Townsville 0915L/26 from Brisbane.

"ARMIDALE" escorting Convoy F departed Townsville 1157L/26 to rendezvous "STUART" off Fitzroy Island at 0600L/27, thence Port Moresby, E.T.A. 1600L/28.

"ARUNTA" arrived Cairns 0710L/26 from Fall River, departed Cairns 1000L/26 for Townsville, and arrived 1710L/26.

"HENLEY" departed Sydney 1332L/26 for Brisbane, E.T.A. 1900L/27.

"GEELONG" escorting "KURUMBA", "YOCHOW" and "J. R. LOWELL", northbound departed Brisbane 0226L/27.

"WILCANNIA" escorting C.O.39, departed Newcastle 0942L/26, arrived Sydney 1753L/26.

"ALLENWOOD" arrived Port Stephens 0858L/26 from Newcastle.

"STELLA" (Survey Vessel ex "WAREEN") departed Sydney 1440L/26 for Townsville.

"BIRCHGROVE PARK" } Arrived Sydney 0814L/26.  
U.S. Submarines "SAURY", "SWORDFISH" }

"VENDETTA" arrived Sydney 0810L/26 from Melbourne.

"DOOMBA" having completed escort of C.O.38 arrived Port Melbourne 1131L/26.

"GAWLER" departed Adelaide 1930L/25 for Albany, E.T.A. 1030L/30.

H.N.M. Light Cruiser "HEEMSKERK", Destroyers "VAN GALEN", "TJERKHIDDES" arrived Fremantle 1126L/25. Placed under Comsowespac's operational command by Admiral Coster.

"KALGOORLIE" returned Darwin from escort duty at 2253L/26.

Tug "FORCEFUL" on passage Fremantle/Darwin arrived Port Hedland 1345L/26

Hospital Ship "WANGANILLA" arrived Townsville 0010L/26 from Sydney, and departed 1345L/26 for Brisbane E.T.A. 2230L/28.

Hospital Ship "MANUNDA" arrived Port Moresby 0912L/26 from Brisbane, and is to proceed Fall River and return Brisbane.

#### GENERAL.

#### MINES REPORTED IN BASS STRAIT:

C.D.H. Hobart advised at 1423L/26 that a resident of Clarke Island (south of Flinders Island) reported that he had moored a mine approximately 3'6" in diameter in his boat harbour at a small island N.W. of Clarke Island. A Beaufort aircraft from Bairnsdale reported sighting an object resembling a mine about 15 miles N. of Flinders Island.

#### ENEMY AIR RAID:

Darwin - Warning 0255L/27  
- Raid 0308L/27.  
- All Clear 0330L/27.



DAILY NARRATIVE.

SECRET.

0900L/Monday, 26th October, 1942.

- ✓ "AUSTRALIA" } departed Brisbane at 1015L/25 for Sydney. E.T.A.
- ✓ "SELFRIDGE" } 1615L/26.
  
- ✓ "HOBART" (Flag C.T.F.44) }
- ✓ "PHOENIX" }
- ✓ "HUGFORD" } departed Brisbane at 2132L/25 for
- ✓ "PATTERSON" } operational area - Coral Sea.
- ✓ "BAGLEY" }
  
- ✓ "ARMIDALE" escorting "TASMAN" and "BONTEKOE" arrived Townsville from Fall River at 0605L/25.
  
- ✓ "ARMIDALE" escorting "TAROONA", "JASON LEE", "GORDON", "PAINE WINGATE" and "GEORGE TAYLOR" intends departing Townsville at 1100L/26. This party will rendezvous with "STUART" off Fitzroy Island at 0600L/27 and proceed to Port Moresby, via Grafton Passage. E.T.A. 1600L/28 - "STUART" arrived Cairns from Fall River at 2150L/25.
  
- ✓ "WARRNAMPOOL" escorting "KARISIK" departed Darwin at 0800L/25. E.T.A. Thursday Island 1900L/28.
  
- ✓ "CESSNOCK" arrived Fremantle from Albany at 0801L/25 and will relieve "MARYBOROUGH" on continuous A/S patrol, until further orders. "CESSNOCK" is to rendezvous with Netherlands Cruiser "HEMCKERCK", and Destroyers "VAN CALEN" and "TJERK HIDDEN" in position 18.5 miles 281° from Rottneest Island light, at approximately 1101L/25. "CESSNOCK" will then escort party to Fremantle.
  
- ✓ "WILCANNIA" arrived Newcastle at 0801L/25 - having completed escort duties with O.C.37.
  
- ✓ "WARRECO" departed Fall River at 1721L/24, for operations North of Fall River.
  
- ✓ "DELORAINÉ" } arrived Sydney 2327L/24, escorting Sydney
- ✓ "ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" } portion of O.C.37.
  
- ✓ "VIGILANT" returned Darwin from operation Hamburger, at 0923L/25.
  
- ✓ "MARY CAM" (M/S Trawler) arrived Adelaide from Melbourne at 0827L/25.
  
- ✓ "COLAC" arrived Townsville from Port Moresby at 2058L/25.
  
- ✓ "BIRCHGROVE PARK" (Auxiliary M/S) will rendezvous at 0600L/26 with U.S. Submarines "SAURY" and "SWORDFISH", 15 miles east of Sydney Heads, and escort to Sydney. ("VENDETTA" en route Melbourne to Sydney, previously ordered to carry out this duty, but had not acknowledged at 2201L/25.)
  
- ✓ "HUNGARIE" departed Auckland at 1429L/25 for Melbourne. E.T.A. 1400L/2/11.
  
- ✓ "WANAKA" (R.A.A.F. Auxiliary) arrived Sydney from Brisbane at 0125L/25.
  
- ✓ "PING WO", arrived Sydney from Port Stephens at 1805L/25.
  
- ✓ "ALLENWOOD" (M/S Coaster) departed Sydney for Port Stephens at 0614L/25.
  
- ✓ "KATOOMBA" escorting "EKATERINA COUMANTAROU" departed Port Moresby at 1500L/25 - E.T.A. Townsville 1400L/28.



GENERAL.

"PAUL REVERE" (U.S. Transport) departed Vila 24/10 for Melbourne.  
E.T.A. P.M. 31/10.

"DOMINION MONARCH" departed Bombay 24th October, E.T.A. Fremantle  
3rd November.

"HOPERIDGE" arrived Melbourne at 1944L/25.

During the absence of Rear-Admiral Muirhead-Could on leave,  
his flag will be struck at 0800L/25 and rehoisted at 0800L/21.  
Captain A. H. Spurgeon, O.B.E., will carry out the duties of N.O.I.C.  
Sydney.

ENEMY AIR RAIDS:-

Darwin - P.M. 25 and A.M. 26.

Fall River - P.M. 25 and A.M. 26.

Port Moresby - P.M. 25.

No naval casualties or damage reported.



To 0900L/Sunday, October 25th.

- "AUSTRALIA" } Arrived Brisbane 1415L/24.
- "PHOENIX" }
- "SELFRIDGE" }
- "MUGFORD" }
- "AUSTRALIA" - E.T.A. Sydney daylight 27/10 to refit
- "SELFRIDGE" - is to join "AUSTRALIA" off Pile Light, Brisbane at 0930L/25 to proceed in company to Sydney for maintenance.
- "HOBART" - E.T.A. Brisbane 0530L/25 from Sydney.
- "ARUNTA" } departed Fall River 1700L/23, escorting "ISLANDER"
- "STUART" } to Cairns, E.T.A. Grafton Passage 1200L/25. "STUART" is to remain at Cairns for escort duty, "ARUNTA" to proceed to Townsville.
- "BALLARAT" - Arrived Cairns 0810L/24 from Townsville, to boiler clean.
- "ARMIDALE" - is to be sailed from Townsville for Thursday Island as soon as practicable after return of "STUART" to Townsville.
- "BROOME" - arrived Townsville 1254L/24 from Sydney.
- "GEELONG" - returned Brisbane 1035L/24.
- "PING WO" - E.T.D. Port Stephens 0630L/25 for Sydney.
- "YANDRA" } escorting P.C. 18, arrived Sydney 1532L/24. Detailed
- "TOWNSVILLE" } for C.O. 39, to take over escort from "WILCANNIA" at rendezvous off Sydney PM/26.
- "DELORAINES" } escorting O.C. 37, to detach with Sydney section.
- "ABRAHAM CRIJNSSSEN" }
- "WILCANNIA" - escorting O.C. 37 to Newcastle, to remain there and escort C.O. 39 to rendezvous off Sydney 26/10.
- F.S. "LE TRIOMPHANT" - now expects to arrive Port Phillip to work up about 10/11.
- "VENDETTA" - departed Port Phillip 1957L/24 for Sydney E.T.A. 0700L/26.
- "GOLDSTAR" - departed Melbourne 1900L/24 with O.C. 38 E.T.A. Sydney approximately 0200L/26.
- "DOOMBA" - departed Port Phillip 2256L/24, escorting O.C. 38.
- "GAWLER" - arrived Adelaide 0857L/24 from Sydney, E.T.D. Adelaide 1930L/25 for Albany.
- "ADELAIDE" } arrived Fremantle 1945L/24.
- "PELIAS" }
- "CESSNOCK" - on passage Albany/Fremantle is to rendezvous "HEEMSKERK", "VAN GALEN" and "TJERK HIDDEN" 18.5 miles 281° from Rottnest Is. at 1101L/25 and lead them into Fremantle.
- "FORCEFUL" (Tug) - departed Carnarvon 1635L/23 for Port Hedland E.T.A. 1400L/26.
- "KALGOORLIE" - departed Darwin 1152L/24 escorting "YARRA" to position about 250 miles 059° from Darwin.
- "TOLGA" - departed Groote Eylandt 1956L/24 for Booby Island, E.T.A. 0930L/27.
- "BUNGAREE" - E.T.D. Auckland 1400L/25 for Port Phillip E.T.A. 1400L/2.



