

DAILY NARRATIVES

7<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 1941

TO

31<sup>ST</sup> JANUARY 1942

To 0900 Saturday, 31st January, 1942.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

M.A. SHIPS.

"CANBERRA" departed Fremantle escorting convoy M.S.3 at 1805 yesterday. After completing escort of convoy M.S.3. will arrive Sydney about 13th February, for refit of one month, to repair turbine blading.

"AUSTRALIA" (Flag) } from escort duty to the eastward, will  
"PERTH" } arrive Sydney at 0915 today.  
"LEANDER" }

"TOWNSVILLE" } departed Cairns 0130 yesterday, to await arrival  
"WAR NAMBOOL" } "ZEALANDIA" (Z.K.G.) off Cape Grafton, for  
escort to Darwin.

"COLAC" is to be sailed from Sydney for Darwin as soon as practicable, and is to tow the largest suitable steel lighter available, fuelling at Gladstone en route. E.T.D. P.M. 5th February, subject to confirmation.

ALLIED WARSHIPS.

U.S. Destroyer "PEARY" departed Darwin for Noilmina Bay, Timor 29th January.

U.S. Submarine "SKIPJACK" departed Darwin for patrol northwards 29th January.

GENERAL.

Vice Admiral Sir James Somerville has been appointed C. in C. Eastern Fleet with acting rank of Admiral. Flag will be in "FORMIDABLE".

Commander R.B.A. Hunt, R.A.N. arrived Port Moresby 29th January to assume duties as N.O.I.C.

A bombing attack by aircraft from Townsville on 15 vessels in Rabaul Harbour on the night of 25th January, resulted in 2 probable hits .....

One bomb was dropped on Mexico aerodrome by a heavy bomber at 1700 yesterday afternoon. Later a convoy of 22 ships (1 heavy cruiser, 3 light cruisers, 5 destroyers and 13 transports) was sighted 240 miles N.E.W. of Mexico, where a landing was anticipated at dawn this morning.

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MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

(All times "L").

Thursday, 29th January, 1942.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

To 0900 Friday, 30th January, 1942.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"CANBERRA" arrived Fremantle 1115 yesterday and is expected to sail today escorting convoy MS.3, comprising 5 cargo vessels for Singapore and 6 tankers for Palembang, till H.M.A.S. "HOBART" returning from Singapore is met about 4th February. "HOBART" will then take over escort to Palembang and "CANBERRA" returns to Fremantle.

"ACHILLES" at Suva will escort U.S.S. "HAMMOND PORT" to a position  $31^{\circ}25'S, 168^{\circ}08' E.$  where F.O.C.A.S. will arrange R.V. at 0700 Tuesday, 3rd February and escort the vessel to Melbourne. "ACHILLES" will then proceed to Auckland to complete boiler repairs.

"WESTRALIA" arrived Sydney 0723 yesterday from escort duty with convoy ZK6 and has been taken in hand for 14 days' refit at 48 hours' notice.

"DELORAINÉ" was expected to arrive Broome early this morning to land one rating seriously ill.

"COLAC" will be ready to sail for Darwin P.M. today.

"KATOOMBA" damaged by collision off Darwin on 23rd January, will have temporary repairs effected at Darwin and will then proceed to Brisbane, probably in tow, to complete repairs.

TRANSPORTS.

H.T. "ZEALANDIA" departed Bowen 2000 yesterday for R.V. with A/S escort ("WARRNAMBOOL" and "TOWNSVILLE") off Cape Grafton.

INTELLIGENCE.

A bombing attack by aircraft from Townsville on 13 vessels in Rabaul Harbour on the night of 28th January, resulted in 2 probable hits on 2 ships.

One bomb was dropped on Namlea aerodrome by a heavy bomber at 1700 yesterday afternoon. Later a convoy of 22 ships (1 heavy cruiser, 3 light cruisers, 5 destroyers and 13 transports) was sighted 240 miles N.N.W. of Namlea, where a landing was anticipated at dawn this morning.

Examination service in Torres Strait will commence on 3rd February. It is to cover the area from Cape York, Queensland, to Torres Strait, and will include the area adjacent to Goods Island Light House. Examination will be conducted off Turkey Point.

Portuguese S/S "JOAO BICO" carrying reinforcements for Timor sailed from Darwin 28th January, escorted by slow "CORAL SEA" speed of advance 8 knots.

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0900 Thursday, 29th January, 1942.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"NARRAWAH" sailed Port Phillip for Bass Strait.

"PALUMA" sailed Townsville 1220L/28 for Thursday Island.  
E.T.A. 1800L/31.

"GUNBAR" arrived Broome 26th January and sailed 27th for Darwin.  
E.T.A. 1400L/31.

"EUNGAREE" sailed Geelong 1500L/28 to anchorage off Port Arlington.

"CESSNOCK" completed progressive trials at Sydney satisfactorily.

"KYBRA" arrived Brisbane 0926L/28.

"YAMPI LASS" sailed Broome 1135L/28 for Darwin due 5th February.

"TOWNSVILLE" } E.T.A. Cairns 2400L/28.

"WARRNAMBOOL" }

ALLIED WARSHIPS.

U.S. A/C Carriers "YORKTOWN" and "ENTERPRISE", U.S. Cruisers "LOUISVILLE", "NORTHAMPTON", "ST. LOUIS", "CHESTER", "SALT LAKE CITY" and eleven Destroyers are in the Samoa area also H.M.S. "PIMPANEL" (Corvette), appears to be in company.

"CHEVREUIL" sailed Noumea 1830L/27 for HIENGHAN (East Coast New Caledonia).

U.S. S/M "SEA RAVEN" sailed Darwin 2030L/28 for Patrol.

TRANSPORTS.

"ZEALANDIA" arrived Bowen 0700L/28.

GENERAL.

1 unidentified A/C circled high over DILLI for 15 minutes 1500L/27 then disappeared northwards.

N.O.I.C. Port Moresby reports having heard on "X" frequency:- Japanese Destroyer here landing troops Rossel (Eastward of MISIMA) 1100L/28.

2 moored mines reported in position 11° 09' S. 131° 00' E. (eastward of MELVILLE Island) by U.S.A. A/C 0900L/28 which flew within 100 feet of them, clearing operations will commence today Thursday.

Examination service in Torres Strait will commence duties 3rd February. Battery is on Tucker Point, Goods Island, and signal station adjacent to Goods Island Lighthouse. Examination vessel is stationed off Tucker Point.

Portuguese S/S "JOAO BELO" carrying reinforcements for Timor sailed "LORENZO MARQUES" 28th January, escorted by sloop "GONZALES VELHO" speed of advance 8 knots.

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A.N.I.

To 0900 Wednesday, 28th January, 1942.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M. & H.M.A. SHIPS.

"AUSTRALIA" (Flag) } departed Sydney at 1213 yesterday to  
"PERTH" } rendezvous with U.S.S. "PHOENIX" convoy and  
"LEANDER" } provide escort, returning to Sydney 0700/  
30th January to refuel.

"ADELAIDE" departed Sydney yesterday in company with "AUSTRALIA",  
"PERTH" and "LEANDER" for R.V. and in company with  
"PHOENIX", escorting "MARIPOSA" and "PRESIDENT  
COOLIDGE" will arrive Melbourne 1500/1st February.

"BUNGAREE" arrived Gelong at 1015 yesterday from Sydney.

"ACHILLES" intends completing boiler repairs after arrival  
Auckland 5th February, and anticipates being ready  
for sea P.M. 9th February.

H.M.N.Z. Trawler "MOA" departed Papeete for Suva 26th January.  
E.T.A. P.M. 2nd February.

ALLIED WARSHIPS.

F.F. "CHEVREUIL" arrived Noumea yesterday.

HOSPITAL SHIPS.

U.S. "MACTAN" arrived Sydney at 1214 yesterday.

"ORANJE" departed Sydney yesterday for Melbourne. E.T.A. 1700  
today.

INTELLIGENCE.

S.I.O. Townsville advises that it is reported  
that the Administrator of New Guinea is at Lae, too ill to be  
moved, also that it had been reported, graded C.I., that no demoli-  
tion had been carried out in Rabaul except the bomb dump and  
Lakunai aerodrome.

1 Dutch bomber shot down.  
1 U.S. bomber crash landed in Java  
Dutch.....destroyer and 4 wounded.

~~D.N.~~ ~~28/1~~

..... Halimapan night 28/24 January and  
..... 24th January.

..... attached at 1230 yesterday by 4 fighters resulting in  
..... the loss of 3 bombers on the ground.  
..... attacked by fighters 1120 yesterday -  
..... 5 killed  
..... 4 injured  
..... 1 Dutch and 1 U.S. A/E damaged.

The aerodrome was undamaged.

*[Handwritten signature]*

0900 Tuesday, 27th January, 1942.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"CESSNOCK" commissioned at Sydney yesterday.

"KYBRA" departed Gladstone yesterday for Brisbane. E.T.A. 2000 tomorrow.

ALLIED WARSHIP

U.S. SUBMARINE "TARPON" departed Darwin Sunday, 25th January to patrol in Banda Sea.

TRANSPORTS.

"AQUITANIA" departed Fremantle 2200 yesterday for Sydney - steaming at 20 knots, her E.T.A. is 1600 Saturday, 31st January.

SUSPICIOUS SIGHTING.

An unidentified vessel passed to the westward of Cape Otway at 0345 this morning. An air search was at once ordered and four aircraft from Laverton are now operating.

INTELLIGENCE.

N.E.I.

From further information received, it would appear that 7 attacks in all were made on the Japanese convoy in Macassar Strait, between the night of 22/23 January and 25th January, by Dutch bombers ex Samarinda, U.S.A. bombers ex Malang U.S. Cruiser "MARBLEHEAD" with 5 destroyers and the U.S. Submarine "STURGEON". Results:-

- 3 transports and 3 other vessels sunk.
- 1 transport on fire.
- 1 large cruiser or A/C carrier believed sunk.
- A large number of direct hits by gunfire, bombs and torpedoes.

Our losses:-

- 1 Dutch bomber shot down.
- 1 U.S. bomber crash landed in Java.
- Damage to U.S. Destroyer and 4 wounded.
- Enemy landed Balikpapan night 23/24 January and at KENDARI (S.E. Celebes) 24th January.

LAHA attacked at 1225 yesterday by 4 fighters resulting in the loss of 3 Hudsons on the ground.

KOEPANG attacked by fighters 1150 yesterday -

- 5 killed
- 4 injured
- 1 Dutch and 1 U.S. A/C damaged.

The aerodrome was undamaged.

*Handwritten signature and date: 27/1*

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Monday, 26th January, 1942.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"CANBERRA" sailed Batavia 0930L/25 for Fremantle. E.T.A. 0800L/29.

"WARREGO" arrived Darwin 2302L/24 escorting "KOOLAMA" (from Ambon).

"SWAN" sails Darwin 1730L/25 for Wyndham escorting "KOOLAMA".

"MORESBY" to carry out A/S patrol between Broken Bay and Lake Illawarra today.

H.M. SHIPS.

"ACHILLES" sailed Auckland 2505L/25 to R.V. with convoy 2013 and escort "PRESIDENT MONROE" (U.S.A.) to Suva. E.T.A. 1900M/28.

ALLIED WARSHIPS.

U.S. S/M "PIKE" arrived Darwin 1453L/24.

TRANSPORTS.

"AQUITANIA" arrived Fremantle 1336L/25.

GENERAL.

D.N.O. N.T. reports an enemy S/M sighted in position 12°14'S. 120°20'E. (80' W of Darwin) at 1545L/25 and has ordered an attack to be made by "LITHGOW" and "DELORAINÉ".

An attack by Dutch Bomber A/C from Samarinda 2. (east Coast Borneo) carried out Saturday Evening report 12 direct hits on 8 warships and transports, no A/C were lost. On the same night the U.S. cruiser "MARBLEHEAD" and 5 destroyers carried out an attack and report 5 or 6 transports sunk.

A further attack by 7 Boeing 17<sup>s</sup> report 1 transport sunk and 1 set on fire. All these attacks took place in Macassar Strait between Celebes and Borneo.

Following message was heard on "X" frequency from Tulagi passed via Gasmata to Port Moresby at 1600L/25. Buka Passage bombed out, no casualties, believe they are in occupation now. We have taken to hills on Bongonville Island. Believe Kieta occupied. You my first contact, hesitate give calls fear they will locate me. Are you in contact with Pt. Moresby.

Halong bombed by 9 twin engined bombers at 1737L/25 Direct hits on hangars and petrol dump, 1 catalina destroyed. Large fire petrol dump still burning.

Auxiliary M/S "BIRCHGROVE PARK" is being sailed at approximately 0100L/26 from Sydney with salvage gear, to the assistance of S/S "BIDELIA" ashore between Tacking Point and Grants Head.

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DNI

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

(All times "L").

To 0900 Sunday, 25th January, 1942.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"CANBERRA" expects to depart Batavia for Fremantle 1030 tomorrow. E.T.A. 0800 28th January.

"BUNGAREE" departed Sydney for Port Phillip at 1815 yesterday. E.T.A. 1400 27th January.

"ROCKHAMPTON" arrived Sydney from Maryborough 1101 yesterday.

"KARANGI" arrived Darwin yesterday at 1555. — NS3 to vicinity

H.M.N.Z. Trawler "MOA" arrived Papeete 23rd January.

H.S. DESTROYER "BARRECO" escorting "KOOLANA" left Ashore 0200 yesterday for Darwin. E.T.A. 2000

HOSPITAL SHIP.

U.S. "MACTAN" arrived Brisbane from Darwin at 1538 yesterday.

"GILSTAR", "MIRICAL JOFFRE" and "MILDURA" departed Darwin 0754 yesterday for Thursday Island. E.T.A. 1230

INTELLIGENCE.

In position approximately 110° 20 miles from Port Macquarie Light at 1915 on 23rd January, H.M.A.S. "PERTH'S" aircraft sighted what was considered a submarine. Report was assessed as A.3. Air searches subsequently proved negative.

too extensive to be repaired locally.

GENERAL

Noumea reports it is ready to operate as Allied Port War Signal Station. E.T.A.

INTELLIGENCE.

Aerial recon aissance in Macassar Strait located the following vessels..... vicinity of Balikpapan, in several groups, moving S.W. or south-

- 4 cruisers.
- 10 destroyers.
- 11 transports.
- 26 transport barges.

The following craft were sighted in the vicinity of Rabaul yesterday.

- 3 cruisers.
- 1 destroyer.
- 1 A/C carrier.
- 12 merchant vessels.

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0900 Saturday, 24th January, 1942.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M. and H.M.A. SHIPS.

"AUSTRALIA" } carried out firings off Sydney yesterday and  
"LEANDER" } returned to harbour.  
"PERTH" }

"HOBART" escorting Convoy MS1. expects to arrive Sunda Strait (Lamong Bay) 1945 Tuesday, 27th January whence C.Z.M. will arrange escort to Singapore.

"WESTRALIA" escorting Convoy ZK6, comprising H.T. "ZEALANDIA" with service personnel for Darwin embarked, departed Sydney yesterday. On arrival in Capricorn Channel "WESTRALIA" will leave Convoy and return to Sydney for short refit. She is to be completed so as to arrive Melbourne by noon, 9th February to escort convoy MS3 to vicinity Sunda Strait.

"WARREGO" } escorting "KOOLAMA" left Ambon 0200  
U.S. DESTROYER "PILLSBURY" } yesterday for Darwin. E.T.A. 2000 today.

U.S. DESTROYERS "ALDEN" AND "EDSALL" escorting "CHAUMONT", "HOLBROOK" "GOLDSTAR", "MARESCHAL JOFFRE" and "MILDURA" departed Darwin 0754 yesterday for Thursday Island. E.T.A. 1230 Monday, 26th January.

"KATOOMBA" whilst on A/S patrol 40 miles from Darwin was in collision with U.S. oiler "PECOS" at 0230 yesterday. "KATOOMBA", holed starboard side amidships, was towed into harbour and docked last night but damage appears too extensive to be repaired locally.

HOSPITAL SHIPS.

"WANGANELLA" departed Colombo 21st January for Fremantle. E.T.A. 31st January.

INTELLIGENCE.

Aerial reconnaissance in Macassar Strait located the following vessels in the vicinity of Balikpapan, in several groups, moving S.W. or south:-

- 4 cruisers.
- 16 destroyers.
- 11 transports.
- 26 transport barges.

The following craft were sighted in the vicinity of Rabaul yesterday.