GENERAL

"MOMBA" AGROUND

"MOMBA" (Cargo M.V. 3021 tons gross) on passage Lucinda Point to Townsville was reported at 1435L/24 to be aground Hinchinbrook Channel (about 60 miles 327° from Townsville).

It was hoped to refloat her by last night's tide. Cargo is not known, but is probably sugar.

C.O. 38

At 1145L/24 "MORESBY" reported that Convoy was 15 hours late. E.T.A. position D (rendezvous with O.C. 38) is now 0300L/26.

H.M.A.S. "LEISURLEA" (N.A.P.)

Commissioned 23/10.

ENEMY AIR RAIDS

Darwin - Warning (received 0515L/25.  
Raid in progress 0600L/25  
All clear 0630L/25.

Port Moresby - Warning 2112L/24.  
All clear 2214L/24.  
Warning 2324L/24.  
All clear 2335L/24.

Darwin raided 0445L/24 by probably 12 bombers in 4 flights. Bombs fell south of Darwin. No naval casualties or damage.

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To 0900L/Saturday, 24th October, 1942.

"GENELONG" departed Brisbane at 1225L/23 to carry out local M/S and A/S duties.

"BALLARAT" escorting "MAETSUYCKER", "BOTH" and "JAPARA" arrived Townsville from Fall River at 1439L/23 - departed Townsville at 1601L/23 for Cairns to boiler clean - E.T.A. 0800L/24.

"WARRNAMBOOL" escorting "KARSIK" arrived Darwin from Thursday Island at 1455L/23.

"ARUNTA" } N.O.I.C. Fall River reported at 1700L/23, operations  
"STUART" } in Goodenough Island area completed. "ARUNTA" and "STUART"  
will depart Fall River and escort "ISLANDER" to Cairns  
E.T.A. Grafton Passage 1300L/25.

"CESSNOCK" departed Albany for Fremantle at 1745L/23 - E.T.A. 0900L/25.

"KALGOOLIE" arrived Darwin at 1542L/23 from escorting and sweeping operations.

"COLAC" departed Port Moresby 22nd October escorting "NORDNES", "ASPASIA" and "NOMIKOS". "COLAC" and "NORDNES" for Townsville E.T.A. 1130L/25 remainder Cairns - E.T.A. 2300L/24.

"HOBART" departed Sydney at 0325L/24 for Brisbane - E.T.A. Pile Light 0001L/25.  
0530L/25

"TRUT" (U.S. Submarine) returned to Brisbane at 0520L/23.

"PELLAS" (U.S. Depot Ship) departed Albany at 0810L/23 for exercises, thence Fremantle.

"SEADRAGON" (U.S. Submarine) departed Fremantle for Brisbane at 1915L/23.

GENERAL.

H.M.A.S. "STELLA" (ex "WARREEN") commissioned as surveying vessel at 0900L/22nd October, under command of Lieutenant T.F. Roberts, R.A.N.R.

"WATO" (Tug) departed Darwin at 0451L/23 for Port Moresby via Thursday Island.

"MARRAWAH" will carry out full calibre firing in vicinity Wilsons Promontory from 1600L/23.

H.M.A.S. "WARRAMUNGA" (Destroyer) N.O.I.C. Sydney reported at 1823L/23 Basin trial completed satisfactorily 22nd October.

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To 0900L/Friday, 23rd October, 1942.

"STUART" } departed Fall River 1400L/22 for Goodenough Island.  
 "ARUNTA" } Operations expected to be completed by 0900L/23.

"ARNIDALE" escorting "TASMAN" and "BONTEKOE" departed Fall River 1830L/22 for Townsville - E.T.A. 0200L/25.

"KATOOMBA" escorting "VAN HEUTZ" arrived Port Moresby 0953L/22.

"BENDIGO" departed Cairns 0310L/22 to rendezvous "VAN HEEMSKERK" and "WEST CACTUS" and escort to Fall River. Arrived Cairns 1215L/22 to procure provisions for "VAN HEEMSKERK" departed Cairns 1630L/22 escorting "VAN HEEMSKERK" - E.T.A. Fall River 1000L/26.

"YANDRA" } escorting P.G.18 departed Brisbane 0144L/22 - E.T.A.  
 "TOWNSVILLE" } Sydney 0200L/24.

"BROOME" escorting "TIME" and "GENERAL VERSPIJCK" (ex G.P.18) E.T.A. Townsville 1600L/24.

"POLARIS" (Survey Vessel) - departed Brisbane 1059L/22 E.T.A. Townsville A.M./26.

"ROCKHAMPTON" escorting Newcastle portion of C.O.38 departed Newcastle 0924L/22, and arrived Sydney 2118L/22.

"MORESEY" } departed Sydney 1624L/22 escorting C.O.38.  
 "WHYALLA" }

"VENDETTA" expects repairs to be completed by 1800L/24.

"DOOMBA" escorting C.O.37 arrived Port Melbourne 2309L/22.

"MARY CAM" (M/S Trawler) - departed Port Phillip 1335L/22 for Pt. Adelaide - E.T.A. 0600L/25.

"DUBBO" arrived Albany 1252L/22 from Adelaide.

U.S. Submarine "SNAPPER" departed Albany 1900L/22 for Brisbane.

Hospital Ship "WANGANILLA" departed Sydney 1745L/22 for Townsville - E.T.A. 0145L/26.

Hospital Ship "MANUNDA" departed Brisbane 1255L/22 for Port Moresby E.T.A. 0700L/26.

#### GOODENOUGH ISLAND OPERATIONS:

At 2310L/22 N.L.O. Port Moresby warned "STUART" and "ARUNTA" that an enemy light cruiser was expected via Dawson Strait (between FERGUSON ISLAND and NORMANBY ISLAND) to contact forces on GOODENOUGH ISLAND before 0400L/23, and to expect Hudson reconnaissance first light.

#### "ALHENA" DETAINED:

"ALHENA" on passage to Sydney in tow "NAVAJO" is detained at Noumea.



AIR RAID WARNING:

TOWNSVILLE - yellow 1148L/22.  
white 1202L/22.

ENEMY AIR RAIDS:

PORT MORESBY - warning  
raid in progress  
all clear 1851L/22.

FALL RIVER:

Warning 2235L/22.

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To 0900L/Thursday, 22nd October, 1942.

"POULBURN" arrived Brisbane at 0555L/21 escorting "KURUMBA".

"BUNGAREE" arrived Auckland at 1735L/20.

"ROCKHAMPTON" arrived Newcastle at 0519L/21, having completed escort duties with O.C.36.

"BALLARAT" escorting "MAETSUYCKER", "BOTH" and "JAPARA" departed Port Moresby at 1400L/20, E.T.A. Townsville 0900L/23.

"WARRECO" escorting "TASMAN" and "BONTEKOE" arrived Port Moresby at 2100L/20.

"BENDIGO" will rendezvous with "WEST CACTUS" and "VAN HEEMSKERK", vicinity Fitzroy Island Light at 0600L/22, and escort party to Fall River via Crafton Passage and China Strait - E.T.A. 2359L/24.

"ADELAIDE" departed Fremantle at 1957L/21 for exercises and patrol in Fremantle and Albany area, returning Fremantle 24/10.

"TAMWORTH" departed Sydney at 1635L/21 for working up exercises at Broken Bay.

"DOOMBA" } departed Melbourne escorting convoy O.C.37 at  
 "ABRAHAM CRIJNSSEN" } 2317L/21.

U.S. Submarine "SNAPPER" departs Albany at 1900L/22 for Brisbane.

U.S. Submarine "SEA DRAGON" departs Fremantle at 1900L/23 for Brisbane.

U.S. Submarine "SAURY" and "SWORDFISH" will call at Sydney for 24 hours, en route to Brisbane from Fremantle.

"PING WO" arrived at "ASSAULT" from Newcastle at 1320L/21.

"GIPPSLAND" departed Sydney for Broken Bay at 1715L/21.

"BABALABA" is to proceed to Portland Roads from Port Moresby, to off load ocean going supply ships.

"WANAKA" (R.A.A.F. Auxiliary) E.T.D. Brisbane for Sydney 1200L/22.

"RUSHCUTTER" reported at 0801L/21. Numbers one and eleven loops out of operation.

H.M.A.S. "KAPUNDA" (A.M.S.) commissioned <sup>at Sydney</sup> at 1100L/21, under command of Lt. Cdr. Menlove, D.S.O., R.A.N.R.(S).

Yellow rain - Port Moresby.....

Issued at 2307L/20 R.A.F. plot indicated 1 unidentified aircraft approaching from east at 2300L/20. No further information.

Snow air raid

Port Moresby: Held in progress 2100L/20.  
 All clear 0200L/20.

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To 0900L/Wednesday, 21st October, 1942.

"KATOOMBA" escorting "ANHUI" arrived Port Moresby 1715L/19 and departed 2005L/19 to rendezvous "VAN HEUTZ" vicinity Bramble Cay (Great North Eastern Channel) and escort to Port Moresby - E.T.A. 0900L/22.

"WARRENAMBOOL" - escorting "KARSIK" departed Thursday Island 1528L/20 for Darwin.

"BENDIGO" is to rendezvous "VAN HEEMSKERK" and "WEST CACTUS" off Fitzroy Island at 1700L/22 and escort to Fall River.

U.S. Submarine "TROUT" which departed Brisbane 17/10 for Fremantle has been ordered to return to Brisbane.

"MORESBY" escorting O.C.36 arrived Sydney 2020L/20.

"MORESBY" } detailed for C.O.38 to take over escort from "ROCKHAMPTON"  
"HYALLA" } off Sydney P.M/22.

"DROMBA" arrived Port Melbourne 2101L/20 having completed escort of C.O.36.

"MARRAWAH" departed Port Phillip 1335L/20 for Wilson's Promontory area.

F.S. "LE TRIOMPHANT" - E.T.A. Port Phillip about 1/11 from Sydney for 7 days' work up.

"VENDETTA" delayed in Melbourne owing to damage to stern whilst manoeuvring - E.T.D. A.M/23 for Sydney.

Tug "FORCEFUL" departed Fremantle 1900L/20 for Darwin via Carnarvon and Port Hedland, E.T.A. Darwin 1200L/21.

U.S. Seaplane Tender "HERON" arrived Fremantle 1657L/20 from Exmouth Gulf.

U.S.N. Transport "MOUNT VERNON" arrived Wellington 1125L/20 from Sydney.

Submarine indications:

D/F indications over past few days of enemy submarine in position about 200 miles 028° from Cape Moreton, graded C.3.

At 2043L/19 there was a fair D/F fix of an enemy submarine about 300 miles 110° from Fall River. COMSOWESPAC passed to "STUART", "ARUNTA", "ARMIDALE" and "BALLARAT".

Yellow warning - Port Kembla:

Issued at 2207L/20 R.D.F. plot indicated 1 unidentified aircraft approaching from east at 2258L/20. No further information.

Enemy air raid:

Port Moresby: Raid in progress 2110L/20.  
All clear 2212L/20.

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To 0900L/Tuesday, 20th October, 1942.

"KALGOORLIE" escorting "PERIOD" (en route to Thursday Island) departed Darwin at 0505L/19. "KALGOORLIE" will remain as escort until 220 miles out, and will then return to Darwin.

"ARUNTA" arrived at Port Moresby from Fall River at 0730L/19, and departed for Fall River at 1830L/19 - E.T.A. 0800L/20.

"STUART" arrived Townsville from Sydney at 1805L/19 - to sail for Fall River - E.T.A. 1000L/21.

"ARMIDALE" departed Townsville at 1100L/19, escorting "DILGA" and "BAW HONG LIONG" to Fall River via Grafton Passage and China Strait - E.T.A. 1400L/22 ("BENDIGO" did not join "ARMIDALE" as additional escort as previously planned).

"TOWNSVILLE" } escorting convoy G.P.18 departed Sydney at 0956L/19  
"YANDRA" } "BROOME" departed Sydney at 1223L/19 to overtake and act as additional escort to Caloundra then to proceed to Townsville.

"DELOIRINE" } departed Sydney at 1445L/19, and will join "WILCANNIA"  
"GAWLER" } with Newcastle portion as escorts for convoy C.O.37. "GAWLER" will detach from convoy in Bass Strait and proceed to Adelaide - E.T.A. 0700/KL/24.

"BINGERA" entered Port Phillip at 1345L/19.

GENERAL.

"VENDETTA" reported at 0923L/19 damage to stern while manoeuvring in Victoria Dock. Ship at present unseaworthy. At 1115L/19 W.O.I.C. Port Melbourne reported "VENDETTA" to return to Victoria Dock for repairs to hull.

"POLARIS" arrived Brisbane at 1521L/19.

"FORCEFUL" (Tug) will leave Fremantle 20/10 for Darwin, calling at Carnarvon and Port Hedland, en route.

HOSPITAL SHIP "WANGANELLA" arrived Sydney from Wellington at 1628L/19.

ENEMY AIR RAID:

FALL RIVER - Warning sounded at 1018L/19.  
All clear at 1045L/19.

PORT MORESBY - Warning sounded at 1032L/19  
All clear at 1102L/19.

No further details.

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To 0900L/Monday, 19th October, 1942.

"ARUNTA" escorting "JAPARA", "MAETSUYCKER" and "BOTH" arrived Fall River 1500L/17 from Townsville. "ARUNTA" E.T.A. Port Moresby 0700L/19 to fuel.

"PALUMA" arrived Fall River 1500L/17.

"BALLARAT" escorting "ISLANDER" departed Port Moresby 2200L/18 for Fall River - E.T.A. 0200L/20.

"KATGOMBA" ordered at 2201L/18 by N.O.I.C. Port Moresby to await arrival of "VAN HEUTZ" towing 2 empty lighters from Thursday Island, at Stephens Island (Great North Eastern Gannet) - E.T.A. A.M./19 and escort "both vessels" (presumably "VAN HEUTZ" and "ANHUI") to Port Moresby.

"LITHGOW" } escorting "ADMIRAL HALSTEAD", "TAROONA", "STAGEN"  
"COLAC" } "GEORGE MATHEWS", "JOHN STEELE", and "STEPHEN J. FIELD"  
arrived Port Moresby 2335L/18 from Townsville.

Tug "WAREE" departed Thursday Island 0800L/18 for Port Moresby

"ARMIDALE" } E.T.D. Cleveland Bay 1000L/19 escorting "VAN HEEMSKERK",  
"BENDIGO" } "DILGA", and "BAN HONG LIONG" to Fall River.

"PING WO" arrived Newcastle 1258L/17 from Port Stephens.

"WILGANNIA" arrived Newcastle 1910L/18 having completed escort of O.C.35.

"TOWNSVILLE" arrived Sydney 1038L/18 from escorting O.C.35.

U.S. Submarines "SAURY", "SWORDFISH" departed Rottneest Island 1900L/18 for Brisbane.

"KALGOBELIE" escorting "YARRA" arrived Darwin 2130L/17 from Thursday Is.

"CASTLEMAINE" arrived Darwin 1921L/18 from Thursday Island.

"TOLGA" on completion of discharge at Groote Eylandt is to proceed to vicinity Thursday Island for short haul of water in vicinity.

"BURRIE" arrived Kilindini 1700L/16 from Diego Garcia.

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DAILY NARRATIVE

To 0900L Sunday, 18th October, 1942.

- DOOMBA arrived Port Phillip at 2145L/16 from escort duties, and departed at 1900L/17 from Fawcner Beacon to assume escort of Convoy OC 38.
- COULBURN escorting "George Taylor" (en route to Townsville). Departed Brisbane at 1024L/17.
- STUART departed Sydney at 0926L/16 from Townsville, thence Fall River area.
- WARREGO escorting "Tasman" and "Bontekoe" departed Townsville at 0810L/17 - E.T.A. Fall River 1800L/19.
- BALLARAT is to rendezvous with "Van Heutz" (towing two lighters ex "WAREE") at Stephens Island, and escort to Port Moresby. "WAREE" is to proceed from Thursday Island to Port Moresby independently. BALLARAT will depart Port Moresby escorting ISLANDER, about noon 18/10 for Fall River. Earliest E.T.A. 1900L/19.
- YANDRA } arrived Sydney at 1619L/17 escorting P.G. 17 less "BIDELIA".  
DELORAINE }
- YANDRA } detailed to escort convoy G.P. 18 BROOME to be additional  
TOWNSVILLE } escort to Caloundra, then to proceed to Townsville for further orders.
- ROCKHAMPTON departed Sydney at 1501L/17 escorting Sydney portion of C.O. 28. To rendezvous with MORESEY and NEWCASTLE portion C.O. 35 off Sydney Heads.
- DUBBO departed Adelaide for Albany at 1930L/17 - E.T.A. 2000L/22.
- U.S. SUBMARINE departed Brisbane at 1810L/17 for Fremantle.  
TROUT
- U.S. SEAPLANE departed Exmouth Gulf 16/10 - E.T.A. Fremantle 1800L/19.  
TENDER HERON
- HOSPITAL SHIP arrived Wellington at 0729M/17.  
MAUNGANUI
- U.S. MOUNT (Transport) departed Sydney at 1604L/17  
VERNOH

GENERAL

VENDETTA intends leaving Victoria Dock at 0800L/19. After fuelling at Williamstown at 0900L/19 will proceed to Sydney.

Following received from LITHGOW per R.A.A.F. Aircraft.

GEORGE MATHEWS (in convoy B Townsville to Pt. Moresby.) and EGBERT BENSON independently (Port Moresby to Townsville) in collision. Both proceeding to their destination.

RUSHCUTTER reported at 2119L/16 that number 5 and 6 loops are out of action.

ENEMY AIR RAID at Fall River

Air raid warning sounded at 0137L/18

All clear at 0200L/18.



MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900L/Saturday, 17th October, 1942.

✓ "HRRNAMBOOL" escorting "KURUMBA" arrived Thursday Island 1150L/16 from Darwin.

✓ "BUNDABERG" escorting P.G.16A arrived Sydney 0642L/16.

✓ "STUART" E.T.D. Sydney 0900L/17, E.T.A. Townsville 1800L/19 - E.T.A. Townsville 1800L/19 - E.T.A. Fall River 000L/22. If tanker could be met at Cairns or Townsville - E.T.A. Fall River would be advanced probably 12 hours. N.O.I.C. Townsville intends to fuel "STUART" from "AASE MAERSK" in Cleveland Bay.

✓ "TROMP" arrived Sydney 1350L/16 from Melbourne.

✓ "WILCANNIA" departed Sydney 140L/16 to rendezvous O.C.35 at 0600L/17 as additional escort in position about 65 miles 082° from Gabo Island.

✓ "MORSEBY" departed Sydney 1221L/16 for Newcastle, and arrived 1711L/16.

✓ "VENDETTA" E.T.D. Melbourne A.M./19 for Sydney for deperming D.C. ranging, till test, fitting type A286(2) for full power trial.

✓ "BINGERA" departed Port Melbourne 0945L/16 arrived F.N.D. 1910L/16.

✓ "DUBEO" arrived Adelaide 0930L/16 from Melbourne.

✓ "SPRINGDALE" arrived Adelaide 1608L/16 from Fremantle via Albany.

✓ "CAIRNS" departed Fremantle 1230/1/16 in company with tanker "HILDA KNUDSEN" for Diego Garcia - E.T.A. 0200L/29. "HILDA KNUDSEN" thence to Abadan, "CAIRNS" to Kilindini, E.T.A. 7/11.