- 3 cruisers.
- 1 destroyer.
- 1 A/C carrier.
- 12 merchant vessels.

*Whampoa*

*24-2*

*DN*

A heavy attack by aircraft from Townsville has been ordered for tonight.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

A submarine was sighted at 2100 yesterday 100 miles N.E. of Darwin by a U.S. Catalina and U.S. Destroyer escorting a convoy from Darwin to Thursday Island. An attack was made with negative result and an air search will be made.

An official of Guinea Airways reports sighting at 1825 yesterday, south of Mourilyan Reef (5 miles north of Cape York) a submarine refuelling from a 1000 ton ship.

"EVAN" arrived Darwin 0800L/22.

"GERALD" arrived Sydney 1658L/22.

"HARBOUR" sailed Keopang 0800L/21 with U.S. Destroyer "PILLSBURY" escorting "KOLLEPA" for Arboina. E.T.A. 2300L/22 speed 14 knots.

"LYBRA" arrived Gladstone 0804L/22.

"TOWNVILLE" sailed Sydney today calling Cairns 28th January.

"ROCKHAMPTON" commissioned at Maryborough P.M. 21st January, and should have sailed that day for Sydney due today.

ALLIED SHIPS.

U.S. A/C Tender "HERON" sailed Darwin for JANDERA (8°S. 151°E.) E.T.A. 2100L/23.

"CAP DES PALMES" arrived Sydney 1322L/22 from Noumea.

"CHEVREUIL" sailed Vila 1930L/22 for Noumea due A.M. 25th January, via Tanna, Erromanga and Aniwa.

"LE TRIOMPHANT" arrived Sydney 1705L/22.

TRANSPORTS.

"AQUITANIA" expected to arrive Fremantle 0830L/23.

CONVOYS.

U.S. Destroyers "ALDEN" and "EMALL" escorting "CHARMANT", "HOLBROOK", "GOLDSTAR", "KARSKAL JOFFRE" and "MILLORA" expect to sail from Darwin 0830L/22 for T.I. E.T.A. 1230L/23.

GENERAL.

Prud Point (Ebaul) was bombed and machine gunned and Fortress Guns put out of action.

Rear-Admiral D.W. Boyd is appointed R.A. Aircraft Carrier Eastern Fleet in "INDOMITABLE".

Assistant Resident RIMA reports 50 ships in Sapie Strait and 7 ships in WISORADA Bay (unidentified) A/C reconnaissance from Keopang has been ordered and now reveals U.S. Cruisers "HAMILTON" and "FOISE" and 1 U.S. Destroyer were in Wacorada Bay.

0900 Friday, 23rd January, 1942. 22nd. Four bombs dropped but Pitt was machine gunned from 300

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

11 ships approaching 30-40° from WAKW Island (off Gaselle Peninsula) reported from Rabaul 1500L/22.  
"AUSTRALIA" (Flag) } ordered to have steam for 29 kts. and be  
"PERTH" } ready to slip at 1045L/today, "LEANDER"  
"LEANDER" } to have steam for 27 kts. for practice off Sydney, returning to Harbour 2230L/today.

"SWAN" arrived Darwin 0731L/22.

"GEELONG" arrived Sydney 1658L/22.

"WARREGO" sailed Koepang 0630L/21 with U.S. Destroyer "PILLSBURY" escorting "KOOLAMA" for Amboina. E.T.A. 2000L/22 speed 14 knots.

"KYBRA" arrived Gladstone 0904L/22.

"TOWNSVILLE" sailed Sydney today calling Cairns 28th January.

"ROCKHAMPTON" commissioned at Maryborough P.M. 21st January, and should have sailed that day for Sydney due today.

ALLIED WARSHIPS.

U.S. A/C Tender "HERON" sailed Darwin for JAMDENA (8°S.131°15'E.) E.T.A. 2100L/23.

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"CHEVREUIL" sailed Vila 1930L/22 for Noumea due A.M. 25th January, via Tanna, Erromanga and Aneityum.

"LE TRIOMPHANT" arrived Sydney 1705L/22.

TRANSPORTS.

"AQUITANIA" expected to arrive Fremantle 0830L/25.

CONVOYS.

U.S. Destroyers "ALDEN" and "EDSALL" escorting "CHAUMONT", "HOLBROOK", "GOLDSTAR", "MARESCHAL JOFFRE" and "MILDURA" expect to sail from Darwin 0630L/23 for T.I. E.T.A. 1230L/26.

GENERAL.

Praed Point (Rabaul) was bombed and machine gunned and Fortress Guns put out of action.

Rear-Admiral D.W. Boyd is appointed R.A. Aircraft Carrier Eastern Fleet in "INDOMITABLE".

Assistant Resident BIMA reports 50 ships in Sapie Strait and 7 ships in WAWORADA Bay (unidentified) A/C reconnaissance from Kpepang has been ordered and now reveals U.S. Cruisers "MARBLEHEAD" and "BOISE" and 1 U.S. Destroyer were in Waworada Bay.



DAILY NARRATIVE.

0800 Thurs "GAVUTU" was attacked on 22nd. Four bombs dropped but a few fell in the sea, A.I.F. Gun Pitt was machine gunned from 500 feet.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

11 ships approaching 30-40° from WATOM Island (off North of Gazelle Peninsula) reported from Rabaul 1500L/22.

"SEAN" en route from Keppang has been ordered to E.V. with three A La Perouse intercept at 2322L/22 states that the Dutch Passenger and cargo vessel "VAN OVERSTRATEN" 4,500 tons was being gunned by submarine in position 0°14'N 90°14'E (400° West of Padang West Coast of Sumatra). They go on to arrive Geelong at 0800 27th January.

5 Catalina A/C airborne Dusk 22nd as striking Force against enemy shipping off Rabaul, A.M. A/C to return Port Moresby or T.A. Samarai at dawn.

A report from NAMATANAI states 17 warships and transports going Rabaul off ULUFUTUR at 1730 Thursday 22nd. ULUFUTUR a native village on west coast of New Ireland opposite Namatanai 35° N.E. from Rabaul. with U.S. Destroyers "EDWARDS" and "WHIPPLE" escorting "PRINCE POLK" departed Thursday Island yesterday for R.V. off Darwin - E.P.A. 1210 tomorrow.

E.P. "CAP DES PALMES" from Noumea is due Sydney A.V. today.

E.P. "LE TRIOMPHANT", ..... West Oiler "FALKEWELL" from Suva, arrived Brisbane at 1450 yesterday. "LE TRIOMPHANT" departed for Sydney. E.P.A. 1300 today.

SUBMARINE ACTIVITY.

A.C.H. Darwin estimate that between four and six submarines have been operating close to Darwin, and that after interrogation of the Commanding Officers there appears good reason to believe that H.M.A.S. "DELOIRINE" has destroyed two, and H.M.A.S. "KATOONRA" one. A fourth submarine was attacked by a U.S. aircraft which reported an oil patch afterwards 8 1/2 miles by 1 mile in extent. H.M.A.S. "KOOKABURRA" is apparently secured to one of these and attempting diving operations.

MANDATED TERRITORY

Two 8 inch and two 6 inch enemy cruisers were reported by a Catalina at 1531 yesterday approximately 150 miles N.N.W. of Rabaul, course 100° speed 20 knots. The number of aircraft operating yesterday in air raids on Kavieng, Admiralty Islands, Madang and Salamaua indicates at least two aircraft carriers west of these cruisers with possibly an additional air-craft carrier in the vicinity of Kavieng, to the North East. No further news of the four cruisers had been received up to 0900 today. Three Catalinas were despatched last night to carry out an attack on the cruisers.

SALAMAU. An air raid at 1235 yesterday, duration 40 minutes, caused extensive damage to hangars and other installations; Missions and Civil Aircraft on aerodrome were destroyed. A.W.A. advise that they have been unable to raise the Radio Station since 1200 yesterday.

KAVIENG was attacked for two hours yesterday at 0800, by 40 bombers and 20 fighters. The copra sheds and 1 store house were destroyed by fire and all houses gunned. The small army vessel "INDURA STAR" was wrecked.

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To 0900 Thursday, 22nd January, 1942.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"SWAN" en route from Koepang has been ordered to R.V. with three A.M.S. searching for a submarine 50' N.W. of Darwin and to place herself under orders of "KATOOMBA".

"BUNGAREE" is to be sailed from Sydney so as to arrive Geelong at 0800 27th January.

"GEEELONG" departed Port Phillip for Sydney 20th January. E.T.A. 1600 today.

ALLIED WARSHIPS.

U.S. Cruiser "HOUSTON", with U.S. Destroyers "EDWARDS" and "WHIPPLE" escorting "PRESIDENT POLK" departed Thursday Island yesterday for R.V. off Darwin - E.T.A. 1210 tomorrow.

F.F. "CAP DES PALMES" from Noumea is due Sydney A.M. today. X

F.F. "LE TRIOMPHANT", escorting Fleet Oiler "FALKEFJELL" from Suva, arrived Brisbane at 1430 yesterday. "LE TRIOMPHANT" departed for Sydney. E.T.A. 1600 today.

SUBMARINE ACTIVITY.

A.C.H. Darwin estimate that between four and six submarines have been operating close to Darwin, and that after interrogation of the Commanding Officers there appears good reason to believe that H.M.A.S. "DELORAIN" has destroyed two, and H.M.A.S. "KATOOMBA" one. A fourth submarine was attacked by a U.S. aircraft which reported an oil patch afterwards  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles by 1 mile in extent. H.M.A.S. "KOOKABURRA" is apparently secured to one of these and attempting diving operations.

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KAVIENG was attacked for two hours yesterday at 0800, by 40 bombers and 20 fighters. The copra sheds and 1 store house were destroyed by fire and all houses gunned. The small army vessel "INDUNA STAR" was wrecked.

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~~D.N.I.~~

0900 Wednesday, 21st January, 1942.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"HOBART" departed Fremantle 0920 yesterday for R.V. with convoy M.S.I. escorted by "KANIMBLA".

"WARREGO" escorting "KOOLAMA" arrived Koepang 1200 Monday, 19th January. "KOOLAMA" escorted by U.S. Destroyers and "WARREGO" will proceed to Ambon whence "WARREGO" will escort her back to Darwin.

"LITHGOW" } escorting 3 American vessels arrived Darwin  
"KATOOMBA" } 2046 Monday, 19th January from Thursday Island.

"MORESEY" will leave Sydney Monday next, 26th January to take part in combined service reconnaissance of coast between Broken Bay and Lake Illawarra.

"KYBRA" departed Brisbane 1430 yesterday for Gladstone. E.T.A. 0800 tomorrow.

ALLIED WARSHIPS.

U.S. Destroyers "ALDEN" and "EDSALL", escorting oiler "TRINITY" were attacked by a submarine in a position approximately 50 miles N.W. of Darwin at 0700 yesterday.

Three A.M.S., presumably "LITHGOW", "KATOOMBA" and "DELORAINIE" together with U.S. aircraft from Darwin joined the search but no further report has been received.

AIR ATTACK - RABAU.

The seventh air raid on Rabaul by about 100 aircraft, preceded during the morning by extensive reconnaissance, began at 1348 yesterday and lasted 45 minutes. Bombers were accompanied by 12 fighter aircraft, evidently operating from carriers, based in the TRUK area. Our fighters were outclassed and five Wirraways were destroyed. The Copra wharf and the Norwegian vessel "HERSTEIN" were destroyed with some casualties, but there was little other damage.

\*\*\*\*\*

~~D.N.I.~~

Search "JAPAN" (3,300 tons) INTLAP to Fallbourne made 2220 this being picked up by two stations only i.e., Ambon and Thursday Island, the former reporting gunned, and the latter submarine following in position 113° 18'. No latitude given but from the H.M.A. Plot this would be approx. 11° 22S.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Tuesday, 20th January, 1942.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"AUSTRALIA" (Flag) } arrived 1415L/19 Sydney. From Wellington  
"PERTH" }  
"LEANDER" }

"GEELONG" sailed Port Melbourne 1605L/19 for working up exercises Port Phillip.

H.M. SHIPS.

"MONOWAI" will be out of action from 22nd January for one week.

"ACHILLES" arrived Auckland 1305L/19. - 13<sup>th</sup> arrived yesterday

ALLIED WARSHIPS.

U.S. Cruiser "PHOENIX" escorting American Ships "PRESIDENT COOLIDGE", "MARIPOSA" and "PRESIDENT MONROE" is expected to be in position 27°S. 180° at 0700L/27 where "ACHILLES" will make R.V. and escort "PRESIDENT MONROE" to Suva, remainder of convoy proceeding to Brisbane. Speed of convoy 15.3 kts.

U.S. S/M "PERCH" arrived Darwin 0811L/17.

U.S. S/M "SEARAVEN" arrived Darwin 0803L/19.

U.S. Cruiser "MARBLEHEAD" and probably "BOISE" with 6 destroyers arrived Koepang 2117L/18.

U.S. Aircraft Tender "HERON" arrived Darwin 1128L/19.

"LE TRIOMPHANT" escorting R.A.N. Fleet Tanker "PALKEFJELL" from Suva to Brisbane - E.T.A. 0500L/21, will after fuelling proceed to Sydney.

"CAP DES PALMES" sailed Noumea 1500L/19 for Sydney.

TRANSPORTS.

"AORANGI" and "NARKUNDA" sailed Singapore 16th January and are due Fremantle 24th with evacuees on board for Fremantle and Sydney.

GENERAL

SABANG has been bombed by 6 enemy aircraft 19th. 30 bombs dropped. No damage to aerodrome or fuel tanks.

Dutch "JAPARA" (3,300 tons) TJILATJAP to Melbourne made SSSS this being picked up by two stations only i.e., Ambon and Thursday Island, the former reporting gunned, and the latter submarine following in position 110°12'. No latitude given but from the M.M.S. Plot this would be approx. 11°30S.

Subs  
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20/1

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE

(All times U.T.)

TO 0900 MONDAY, 19th JANUARY, 1942.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"ADELAIDE" escorting Convoy ZTI. arrived Sydney from Wellington at 0400 yesterday.

"BINGERA" } arrived Sydney at 0400 yesterday from A/S duties with  
"WHYALLA" } Convoy ZTI.

"SWAN" escorting "BANTAM" departed Ambon for Koepang at 1930 17th January. E.T.A. tomorrow.

SUBMARINE SIGHTINGS.

S.S. "JACOB", the Dutch vessel which sent out SSSS yesterday approximately 75 miles south of Albany, has now cancelled the message. Shipping in the locality has been instructed to resume normal routes.

Dutch "BANTAM", which was being escorted by H.M.A.S. "SWAN" from Ambon to Koepang, reported last night at 2220 in position 7° 18' south 126° 30' east (approximately 60 North East of Northern entrance to Ombay Passage), S.S.S.S. missed by three torpedoes.

C.Z.M. reports the sighting of 5 submarines in Piroe Bay north of Ambon, on 15th January.

GENERAL.

An Examination Service and Port War Signal Station will be instituted at Townsville commencing noon Saturday 24th January.

~~S.S. "JACOB", a Dutch vessel of 1800 tons, built in 1907, which left Ambon on 17th January for Melbourne, sent out a distress message (SSSS) at 0355 this morning in position 7° 21' South 117° 43' East (approximately 75 miles South of Albany) stating that she was being chased.~~

~~Convoy H.S.L. escorted by "BINGERA", should have been 40 miles S.W. from the above position. Aircraft will provide outer A/S patrol for the convoy, and also endeavour to locate "JACOB".~~

~~H.M.S. "BERGAMINI" escorting "TANGARA" in position 15 miles South of Suva, engaged a submarine at 1800 January 1942, which dived.~~

GENERAL.

Admiralty has credited H.M.S. "BERGAMINI" (Commander A.L. Rosenthal, D.S.O., R.N.) with the destruction of a German U-boat on 15th December, 1941, presumably in the Mediterranean.

Admiral Hart, U.S.N., assumed control of Allied Naval Forces in A.S.P. area on 15th January.

*Sub-sightings*  
*KP*  
*19/1*



MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE

(All times "L")

To 0900 Sunday, 18th January.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS

"KANIMBLA", escorting Convoy M.S.1, reported yesterday that she will be 2 1/2 hours late at R.V. with "HOBART", scheduled for 1300 tomorrow.

"WARREGO", escorting "KOOLAMA", departed Darwin 1441 yesterday for Koepang. E.T.A. 0930 tomorrow.

"KATOOMBA") escorting 3 American merchant vessels,  
"LITHGOW") departed Thursday Island 16th January for Darwin. E.T.A. 1700 tomorrow.

"WARRNAMBOOL" arrived Sydney 0509 yesterday from Melbourne.

AUXILIARY A/S VESSEL "KYBRA" will leave Brisbane 20th January for Gladstone, returning 28th January.

AUXILIARY M/S VESSEL "GUNBAR" departed Fremantle 0915 yesterday for Geraldton (E.T.A. 1500 today) and Darwin to join Group 70.

ALLIED WARSHIPS.

U.S. Submarine "PERCH" arrived Darwin yesterday.

U.S. Aircraft tender "HERON" departed Darwin yesterday afternoon for Amboina.

SUBMARINE SIGHTINGS.

S.S. "SJACOB", a Dutch vessel of 2839 tons, built in 1907, which left Batavia on 6th January for Melbourne, sent out a distress message (SSSS) at 0355 this morning in position 36° 22' South, 117° 46' East (approximately 75' South of Albany) stating that she was being chased.

Convoy M.S.1, escorted by "KANIMBLA", should have been 40 miles S.S.W. from the above position. Aircraft will provide outer A/S patrol for the convoy, and also endeavour to locate "SJACOB".

H.M.S. "MONOWAI", escorting "TAROONA" in position 15 miles South of Suva, engaged a submarine at 1506 January 16th, which dived.

GENERAL.

Admiralty has credited H.M.S. "NESTOR" (Commander A.L. Rosenthal, D.S.O., R.A.N.) with the destruction of a German U-boat on 15th December, 1941, presumably in the Mediterranean.

Admiral Hart, U.S.N., assumed control of Allied Naval Forces in A.B.D. area on 15th January.

Huston

2/18/41

2/18/41

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Saturday, 17th January, 1942.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"CANBERRA" sailed Fremantle 1345I/16 escorting "AQUITANIA".

"GEELONG" commissioned at Melbourne Friday 16th January, sails 1000/today for Geelong and returns West Wing Station Pier 1700L/18.

"LITHGOW" } arrived Thursday Island 0923L/16. — H  
"KATOOMBA" } position at 1700 today. — B

"ORARA" secured Port Melbourne 0851L/16. —

"KARANGI" (Boom Vessel) sailed Townsville 0615L/16 for Thursday Island. — E.T.A. 1900L/20. —

H.M. SHIPS.

"MONOWAI" Suva to Auckland - E.T.A. 0930L/20 escorting "TAROONA".

GENERAL.

U.S. "HOUSTON" reported 2 submarines in position 11°29' S. 129°22' E. (180' W.N.W. Darwin) at 0750L/16. U.S. Destroyer "EDSALL" is searching and will later be joined by "WARREGO", who has now been ordered to return to Darwin.

The Runway at LAHA after having been unserviceable due to Air Attack should now be serviceable again. —

Flag of C. in C. Eastern Fleet will be transferred from "DRAGON" to "EMERALD" at 1930L/16, C. in C. E.F. will then sail for Colombo where Flag will be transferred ashore. —

Broad Pendant of Commodore J.A. Collins, R.A.N. will be hoisted in "ANKING", the date being corrupt is being checked.

H.M.A.S. "MORESEBY" will be ready for sea P.M. Thursday, 22nd January. The time has been advanced 1 hour in Fiji Islands as from 1st January.

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*[Handwritten notes and signatures]*  
17/1  
D.N.A.  
18/1  
18/1

R

To 0900 Friday, 16th January, 1942.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"CANBERRA" arrived Fremantle at 1055 yesterday escorting M.S.2. consisting of "AQUITANIA".

"BINGERA" ) will provide A/S escort for convoy Z.T.1. from  
"WHYALLA" ) position 35°40' South 155°8' East to Sydney.  
"ADELAIDE" with convoy expects to pass through this position at 1700 today.

ALLIED WARSHIPS.

U.S. DESTROYER "WHIPPLE" expected to depart Darwin for Keopang at 2000 yesterday.

F.F. "CHEVREULL" arrived Vila from Noumea yesterday.

F.F. "LE TRIOMPHANT" escorting Fleet Oiler "FALKEFJELL", departed Suva 14th January for Brisbane. E.T.A. 0500 21st January.

HOSPITAL SHIP.

"MANUNDA" arrived Darwin at 1830 14th January.

U.S. "MACTAN" departed Darwin for Thursday Island 14th January. E.T.A. tomorrow.

INTELLIGENCE.

An enemy air raid, by a force consisting of 26 bombers and approximately 12 "O" type fighters took place at Laha at 1345 yesterday. Two Brewsters were shot down, 2 Catalinas were sunk and 1 Hudson and a petrol dump were destroyed on the ground. The aerodrome is extensively damaged and unserviceable.

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*Australia*

~~SECRET~~  
17/1

To 0900 Thursday, 15th January, 1942.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M. & H.M.A. SHIPS.

"AUSTRALIA" (Flag) } departed Suva 0400 this morning to  
"PERTH" } cover convoy ZS7. until about 1700 today,  
"LEANDER" } when Squadron will proceed to Sydney  
"ACHILLES" } arriving P.M. 19th January, excepting  
"MONOWAI" } "ACHILLES" proceeding to Auckland.

"HOBART" will depart Fremantle so as to R.V. with "KANIMBLA" and convoy MS1. in position 32°05' south, 110°50' east at 1300 19th January and provide escort to Singapore.

"KANIMBLA" escorting Convoy MS1. will be detached when about 250' south of Sunda Strait and proceed to Fremantle.

"WESTRALIA" is to escort convoy ZK6 comprising "ZEALANDIA" with 663 service personnel embarked, from Sydney to Capricorn Channel sailing 23rd January. "ZEALANDIA" will fuel at Bowen en route.

"TOWNSVILLE" } will provide A/S escort for convoy ZK6  
"WARRNAMBOOL" } ("ZEALANDIA") leaving Sydney 23rd January for Darwin fuelling at Cairns.

"ST. GILES" departed Adelaide yesterday for Fremantle to join Auxiliary A/S escort group.

ALLIED WARSHIPS.

F.F. "LE TRIOMPHANT", with the concurrence of C. in C. Eastern Fleet, will remain under operational control of A.C.N.B.

U.S. Submarine "SKIPJACK" arrived Darwin yesterday.

H.M. have directed that independent sailings in the Tasman Sea are to be resumed. Routes widely dispersed.

\*\*\*\*\*

~~T.N.I.~~

To 0900 Wednesday, 14th January, 1942.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"SWAN" is to escort Dutch "BANTAM" to Keepang and return to Darwin.

"ADELAIDE" E.T.A. Sydney 1545L/17.

"CANBERRA" E.T.A. Fremantle 2100 escorting "AQUITANIA" (M.S.2).

"WARRNAMBOOL" sails 0900L/14 for sweeping duties.

"WHYALLA" arrived Williamstown noon 13th January.

"KARANGI" (Boom Vessel) arrived Townsville 0610L/13. Necessary repair work will require 72 hours.

"PATERSON" to dock in Sydney (Chapmans) tomorrow 15th January.

"GEELONG" will commission at Melbourne 16th January.

ALLIED WARSHIPS.

"LE TRIOMPHANT" arrived Suva 1300L/12 escorting R.A.N. Fleet Tanker "FALKEFJELL" and will sail again about 15th January escorting Tanker to Brisbane.

GENERAL.

The Dutch ship "LANGKOEAS" of 7,395 tons gross was torpedoed and sunk north of Bawzan Java Sea on January 2nd. Life B. ats being machine gunned and one rammed by submarine.

N.B. have directed that independent sailings in the Tasman Sea are to be resumed. Routes widely dispersed.

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12/11  
A

To 0900 Tuesday, 13th January, 1942.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"ADELAIDE" departed Wellington 0945 yesterday escorting three merchant ships. E.T.A. Sydney 0915 18th January.

"SWAN", escorting "BANTAN", arrived Ambon 1130 yesterday.

"LITHGOW" } due to arrive at Thursday Island from Townsville  
"KATOOMBA" } 18th January, are to mine sweep ahead of U.S. Merchant Ship "MAUINA LOA" and "MEIGS" through S.C.F. 24, subsequently providing A/S escort to Darwin.

"DOOMBA" arrived Sydney 0900 yesterday.

"H.M.S. "ACHILLES" N.Z.N.B. has requested that F.O.C.A.S. retain "ACHILLES" under his command, until necessary to despatch her in order to arrive Auckland 1300 19th January.

H.M.S. "MONOWAI" escorting "TARCONA" departed Auckland at 2317 yesterday. E.T.A. Suva 1200 16th January.

F.F. "LE TRIOMPHANT" will escort Fleet Oiler "FALKEFJELL" from Suva to Brisbane sailing about 15th January.

F.F. "CHEVREUIL" departed Vila for Noumea 0500 12th January.

U.S. CRUISER "MARBLEHEAD" and two destroyers arrived Keopang 10th January.

U.S. CRUISER "HOUSTON" with U.S. Destroyers "ALDEN", "EDSALL" and "WHIPPLE" departed Darwin 12th January for rendezvous with Flag in Banda Sea.

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*Handwritten:* A large red checkmark is drawn over the text. Below it, the number "13/1" is written in red ink. To the left, there are some scribbles and the number "13/1" written in black ink.

*Handwritten:* "13/1" written in black ink.

*Handwritten:* A signature or initials in black ink.

To 0900 Monday, 12th January, 1942.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION. 0815/10 (VCI) —

"MANILA" Sailed Port Phillip 18145/10 escorting HSI.

H.M.A. SHIPS. Arrived Townsville 0815/10.

"HOBART" arrived Fremantle 1330 yesterday. Sydney to Refit.

"TOOWOOMBA" } proceeding to Batavia with all  
"BALLARAT" } despatch departed Darwin 0741 yesterday.  
"WOLLONGONG" }

U.S. S/M "TARPON" arrived Darwin 1457 yesterday.

H.A. SHIPS

Sailed Auckland escorting 200 consisting of "MORNING", "PORT HASTINGS", "LAUNCEASTON" and "RANGITIKEI" for Suva due 14th.

GENERAL

C.A. Submarine "MORNING" arrived Darwin 1104/10.

"MORNING" Sailed Sydney 1104/10 for Darwin.

*Handwritten initials*

*Handwritten initials*

At 2030 yesterday a U.S. Catalina reported sighting 1 enemy Cruiser, 8 Light Cruisers, 15 Destroyers, 12 Destroyer Escorts and 2 submarines in position 3° North 125° East (Approximately 180 miles North of Manado N.E. tip of Celebes) course 340. An attack on Manado appears certain, and air attacks will be carried out on the convoy by Hudsons and Catalinas this morning.

Enemy Submarine activity in the Netherlands East Indies area has been as follows:-

12th JANUARY. British ship "KWARSTUNG" (3,955 tons) (en route to Colombo) was sunk by gunfire 200 miles West of Bali Strait.

12th JANUARY. Dutch Ship "VAN REES" (3,000 tons) was torpedoed and sunk 150 miles South of Tjilatjap.

12th JANUARY. Norwegian tanker "HARBURO" (5,804 tons) reported being chased by a submarine approximately 100 miles East of Bali Strait and North of the Island of Lombok.

12th JANUARY. Dutch ship "VATHA" (3,005 tons) made a distress signal from the Southern approached to Bali Strait this morning shortly after midnight.

GENERAL.

H.C. of C. in C. Far East closed at 1101 yesterday, and H.C. supreme commander in South West Pacific opened at Batavia the next day.

*Handwritten: 13/1*

*Handwritten initials*

Sunday, 11th January, 1942.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.H.M.A. SHIPS

"ADELAIDE" Arrived Wellington 0402L/10 (VKI) —  
 "KANIMBLA" Sailed Port Phillip 1614L/10 escorting MSI. —  
 "KATOOMBA" } Arrived Townsville 0815L/10. —  
 "LITHGOW" }  
 "DOOMBA" Sailed Port Welshpool 0801L/10 for Sydney to Refit.  
 "ST. GILES" Arrived Port Welshpool 0741L/10. —  
 "CANBERRA" Sailed Sydney 1507L/10 Escorting "AQUITANIA". —  
 "WHYALLA" Sailed Whyalla 1620L/10 for Melbourne. —

H.M. SHIPS

"LEANDER" Sailed Auckland escorting ZS6 consisting of "WAHINE", "PORT MONTREAL", "LAUTOKA" and "RANGITATA" for Suva due 14th. —

ALLIED WARSHIPS.

U.S. Submarine "SEAWOLF" arrived Darwin 1104L/9. —

"CAP DES PALMES" Sailed Sydney 1143L/10 for Noumea. —

INTELLIGENCE.

At 2030 yesterday a U.S. Catalina reported sighting 1 Heavy Cruiser, 8 Light Cruisers, 15 Destroyers, 12 Transports and 3 Submarines in position 3° North 125° East (Approximately 180 miles North of Manado N.E. tip of Celebes) course 200°. An attack on Manado appears certain, and air attacks will be carried out on the convoy by Hudsons and Catalinas this morning.

Enemy Submarine activity in the Netherlands East Indies area has been as follows:-

4th January. British ship "KWANGTUNG" 2,626 tons (Sourabaya to Colombo) was sunk by gunfire 200 miles West of Bali Strait. —

6th January. Dutch Ship "VAN REES" (3,000 tons) was torpedoed and sunk 160 miles South of Tjilatjap. —

10th January. Norwegian tanker "MADRONO" (5,894 tons) reported being chased by a submarine approximately 100 miles East of Bali Strait and North of the Island of Lombok. —

11th January. Dutch ship "PATRAS" (2,065 tons) made a distress signal from the Southern approaches to Bali Strait this morning shortly after midnight.

GENERAL.

H.Q. of C. in C. Far East closed at 1101 yesterday, and H.Q. supreme commander in South West Pacific opened at Batavia the same day.



To 0900 Saturday, 10th January, 1942.

To 0900 Friday, 9th January, 1942.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"AUSTRALIA" (Flag) } Expect to enter New Zealand Station at  
"PERTH" } approximately 1000 today. X —  
"ACHILLES" }

"CANBERRA" departs Sydney at 1400 today, escorting H.T. "AQUITANIA" for Sunda Strait. X —

"WARREGO" arrived Darwin escorting "HAWAIIAN PLANTER" from the eastward at 1904 8th January. —

"SWAN" arrived Darwin with "WARREGO", and departed 1440 yesterday escorting "BANTAM" with troops and stores embarked for "RYALLA" Ambon. E.T.A. 0930 12th January. —

"KANIMBLA" departs Port Melbourne at 1330 today to escort Convoy M.S.1. to the westward. X

"WESTRALIA" arrived Sydney from Port Moresby at 0800 today. X —

"GEELONG" after visiting Geelong, is to be sailed for Sydney to work up under direction of N.O.C.S. — out

"KIANGA" arrived Brisbane at 0900 yesterday. —

U.S. Cruisers "BOISE" and "MARBLEHEAD" and U.S. Destroyers "STEWART", "BULMER", "BARKER", "PARROTT" and "POPE" departed Darwin 0848 8th January, escorting "BLOEMFONTEIN" to Sourabaya. E.T.A. 1630 11th January.

Free French "LE TRIOMPHANT" escorting Fleet Oiler "FALKEFJELL" departed Noumea for Suva 0855 yesterday. E.T.A. 1059 12th January. —

CONVOYS.

Convoy M.S.1. departs Point Lonsdale at 1200 today for N.E.I. and Singapore. H.M.A.S. "HOBART" and Fremantle section of convoy will R.V. off Fremantle. X —

Convoy M.S. 2. consisting of H.T. "AQUITANIA", will depart Sydney at 1400 today escorted by H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" for Sunda Strait. X —

.....  
D.N.I.  
10/11  
11/11

DAILY NARRATIVE.

Thursday, 8th January, 1942.

To 0900 Friday, 9th January, 1942.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"HOBART" expects to arrive Fremantle 1140 Sunday, 11th January.

"CANBERRA" escorting "AQUITANIA" arrived Sydney 0610 yesterday from Port Moresby.

"WESTRALIA" amended E.T.A. Sydney 0530 tomorrow.

"WHYALLA" commissioned at Whyalla yesterday and sails tomorrow for Port Melbourne for arming, thence to Sydney to work up under direction N.O.C.S.

H.M.A. SHIPS ABROAD.

"WARSPITE" on completion of refit in U.S.A. is proceeding to Esquimalt (Vancouver Island) to carry out preliminary working up practices to be completed 20th January.

Handwritten red and black scribbles and the number '911'.

Handwritten word 'manunda'.

Faded typed text, mostly illegible due to bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.