H.N.M. Cruiser "HEMSKERK" } E.T.A. Fremantle P.M.25/10.  
H.N.M. Destroyer "VAN GALEN" }  
H.N.M. Destroyer "TJERK(?)HIDDES" }

GENERAL.

"MAROSA" AGROUND:

At 1911L/16 "MARRAWAH" reported "Second hauling wire laid out partly buoyed. Anchors not yet attached. Returning to Melbourne E.T.A. 0400L/17."

GUNFIRE WEST OF KINGSTON (S.A.)

Army personnel reported sound of heavy gunfire about 16 miles west of KINGSTON at 0945L/16. Three Ansons from Mount Gambier were ordered to search the area. No shipping known to be in the area.

C.O.37.:

"WILCANNIA" and "WHYALLA" detailed for C.O.37 - E.T.D. Newcastle 19/10, "GAWLER" to be additional escort to Bass Strait then to proceed Adelaide and Fremantle.

C.O.38 and O.C.36:

Exchange of escorts is to take place about 75 miles 234° from Gabo Island at 0800L/19.



"COMARA" IN TROUBLE:

"WYANGARIE" which went to "COMARA'S" assistance 14/10 reported at 1012L/16 - "Towing difficult - proceeding Broken Bay renew hawsers".

ENEMY AIR RAIDS:

FALL RIVER - Warning 2007L/16.  
All clear 2033L/16.

Warning 0513L/17.  
All clear 0547L/17.

"ALHENA" TORPEDOED:

"ALHENA" in tow "NAVAJO" (Fleet tug) E.T.D. Espiritu Santo 15/10 for Sydney at 5 knots. "ALHENA" (U.S.N. Auxiliary cargo vessel 6,800 tons gross) had been damaged by torpedo hit. At Consopac's request Consowespac has reserved dry dock at Sydney for "ALHENA" about 29/10.

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To 0900L/Friday, 16th October, 1942.

"CASTLEMAINE" escorting "JOSEPH LANE" arrived Thursday Island from Darwin at 0930L/15 - departed for Darwin at 1800L/15 - E.T.A. 1800L/18.

"DELOIRINE" } escorting G.P.17 arrived Brisbane at 0750L/15 and  
"YANDRA" } departed escorting P.G.17 at 0830L/15.

"WHYALLA" } escorting O.C.34 arrived Sydney at 1109L/15  
"ROCKHAMPTON" } including Newcastle portion, which is sheltering.

"DOOMBA" escorting O.C.35 departed Port Phillip at 0103L/15.

"LITHGOW" } departed Townsville at 1710L/15 escorting convoy to  
"COLAC" } Port Moresby - E.T.A. 1600L/18.

"ARUNTA" } required by C.S.W.P. for operational duties Milne Bay  
"STUART" } area, for approximately 3 days commencing about 21st  
October.

U.S. Submarines "SWORDFISH" and "SAURY" intend departing Fremantle for Brisbane via Albany about 1900L/18. Bombing restrictions will be arranged.

U.S. Submarine "TROUT" departs Brisbane at 1500L/17.

G E N E R A L.

H.M.A.S. "PARA" (N.A.P.) Commissioned at Adelaide Wednesday 14th October, 1942.

Hospital Ship "WANGANILLA" arrived Wellington from Sydney at 2229M/14.

"WARRE" (Tug) arrived Thursday Island escorting 2 barges at 1518L/15.

"POLARIS" at 2256L/15 N.O.I.C. Sydney reported "POLARIS" weather bound at Port Stephens.

ENEMY AIR RAIDS:

TOWNSVILLE : Air Raid Warning at 1350L/15.  
(No further details).

FALL RIVER : Warning at 05 00L/15  
All clear at 0645L/15.

2 UNIDENTIFIED CRAFT (POSSIBLY SUBMARINES) :

Sighted by aircraft at 1306L/15 travelling S.E. from Mullens Harbour (50 miles W. of Milne Bay). A.O.R. Townsville have not graded this report.

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To 0900L/Thursday, 15th October, 1942.

"KATOOMBA" escorting "JOHN B. ASHE" arrived Port Moresby 1119L/14 from Fall River.

"KALGOORLIE" escorting "YARRA" departed Thursday Island 0825L/14 for Darwin - E.T.A. 1730/KL/18.

"BENDIGO" arrived Cairns 0805L/14 from Townsville.

"ARUNTA" escorting "MAETSUYCKER", "BOTH" and "JAPARA" departed Townsville 1145L/14 for Fall River - E.T.A. 1100L/17.

"LITHGOW" } escorting "TAROONA", "GEORGE MATHEWS", "JOHN STEELE"  
 "COLAC" } "STEPHEN J. FIELD", "STAGEN" and "ADMIRAL HALSTEAD",  
 E.T.D. Townsville 1600L/15 for Port Moresby.

"TULSA" arrived Brisbane 1855L/14 from Sydney.

"BROOME" arrived Sydney 1608L/14 from Jervis Bay.

"TROMP" departed Port Phillip 1817L/14 for Sydney - E.T.A. 1400L/18.

"DOOMBA" departed Port Melbourne 1301L/14 for duty with O.C.35.

"DUBBO" departed Port Phillip 1013L/14 for Adelaide - E.T.A. 0730L/18.

U.S. Submarine "TAMBOR" arrived Fremantle 0515/1/14 from Albany.

"CLARK", "MONOWAI" - escorting "WAHINE", arrived Norfolk Island 0800M/9 from Auckland.

#### G E N E R A L.

##### "MAROSA" AGROUND:

"TOORONGA" refloated A.M/14 not leaking and damage may be confined to stern post and rudder.

At 1201L/14 "UKI" reported that she was following "PATTERSON" and "TOORONGA" to Oberon Bay.

At 1338L/14 "UKI" reported that she was returning to Melbourne.

"PATTERSON" towing "TOORONGA" was to rendezvous large tug outside Heads A.M/15, "PATTERSON" to bunker repair steering gear and return to "MAROSA".

26 trucks and working party of 32 men left Melbourne P.M/14 to transport cargo off beach.

A further attempt to refloat "MAROSA" is to be made next Spring tide.

##### POSSIBLE ENEMY SUBMARINE ACTIVITY:

1015M/14 - training aircraft sighted small oil patches about 110 miles 150° from Backstairs Passage. Another aircraft sighted a patch of oil 200 to 400' long and 30 to 50' at 1830KL/13 about 80 miles further south-east.

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POSSIBLE ENEMY SUBMARINE ACTIVITY (Contd.)

1148/KL/14 - training aircraft from Mount Gambier sighted submerged stationary object about 200 miles  $170^{\circ}$  from Backstairs Passage. Aircraft circled position but could not obtain further sighting.

1559 to 1604/KL/14 - pilot and two observers about 60 miles  $110^{\circ}$  from Backstairs Passage sighted defined lines of foam travelling east and altering course accurately.

"COMARA" in trouble:

"COMARA" (cargo S.S., 751 tons gross) on passage Newcastle/Coff's Harbour and Clarence River reported at 1951L/14 that she needed immediate assistance in position about 125 miles  $040^{\circ}$  from Newcastle. "WYANGARIE" (cargo M.V. 1050 tons gross) has been instructed to proceed to her aid.

"STUART" and "ARUNTA":

Will be required to transport a military force to Goodenough Island from Milne Bay, sailing about 21/10.

C.O.36 delayed:

Due to prevailing weather conditions, C.O.36 due to depart 15/10 is not to depart until 16/10. "MORESBY" and "ROCKHAMPTON" detailed as escorts.

"HEROS" towing "COORABIE":

(U.S. Army small craft) reported in trouble 12/10 about 100 miles S. of Cape Moreton, arrived Brisbane 0145L/14.

ENEMY AIR RAID.

Port Moresby - all clear 1810L/14.

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SYDNEY WEATHER:

WIND - E.S.E. 25

SEA - Rough  
Heavy E Swell

WEATHER - Continued heavy rain.

OUTLOOK - EVANS HEAD - SYDNEY - Rain  
SYDNEY - GABO IS. - Showery & squally.



To 0900L/Wednesday, 14th October, 1942.

"WARREGO" arrived Townsville from Palm Island at 1424L/13.

"BUNDABERG" escorting P.C. 16 departed Brisbane at 1117L/13 -  
E.T.A. Newcastle 1500L/13 E.T.A. Sydney 0100L/16.

"WARRNAMBOOL" escorting "KUNUMBA" departed Darwin at 0910L/12 for  
Thursday Island - E.T.A. 0700L/16.

"KALGOORLIE" escorting "VAN HEUTSZ" arrived Thursday Island at 0912L/  
12.

"GOULBURN" escorting northbound convoy departed Brisbane at 2240L/13.

" <u>AUSTRALIA</u> "	} departed Palm Island at 1000L/13 for operational area. Unless unforeseen circumstances prevent, C.T.F.44 intends leaving operational area for Brisbane 21/13 - E.T.A. 1300L/24.
" <u>PHOENIX</u> "	
" <u>SELFRIDGE</u> "	
" <u>MUGFORD</u> "	
" <u>HAGLEY</u> "	
" <u>PATTERSON</u> "	

"HOBART" anticipates departing Sydney 2200L/23 to rendezvous with  
C.T.F.44.

"BENDIGO" intends departing Townsville for Cairns to await orders.

"PIRIE" arrived Adelaide at 1642L/13 from Whyalla.

"WILCANNIA" at 0900L/13 reported in contact with convoy (C.O.35)  
but labouring heavily owing to S.E. gale. Ordered to  
seek shelter at 1116L/13. "TOWNSVILLE" informed and  
directed to inform convoy and continue escort when weather  
moderates.

"WHYALLA" reported at 1925L/13 that Newcastle and Sydney portions of  
OC.34 would be 14 and 13 hrs. late respectively.

"TROMP" E.T.D. Port Phillip 2000L/14 - E.T.A. Sydney 0800L/16.