1) 0900 Thursday, 8th January, 1942.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

passed Thursday Island westbound at 0840 yesterday.

"YARFA" sailed Colombo 2110L/4.

"TOOWOOMBA" } arrived Darwin 2106L/5 expects to sail 10th Jan.  
 "WOLLONGONG" } as directed by C. in C. E.F.

"DELORAIN" arrived Darwin 1431L/7. — 1700 8th January. E.T.A.

"BALLARAT" expects to sail from Darwin 10th January. As for  
 "TOOWOOMBA" and "WOLLONGONG".

"CANBERRA" E.T.A. Sydney 0500L/8 escorting "AQUITANIA".

H.M. SHIPS.

"MONOWAI" sailed Suva 0300L/8 escorting "WAHINE" for Auckland  
 0700L/10.

"LEANDER" Navola Passage 0500L/6 escorting "RANCITATA" and  
 "NATAU" due Suva 0930L/8.

"DRAGON" (Flag C. in C. F.E.F.) and "DURBAN" arrived Batavia  
 2000L/8.

ALLIED WARSHIPS.

U.S. Hospital Ship with 221 seriously wounded evacuated  
 U.S. Cruiser "BOISE" and U.S. Destroyers "POPE" and "BARKER",  
 U.S. Tender "BLACKHAWK" and Oil Tanker "GEORGE G.  
HENRY" arrived Darwin 1621L/8.

U.S. SHIPS "HOUSTON", "WHIPPLE", "ALDEN", "EDSALL", "STEWART",  
 "BULMER" and U.S. Auxiliaries "HOLBROOK" and "CHAUMONT"  
 arrived Darwin 2106L/5.

U.S. "PENSACOLA" arrived Brisbane 1105L/7 and sailed 1645L/7  
 for Pearl Harbour.

U.S. Aircraft tender "HERON" arrived Darwin 1027L/7.

U.S. Submarine "SKIPJACK" sailed Balikpapan 1000L/5 for Darwin.

U.S. Submarine "SFA WOLF" is proceeding to Darwin from Molucca  
 Passage.

Convoy H.S.1, escorted by "KANIMBLA" will sail Melbourne 12th  
 January being joined by "HOBART" from Melbourne,  
 speed of advance 10 knots.

HOSPITAL SHIPS.

"MANUNDA" sailed Sydney 0851L/7 for Darwin due to arrive A.M. 14th.

(2,508 tons gross), "GENERAL" (2,551 tons gross) and "VAN SWOLL".  
 (2,147 tons gross)

H.M.A. SHIPS "NAPIER", "NESTOR" and "WIZAM" have sailed in  
 accordance with Admiralty Instructions from  
 Mediterranean for the East.

Flag of C. in C. Eastern Fleet hoisted in "DRAGON" 1500L/5.

Eastern Fleet will proceed to Colombo, leaving his Chief of Staff  
 in H.M.S. for liaison duty.

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To 0900 Wednesday, 7th January, 1942.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"WARREGO" } passed Thursday Island westbound at 0840 yesterday.  
"SWAN" }

"LITHGOW" } which departed Sydney in company for Townsville >  
"KATOOMBA" } 5th January, expect to arrive Townsville 1400  
9th January.

"KARANGI" departed Sydney for Townsville 1700 5th January. E.T.A.  
P.M. 12th January.

FREE FRENCH "LE TRIOMPHANT" escorting "FALKEFJELL" arrived  
Noumea 0830 yesterday.

FLEET OILER "FALKEFJELL", on completion of fuelling H.M.A.  
Squadron at Noumea, is to be sailed to Suva to  
discharge; F.O.C.A.S. has been requested to  
arrange with French Authorities at Noumea to pro-  
vide escort by Free French "LE TRIOMPHANT".

U.S. CRUISER "BOISE" and two destroyers will depart Darwin -  
tomorrow escorting "BLOEMFONTEIN" to Sourabaya. X

HOSPITAL SHIPS.

U.S. HOSPITAL SHIP "MACTAN" with 221 seriously wounded evacuated  
Manila arrived Macassar 5th January bound for  
Darwin. Recommendations have been made to divert  
"MACTAN" to Brisbane.

INTELLIGENCE.

Nine hostile planes dropped bombs outside the  
towns area of Rabaul last evening. It is believed that there  
are no casualties but half the aerodrome is unserviceable.  
No attack was made on "MALAITA" in harbour nor "MAKO" entering  
harbour.

GENERAL.

H.M.A.S. "WHYALLA" (A.M.S. for R.N.) proposes commissioning tomorr-  
ow and departing Whyalla for Port Melbourne 10th Jan.

H.M.A.S. "COLAC" (A.M.S.) commissioned at Sydney yesterday under  
command of Lieutenant-Commander D.C. Northam R.A.N.R.(S)

H.M.A.S. "CESSNOCK" (A.M.S. for R.N.) anticipates commissioning  
26th January.

The N.E.I. Government has offered three ships "BOTH"  
(2,608 tons gross), "REAEI" (2,561 tons gross) and "VAN SWOLL"  
(2,147 tons gross) for coast traffic between Melbourne, Sydney,  
Brisbane and Port Darwin. The management would be retained by  
the Royal Packet Line.

General Wavell will arrive at Batavia tomorrow or  
9th January. C. in C. Eastern Fleet and staff were to leave Sin-  
gapore for Batavia 5th January. After a short stay, C. in C.  
Eastern Fleet will proceed to Colombo, leaving his Chief of Staff  
in N.E.I. for liaison duty.

SECRET

DAILY NARRATIVE

(All times "L".)

To 0900 Tuesday, 6th January, 1942.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"VIKING" arrived Port Moresby 1145L/4, escorting "WARRECO".  
"KIANGA" departed Sydney 1130 yesterday for Brisbane (E.T.A. 0100/9 January) en route to Darwin.

"LITHGOW" departed Sydney 1726 yesterday for Townsville en route to Thursday Island.

"WYRALLAH" } arrived Sydney 0632 yesterday from Fremantle  
"YANDRA" } to join A/S escort Group.

"WARRECO" } sailed Port Moresby 1205L/4 for Darwin - E.T.A.  
"SWAN" } 1230L/4

SHIPPING.

H.T. "ZEALANDIA" has returned to her owners (Huddart Parker) at Sydney 1128 Thursday 1st January.

Convoy 223 (H.M.A.S. "MAHURDA" with "ASHTONIA" in company) sailed Port Moresby noon L/4 for Sydney speed 30 knots.

ARRIVED DARWIN

H.S. Destroyer "PERRY" arrived Darwin 0945L/3.

R.A.N. FLEET VESSELS

R.F.A. Houses open 6th January.

~~SECRET~~ 6/1

HOSPITAL SHIPS

"MAHURDA" is to sail from Sydney 0900L/7 for Darwin.

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P

ST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Monday, 5th January, 1942.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

"WESTRALIA" arrived Port Moresby 1146L/4, escorting "MARELLA", and sailed 1700L/4 for Sydney - E.T.A. 1300L/10.

"ST. GILES", on passage Sydney to Adelaide and Fremantle entered Waterloo Bay 1900L/4.

"DELORAINÉ" on passage to Darwin passed Thursday Island west 1600L/4.

"AUSTRALIA" (Flag) } sailed Port Moresby 0640L/4 for Noumea  
"PERTH" } E.T.A. 1800M/7.

"ACHILLES" } started Moresby Island for Darwin at 1800 yesterday in company with U.S. "Houston" and Convoy.

"WARREGO" } sailed Port Moresby 1905L/4 for Darwin - E.T.A.  
"SWAN" } 1630L/8.

"WARRENGI" departed Sydney for Townsville at 1859 and December, but returned to Sydney yesterday owing to engine defects.

Convoy ZK5 (H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" with "AQUITANIA" in company) sailed Port Moresby noon L/4 for Sydney speed 20 knots.

U.S. CRUISER "HOUSTON" with 3 U.S. destroyers, escorting "Heldbrook", "Chamont" and "ALLIED WARSHIPS" departed Thursday Island for Darwin at 1200 yesterday.

U.S. Destroyer "PERRY" arrived Darwin 0942L/3.

R.A.N. FLEET TANKER.

Convoy "FALKEFJELL" - E.T.A. Noumea noon 6th January.

HOSPITAL SHIPS.

"MANUNDA" is to sail from Sydney 0900L/7 for Darwin. Es from 5th January, C.C.I.S. Singapore, and Naval Intelligence Section F.E.C.B. (including W/T organization), will operate from Colombo.

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*Handwritten red scribbles and initials.*

*Handwritten blue letter 'P'.*

*Handwritten blue scribble.*

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Sunday 4th January, 1942.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

- "ADELAIDE" departed Sydney for Wellington at 1410 yesterday escorting Convoy VK1, consisting of nine vessels. E.T.A. 0100 10th January.
- "LITHGOW" departed Sydney 1259 yesterday to provide A/S cover for Convoy VK1, returning to Sydney A.M. tomorrow.
- "BINGERA"
- "LITHGOW" } will depart Sydney p.m. tomorrow for Thursday Island,  
"KATOOMBA" } calling at Townsville on passage.
- "TOOWOOMBA" } departed Thursday Island for Darwin at 1200 yesterday in  
"WOLLONGONG" } company with U.S. "Houston" and Convoy. on passage by U.S. Destroyer "Houston" and "Houston".
- "KIANGA" intends departing Sydney for Brisbane tomorrow.
- "KARANGI" departed Sydney for Townsville at 1857 2nd December, but returned to Sydney at 0819 yesterday owing to engine defects.

U.S. CRUISER "PENSACOLA" arrived Thursday Island at 1110 yesterday, and departed at 1200 for Brisbane.

U.S. CRUISER "HOUSTON" with 5 U.S. destroyers, escorting "Holbrook", "Charmont" and "Bleemfontein" departed Thursday Island for Darwin at 1200 yesterday.

H.Z.N.B. reports that Commodore N. Stirling Hamilton is to take up appointment as D.C.N.A. E.I. in the near future.

CONVOYS.

CONVOY ZK5 arrived Port Moresby at 1519 yesterday.

INTELLIGENCE.

As from 5th January, C.O.I.S. Singapore, and Naval Intelligence Section F.E.C.B. (including W/T organisation), will operate from Colombo.

*Handwritten red initials: "AI"*

*Handwritten blue initials: "AAZ"*

*Handwritten initials: "AR"*

*Handwritten blue initials: "AAZ 2/1"*

To 0900 Friday, 2nd January, 1942.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"KATOOMBA" arrived Sydney.

"MAVIE" (Lugger) commissioned as Patrol Vessel, tender to "PLATYPUS" at Darwin 31st. December.

at Moresby  
was arriving  
for fuelling from  
January to escort

ALLIED WARSHIPS.

U.S.S. "HOUSTON", "ALDEN", "EDSALL" and "WHIPPLE" sailed Darwin 1402K/30 for Wednesday Island.

U.S.S. "BOISE" (6" cruiser), "DALE" (Destroyer), "POPE" (Destroyer), "BARKER" (Destroyer), "SEA DRAGON" (Submarine) and "BLACKHAWK" (Destroyer Tender), sailed Sourabaya 1st January for Darwin, speed 8 knots. They will be joined on passage by U.S. Destroyer "EDWARDS" and U.S. oiler "TRINITY".

to R.V. with

as soon as poss-

calling at

HOSPITAL SHIPS.

"MAUNGANUI" arrived Fremantle 1715H/31st December.

Thursday Island  
with "PENSACOLA"  
for escort

GENERAL.

N.Z.N.B. reports that Commander R.W. Stirling Hamilton is to take up appointment as D.C.N.S. N.Z. in the near future.

built in 1935  
(aircraft carrier)

departed  
A. 1000 January 8th.

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*[Handwritten notes and signatures]*  
A 2/1  
R  
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2/1  
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DAILY NARRATIVE.

At 0900 Saturday, 3rd January, 1942.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

"AUSTRALIA" (Flag) } will sail in company from Port Moresby  
 "PERTH" } 0530 tomorrow Sunday for Noumea arriving  
 "ACHILLES" } about 1500 January 7th. After fuelling from  
 "FALKEFJELL" cruisers will sail P.M. 8th January to escort  
 a convoy bound from Auckland to Suva.

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5/5/42

DAILY NARRATIVE.

At 0900 Saturday, 3rd January, 1942.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

"AUSTRALIA" (Flag) } will sail in company from Port Moresby  
"PERTH" } 0530 tomorrow Sunday for Noumea arriving  
"ACHILLES" } about 1500 January 7th. After fuelling from  
"FALKEFJELL" cruisers will sail P.M. 8th January to escort  
a convoy bound from Auckland to Suva.

"CANBERRA" escorting H.T. "AQUITANIA", expects to sail from Port Moresby 0900 tomorrow Sunday for Sydney.

"WARRECO" } departed Port Moresby 1700 January 1st to R.V. with  
"SWAN" } convoy ZK5 at 2000 yesterday.

"LITHGOW" } have orders to sail for Thursday Island as soon as poss-  
"KATOOMBA" } ible refuelling at Townsville.

"WHYALLA" the first of four A.M.S. building by B.H.P. at Whyalla will be ready to commission 7th January and sail 10th January for Melbourne for arming and to run acceptance trials in Port Phillip.

"ST. GILES" departed Sydney 1642 yesterday for Fremantle calling at Adelaide.

U.S. Cruiser "HOUSTON" and 5 U.S. destroyers arrived Thursday Island 1430 yesterday and were expected to R.V. with "PENSACOLA" convoy off Wednesday Island at 0600 this morning for escort to Darwin.

U.S. CRUISER "MARBLEHEAD" (7,050 tons, 10 - 6" guns built in 1923) "WILLIAM B. PRESTON" (destroyer), "LANGLEY" (aircraft carrier) "HOLLAND" (submarine tender) and "MARECHAL JOFFRE" (merchant vessel) arrived Darwin 1337 yesterday.

F.F. "LE TRIOMPHANT" escorting Fleet oiler "FALKEFJELL" departed Brisbane 1100 yesterday for Noumea. E.T.A. 1000 January 6th.

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Handwritten notes in red ink: "21" with a checkmark, "3/1", and other scribbles.

Handwritten notes in blue ink: "6" and "4/11".

To 0900 Wednesday, 1st January, 1942.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

"KARLELLA" reverted to 48 hours' notice yesterday - leave expires noon 7th January.

To 0900 Thursday, 1st January, 1942.

"KARLELLA" escorting convoy Val. leaves Sydney Saturday, 3rd January for Wellington.

"HARRICO" } OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION. yday from Brisbane.  
"SWAN" }

H.M.A. SHIPS. } expect to complete working up trials at Sydney 3th January and last week in January

"WESTRALIA" departed Darwin at 0620 yesterday for Port Moresby escorting "MARELLA". E.T.A. 0600 3rd January.  
"TODWOOD" }  
"WOLLORONG" } it will proceed Port Moresby - E.T.A. 1000 January 3rd.

U.S.S. "PENSACOLA" and convoy passed Cape Cleveland (off Townsville) at 1330 yesterday northbound.

U.S. CRUISER "HOUSTON" with 3 U.S. destroyers departed Darwin 1400 yesterday to E.Y. with "PENSACOLA" convoy off Wednesday Island at 0600 January 3rd.

F.Y. "LM TELEPHANE" returned to Brisbane 0930 yesterday  
H.M.A. SHIPS ABROAD. set oiler "PALMERJELL" to home.

"YARRA" arrived Colombo 30th December.

"YARRA" was due Colombo yesterday from Aden en route to Australia Station. Following a suggestion by A.C.S.D., she will proceed to Singapore area to provide A/S escort for convoys H.S.1 and H.S.2

SHIPPING.

S.S. "TAIPAN", a passenger and cargo vessel of 4,500 tons owned by the Australian and Oriental Line, arrived Sydney tomorrow to be fitted out for service as a V.S.L. ship on East Indies Station.

"MADONNA" was returned to her owners (McLure & Macfarlane Ltd.) at 1700 December 29th, having completed Port Moresby evacuation scheme.

H.T. "ZALAMBIA" with civilian evacuees from Darwin and Japanese internees from Thursday Island, departed Gladstone 1230 Monday, 29th December for Sydney.

*Handwritten notes:*  
A large red circle around the word "TAIPAN".  
A red checkmark next to the "MADONNA" entry.  
A red checkmark next to the "ZALAMBIA" entry.  
A red checkmark at the end of the "SHIPPING" section.

*Handwritten notes:*  
A large handwritten number '6' in the right margin.  
Handwritten initials 'MS' and '11' in the bottom right corner.