U.S. Seaplane Tender "WILLIAM B. PRESTON" departed Fremantle for  
Exmouth Gulf at 1616L/13.

U.S. Destroyer "PATTERSON" arrived Cairns at 1700L/13 - departed  
at 1735L/13.

U.S. Destroyer "HELM" arrived Sydney at 1817L/13.

U.S. Submarine "GRENADIER" arrived Fremantle from Albany at 0932L/13.

#### GENERAL.

At 1437L/13 "RUSHCUTTER" reported that numbers  
2 and 4 Indicator "oops are out of operation.

#### Enemy Submarine activities (not graded:

1. Aircraft reported sighting enemy submarine in  
position 230 miles N.E. of Exmouth Gulf - "KOOLINDA" en route Fort  
Redland to Broome advised. No further details available.

2. At 1600L/13 - Training aircraft from Mr. Gambier  
reported sighting stationary object 200 feet long in position 160  
miles S.E. of Backstairs Passage, off Cape Banks. Patch of oil  
on surface also reported.

At 1839L/13 - A.O.R. Melbourne reported object  
identified as submarine and attacked with two 100 lb. bombs from  
350 feet. Result not observed. Position 135 miles S.E. of Back-  
stairs Passage.

B.A.M.S. to all ships in Area 5B. was originated by  
N.B.

Air search ordered for first light.



To 0900L/Tuesday, 13th October, 1942.

"PATTERSON" arrived Townsville 1209L/12 and departed 1340L/12.

"KALCOOLIE" escorting "VAN HEUTZ" arrived Thursday Island 0912L/12 from Darwin.

"HUNDABERG" escorting "MACUMBA", "NGAKUTA", "S. JACOB" and "JAMES WITCOMB RILEY" southbound, E.T.D. File Light Brisbane 0900L/13.

"GEE LONG" returned Brisbane 2030L/12 from escorting north-bound convoy.

"WILCANNIA" escorting C.O.35, departed Newcastle 0925L/12.

"TOWNSVILLE" escorting C.O.35, departed Sydney 1821L/12.

"TULSA" departed Sydney 1345L/12 for Brisbane - E.T.A. 1700L/14.

"DELOIRINE" } escorting G.P.17, departed Sydney 1008L/12.  
 "YANDRA" }

"TROMP" arrived Port Melbourne 0845L/12 from Fremantle.

"PIRIE" departed Whyalla 0600/KL/12 for Port Pirie, and departed Port Pirie 1400/KL/12 for Port Adelaide 1500/KL/13.

U.S. Submarine "TAMBOR" departed Albany 1515/1/12 for Fremantle.

"CASTLEMAINE" escorting "JOSEPH LANE", departed Darwin 0747/KL/12 for Thursday Island - E.T.A. 1000L/13.

"KURU" returned Darwin 1230/KL/12 from operation off ALIAMBATA (S.E. TIMOR).

"MONOWAI" } escorting "WAHINE" departed Auckland 1611M/12 for Norfolk  
 "CLARK" } Island - E.T.A. 1201M/14.

#### G E N E R A L.

"MAPOBA" and "TOORONGA" AGROUND:

"UKI" reported at 1601L/12 that "CAPE YORK" and "JAMES PATTERSON" were proceeding to Oberon Bay (vicinity Wilsons Promontory) to transfer gear, "UKI" remaining at wreck holding "TOORONGA'S" tow rope.

POSSIBLE ENEMY UNIT IN TASMAN SEA:

D/F Bearings indicated possible enemy unit in approximate position 43°30'S, 157°50'E (about 510 miles 135° from Gabo Island) at 0645L/12. Passed to C.S.W.P., N.O.I.C. Port Melbourne, N.O.I.C. Sydney and N.Z.N.B.

"COORABIE" IN TROUBLE:

Tug "HEROS" departed Brisbane 1606L/12 for Byron Bay (about 100 miles S. of Cape Moreton) to render assistance to motor ship "COORABIE" (U.S. Army small craft, 280 tons) on passage Sydney/Townsville - E.T.A. 0900L/13 - sighted Cape Byron north at 1200L/8.

"VENDETTA" undocked 12/10.

"MOUNT VERNON" (U.S. Transport) went aground in Sydney Harbour above the bridge at about 1200L/12 (high water). Strong S.E. wind blowing ship on.



0900L/Monday, 12th October, 1942.

"WILCANNIA" arrived Newcastle at 0848L/11 after completing escort duties with Newcastle portion O.C.33.

"WILCANNIA" } have been detailed to escort C.O.35 departing Newcastle  
 "TOWNSVILLE" } 12th October.

"DELORAINE" } arrived Sydney at 1731L/11 after escorting C.O.34.  
 "TOWNSVILLE" }

"DELORAINE" } intends departing Sydney at 1000L/12 escorting convoy  
 "YANDRA" } G.P.17.

"DOOMBA" arrived Port Phillip at 2142L/11 escorting O.C.34.

"WARRNAMBOOL" escorting "KURUMBA" arrived Darwin at 1535L/11 -  
 "KURUMBA" - E.T.D. 13th October - E.T.A. Thursday Island  
 16th October.

"AKUNTA" arrived Townsville from Fall River at 1525L/11.

"POLARIS" (Survey Vessel) departed Sydney for Brisbane at 1505L/11.

"WHYALLA" (escort O.C.34) reported at 0810L/11 Port high pressure gland blowing - Unsafe to proceed - request instructions. After further signals passed between H.O.C.S. and "WHYALLA" "WHYALLA" advised at 1435L/11 - Proceeding to Sydney with convoy.

GENERAL.

"VENDETTA" entered Alfred Craving Dock, Williamstown at 1641L/11.

"TANWORTH" has commenced working up exercises at Broken Bay.

U.S. Submarine "GRENADE" departed Albany for Fremantle at 1800L/11.

First FAMMILE successfully launched at Sydney at 0630L/8.

Hospital Ship "MANGANELLA" departed Sydney at 0040L/11 - E.T.A. Wellington 1000L/14.

"ARKABA" (en route Newcastle - Fremantle) reported on arrival - Sinking nine 30 miles east of Cape Otway at 1530L/1/10 - Detailed report by Airmail.

"MAROSA" and "TOORONGA" AGROUND: (Weather - Wind S.E. 15 knots (4) Moderate S.W. Sea and Swell.

At 0940L/11 "MARRAWAH" reported "EAGLE" (Tug) returning Melbourne and requested "JAMES PATTERSON" (Tug) return to wreck.

At 1230L/11 "MARRAWAH" reported - Not required by Salvage Officer, returning to sweep S.C.F. 18 "UKI" will transfer gear to "CAPE YORK" in Waratah Bay. Weather bad.

At 1830L/11 "UKI" reported unable to discharge salvage gear owing to weather - Anchored north of Shellback Island.

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To 0900L/Sunday, 11th October, 1942.

U.S. Destroyer "HENLEY" arrived Sydney 0838L/10 from operations with T.F.44.

U.S. Destroyer "HELM" departed Palm Island 1733L/10 for Sydney - E.T.A. 1730L/13.

U.S. Destroyer "BAGLEY" is now to rendezvous T.F. 44 at Palm Island.

"KOOKABURRA" (Boom working vessel) arrived Brisbane for refit 1410L/9 from Townsville.

"KATOOMBA" escorting "JOHN B. ASHE" arrived Fall River 1500L/9, from Port Moresby.

"ARUNTA" escorting "CREMER" departed Fall River - E.T.A. Townsville 1600L/11.

"BENDIGO" escorting "WILLIS VAN DEVENTER" departed Port Moresby 1000L/10 for Townsville - E.T.A. 2100L/12.

"FAURO CHIEF" (Air-Sea Rescue Craft) arrived Port Moresby 1931L/9 from Cooktown.

"WARREGO" departed Townsville 0900L/10 for A/S patrol Challenger Bay, Palm Island.

"GOULBURN" returned Brisbane at 0240L/9 from escorting "AASE MAERSK" to Palm Island.

"TULSA" departed Sydney 1551L/10 for Brisbane.

"WILCANNIA" departed Sydney 2010L/10 to rendezvous/off Sydney at 2300L/10 and escort Newcastle section to Newcastle and remain there for C.O.35.

"DOOMBA" escorting C.O.34 and "BUNGARRE" departed Port Phillip 2228L/10.

"DUBBO" E.T.D. Melbourne A.M/14 for Fremantle.

"SPRINGDALE" on passage Fremantle/Adelaide arrived Albany 1250/1/10 for medical assistance departed Albany 1411/1/10 for Adelaide.

U.S. Seaplane Tender "CHILDS" arrived Fremantle 1019/1/10 from Exmouth Gulf.

GENERAL.

COCOS ISLAND REPORT UNFOUNDED:

At 1435L/10 Manager Cocos Island Cable Station advised that report of enemy warship last evening unfounded.

"MAROSA" and "TOORONGA" AGROUND:

At 1945L/10 "MARRAWAH" reported that both wrecks were still hard on beach. Captain Williams intends to attempt to refloat "TOORONGA" today, and when "CAPE YORK" arrives t day with surf boat will attempt to lay out hauling gear to refloat "MAROSA". Surf is described as "Very bad and difficult".

Tug "EAGLE" had developed boiler leak and was to have left to return to Melbourne last night.

H.M.S. "PIRIE" (A.M.S.)

Commissioned at Whyalla 10/10 under command of Lieutenant Commander C.F. Mills, R.A.N.



To 0900L/Saturday 10th October, 1942.

"ORESBY" } escorting P.C.16 arrived Sydney at 1654L/9.  
"ANDRA" }

"KALCOORLIE" escorting "VAN HEUTSZ" departed Darwin at 0810L/9 for Thursday Island - E.T.A. 1101L/12.

"WILCANNIA" will take over escort of Newcastle section of O.C.33, off Sydney Heads.

"ADELAIDE" returned to Fremantle from exercises at 0831L/9.

"GEELONG" departed Brisbane at 2207L/9 escorting northbound convoy.

"MAROSA" aground:

CAPE YORK with surf and motor boats also balance of hauling of gear will arrive at wreck, daylight Sunday 11th.

At 1507L/9 "MARRAWAH" reported "TAROONA" tow line parted. Wreck moved slightly.

At 1815L/9 N.O.I.C. Port Melbourne advised that in view of C.S.B. sailing Cape York the sailing of "ORARA" has been cancelled.

Providing salvage officer does not further require "MARRAWAH" and naval party, "MARRAWAH" is to resume operations in S.C.F. 18 and Naval Party return to Williamstown in "UKI".

At 0421L/10 Tug "TOORONGA" fouled propeller and drifted into breakers - Initial attempts to tow off were unsuccessful - Further attempt to be made at daybreak.

COCOS ISLAND:

At 0037/10 Cable and Wireless Company (Melbourne) report receiving following from Cocos Islands:-

Japanese Battleship sighted here - be prepared to lose communications.

At 0315L/10 further report received:-

Unknown vessel now cleared off South.

ENEMY AIR RAIDS:

Fall River - All clear 0006L/10.

Horn Island - Warning at 1544L/9.

U.S.S. "MOUNT VERNON": (Troop Transport) departed Auckland at 0711L/9 for Sydney - E.T.A. 1000L/12.

H.M.A.S. "KENS" - E.T.A. All Saints (S.E. Coast of Timor) sunset 10/10 from Dar.....

Hospital Ship "MAURAHUI" - departed Fremantle 1801 1/7 for Wellington, N.Z. 10/10.



0900L/FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1942.

- "BAGLEY" - departed Sydney 1251L/8 for Cid Harbour.
- "KATOOMBA" ) - escorting "TAROONA", "KATOOMBA", "JOHN B. ASHE",  
"BENDIGO" ) "ASPASIA NOMIKOS", "NORDNES" and "EKATERINI  
COUMANTAROU" arrived Port Moresby 1558L/7 from  
Townsville.
- "KATOOMBA" - escorting "JOHN B. ASHE", departed Port Moresby  
1400L/8 for Fall River, E.T.A. 1800L/9.
- "BALLARAT" - escorting "SEA WITCH", arrived Port Moresby 1105L/8.

Note: "EGBERT BENSON" departed Thursday Island 1613L/6 to  
rendezvous "BALLARAT" and "SEA WITCH" in Great North  
Eastern Channel, and proceed Port Moresby, E.T.A. A.M./8.  
No arrival signal has been received.

- "ARUNTA" - escorting "CREMER", arrived Fall River 1500L/7,  
E.T.D. A.M./9.
- "WARRNAMBOOL"- escorting "YOCHOW" from Darwin arrived Thursday  
Island 1255L/8; escorting "KURUMBA", departed  
Thursday Island 1358L/8 for Darwin, E.T.A. 1230KL/11.
- "PALUMA"  
(P.M.B.) - departed Cairns 1530L/8 for Port Moresby.
- "COLAC" - escorting "TASMAN" from Fall River, arrived  
Townsville 1109L/8.
- "ROCKHAMPTON"- escorting Newcastle portion of C.O.34, departed  
Newcastle 0803L/8.
- "WHYALLA" - escorting Sydney portion of C.O.34 departed Sydney  
1600L/8.
- "DOOMBA" - arrived Port Melbourne 1543L/8, having completed  
escort of C.O.33.
- "DUBBO" - arrived Williamstown 1611L/8 from Sydney.
- "BUNGAREE" - arrived Geelong 1740L/8 from Sydney. E.T.D. with  
O.C.34 P.M./10 for Auckland.
- H.M.S. "SPRINGDALE" - departed Fremantle 0844 1/7 for Adelaide,  
E.T.A. 1830KL/16.
- "BURNIE" - arrived Diego Garcia 2000L/8 from Fremantle.
- U.S. Seaplane arrived Exmouth Gulf 0902 1/8 from Geraldton.  
Tender "HERON"-
- U.S. Seaplane departed Exmouth Gulf 0902 1/8 for Fremantle, E.T.A.  
Tender "CHILDS"- 1200 1/10.
- H.M.A.S. "KURU"- E.T.A. Aliambata (S.E. Coast of Timor) sunset 10/10  
from Darwin.
- Hospital Ship "MAUNGANUI" - departed Fremantle 1801 1/7 for  
Wellington, E.T.A. 17/10.



DAILY NARRATIVE

1942 / Thursday 8th September, 1942.

"MAROSA" arrived Sydney at 1700L/7 2. for escort duties with O.C. 10.  
"MARRAWAH" departed Sydney at 0800L/7 to rendezvous with "WILLOW" and O.C. 10. Arrived GENERAL at 1530L/7, having completed escort duty.

"MAROSA" arrived Sydney at 0740L/7 after escort duties with O.C. 10.  
"MAROSA" AGROUND.

- 0210L/8. "UKI" departed Port Melbourne to assist.
- 0930L/8. "ORARA" reported that weather conditions were deteriorating and suggested "UKI" stand by to assist to remove crew from wreck. Challenger Bay, Palm Island.
- 1635L/8. Tug "TOORONGA" arrived. Salvage party placed on board and victualled in wreck.
- 1910L/8. "UKI" and "MARRAWAH" arrived at the scene.
- 2130L/8. "ORARA" reported returning to harbour with all possible speed with case of a probable fractured skull - E.T.A. 0500L/9. "ORARA" requested doctor be placed on board at Queenscliff.

At 0951L/8 "KOROWA" was ordered to obtain provisions from Queenscliff and proceed P.M./8 to rendezvous "MARRAWAH" at wreck for orders for searching S.C.F. 18.

"AUSTRALIA'S" AIRCRAFT LOST.

At 1744L/8, "AUSTRALIA" reported that Walrus Aircraft had sunk after hitting ship during recovery after landing. No injury to personnel. "AUSTRALIA" requested replacement aircraft be flown to Townsville to arrive 10/10. Ship fast aground and leaking. Speed imperative to prevent total loss.

H.M.A.S. "BUNDABERG". commencing to jettison cargo - further assistance requested.  
Completed acceptance trials satisfactorily at Brisbane 8/10.

"TOORONGA" (Tug) departed Williston with salvage working party - Military assistance in Wilsons Promontory area arranged.

ENEMY AIR RAID.

Fall River. All clear - 1834L/8.  
"UKI" will also proceed to area with additional salvage gear (and water) and will remain if required to assist.

Allied Land Force without opposition "MARRAWAH" (COLLINS ON BAY - 110 miles S.W. of NIENE BAY).

Unless previous prevent C.T.F. 64 will withdraw to Challenger Bay, Palm Island - E.T.A. Grafton Passage 0800L/10, and Challenger Bay 1600L/10.



MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900L/Thursday 8th <sup>October</sup> September, 1942.

"MILDURA" arrived Sydney at 1754L/7 after escort duties with O.C.32.

"ROCKHAMPTON" departed Sydney at 0831L/7 to rendezvous with "MILDURA" and O.C.32. Arrived Newcastle at 1532L/7, having completed escort duty.

"WHYALLA" arrived Sydney at 0744L/7 after escort duties with O.C.32.

"CASTLEMAINE" returned to Darwin from escort duties at 1730L/7.

"HOBART" arrived Sydney from C.T.F. 44 operations area, at 1542L/7.

"GOULBURN" departed Brisbane at 0721L/7 escorting "AASE MAERSK" en route to Challenger Bay, Palm Island.

"LITHGOW" departed Townsville at 0630L/7 en route to Rib Reef (70 miles N.E. of Townsville) with R.M.S. Officer who will examine mine reported ashore. At 2037L/7 "LITHGOW" returned to Townsville and reported - Result negative.

"DOOMBA" departed Melbourne at 2147L/7 escorting convoy O.C.33.

"BROOME" departed Sydney at 1440L/7 for further working up in Broken Bay thence to Jervis Bay for exercises with R.A.A.F.

"MORESBY" and "YANDRA" escorting G.P.16 arrived Brisbane at 2040L/7, and departed at 2223L/7 escorting P.C.16.

"ARMIDALE" escorting "GEORGE TAYLOR" arrived Townsville from Port Moresby at 2223L/7.

GENERAL.

Further information regarding "MAROSA" aground at 1107L/7:

"ORARA" reported attempts to tow "MAROSA" off at high tide were unsuccessful. Ship fast aground and leaking. Speed imperative to prevent total loss.

At 1325L/7. - reported commencing to jettison cargo - further assistance requested.

At 2330L/7 "TOORONGA" (Tug) departed Williamstown with salvage working party - Military assistance in Wilsons Promontory area arranged.

At 2004L/7 "ORARA" reported can only remain on station until Friday 9th - short of water.

"UKI" will also proceed to area with additional salvage gear (and water) and will remain if required to assist.

Allied Land Force occupied without opposition "WANIGELA" (COLLINGWOOD BAY - 110 miles N.W. of MILNE BAY).

C.T.F. 44 reported at 1744K/6 as follows -

Unless operations prevent C.T.F. 44 will withdraw to Challenger Bay, Palm Island - E.T.A. Grafton Passage 0800L/10, and Challenger Bay 1600L/10.

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U.S. "MIZAR" (A.S.I.S.) arrived Brisbane from Sydney at 0850L/7.

U.S. Destroyer "HENLEY" reported at 2350L/7 - Detaching from C.T.F.44 and proceeding to Sydney - E.T.A. 0800L/10.

Hospital Ship "MAUNGANUI" arrived Fremantle from Colombo at 0941L/7.

Hospital Ship "MANGANELLA" arrived Melbourne from Fremantle at 1835L/7.

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To 0900L/Wednesday, 7th October, 1942.