*Handwritten notes:*  
A red checkmark.  
Handwritten date '31/12' in red ink.

*Handwritten note:*  
Handwritten initials 'MS' at the bottom center.

To 0900 Wednesday, 31st December, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

"KANIMBLA" reverted to 48 hours' notice yesterday - leave expires noon 8th January.

"WESTRALIA" arrived Darwin 1230 yesterday from Cairns.

"ADELAIDE" escorting convoy VK1. leaves Sydney Saturday, 3rd January for Wellington.

"WARREGO" } arrived Port Moresby 1150 yesterday from Brisbane.  
"SWAN" }

"KATOOMBA" } expect to complete working up trials at  
"TOWNSVILLE" } Sydney 5th January and last week in January respectively. X

"TOOWOOMBA" } on completion sweeping operations in Torres  
"WOLLONGONG" } Strait will proceed Port Moresby - E.T.A. 1000 January 3rd. X

"DELORAINÉ" on completion E.R. defects departed Brisbane 2030 yesterday for Darwin - E.T.A. 0600 January, 7th.

U.S. CRUISER "HOUSTON" with 3 U.S. destroyers departed Darwin 1400 yesterday to R.V. with "PENSACOLA" convoy off Wednesday Island at 0600 January 3rd.

F.F. "LE TRIOMPHANT" returned to Brisbane 0930 yesterday whence she escorts Fleet oiler "FALKEFJELL" to Noumea.

H.M.A. SHIPS ABROAD.

"YARRA" was due Colombo yesterday from Aden en route to Australia Station. Following a suggestion by A.C.N.B., she will proceed to Singapore area to provide A/S escort for convoys M.S.1 and M.S.2

SHIPPING.

S.S. "TAIPING", a passenger and cargo vessel of 4,300 tons owned by the Australian and Oriental Line, arrived Sydney tomorrow to be fitted out for service as a V.S.l. ship on East Indies Station. X

H.T. "KATOOMBA" was returned to her owners (McIlwraith McEacharn Ltd.) at 1700 December 29th, having completed Port Moresby evacuation scheme.

H.T. "ZEALANDIA" with civilian evacuees from Darwin and Japanese internees from Thursday Island, departed Gladstone 1230 Monday, 29th December for Sydney.

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31/12

6 ME

0900 Tuesday, 30th December, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.  
OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"DELORAINE" missed "PENSACOLA" convoy, is returning to Brisbane and has been ordered to fuel and proceed with despatch to Darwin.

H.M. SHIPS.

"MONOWAI" sailed Auckland 1906K/29 for exercise.

"LEANDER" Suva to Auckland due 29th December - on escort duty.

ALLIED WARSHIPS.

"HOUSTON" (U.S. Cruiser) } Arrived Darwin 1250K/28  
"WHIPPLE" (U.S. Destroyer) } escorting "GOLD STAR", "OTUS"  
"ALDEN" " " } and "PECOS".  
"EDSALL" } yesterday, is proceeding with U.S. "PENSACOLA" and  
convoy, providing A/S escort, as far as Townsville.

"TADORNE" (French, designation unknown) at Papeete 29th December.

GENERAL.

Evacuees embarked "KATOOMBA" from New Guinea and Papua arrived Brisbane 26th and Sydney 28th December.

Evacuees in "NEPTUNA" were landed at Townsville.

The United States Destroyer "PERRY" was bombed by a Hudson Aircraft off Menado (Celebes) 28th and was hit aft, but ship arrived Ternate (Halmahera) after the attack, damage and casualties unknown.

E.S. "LE TRIOMPHANT" departed Brisbane yesterday for Singapore, but C. in C. Eastern Fleet has now requested that she be instructed to return to Noumea and operate in New Caledonia area until further orders.

H.M.A. SHIPS ABROAD.

"HANCOCK" arrived Colombo from Singapore 29th December.

OPERATIONS - N.E. STATION.

H.M.A.S. "LEANDER" departed Suva 27th December on escort duty, and is due Auckland today.

119

~~22/12~~  
20/12

~~22/12~~  
29/12

G

29/12

To 0900 Monday, 29th December, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"AUSTRALIA" (Flag) } escorting Convoy ZK5, departed Sydney for  
"PERTH" (Flag) } Port Moresby at 0950 yesterday. On  
"ACHILLES" } arrival of ZK5 off Port Moresby, they will  
 proceed to Noumea to oil, subsequently cover-  
 ing Auckland to Suva troop movement.

"CANBERRA" also escorting convoy ZK5 will enter Port Moresby and escort "AQUITANIA" to Sydney.

"TOOWOOMBA" } to conserve fuel, will discontinue sweeping  
"WOLLONGONG" } S.C.F. 24 until A.M. 31st December. As con-  
 venient after U.S. "PENSACOLA" and convoy  
 have passed through S.C.F. 24, they are to  
 sail for Port Moresby and fuel with despatch  
 on arrival.

"DELORAINÉ" instead of arriving at Brisbane from Sydney yesterday, is proceeding with U.S. "PENSACOLA" and convoy, providing A/S escort, as far as Townsville.

Fleet Oiler "FALKEFJELL" is to be sailed from Brisbane, complete with fuel, for Noumea, so as to arrive 6th January.

U.S. CRUISER "HOUSTON" and U.S. Destroyers "WHIPPLE", "ALDEN" and "EDSALL" escorting "GOLD STAR", "PECOS", "OTUS" (Fleet Auxiliaries) arrived Darwin yesterday.

U.S. "PENSACOLA" and convoy departed Brisbane at 2000 yesterday, and are due to R.V. with U.S.S. "HOUSTON" and 3 destroyers off Wednesday Island (Eastern Entrance to Torres Strait) at 0700 2nd January. After arriving at R.V. "PENSACOLA" will return to Pearl Harbour via Brisbane for fuel.

F.F. "LE TRIOMPHANT" departed Brisbane yesterday for Singapore, but C. in C. Eastern Fleet has now requested that she be instructed to return to Noumea and operate in New Caledonia area until further orders.

H.M.A. SHIPS ABROAD.

"MANOORA" arrived Colombo from Singapore 23rd December.

OPERATIONS - N.Z. STATION.

H.M.Z.S. "LEANDER" departed Suva 27th December on escort duty, and is due Auckland today.

~~22/12~~  
 29/12 .....  
 MR  
 29/12  
 29/12

To 0800 Saturday, 27th December, 1941.  
To 0900, Sunday, 28th December, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"AUSTRALIA" (Flag) } escorting convoy ZK5, comprising  
"CANBERRA" } "AQUITANIA", "SARPEDON" and "HERSTEIN"  
"PERTH" } leaves Sydney this morning for Port  
"ACHILLES" } Moresby proceeding outside Barrier Reef.

"ADELAIDE" arrived Sydney 0720 yesterday from Port Moresby.

"WARREGO" } departed Brisbane 0935 Friday, 26th December for  
"SWAN" } Port Moresby. E.T.A. 1300 December 30th.

"DELORAINÉ" has orders to proceed Brisbane instead of Townsville and may be used as A/S escort for "PENSACOLA" convoy to Torres Strait.

"WYRALLAH" } departed Fremantle 1930 Friday, 26th December for  
"YANDRA" } Sydney. E.T.A. 1900 Monday, 5th January.

U.S. Cruiser "PENSACOLA" returned to Brisbane yesterday afternoon from gunnery exercises.

F.F. "LE TRIOMPHANT" arrived Brisbane 1740 yesterday to fuel prior to sailing for Singapore.

H.M.A. SHIPS ABROAD.

"YARBA" departed Aden 2330 December 23rd for Colombo. E.T.A. 1500 December 30th.

GENERAL

"ALLEYBROOK" and "KLANG" are now fitted with L.L. Sweep Gear.

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*Handwritten signature/initials*

*Handwritten initials*

*Handwritten mark*

To 0900 Saturday, 27th December, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"WESTRALIA" sailed Cairns 1930K/25th for Darwin.

"TOOWOOMBA" arrived T.I. 0911K/25 } To carry out searching  
"WOLLONGONG" arrived T.I. 0715K/25 } sweeps of S.C.F. 24 (Western  
Approaches Torres Straits).

"DELORAINÉ" sailed Sydney 1835K/25 for Townsville. E.T.A. 1200K/30.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

H.M. SHIPS.

"LEANDER" arrived Suva 0710K/26th - on escort duty.

ALLIED WARSHIPS.

"PENSACOLA" sailed Brisbane 0958K/26th for Gunnery Exercises.

TRANSPORTS.

"ORMISTON" is to sail from Noumea to Brisbane

HOSPITAL SHIPS.

"MAUNGANUI" diverted to Fremantle by V/S Wilson's Promontory. E.T.A. PM. Wednesday 31st December.

GENERAL

"ALLENWOOD" and "KIANGA" are now fitted with L.L. Sweep Gear.

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H.M.A. SHIPS AHEAD.

~~201~~

~~201~~

departed Colombo for Fremantle 0104 24th December E.T.A. 1800 3rd January.

20/12



MOST SECRET. Thursday, 25th December, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

To 0900 Friday, 26th December, 1941. (yesterday from Brisbane.)

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

"KANINHA" arrived this morning and berthed at Princess Pier (Tel. No. BX5594). Reconditioned from Messrs. McIlwraith MacEachern on the outbreak of war, "KANINHA" was fitted out at Sydney for service as an A.M.C. and sailed for Singapore on 18th December, 1939, since when she has been continuously employed overseas.

H.M.A. Ships.

"WARREGO" } are to be sailed with all despatch from  
"SWAN" } Brisbane to Port Moresby, and on arrival  
fuel, then search S.C.F.23 for mines;  
afterwards rendezvous with Convoy ZK5.

"WOLLONGONG" arrived Thursday Island 1225 yesterday where she will remain pending further orders.

"TOOWOOMBA" } are to search S.C.F.24 (Western approaches  
"WOLLONGONG" } to Torres Straits) daily from today,  
until after "EENSACOLA" Convoy has passed  
through S.C.F.24.

"KAUNGAHARI" departed Brisbane 24th December for Melbourne due 27th December.

"DELORAINIE", it is expected, will depart Sydney for Darwin A.M. today. Further defects during machinery trials had delayed her departure yesterday.   
Flag of H.M.A.S. "KANINHA" at 1130 yesterday.

Free French "LE TRIOMPHANT" departed Noumea 1300 yesterday for Brisbane; E.T.A. 1130 tomorrow.

H.M.A. SHIPS ABROAD.

"HOBART" departed Colombo for Fremantle 0104 24th December E.T.A. 1020 3rd January.

*Handwritten red mark and date: 26/12*

To 0900 Thursday, 25th December, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

To 0900 Wednesday, 24th December, 1941.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"CANBERRA" } arrived Sydney 0800 yesterday from Brisbane.  
"PERTH" }  
"ACHILLES" }

"KANIMBLA" arrived Port Melbourne 0615 this morning and berthed at Princes Pier (Tel. No. MX5524). Requisitioned from Messrs. McIlwraith McEacharn on the outbreak of war, "KANIMBLA" was fitted out at Sydney for service as an A.M.C. and sailed for Singapore on 13th December, 1939, since when she has been continuously employed overseas.

"MILDURA" consequent upon the collision on Monday last is now in hand at Garden Island effecting repairs estimated to take three or four weeks. She is to be docked 0700 Saturday 27th November for survey.

"PAGUS" requisitioned at Townsville as examination vessel.

"WOLLONGONG" arrived Thursday Island 1225 yesterday where she will remain pending further orders.

"CANBERRA" (Flag) should have arrived Sydney 0700 this morning.

"PERTH"

"ACHILLES"

HOSPITAL SHIPS.

"MAUNGANUY" departed Wellington 22nd December for Melbourne due 27th December.

"ETRAH" (Channel Patrol Vessel) commissioned Sydney 0800/22.

GENERAL

ALLIED SHIPS.

Flag of R.A.C.A.S. was transferred from

"H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" to H.M.A.S. "AUSTRALIA" at 1130 yesterday.  
December.

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GENERAL

The following ships are to be regarded as forming part of Eastern Fleet "REVERBER", "ROYAL SOVEREIGN", "CANAN", "DURBAN", "DRAGON", "JUPITER", "VAMPIRE", "ENCOUNTER", "ELECTRA", "EXPRESS".

The U.S.S. "PENSACOLA", consists of the following ships, "ELIZAFONTEIN", "GAST PARKER", "ENIG", "HBLWOOD", "REBEL", "RALSTAD", and "CHAUMONT".

It is intended to form a convoy from Melbourne about 1st January for Singapore and N.E.I. Service cargo only for Singapore. "KANIMBLA" will escort this convoy and will be joined by "BOHRT" when released by C. in C. E.I.

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Handwritten notes in red ink: "2/1/12" and other illegible scribbles.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

30

To 0900 Tuesday, 23rd December, 1941.

TOP SECRET.

To 0900 Wednesday, 24th December, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"WESTRALIA" arrived Thursday Island 0715K/23rd with "ZEALANDIA" in company, and sailed for Cairns 1635/23. Will disembark troops at Cairns and return Darwin to escort Troop Convoy to Port Moresby.

"TOOWOOMBA" } ordered to proceed to Port Moresby.  
"WOLLONGONG" } to be ready to sail from Sydney for Townsville tomorrow.

"MORESBY" arrived Sydney 0646K/23.

"WARNAMBOOL" secured Port Melbourne 1535K/23.

"PAGRUS" requisitioned at Townsville as examination vessel 0800K/22.

"CANBERRA" (Flag) } should have arrived Sydney 0700K/this morning.  
"PERTH" }  
"ACHILLES" } flying at Auckland is to sail for Suva tomorrow.

"KARANGI" (Boom vessel) commissioned Sydney 0900K/23.

"WINBAH" (Channel Patrol Vessel) commissioned Sydney 0900K/23. In position 30° 30' south 155° 30' east.

AM

ALLIED WARSHIPS.

"LE TRIOMPHANT" escorting "ORMISTON" arrived Noumea 23rd December. proceeded Laidlaw Reef and through Torres Strait to Darwin. Escort from U.S. Asiatic Fleet will meet near GENERAL area Strait vicinity.

The following ships are to be regarded as forming part of Eastern Fleet "REVENGE", "ROYAL SOVEREIGN", "DANAE", "DURBAN", "DRAGON", "JUPITER", "VAMPIRE", "ENCOUNTER", "ELECTRA", "EXPRESS".

The convoy escorted by U.S.S. "PENSACOLA", consists of the following 7 ships, "BLOEMFONTEIN", "COAST FARMER", "MEIGS", "HOLBROOK", "REPUBLIC", "HALSTEAD", and "CHAUMONT".

It is intended to form a convoy from Melbourne about 1st January for Singapore and N.E.I. Service cargo only for Singapore. "KANIMBLA" will escort this convoy and will be joined by "HOBART" when released by C. in C. E.I.

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~~TOP SECRET~~  
A

To 0900 Tuesday, 23rd December, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"CANBERRA" } departed from Brisbane yesterday for Sydney.  
"PERTH" } E.T.A. 0700 tomorrow.

"ADELAIDE" arrived Port Moresby at 0832 yesterday, and departed at 1459 for Sydney. E.T.A. 0800 29th December.

"KATOOMBA" sails today from Sydney for Broken Bay for working up exercises.

"DELORAINÉ" having been delayed by defects in main machinery, will be ready to sail from Sydney for Townsville tomorrow.

"WARRECO" } boiler cleaning at Brisbane.  
"SWAN" }

OPERATIONS - ABROAD.

H.M.S. "LEANDER" arrived Auckland yesterday, and expects to leave today on escort duty to Suva.

H.M.S. "MONOWAI" refitting at Auckland is to sail for Suva 26th December.

H.M.S. "ACHILLES" departed Brisbane 1820 yesterday, and has been ordered by F.O.C.A.S. to R.V. with Flag at 1200 today in position 30° 30' south 155° 35' east.

ALLIED WARSHIPS.

U.S.S. "PENSACOLA" and convoy arrived Brisbane yesterday after unloading aircraft at Brisbane, convoy is to proceed inside Barrier Reef and through Torres Strait to Darwin. Escort from U.S. Asiatic Fleet will meet convoy in Torres Strait vicinity.

Free French "CAP DES PALMES" arrived Sydney yesterday from Noumea.

GENERAL.

While on patrol duty last night H.M.A.S. "MILDURA" was in collision with S.S. "BERWICKSHIRE" outward bound from Sydney at 2150. Slight damage was sustained; there were no casualties.

.....  
~~D.N.~~  
23/12/41  
117

To 0900 Monday, 22nd December, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"CANBERRA" (Flag) } arrived Brisbane 0300 this morning whence  
"PERTH" } they proceed to Sydney arriving A.M. 24th December.

"ACHILLES" arrived Brisbane 0300 this morning and will proceed to Auckland arriving 25th December.  
Sydney

"AUSTRALIA" arrived/0450 yesterday from Fremantle. ✓

"TOWNSVILLE" arrived Sydney 1512 yesterday from Brisbane. ✓

"BALLARAT" arrived Darwin 0742 yesterday from Ambon. ✓

"TOOWOOMBA" } arrived Townsville 19th December from Brisbane.  
"WOLLONGONG" } "WOLLONGONG" sailed 1340 today for Darwin and  
"TOOWOOMBA" will leave for the same destination.  
when E.R. defects are complete about 1000  
this morning.

ALLIED WARSHIPS.

U.S. CRUISER "HOUSTON" and 3 destroyers escorting two vessels left Sourabaya 20th December for Darwin.

Free French "LE TRIOMPHANT" will carry out the following programme:-

<u>Arrive</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Leave</u>
23rd December	Noumea	25th December.
27th "	Brisbane	28th "
3rd January, 1942	Darwin	4th January.
7th "	Sourabaya	8th "
9th "	Batavia	

Free French "CAP DES PALMES" with 300 Japanese internees embarked is due Sydney at noon today from Noumea. X

SHIPPING.

H.M. Transport "EMPRESS OF CANADA" departed Sydney 2116 Saturday 20th December for Wellington due 0500/24th December.

~~21.1~~ 22/12

6

22/12

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MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Sunday, 21st December, 1941.

"TRANSPORT" OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. Ships.

- "TOWNSVILLE" sailed Brisbane for Sydney E.T.A. 1600K/21.
- "AUSTRALIA" passed Wilson's Promontory 1029K/20 towards Sydney.
- "DELOIRINE". Defects in Main Machinery will delay for 72 hours, the sailing today for Townsville.
- "HOBART". Arrived Colombo 1410K/18 on passage to Australia.
- "WESTRALIA". Sailed Darwin 1346K/20 for Thursday Island. E.T.A. 0830K/23. Escorting "ZEALANDIA".
- "SIROCCO", "SAGITTAS", "CYGNUS". Undocked Melbourne 1005K/20.
- "DOOMBA". Secured Port Melbourne 0720K/20 and sails 0900K/22, for S.C.F.6.
- "KOROWA". Secured Williamstown 1700K/19 sails 0900K/22 for S.C.F.6.
- "UKI". Port Melbourne, sails 0800K/22 for S.C.F.6.
- "KANIMBLA" is now proceeding direct to Melbourne due to arrive 0200K/25. Speed 16 knots. (E.T.A. Heads 2300K/24).

GENERAL.

N.B. propose to utilize "MERKUR" as V.S.I.S. She should complete discharging at Melbourne 21st December and will then be sailed for Sydney for fitting out.

"EMPRESS OF CANADA" delayed at Sydney owing to 14 essential E.R. Ratings and 17 others A.W.L.

"CHEVREUIL". Programme = Goro 16th December, Mare Island 17th December, Lifold and Orivea Islands 18th December, Patt Island 19th December, Huon, Surprise and Hart Islands 20th December, Paagou Mene 21st December, Noumea 22nd December.

H.T. "KATOOMBA" with evacuees on board sailed Port Moresby 1526K/20 for Brisbane E.T.A. Noon L/26.

Arintel Laha (Ambon) reports that N.E.I. Coast Watchers organisation state Japanese Aircraft are using N.E.I. Marking.

C.-in-C., E.I. reports "HOBART" is having a 4 Barrel Multiple Pom Pom fitted on the Quarter Deck and will be ready to sail Monday, 22nd December when destination is known.

1941 Saturday, 20th December, 1941.

OPERATIONS - ALLIED STATION.

H.M. SHIPS.

H.M.A. SHIPS

"LEANDER". Arrived Suva 0527K/19 and sailed 1650K/19 for Auckland E.T.A. 1800K/22. in position 80° 20' S.

"VITI". Arrived Auckland 1504K/19.

ALLIED WARSHIPS.

"LE TRIOMPHANT" arrived Brisbane 0035K/20 escorting "ORMISTON" and sailed in Company 1429K/20 for Noumea.

R.A.N. TANKER.

"FALKEFJELL". Arrived Brisbane 17th December.

OPERATIONS - ABOARD.

H.M.S. "LEANDER" arrived Suva 0527 yesterday from Auckland.

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to 0900 Saturday, 20th December, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"CANBERRA" } At 0800 this morning should be in position 26° 20'S.  
"PERTH" } 158° 10'E (approximately 350 miles E.N.E. of Brisbane)  
making good 262° 9 knots

"MORESEBY" departed Townsville for Sydney yesterday. E.T.A. 110 23rd December.

"DELORAINÉ" is to be sailed from Sydney to Darwin as soon as possible after 20th December.

"TOWNSVILLE" commissioned in Brisbane yesterday.

FREE FRENCH "CAP DES PALMES" departed Noumea for Sydney at 0930 yesterday.

OPERATIONS - ABROAD.  
Having provided A/B escort for "LS TRIBUNAULT" yesterday.

H.M.S. "LEANDER" arrived Suva 0527 yesterday from Auckland, coming to fuel before returning to Sydney.

SHIPS ABROAD

"YANKEE" on passage to Australia leaves Suva 1400 today for Auckland.

Handwritten notes in red and blue ink, including dates like 20/12 and 20/12, and initials/signatures.



To 0900 Friday, 19th December, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

"AUSTRALIA" arrived Fremantle 0301H/17th. Expected to arrive Sydney 21st December.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"AUSTRALIA" departed Fremantle 2212 Wednesday, 17th December for Sydney. E.T.A. 0400 Sunday, 21st December.

"ADELAIDE" departed Ambon for Port Moresby 1800 yesterday. E.T.A. 0800/22nd December.

"BALLARAT" departed Ambon for Darwin 1800 yesterday. E.T.A. 0650/21st December.

"WARREGO" } arrived Brisbane 1720 Wednesday, 17th December  
"SWAN" } from sweeping operations in vicinity Hervey Bay and will sail so as to provide A/S escort for U.S. cruiser "PENSACOLA".

"LITHGOW" } having provided A/S escort for "LE TRIOMPHANT"  
"MILDURA" } returned to Sydney 1140 yesterday.

"MORESBY" expected to arrive Townsville 0600 this morning to fuel before returning to Sydney.

H.M.A. SHIPS ABROAD.

"YARRA" on passage to Australia leaves Suez 1400 today for Aden due 1800 December 23rd.

Admiralty have requested Naval Board if it is possible to provide 40 Pearl Fishing Lugger for Harbour Craft Service in Fleet Bases in the East, and whether crews could be provided in Australia.

A.S. ship "VIV" has been accepted for General Service. She will probably be used as a mine sweeper in Pearl Bases. Arrive Sava 20th December for refit and fitting A/S and V/S equipment.

H.M.A.S. "KATONGA"	commissioned 17th December at Sydney.
H.M.A.S. "MORNING"	" " " " " "
H.M.A.S. "SAGITTAR"	" " " " " "
H.M.A.S. "SIROCCO"	" " " " " "

"GULL" Force arrived Ambon noon 8/17th December.

"CAP DES PALMES" will sail Noumea 18th December for Sydney with 500 Japanese on board.

A.I.F. and Dutch Troops landed Dillit 1300H/17.

5 Flying Boats arrived Darwin A.M. 17th from Manila.

*Handwritten notes and signatures:*

19/12

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0900 Thursday, 18th December, 1941.

A. SHIPS.

"AUSTRALIA" arrived Fremantle 0401H/17th. Expected to arrive Sydney 21st December.

"ADELAIDE" ordered to proceed to Port Moresby to fuel.

"BALLARAT" " " " Darwin.

"MARRAWAH" will enter Duke and Orrs Dock at 0800K/18th for Inclination Test.

"ACHILLES" sailed Wellington 0001M/17.

"LEANDER" sailed Auckland 1441M/15 for Suva, on escort duty.

CONVOY.

"LE TRIOMPHANT" sailed Sydney 2352K/17 escorting "ORMISTON" for Brisbane and accompanied by "LITHGOW" and "MILDURA" as A/S escort till 0600K/18, these latter ships then returning to Sydney.

TRANSPORTS.

"EMPRESS OF CANADA" expected to sail from Sydney 22nd December for Wellington escorted by H.M.A.S. "AUSTRALIA".

GENERAL.

Admiralty have requested Naval Board if it is possible to provide up to 40 Pearl Fishing Luggers for Harbour Craft Service in Fleet Bases in the East, and whether crews could be provided in Australia.

H.M. Fiji Ship "VITI" has been accepted for General Service in the R.N. She will probably be used as a minesweeper in Fiji, and will arrive Suva 20th December for refit and fitting A/S and D/C equipment.

H.M.A.S. "KATOOMBA"	}	comissioned 17th December at Sydney.			
H.M.A.S. "CYGNUS"		"	"	"	Melbourne.
H.M.A.S. "SAGGITAS"		"	"	"	"
H.M.A.S. "SIROCCO"		"	"	"	"

"GULL" Force arrived Ambon noon K/17th December.

"CAP DES PALMES" will sail Noumea 19th December for Sydney with 300 Japanese on board.

A.I.F. and Dutch Troops landed Dilli 1300H/17.

6 Flying Fortresses arrived Darwin A.M. 17th from Manila.

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*Handwritten:* 18/12

*Handwritten:* VAG

*Handwritten:* C

900 Wednesday, 17th December, 1941.

0300 Tuesday, 16th December, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"AUSTRALIA" expects to arrive Fremantle at 0530 today.

"WESTRALIA" escorting H.T. "ZEALANDIA", arrived Darwin from Koe pang at 0736 yesterday. "ZEALANDIA" when ready is to be sailed for Thursday Island, Bowen and Sydney and "WESTRALIA" is to escort her.

"TOOWOOMBA" ) arrived Brisbane from Sydney 2050 15th December,  
"WOLLONGONG" ) and departed for Townsville 1131 16th December.  
E.T.A. P.M. 19th December.

FRENCH "LE TRIOMPHANT" expects to depart Sydney at 1700 today, escorting "ORMISTON" to Brisbane where both vessels will fuel from "FALKEFJELL" and proceed to Noumea.

OPERATIONS - ABROAD.

H.M.S. "ACHILLES" arrived Auckland from Port Moresby yesterday.

CONVOY U.S. 14.

H.T. "AQUITANIA" is to be held in Sydney until further orders; N.Z. personnel are to be transferred to "EMPRESS OF CANADA", which is to be sailed for Wellington when ready.

GENERAL.

Acceptance trials "KATOOMBA" (A.M.S.) were completed satisfactorily yesterday.

"KARANGI" (Boom Vessel for Darwin) will commission at Sydney on 23rd December.

.....

~~D.N.I.~~  
CA  
16/12  
17/12

To 0900 Tuesday, 16th December, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"CANBERRA" (Flag) } departed Brisbane last night for vicinity  
"PERTH" } New Caledonia.

"WARREGO" } will return to Brisbane so as to sail daylight  
"SWAN" } Thursday, 18th December, to provide A/S escort for  
U.S. Cruiser "PENSACOLA".

"KYBRA" arrived Brisbane Sunday, 14th December, from Sydney.

U.S. CRUISER "PENSACOLA", escorting a convoy of 6 transports  
departed Suva 1536 Sunday, 14th December for Brisbane  
due Friday, 19th December.

FRENCH "LE TRIOMPHANT" escorting H.T. "ORMISTON" with Military  
personnel embarked expects to leave Sydney  
tomorrow afternoon for Noumea.

CONVOY U.S. 14.

H.T. "QUEEN ELIZABETH" arrived Sydney 1646 yesterday where she  
will remain until further orders.

GENERAL.

S.S. "IRON BARON" on passage from Newcastle to  
Melbourne reported a floating mine in position 37° 36'S. 150° 16'E.  
(about 15 miles E.S.E. of Gabo Island) at 1052 yesterday. W.F.  
message was broadcast warning shipping on Australia Station.

A Japanese cargo vessel was sighted by a reconnaissance  
aircraft off KAPINGAMARANGI, an isolated Japanese Island to  
the southward of the Caroline Group, at 1030 yesterday.

Three Hudsons from Rabaul were despatched and attacked  
at 1700 without success.

*D.N.I.*  
*16/12*  
*W.F.*  
*6*  
*16*

United States have ordered the resumption of Coastal  
Merchant Ship Traffic North of Panama and also of Trans Pacific  
Shipping in widely dispersed routes south of Panama.

Spots reports gain W/T station totally destroyed and small  
station damaged, but is maintaining W/T service.

S.A.C.S.S. will hoist his flag in "CANBERRA" A.S. 14th Dec.  
1st S.S. arrived Melbourne from Sydney etc., by air at  
1030 last night (Sunday).

1900 Monday, 15th December, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"CANBERRA" } will berth at Brisbane 1100K/15 and will when  
"PERTH" } fuelled proceed to cover U.S.S. "PENSACOLA" and  
six ships in convoy which sailed Suva 14th December.

"WESTRALIA" sailed Koepang 1030K/14 for Darwin. E.T.A. daylight 16th December escorting "ZEALANDIA".

"WARREGO" } Searching sweeps off Bustard Head, and will proceed  
"SWAN" } on completion to investigate Floating Mine reported  
in Platypus Bay. (Hervey Bay) expected to return  
to Brisbane P.M. 18th December.

"WARRNAMBOOL" arrived Williamstown 1901K/14.

"DOOMBA" sailed 0700K/15 for Wilson Promontory Area - S.C.F. 18.

"DELORAINÉ" at Sydney is to complete working up by 20th December.

"HOBART" sailed Aden for Colombo - E.T.A. 1030Z/18 December.

"ADELAIDE" } sailed Darwin 1417K/14 for Ambon - E.T.A. 0600/17th  
"BALLARAT" } December, escorting "Gull" Force with "BALLARAT" as  
A/S escort to "Gull" Force.

H.M. SHIPS AND ALLIED WARSHIPS.

"LEANDER" arrived Auckland 1431M/13.

"LE TRIOMPHANT" sailed Sydney 1340K/14 for Firing.

"ACHILLES" proceeding to Auckland with despatch, then to join  
"Flag" of R.A.C.A.S. in "CANBERRA".

R.A.N. FLEET AUXILIARIES.

"FALKEFJELL" sailed Sydney 1700K/14 for Brisbane.

CONVOYS.

Gull Force consisting of Dutch Ships "BOTH", "VALENTYN" and "PATRAS"  
escorted by H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE" and "BALLARAT" as A/S  
Escort sailed Darwin 1417K/14 for Ambon - E.T.A. 0600K/  
17th December. Air cover being provided.

HOSPITAL SHIPS.

"WANGANILLA" sailed Sydney 2059K/13 December for Colombo.

GENERAL.

United States have ordered the resumption of Coastal  
Merchant Ships Traffic North of Panama and also of Trans Pacific  
Shipping in widely dispersed Routes south of Panama.

Nauru reports main W/T Station totally destroyed and small  
station damaged, but is maintaining W/T contact.

R.A.C.A.S. will hoist his Flag in "CANBERRA" A.M. 15th Dec.

1st N.M. arrived Melbourne from Sydney etc., by Air at  
2030K/last night (Sunday).

DAILY NARRATIVE.

TO 0900 SUNDAY, 14th DECEMBER, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS

"CANBERRA" } departed 1734 12th December to provide cover for  
"PERTH" } U.S.S. "PENSACOLA" and U.S. Transports which arrived  
at Suva at 1430 yesterday, en route to Brisbane.  
"PENSACOLA" and transports are due Brisbane 19th  
December.

"WARREGO" } on completion fuelling at Brisbane will carry out a  
"SWAN" } searching sweep in the vicinity of Bustard Head  
Northward of Hervey Bay. A floating mine was dis-  
covered in Hervey Bay recently and a report of a  
possible further mine in the Hervey Bay area has  
been received.

"TOOWOOMBA" } departed Sydney for Darwin at 1203 yesterday calling  
"WOLLONGONG" } at Brisbane and Townsville on passage. E.T.A.  
Brisbane 1100 tomorrow.

"WARRNAMPOOL" departed Sydney at 2230 12th December and expects to  
arrive Melbourne at 1700 today.