"CASTLEMAINE" escorting "SIBIGO" to position about 135 miles 044° from Darwin, departed Darwin 0706/KL/6.

"AMBIDALE" escorting "GEORGE TAYLOR" departed Pt. Moresby 1700L/5 for Townsville - E.T.A. 2400L/7.

"COLAC" escorting "TASMAN" departed Fall River 1600L/5 for Townsville - E.T.A. 1200L/8.

"ROBERT BENSON" departed Thursday Island 1613L/6 to rendezvous "BALLARAT" and "SEA WITCH" in Great North East Channel and proceed Port Moresby - E.T.A. A.M/8.

"KURUMBA" arrived Townsville 1520L/5 from Sydney, departed 2057L/5 for Thursday Island - E.T.A. 1900L/8.

"GEELONG" escorting "BOTH", "MAETSUYCKER" and "JAPARA", northbound E.T.D. Pile Light, Brisbane 0600L/9.

"PAYE C" (A/S P.M.B.) arrived Brisbane 1401L/6 from Sydney.

"WHYALLA" escorting O.C.32, is to detach off Sydney with Sydney section.

"MILDURA" escorting O.C.32 is to continue escort towards Newcastle until relieved by "ROCKHAMPTON".

"WHYALLA" } detailed to escort C.C.34 - E.T.D. Newcastle 3/10.  
"ROCKHAMPTON" }

"HINGERA" arrived Port Melbourne 1601L/6 from exercises in Pt. Phillip.

"ADELAIDE" departed Fremantle 1353/1/6 to carry out exercises with "TROMP" and for patrol returning Fremantle A.M.9.

"TROMP" departed Fremantle 1325/1/6 for Melbourne - E.T.A. Port Phillip 0600L/12.

U.S. Submarine "SNAPPER" arrived Albany 0920/1/6 from Fremantle.

U.S. Submarine "TAUTOG" arrived Fremantle 0515/1/6 from Albany.

Hospital Ship "WANUNDA" arrived Brisbane 1000L/6 from Port Moresby.

"MAROSA" AGROUND:

At 1641L/6 "ORARA" reported that tug had not arrived, and that line had been placed aboard to prevent ship being driven broadside on in rising tide. At 1950L/6 "MAROSA" reported leaking number 2 and 3 tanks and requested immediate assistance. Tug "JAMES PATTERSON" returned Williamstown at 2230L/6 and reported that it had been unable to find "MAROSA". Tug "EAGLE" departed Port Phillip at 0400 L/7 with Captain Williams, Chief Salvage Officer, on board to locate "MAROSA". "ORARA" is standing by.

ATTACK ON ENEMY CONVOY N.E. OF BUNA:

It is now reported that the aircraft attacking this convoy at 0900L/5 scored a near miss on transport not a direct hit.

MINE ASHORE IN PALM PASSAGE:

At 0800L/7, N.O.I.C. Townsville advised that fisherman reported mine washed ashore on south east corner of Rib Reef (in the centre of the inner end of Palm Passage, about 75 miles 025° from Townsville). "LITHCOW" with R.M.S. Officer aboard is to proceed to the Reef.



To 0900L/Tuesday 6th October, 1942.

"HOBART" has detached from C.T.F. 44 and is proceeding to Sydney - E.T.A. 1500L/7.

"GEELONG" arrived Brisbane at 1245L/5 escorting "BRITISH SAILOR" and "MERKUR".

"DELORAINÉ" } departed Sydney at 1605L/5 escorting C.O.33 and  
 "TOWNSVILLE" } "BUNGAREE".  
 "DUBBO" }

"ROCKHAMPTON" departed Newcastle at 0841L/5 escorting Newcastle portion C.O.33 arrived Sydney at 1706L/5.

"WARRENAMBOOL" escorting "YOCHOW" departed Darwin at 0736L/5 - E.T.A. Thursday Island 0330L/8 - then to escort "KURUMBA" to Darwin.

"MORESBY" } escorting G.P.16 departed Sydney at 1113L/5.  
 "YANDRA" }

"BROOME" arrived Sydney from Broken Bay at 0834L/5.

"CASTLEMAINE" escorting "VAN HEUTSZ" arrived Darwin at 1644L/5.

"ARUNTA" departed Cairns at 1330L/5 to rendezvous with "KATOOMBA" "BENDIGO" and convoy and escort "CREMER" to Fall River remainder will proceed to Port Moresby.

"MALLARAT" will escort "EGBERT BENSON" from Thursday Island to Port Moresby - "EGBERT BENSON" - E.T.D. 1101L/6.

U.S. "WIZAR" (A.S.I.S.) departed Sydney at 1550L/5 for Brisbane - E.T.A. 0030L/8.

U.S. "HERON" (Seaplane Tender) departed Geraldton at 1611L/5 - E.T.A. Exmouth Gulf 1600L/7.

G E N E R A L.

H.M.A.S. "MARY CAM" (Auxiliary M/S Vessel) commissioned Port Melbourne at 0800L/Monday 5th October.

At 1325L/5 aircraft reported attacking small submarine or whale in position 3 miles north of KITAVA ISLAND (120 miles N. of Milne Bay). Direct hit on object reported. After attack the object changed course then remained stationary below surface. Report not graded.

Possible submarine sighting in BROKEN BAY was reported by A.O.R.E.A. at 1245L/5 - Graded C.4. - no further details to hand.

"MAROSA" Nor. (1513 tons) aground off Shallow Inlet (20 miles N.W. of Wilsons Promontory). "JAMES PATTERSON" (Tug) departed Williamstown to assist at 2335L/5. "ORARA" is to arrive at above position at daybreak, to render any assistance necessary. "MAROSA" sailed from Melbourne in convoy O.C.33.



GENERAL. (Contd.)

A strong air striking force attacked 2 enemy destroyers and 1 transport travelling N.E. of Buna at 0900L/5. Direct hit reported on transport.

Air Raid at Fall River:

Raid reported 1334L/5.

All clear at 1348L/5.

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To 0900L/Monday, 5th October, 1942.

"BALLARAT" departed Port Moresby 1518L/4 to rendezvous "SEA WITCH" in Great North East Channel at 1700L/5, and escort to Port Moresby.

"ARMIDALE" is to be sailed from Port Moresby to Townsville as escort for next ship which completes discharge.

"WARREGO" arrived Townsville 0755L/4 from Fall River.

"KATOOMBA" } escorting "TAROON", "KATOOMBA", "JOHN B. ASHE",  
"BENDIGO" } "NORDNESS", "ASPASIA", "NOMIKOS", "EKATERINI COUMANTAROU"  
(for Port Moresby) and "CRIMER" (For Fall River) departed  
Townsville 0030L/5 to rendezvous "ARUNTA" 5 miles off  
Fitzroy Island at 1600L/5, convoy to split at position  
"Z" (E.T.A. 0100L/7 about 150 miles 160° from Port  
Moresby. "KATOOMBA", "BENDIGO", escorting Port Moresby  
section "ARUNTA" escorting "CRIMER" to Fall River.

"WAREE" (Tug) - departed Townsville 1415L/4 for Cairns - E.T.A. 0700L/5.

U.S. Destroyer "PATTERSON" arrived Brisbane 0745L/4 from Sydney and departed 1807L/4 to rendezvous T.F.44.

"ROCKHAMPTON" having completed escort of O.C.31, arrived Newcastle 1534L/4.

"TOWNSVILLE" escorting Sydney portion of O.C.31 arrived Sydney 0544L/4.

"MORESBY" } escorting P.G.15 arrived Sydney 1431L/4.  
"YANDRA" }

"SWAN" arrived Sydney 1200L/4 from Townsville.

"WHYALLA" } escorting C.O.32 arrived Port Phillip 0901L/4;  
"MILDURA" } escorting O.C.32 departed Port Phillip 1127L/4 - E.T.A. Sydney 1300L/7, Newcastle 2200L/7.

U.S. Submarine "SNAPPER" departed Fremantle 1817/1/4 for Albany - E.T.A. 0700/1/6.

U.S. Submarine "TAUTOG" departed Albany 2050/1/4 for Fremantle.

"TROMP" C.T.F. 51 proposes to sail "TROMP" from Fremantle 6/10 for Sydney via Melbourne.

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MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900L/Sunday, 4th October, 1942.

"DUBBO" arrived Sydney at 1931L/3 after escort duties with G.P.15.

"KANIMBLA" arrived Fremantle from Colombo at 1030L/3.

"KALGOORLIE" arrived Darwin at 2101L/3 escorting "PERIOD".

"MORESBY" and "YANDRA" have been detailed for escort duties with G.P.16, to depart Sydney 1100L/5 October.

"GEELONG" will rendezvous with "MERKUR" and "BRITISH SAILOR" at 0700L/4 in position 022° 50' S, 152° 23' E (vicinity of Capricorn Channel) and escort to Brisbane.

GENERAL.

"ORARA" reported at 1833L/3 - reported negative results in search for missing aircraft, in vicinity Wilson's Promontory.

"MANOORA" is to pay off into reserve on 26th October at Sydney.  
"MANOORA" is to be fitted for carrying troops and A.L.C's.

CONVOY U.S.16. arrived Aden 2200L/2.

U.S. Submarines "GRAMPUS", "GRAYBACK" and "GUDGEON" arrived Brisbane at 0720L/3.



MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900L/Saturday, 3rd October, 1942.

"KALGOOLIE" escorting "YOCHOW" and "SIBIGO" arrived Darwin 1835/KL/1 and departed to meet and escort "PERIOD" to Darwin.

"CASTLEMAINE" escorting "VAN HEUTSZ" departed Thursday Island 1805L/2 for Darwin - E.T.A. 1530/KL/4.

"BARREGO" escorting "S. JACOB" and "BIDELIA" to Fitzroy Island, departed Fall River 1500L/30, "BIDELIA" - E.T.A. Cairns 1600L/3 "S. JACOB" - E.T.A. Townsville 1000L/4.