"TOWNSVILLE" completed acceptance trial successfully at Brisbane,  
and intends commissioning and departing for Sydney  
15th December.

"MORESBY" passed Archer Point Southbound 1545 12th December.

Free French "LE TRIOMPHANT" will escort S.S. "ORMISTON", with troops  
and stores, to Noumea, sailing from Sydney Tuesday,  
16th December.

Free French "CAP DES PALMES" arrived Noumea from Suva at 1230 12th  
December.

H.M. & H.M.A. SHIPS ABROAD.

"KANIMBLA" departed Singapore for Fremantle 12th December  
escorting convoy from Singapore to Fremantle. At  
position 008° 30' South 105° 40' East (South of  
Sunda Strait) convoy disperses and "KANIMBLA"  
proceeds independently.

"AUSTRALIA" is due at Fremantle, 18th December.

"HOBART" is to be sailed for Colombo pending decision by  
C. in C. Eastern Fleet and A.C.N.E. to her destination.

OPERATIONS N.Z. STATION

"LEANDER" escorting "WAHINE" carrying reinforcements for Fiji,  
sails from Auckland 15th and 22nd December due  
finally at Auckland, 28th December.

"ACHILLES" available to escort "MARIPOSA" from Auckland to  
Eastward a.m. 17th December.

"MONOWAI" refitting; ready for sea by a.m. 29th. Probably  
required for escort to South-East New Zealand.

*Handwritten:* 15/12

CONVOY U.S.14.

It is not intended to run Convoy U.S.14. On arrival Sydney, "QUEEN ELIZABETH" is to be held for further orders.

INTELLIGENCE

Bermuda received an "RRRR" signal (warship) from U.S. "VINCENT" followed by "SOS" in Latitude 22° 41' South 118° 19' West (about 700 miles E.N.E. of Pitcairn Island). "VINCENT" left Sydney for Panama 21st November, E.T.A. 23rd December.

To 0900 Saturday, 13th December, 1941.

To 0900 Friday, 12th December, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M. AND H.M.A. SHIPS.

- "CANBERRA" } were expected to depart Sydney yesterday to
- "PERTH" } protect Tasman shipping and provide cover for
- "LARGS BAY" } "LARGS BAY" proceeding to Auckland with
- Service personnel embarked.
- "WEST ALIA" escorting H.T. "ZEALANDIA" (Sparrow Force) arrived
- "KOEPAANG" arrived Koepang 0900 yesterday from Darwin.
- "WARREGO" } departed Sydney 0900 yesterday for Brisbane.
- "S AN" } E.T.A. 1400 today when they will come under
- orders D.N.O. Brisbane. *respatch to Fremantle.*
- "WARRNAMBOOL" at Sydney had orders to sail for Melbourne at
- 2200 yesterday to come under orders D.N.O. Victoria
- on arrival. *today for Brisbane.*
- "KYBRA" departed Sydney 1000 yesterday for Brisbane.
- "ACHILLES" will not join the Eastern Fleet. She departed
- Port Moresby 0800 yesterday for Auckland. E.T.A.
- 1600 Tuesday, 16th December.

ALLIED VESSELS.

"CAPT. DE LA PALME" sailed Suva 10th December for Noumea due 12th December.

\*\*\*\*\*

H.M. SHIPS.

- "PRICE ROBERT" arrived Esquimaux 1340X/11.
- "ACHILLES" arrived Port Moresby 1030X/11 and when completed with fuel will return to Auckland at 20 kts, being not now required to join the Eastern Fleet.

REPORTS.

"CORSE ELIZABETH" sailed Fremantle 2000X/10 for Sydney.

*13/12*

Desolution effected at Ocean Island 0320X/11.

Reura reports that at 1040X/11 heavy air attack was taking place and later reports at 1145X/11 badly battered.

The Flag of Vice Admiral Sir G. Layton has been rehoisted (temporarily) as C. in C. Eastern Fleet.

Sparrow Force should arrive Koepang 0600X/12.

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*12/12*

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0900 Thursday, 11th December, 1941.

To 0900 Friday, 12th December, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"PERTH" } In company returned to Sydney 2258K/10. - today.  
 "LE TRIOMPHANT" }  
 "GUNBAR" arrived Fremantle 1825K/10. - day of tomorrow, depending  
 upon loading progress.  
 "TOORIE" arrived Adelaide 0134K/11. ✓  
 "DELORAINÉ" arrived Sydney 0957K/11 from Jervis Bay. -  
 "AUSTRALIA" ordered to proceed with despatch to Fremantle. -  
 "CANBERRA" proceeded to sea 1412K/11 for firing. -  
 "KYBRA" will sail at 0900K/today for Brisbane. ✓  
 "TOOWOOMBA" } N.O.C.S. intends to sail these two ships in  
 "WOLLONGONG" } company A.M. 13 December for Darwin calling  
 Townsville on passage. X

ALLIED WARSHIPS.

"CAP DES PALMES" sailed Suva 10th December for Noumea due 12th  
December. ✓

H.M. SHIPS.

"PRINCE ROBERT" arrived Esquimaüt 1340K/11. -  
 "ACHILLES" arrived Port Moresby 1630K/11 and when completed with -  
 fuel will return to Auckland at 20 kts, being not now  
 required to join the Eastern Fleet. ✓  
 "ORANIE" departed Port Melbourne for Sydney yesterday. ✓

TRANSPORTS.

"QUEEN ELIZABETH" sailed Fremantle 2008H/10 for Sydney. ✓

GENERAL.

Demolition effected at Ocean Island 0330K/11. -  
 Nauru reports that at 1040K/11 heavy air attack was  
 taking place and later reports at 1144K/11 badly battered. -  
 The Flag of Vice Admiral Sir G. Layton has been  
 rehoisted (temporarily) as C. in C. Eastern Fleet. ✓  
 Sparrow Force should arrive Keepang 0600K/12. ✓

~~D.N.K.~~

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0900 Thursday, 11th December, 1941.  
To 0900 Wednesday, 10th December, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

the port stress at ULLADULLA (20 miles south of Jarvis Bay)

"PERTH" due Sydney from search south of Jarvis Bay at 0800 today.

"ADELAIDE" arrived Darwin at 0330 today, will escort "GULL" force from Darwin to Ambon either today or tomorrow, depending upon loading progress.

"BUNGAREE" is due Sydney from Brisbane at 1200 tomorrow.

"DELORAIN" is due Sydney from A/S patrol from Port Kembla, at 0900 today.

OPERATIONS - ABROAD.

An air search commenced at dawn this morning. Intercepted P.O.C.A.S.'s orders to "PERTH" to proceed to the south of Jarvis Bay was called to carry out A/S patrol off Port Kembla.

An official Admiralty announcement through B.C. confirms the loss of H.M. Ships "PRINCE OF WALES" and "REPULSE", escorting H.M. "ESCALANTIA", with troops embarked departed morning for Koepang. S.T.A.

AIR OPERATIONS.

Tobi Island, midway between Ambon and Palau, was attacked by R.A.A.F. planes operating from Ambon.

INTELLIGENCE.

"TIGER" will be called from Sydney for Darwin when ready.

"GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS." Japanese apparently made successful landing on Butanitani and Tarawa Islands about 0245 yesterday morning according to a signal from S.O.(I) Wellington.

will be commissioned the following day and called for Sydney.

TRANSPORTS.

H.T. "QUEEN ELIZABETH" expects to depart Fremantle for Sydney this morning.

HOSPITAL SHIP.

"HOSPITAL SHIP." 472 tons requisitioned from Australian S.S. Co. having fitted out at Williamstown for "ORANJE" departed Port Melbourne for Sydney yesterday. E.T.A. 2200 today. is tomorrow.

GENERAL.

H.M.A. SHIPS - ABROAD.

R.A.C.A.S. arrives by air in Melbourne from Sydney today, and returns tonight. During his absence from Sydney, operational control of H.M.A. Squadron will be assumed by C.W.R. commencing 0700 today, for approximately 17 hours.

"ROBANT" arrives late night of 12/13 December from Mediterranean.

A German Type "Y" mine discovered between Fraser and Woody Islands, Hervey Bay, was estimated to have been in the water from 8 to 10 weeks.

Mauru and Ocean Islands have been ordered to demolish all loading gear immediately.

Trans-Pacific ..... including U.S.A. ships were suspended yesterday and all ships eastbound in US zone ordered to proceed to the nearest British port. All ships bound to U.S. are to be diverted to Cape.

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P

DAILY NARRATIVE.

SECRET.

10/12

To 0900 Wednesday, 10th December, 1941.

NAVAL OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

The Postmistress at ULLADULLA (20 miles south of Jervis Bay) and the lighthousekeeper at Point Perpendicular heard sounds of gunfire at 1930 yesterday from N.E. and S.E. respectively which could not be explained.

H.M.A.S. "PERTH" and Free French L.C. "LE TRIOMPHANT" exercising off Sydney, were ordered by F.O.C.A.S. to proceed to the area with all despatch and H.M.A.S. "DELOIRINE" at Jervis Bay was sailed to carry out A/S patrol off Port Kembla. H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" was instructed to raise steam and proceed about 0800 this morning.

An air search by 3 Hudsons from Richmond commenced at dawn this morning. N.Z.N.B. having intercepted F.O.C.A.S.'s orders to "PERTH" promptly offered the services of H.M.S. "LEANDER".

"WESTRALIA", escorting H.T. "ZEALANDIA", with troops embarked departed Darwin 0549 this morning for Keopang. E.T.A. 0600/12th December.

"BUNGAREE" arrived Brisbane 1200 yesterday whence she proceeds to Sydney.

"TOOWOOMBA" } will be sailed from Sydney for Darwin when ready.  
"WOLLONGONG" }

"TOWNSVILLE", subject to satisfactory trials on 12th December, will be commissioned the following day and sailed for Sydney.

"KATOOMBA" is expected to commission at Sydney Saturday, 13th December.

"MARRAWAH", a cargo vessel of 472 tons requisitioned from Australian S.S. Co. having fitted out at Williamstown for Auxiliary M/S duties, commissioned yesterday and will commence trials tomorrow.

H.M. AND H.M.A. SHIPS - ABROAD.

"AUSTRALIA" departed Simonstown 2800 Friday, 5th December, and is proceeding towards Fremantle at 15 knots.

"HOBART" arrives Aden night of 12/13 December from Mediterranean.

"LEANDER" departed Auckland 1100 yesterday for patrol to the northward of New Zealand.

SHIPPING.

Trans-Pacific sailings, including U.S.A. ships, were suspended yesterday and all ships eastbound in Area 5B were ordered to proceed to the nearest British port. All ships bound to U.K. are to be routed via the Cape.

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P

To 0900 Tuesday, 9th December, 1941.

*MS*

To A. SHIPS.

"CANBERRA" Refitting Sydney. Brought to 4 hours' notice. Ready for sea P.M. 9th or A.M. 10th December.

"BALLARAT" Arrived Darwin 1617K/8 with oil lighter in tow. To act as A/S escort.

"BUNGAREE" ordered to proceed to Brisbane. Sailed from Darwin for Loosung when ready, with troops

"MORESBY" sailed Townsville 0635K/8 for Flinders Group, Flora Passage, Palm Passage, returning to Townsville 24th December.

"TOORIE" sailed Williamstown for Swan Island - thence Adelaide. E.T.A. 0900K/11th December.

"DELORAINÉ" sailed Sydney 1125K/8 for Jervis Bay - will be based Sydney for working up.

"ACHILLES" ordered after fuelling at Suva to proceed with despatch to Port Moresby complete with Fuel and proceed Singapore with convenient despatch to join Flag of C. in C. Eastern Fleet. E.T.A. Port Moresby 1830K/11.

"TOOWOOMBA" at Sydney Boiler Cleaning - 3 days.

"WOLLONGONG" Essential repairs to Boiler Brickwork - 2 days.

"ADELAIDE" Port Moresby to Darwin E.T.A. 0330/11 - Will pass Thursday Island at 1700K/9.

CANADIAN SHIPS.

"PRINCESS KATHLEEN" } sailed Darwin 7th December for Singapore -  
" PRINCESS MARGUERITE" } expected to arrive 14th December.

C. 1 TRANSPORTS. Fleet will take over command and administration of this division at 1000 Wednesday, 10th

"QUEEN ELIZABETH" is to be sailed from Fremantle so as to arrive Sydney Heads 15th December at 1630K.

HOSPITAL SHIPS.

"WANGANELLA" arrived Sydney 0630K/8 sails 13th December for Colombo en route to Middle East.

GENERAL.

D.N.O. Queensland reports anticipated "TOWNSVILLE" will carry out acceptance trials 12th December and commission 13th December.

*Handwritten notes and signatures:*  
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6  
*[Signature]*  
*[Signature]*

MOST SECRET.

To 0900 Monday, 8th December, 1941.

To 0900 Sunday, 7th December.  
H.M.A. SHIPS.

"ADELAIDE" escorting H.T. "KATOOMBA" arrived Port Moresby at 0611 yesterday from Brisbane.

"WESTRALIA" and H.T. "ZEALANDIA" are being sailed from Darwin for Koepang when ready, with troops embarked; after disembarkation both ships will return to Darwin.

"WOLLONGONG" arrived Sydney at 1435 yesterday.

"WYRALLAH" arrived Fremantle yesterday.

"TOORIE" departs Melbourne for Adelaide at 0800 today to join Group 63 M/S.

"PRINCESS KATHLEEN" } Canadian A.M.C's arrived Darwin at  
"PRINCESS MARGUERITE" } 0900 yesterday.

Part Moresby 0500 this morning, are both to remain there until further orders.

OPERATIONS - ABROAD.

"KANINBLA" departed Penang for Singapore yesterday.

"MANOORA" arrived Singapore 6th December.

"REPULSE", "VAMPIRE" and "TENEDOS" arrived Singapore yesterday.

A.M. tomorrow and from Jarvis Bay for Westport P.M. Wednesday, 10th December.

GENERAL

Hostilities against Japan commenced this morning.

C. in C. Eastern Fleet will take over command and administrate China Station at 1030 Wednesday, 10th December, and flag of Vice Admiral Sir G. Layton will be struck at sunset on that day.

.....  
GENERAL.

State of war will exist with Hungary, Roumania and Finland from 1001X today.

→ 2.1.

WR

8/12

B

7/12

Handwritten signatures and initials at the bottom right of the page.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Sunday, 7th December.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M. AND H.M.A. SHIPS -

"REPULSE", screened by the Destroyers "TENEDOS" and "VAMPIRE", departed Singapore for Darwin 2100 Friday, 5th December, but was ordered yesterday to return to Singapore with all despatch.

"CANBERRA" at Sydney reverts to 3 days' notice for sea P.M. today.

"AUSTRALIA", owing to situation in Far East, is to be sailed from Capetown towards Fremantle.

"ADELAIDE", escorting H.T. "KATOOMBA", due Port Moresby 0500 this morning, are both to remain there until further orders.

"WESTRALIA" will possibly be required to escort H.T. "ZEALANDIA", with troops embarked, from Darwin to Koepang.

20th M.S.F. arrived Sydney 1105 yesterday from Melbourne.

"DELORAINÉ" sails from Sydney for Jervis Bay A.M. tomorrow and from Jervis Bay for Westernport P.M. Wednesday, 10th December.

French Cruiser "LE TRIOMPHANT" at Sydney, on completion of dockyard repairs and trials, is to be sailed for Noumea and Singapore.

HOSPITAL SHIP.

"ORANJE" arrived Fremantle 2018 yesterday, whence she proceeds to Adelaide, Melbourne and Sydney.

GENERAL.

State of war will exist with Hungary, Roumania and Finland from 1001K today.

7/12

7/12

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

0900 Friday, 5th December, 1941.

0900 Saturday, 6th December, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS. OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA.

20th E.S.F. consisting of "BARREGO", "SWAN", "MILDRUM", "LITHOON" and "WARRAMBOOL", departed Port Phillip for Sydney yesterday. E.T.A. 0700 5th December.

"PERTH" arrived Sydney 1308K/5.

"BUNGAREE" southbound for Sydney. E.T.A. 1700K/9.

"MORESBY" arrived Townsville 1030K/5.

"HEROS" Geraldton to Fremantle arrived 1600H/5.

"MANOORA" sailed Batavia 0440K/5th for Singapore.

E.S.F. "MILDRUM", it is anticipated, will arrive in Ocean

H.M.N.Z. SHIPS.

"ACHILLES" on escort duty to vicinity of KARDUVA Passage then Auckland.

GENERAL.