"ARUNTA" is to rendezvous at 1600L/4 5 miles off Fitzroy Island with "KATCOMBA" and "BENDIGO" escorting 7 ships, and escort to Fall River.

"FAURO CHIEF" departed Cooktown 0800L/1 for Port Moresby. (Air-Sea Rescue Craft).

"KOOKAIBRA" (Boom Working Vessel) arrived Townsville 1239L/2 from Cairns.

"MENKUR" } departed Townsville 1415L/2 to rendezvous  
"BRITISH SAILOR" } escort at Capricorn Channel at 0700L/ and proceed to Brisbane.

"GEELONG" departed Brisbane 0438L/2 to rendezvous northbound portion of G.P.15 off Moreton Island and escort to Capricorn Channel.

"MORESBY" } escorting Brisbane portion of G.P.15 arrived Brisbane  
"YANDRA" } 1835L/2 and escorting P.G.15 from Caloundra departed 1720L/2, E.T.A. Newcastle 1000L/4, Sydney 1800L/4.

"PING WO" arrived Port Stephens 1026L/2.

"COOLGWAI" (Trawler M/S) arrived Newcastle 1333L/2 from Brisbane.

U.S. Destroyer "PATTERSON" departed Sydney 1531L/2 for Brisbane - E.T.A. 0631L/4.

"ROCKHAMPTON" } escorting C.C.31, "TOWNSVILLE" is to detach with  
"TOWNSVILLE" } Sydney section off Sydney, "ROCKHAMPTON" is to continue escort to, and remain at, Newcastle, and escort C.O.33 to rendezvous off Sydney 5/10.

"DELORAIN" } detailed to convoy C.O.33 - E.T.D. Newcastle 5/10  
"TOWNEVILLE" } "DUBO" is to be additional escort, and is to proceed to Melbourne with convoy, there to haler clean and proceed Fremantle.

"BINGERA" departed Port Melbourne 1001L/2, arrived F.N.D. 1921L/2.

Hospital Ship "WANGANILLA" departed Fremantle 1317/1/ for Melbourne E.T.A. 0900L/7.

Hospital Ship "MANUNDA" arrived Pt. Moresby 1245L/1 from Fall River.

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SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.  
DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900L/2nd October, 1942.

"QUART" arrived Sydney from Townsville at 1250L/1.

"CEYLON" returned Brisbane from escort duties at 0055L/1.  
On 2/10 "CEYLON" will rendezvous with G.P.15 at  
seaward end of S.C.F. 20 (off Morton Island) and  
escort "KURUMBA", "ORMISTON", "ADMIRAL HALSTEAD"  
"DILGA" and "YARRA" to Capricorn Channel.

"COLAC" escorting "TASMAN" and "KARSIK" arrived Fall River from  
Townsville at 1400L/30.

"DOOMBA" entered Port Phillip at 1443L/1 after escort duties with  
O.C.31.

"WILDURA" departed Newcastle at 1124L/1 escorting Newcastle portion  
C.O.32.

"WHYALLA" departed Sydney escorting Sydney portion C.O.32 at 1640L/1.

"WARREGO" - E.T.D. Fall River A.M./1/10 escorting "S. JACOB" and  
"BIDELIA" to Fitzroy Island.

GENERAL.

"YOCHOW" previously reported aground in position 110 miles 042°  
from Darwin. At 0807L/1 reported afloat and proceeding  
to Darwin. No further information.

AIR RAID AT FALL RIVER:

Warning at 1555L/1.  
All clear at 1706L/1.  
No further information.

Reported at 0815/10L/1 that "YOCHOW"  
aground about 110 miles 042° from Darwin, near Cape Don. "KALCOON"  
and tug "..." have been ordered to proceed with despatch. "YOCHOW"  
is cargo and passenger water vessel of 2810 tons gross on passage  
Thursday Island/Darwin - 1/10.

"SPRING" CASE:

"SPRING" made with search within one hour of the parting  
air search was unsuccessful. At 2140L/30 "CASILHRAISE" reported  
in H.O.I.C. Townsville that prospects of finding barge were considered  
nil.

"..." is anticipated to be complete in all respects at  
Melbourne including 14 days' working up, by 9/11.

"..." (Air Sea Rescue Craft), on passage Cairns/Fall River  
via Port Moresby returned to Coaktown 1930L/28 and  
reported having made water rapidly in heavy weather.

FRENCH SUBMARINE:

A.F.S. Submarine was successfully slipped 29/9 at new  
slipway, 10th St, Fremantle.

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0900L/Thursday, 1st October, 1942.

"KALGOORLIE" departed Darwin 0510/KL/30 escorting "TULAGI" (for Thursday Island) to position 165 miles 050° from Darwin. Ordered to proceed with despatch to vessel aground (see General).

"CASTLEMAINE" arrived Thursday Island 1922L/30 from Pt. Moresby.

"KOOKABURRA" on passage Darwin/Brisbane arrived Cairns 2020L/29 (Boom Defence Vessel) from Thursday Island.

"SWAN" departed Townsville 0630L/30 for Sydney - E.T.A. 1700L/4 - to dock.

"GOOLGWAI" (Trawler M/S) towing "KINCHELA" (boom gate vessel) arrived Brisbane 1330L/30 from Newcastle, departed Brisbane 1424L/30 for Newcastle - E.T.A. 0600L/2.

"MORESBY" escorting G.P.15 returned to position about 11 miles 064° from Nobby's Head (southern point entrance to Newcastle Harbour) escorting "BAN HONG LIONG" with fire in No. 3 hold. Tug "ST. HILARY" took over at that point. "BAN HONG LIONG" E.T.A. Newcastle 2115/30. "MORESBY" is proceeding with despatch to rejoin G.P.15.

"MILDURA" departed Sydney 0905L/30, arrived Newcastle 1517L/30.

"WHYALLA" } detailed to escort C.O.32 - E.T.D. Newcastle 1/10.  
"MILDURA" }

"DOOMBA" escorting O.C.31 departed Port Phillip 2329L/30.

HOSPITAL SHIP "MANUNDA" arrived Fall River 1600L/29 from Brisbane.

G E N E R A L.

N.O.I.C. Darwin reported at 0615/KL/1 that "YOCHOW" aground about 110 miles 042° from Darwin, near Cape Don. "KALGOORLIE" and tug "WATO" have been ordered to proceed with despatch. "YOCHOW" is cargo and passenger motor vessel of 2810 tons gross on passage Thursday Island/Darwin - E.T.A. 1/10.

"PERIOD'S" TOW:

"PERIOD" made vain search within one hour of tow parting. Air search was unsuccessful. At 2146L/30 "CASTLEMAINE" reported to N.O.I.C. Townsville that prospects of finding barge were considered nil.

"VENDETTA" is anticipated to be complete in all respects at Melbourne including 14 days' working up, by 9/11.

"FAURO CHIEF" (Air Sea Rescue Craft), on passage Cairns/Fall River via Port Moresby returned to Cocktown 1930L/29 and reported having made water rapidly in heavy weather.

FREMANTLE SLIPWAY:

A U.S. Submarine was successfully slipped 29/9 at new slipway, Arthurs Head, Fremantle.

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10 OCTOBER, 1942

"KALGOOLIE" departed Darwin 0510/KL/30 escorting "TULACH" (for Thursday Island) to position 185 mi. x 030° from Darwin. Ordered to proceed with dispatch to vessel straggling (see General).

"CASTLEMAINE" arrived Thursday Island 1928/L/30 from Pt. Moresby.

"KOKAZUBURA" on passage Darwin/Brisbane arrived Cairns 2002/L/30 (boom defence from Thursday Island. Vessel)

"FEAR" departed Townsville 0630/L/30 for Sydney - R.T.A. 1700/L/4 - to dock.

"GOOLGWAI" (Trawler M/S) towing "ELINCHUA" (boom gate vessel) arrived Brisbane 1230/L/30 from Newcastle, departed Brisbane 1422/L/30 for Newcastle - R.T.A. 0800/L/30.

"WORSBY" escorting G.P. 15 returned to position about 11 miles 064° from Hobbys Head (southern point entrance to Newcastle Harbour) escorting "SAN HONG LIONG" with five in No. 3 hold. For "ST. HILARY" took over at that point. "SAN HONG LIONG" R.T.A. Newcastle 2112/30. "WORSBY" is proceeding with dispatch to rejoin G.P. 15.

"MILBURN" departed Sydney 0902/L/30, arrived Newcastle 1212/L/30.

"WHYALLA" } detailed to escort G.O. 28 - R.T.O. Newcastle 1/10.  
"MILBURN" }

"KIDORRA" escorting G.C. 21 departed Port Phillip 2222/L/30.

HOSPITAL SHIP "HARUNAR" arrived Fall River 1802/L/30 from Brisbane.

GENERAL

R.O.I.C. Darwin reported at 0815/KL/1 that "YONGOW" straggling about 110 miles 042° from Darwin, near Cape Don. "KALGOOLIE" and tug "WATO" have been ordered to proceed with dispatch. "YONGOW" is cargo and passenger motor vessel of 2810 tons gross on passage Thursday Island/Darwin - R.T.A. 1/10.

PERIODIC TON:

"PERIOD" made vain search within one hour of low parting Air search was unsuccessful. At 2148/L/30 "CASTLEMAINE" reported to R.O.I.C. Townsville that prospects of finding barge were considered nil.

"VINDICTA" is anticipated to be complete in all respects at Melbourne including 14 days' working up, by 2/11.

"TAHO CHIEF" (Air Sea Rescue Craft) on passage Cairns/Fall River via Port Moresby returned to Cooktown 1930/L/30 and reported having made water rapidly in heavy weather.

FRANKLIN AIRWAY:

A U.S. Supermarine was successfully slipped 20/9 at new airway, Arthur's Head, Franklin.

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