N.O.C.S. reports intended to dock "ALLENWOOD" Chapman Slip at 0630/8, and "KIANCA" to follow on "ALLENWOOD" unslipping.

TRANSPORTS.

R.T. "ZEALANDIA" Hobart movement is now cancelled, and after embarking 442 A.I.F. personnel at Darwin "ZEALANDIA" is to be sailed for Bowen when ready.

GENERAL.

H.M.A.S. "WARRAWAN" intends commissioning at Melbourne on 8th December as an Auxiliary Minesweeper and will join Group 54 M/S (Melbourne) working up.

Handwritten red mark and "6/12"

Handwritten red mark and "5/12"

Handwritten signature and "8/11"

0900 Friday, 5th December, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

20th M.S.F. consisting of "WARREGO", "SWAN", "MILDURA", "LITHGOW" and "WARRNAMBOOL", departed Port Phillip for Sydney yesterday. E.T.A. 0700 6th December.

"WESTRALIA" arrived Darwin yesterday from patrol.

"BALLARAT" departed Thursday Island yesterday at 1345, with lighter in tow.

"TOOWOOMBA" arrived Sydney from Port Phillip yesterday.

"WOLLONGONG" departed Williamstown at 1001 yesterday for Wollongong, thence to Sydney.

H.M.S. "MONOWAI", it is anticipated, will arrive in Oceanic Island area 8th January.

U.S. CRUISER "LOUISVILLE", escorting "PRESIDENT COOLIDGE" and "HUGH L. SCOTT", passed Port Moresby eastbound at 0715 yesterday.

OPERATIONS - ABROAD.

FREE FRENCH "CAP DES PALMES" departed Papeete 3rd December due Suva 8th December.

TRANSPORTS.

H.T. "ZEALANDIA" Hobart movement is now cancelled, and after embarking 442 A.I.F. personnel at Darwin "ZEALANDIA" is to be sailed for Bowen when ready.

GENERAL.

H.M.A.S. "MARRAWAH" intends commissioning at Melbourne on 9th December as an Auxiliary Minesweeper and will join Group 54 M/S (Melbourne) after working up.

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*Handwritten notes and signatures in red and blue ink, including "57.2" and "A/12".*



0900 Thursday, 4th December, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

20th M.S.F. leaves Port Melbourne 0900 this morning for Sydney arriving Sydney A.M. Saturday. The Flotilla will be required for searching sweeps in Bass Strait prior to passage of U.S. 14.

"BALLARAT" with lighter in tow arrived Thursday Island 1123 yesterday.

"DURRAWEE" and "KOROWA" arrived Port Melbourne yesterday from operations with 20th M.S.F. and have reverted to orders of D.N.O. Victoria.

"GUNBAR" arrived Carnarvon yesterday for detached duty. She will commence refit at Fremantle about 15th December and on completion sail for Darwin to join Group 70 M.S.

"PRINCESS KATHLEEN" and "PRINCESS MARGUERITE" Canadian A.M.Cs. en route to Suez departed Port Moresby yesterday for Thursday Island. E.T.A. 1700 today.

French Sloop "CHEVRUELL" arrived Noumea 0815 yesterday from Sydney.

HOSPITAL SHIPS.

"WANGANELLA" arrived Sydney yesterday from Melbourne.

"MAUNGANUI" departed Fremantle yesterday for Wellington direct routed south of Tasmania. E.T.A. 13th December.

HOSPITAL SHIP "WANGANELLA" departed Melbourne for Sydney at 1145 yesterday.

TRANSPORTS.

"ZEALANDIA" arrived Darwin 1555 yesterday from Singapore.

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GENERAL.

A.M.S. VESSEL "MURPHY" was successfully launched in Brisbane yesterday.

*[Handwritten notes and signatures in red and blue ink, including "4/12" and "RR"]*

To 0900 Tuesday, 2nd December, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"PERTH" latest time of departure of "MARIPOSA" from Auckland to Sydney will be 1800 tomorrow. Rendezvous with "PERTH" is being arranged for A.M. tomorrow 3rd December; "PERTH" is to arrive off Three Kings 0200 tomorrow.

"TOOWOOMBA" departed Williamstown for Sydney at 0700 yesterday.

20th M.S.F. departed Storm Bay for Port Phillip yesterday. E.T.A. 0200 tomorrow.

"DURRAWEE" and "KOROWA" departed Storm Bay for Port Phillip yesterday. E.T.A. 1800 tomorrow.

"KYBRA" arrived Sydney from A/S training cruise at 1356 yesterday.

"HUNGAREE" has completed mining operations in Cook's Passage.

"NARANI" departed Newcastle for Sydney and arrived yesterday.

"GOOLGWAI" departed Sydney for Newcastle and arrived yesterday.

TRANSPORTS AND HOSPITAL SHIPS.

H.T. "ZEALANDIA" due Darwin today from Singapore, will not be sailed for Hobart pending Cabinet decision late P.M. on Thursday, 4th December. C.N.S. for passage to Australia.

H.T. "QUEEN ELIZABETH" leaves Trincomalee about 3rd December and is due to arrive Fremantle about 9th December.

HOSPITAL SHIP "WANGANELLA" departed Melbourne for Sydney at 1145 yesterday.

HOSPITAL SHIP "ORANJE" departed Sambong for Fremantle on 30th November.

GENERAL.

A.M.S. VESSEL "BUNDABERG" was successfully launched in Brisbane yesterday.

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D.N.I.

*(Handwritten red initials)*

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

1834/12

0900 Monday, 1st December, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"SYDNEY" loss was released to Australian press at 2100K yesterday for publication this morning. Release for broadcasting and publication outside Australia will be delayed until 2100K/2nd December.

"PERTH" departed Sydney 1040 yesterday for Auckland. E.T.A. 0900 Wednesday, 3rd December.

"ADELAIDE" escorting H.T. "KATOOMBA" departed Sydney 2124 Saturday, 29th November for Brisbane (E.T.A. 1700 today), Port Moresby and Rabaul.

"MANOORA" arrived Darwin 2230 Saturday, 29th November and sailed for Singapore 1020 yesterday with C.N.S. and Staff embarked. E.T.A. 2200 Friday, 5th December.

"CONBAR" sailed Fremantle 1430K/29 for "SYDNEY" Search Area.

H.M. AND H.M.A. SHIPS ABROAD.

"AUSTRALIA" docked at Simonstown yesterday for four days and is to escort a W.S. convoy to Aden leaving the Cape second week in December.

"VAMPIRE" arrived Kuching (Borneo) 28th November from Singapore.

"KANIMBLA" arrived Penang 28th November, whence she proceeds to Singapore to embark C.N.S. for passage to Australia.

"LEANDER" departed Suva 2036 Saturday, 29th November, trailing S.S. "MARIPOSA" to Auckland.

- 1 - R.A.S. Type Carley Float badly damaged by gunfire, picked up by "HEROS".
- 2 - Carley Floats, picked up by "SYRILLAN" were foreign.
- 2 - R.A.S. lifebelts.
- 1 - Foreign "

Searches in connection with U.S.S. "SYDNEY" ceased on concluding operations P.M./29th November.

Admiralty announce the following appointments :-

Rear Admiral F.S.V. Phillips C.R. (Act. Vice Admiral) to be C. in C. Eastern Fleet with Acting Rank of Admiral,

Rear Admiral Pailiser to be C. of Staff to C. in C. Eastern Fleet,

both to date 21st October.

Captain R.A.S. Edwards to be D.C.O.S. to C. in C. Eastern Fleet with rank of Commodore 2nd Class to date 23th November.

TRANSPORTS.

Verbal message received 1600K/29 from Lieut.-Comdr. Mackenzie U.S.N., states 2 U.S. Transports "PRESIDENT COOLIDGE" and "HUGH L. BENT" have left Manila for Thursday Island due daylight 3rd December. Escorted by U.S. Cruiser "LOUISVILLE".

"MAJEN ELIZABETH" sails Trincomalee 3rd December for Fremantle due 5th December.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

11/30/41

TO 0900 SUNDAY 30th NOVEMBER, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

- "PERTH" Arrived Sydney 1737K/29.
- "BUNGAREE" Passed Archer Point 0345K/29 Northwards.
- "BERYL II" ) Sailed 0830K/1 D.S.C. to search S.C.F.6.  
"UKI" ) "UKI" returns to Williamstown 5th December to coal 6th December.
- "DOOMBA" Sails 1700K/1 for S.C.F.18.
- "ORARA" Returns to Port Melbourne 1st December on completing sweep that day.
- "BALLARAT" Sailed Townsville 0733K/29 with Lighter in tow for Darwin E.T.A. 1700K/7th December.
- "GUNBAR" Sailed Fremantle 1430K/29 for "SYDNEY" Search Area.

GENERAL.

C.N.S.N.Z. is leaving Auckland by Flying Boat 30th November and will leave Sydney 1st December for Singapore.

R.A.C.A.S. is proceeding to Perth on duty and will leave Melbourne by air at 0700/30th November. Will be absent from Sydney for about one week.

Identification of material picked up by "WYRALLAH" and "HEROS" is reported as follows :-

- 1 - R.A.N. Type Carley Float badly damaged by gunfire, picked up by "HEROS".
- 2 - Carley Floats, picked up by "WYRALLAH" were foreign.
- 2 - R.A.N. lifebelts.
- 1 - Foreign "

Searches in connection with H.M.A.S. "SYDNEY" ceased on concluding operations P.M./29th November.

Admiralty announce the following appointments :-

Rear Admiral T.S.V. Phillips C.B. (Act. Vice Admiral) to be C. in C. Eastern Fleet with Acting Rank of Admiral,

Rear Admiral Palliser to be C. of Staff to C. in C. Eastern Fleet,

both to date 21st October.

Captain R.A.B. Edwards to be D.C.O.S. to C. in C. Eastern Fleet with rank of Commodore 2nd Class to date 28th November.

TRANSPORTS.

Verbal message received 1600K/29 from Lieut.-Comdr. Mackenzie U.S.N., states 2 U.S. Transports "PRESIDENT COOLIDGE" and "HUGH I. SCOTT" have left Manila for Thursday Island due daylight 3rd December. Escorted by U.S. Cruiser "LOUISVILLE".

"QUEEN ELIZABETH" Sails Trincomalee 3rd December for Fremantle due 9th December.

AB 29/10

HOSPITAL SHIPS.

"WANGANELLA" Arrived Adelaide 0951K/29 and sailed 1750K/29 for Melbourne E.T.A. 0630K/1st December.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

R.N.A. SHIPS.

"SYDNEY" Yesterday extensive searches by sea and air were carried out in the area where it is assumed the action took place.

The air searches produced negative results, but in the sea search R.N.A.S. "HYRALLIAN", in position 160 miles North-East of Carnarvon, picked up the following:-

- (1) 1 foreign lifebelt
- (2) 2 Carley Floats (nationality being investigated)
- (3) 1 R.A.S. lifebelt
- (4) 1 German Body.

Further sea and air searches are taking place today. "ROOLINGA", with 31 prisoners is due in Fremantle at 1000 today; "CHRYSLER", with 188 prisoners, and R.N.A.S. "YANDRA", with a further 78 prisoners, will arrive Fremantle tomorrow. The Captain and 1st Lieutenant of the raider, proceeding by road, should reach Fremantle P.M. tomorrow.

The Raider is considered to be Raider "G" (No. 41) the "REINSMARK", R.A.C.A.S. will probably proceed to Perth in connection with investigations.

"MARDORA" C.S.S., requires "MARDORA" to leave Darwin at 0830 tomorrow.

"TOURDONDA" completes working up practice in Port Phillip P.M. Monday, 1st December.

"TOLLONGORA" completes working up practice in Port Phillip P.M. Wednesday, 3rd December.

"KERRA" arrived Newcastle yesterday on A/S training cruise.

"ANULSAR" arrived Albany at 1010 yesterday.

OPERATIONS - ABROAD.

R.N.S. "ACHILLAS" departed Cape Brett, escorting "NAHINE" en route to Lautoka.

R.N.A. SHIPS ABROAD.

"TARRAMATIA" (Commander J.H. Walker, R.V.O., R.A.N.) was torpedoed on the night of 26/27th November, 80 miles North-East of Tobruk. R.N.A.S. "AVON VALE" has picked up survivors, but no other details are available.

TRANSPORTS.

R.T. "AGUICCHIA" arrived Sydney at 1240 yesterday.

MOST SECRET.

AP 29/11

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Saturday, 29th November, 1941.

From 0900 Friday, 28th November, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"SYDNEY" Yesterday extensive searches by sea and air were carried out in the area where it is assumed the action took place.

The air searches produced negative results, but in the sea search H.M.A.S. "WYRALLAH", in position 160 miles North-West of Carnarvon, picked up the following:-

- (1) 1 foreign lifebelt
- (2) 2 Carley Floats (nationality being investigated)
- (3) 1 R.A.N. lifebelt
- (4) 1 German Body.

Further sea and air searches are taking place today. "KOOLINDA", with 31 prisoners is due in Fremantle at 1000 today; "CENTAUR", with 162 prisoners, and H.M.A.S. "YANDRA", with a further 72 prisoners, will arrive Fremantle tomorrow. The Captain and 1st Lieutenant of the raider, proceeding by road, should reach Fremantle P.M. tomorrow.

The Raider is considered to be Raider "G" (No. 41) the "STEIFENMARK". R.A.C.A.S. will probably proceed to Perth in connection with investigations.

"MANOORA" C.N.S. requires "MANOORA" to leave Darwin at 0930 tomorrow.

"TOOWOOMBA" completes working up practice in Port Phillip P.M. Monday, 1st December.

"WOLLONGONG" completes working up practice in Port Phillip P.M. Wednesday, 3rd December.

"KYBRA" arrived Newcastle yesterday on A/S training cruise.

"COOLEBAR" arrived Albany at 1010 yesterday.

OPERATIONS - ABROAD.

H.M.S. "ACHILLES" departed Cape Brett, escorting "WAHINE" en route to Lautoka.

H.M.A. SHIPS ABROAD.

"PARRAMATTA" (Commander J.H. Walker, M.V.O., R.A.N.) was torpedoed on the night of 26/27th November, 30 miles North-East of Tobruk. H.M.A.S. "AVON VALE" has picked up survivors, but no other details are available.

TRANSPORTS.

H.T. "AQUITANIA" arrived Sydney at 1340 yesterday.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Thursday, 27th November, 1941.  
To 0900 Friday, 28th November, 1941.

18724/11

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

- Air searches continue. Questioning of German prisoners, including those landed from s.s. "CENTAUR" at Carnarvon and from the tanker "TROCAS" at Fremantle, has produced conflicting evidence, but seems to support the following summary:-
- (1) Engagement commenced about 1600H/19, when raider, after being challenged by "SYDNEY" opened fire at a range estimated from 1 to 6 miles.
  - (2) "SYDNEY", hit forward by a torpedo and amidships by the first salvo, caught fire.
  - (3) The raider also caught fire and having been abandoned about 1900, blew up at midnight.
  - (4) 25 were killed aboard raider out of a complement of 400, many of whom had had previous experience in Australian waters.
  - (5) H.M.T. "AQUITANIA", on passage from Singapore to Sydney, picked up 26 Germans from a raft at 0830K November 23rd in position  $24^{\circ} 35'S: 110^{\circ} 57'E$  but failed to make any report until she passed Wilson's Promontory yesterday afternoon.
  - (6) Commanders Dechaineux and Salm are proceeding to Fremantle by air today to assist with the interrogation of prisoners.

"CANBERRA" docked at Cockatoo yesterday.

"MANOORA", on passage to Darwin to embark C.N.S. passed Thursday Island at 2300 yesterday.

"PERTH" leaves Port Phillip 1400 today for Sydney. E.T.A. 1600 tomorrow. She will sail from Sydney so as to arrive Auckland by 0500 Wednesday, 3rd December.

"SWAN" instead of returning to Melbourne is to remain with 20th M.S.F.

"MORESBY" intends to leave survey ground for Townsville 3rd December, arriving 1000 December 5th.

H.M.A. SHIPS ABROAD.

"VAMPIRE" departed Singapore yesterday for Kuching (Borneo).

"VENDETTA" was taken in hand at Singapore for long refit 25th November. Completion date - ex trial - 15th April, 1942.

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118 27/14

SECRET.

The post DAILY NARRATIVE. H.M.A.S. "SYDNEY" and Halder action is still obscure. Investigation of enemy survivors is proceeding with so far few definite facts. The approximate number To 0900 Thursday, 27th November, 1941. The Captain (POWELL) is a lifeboat still to arrive, and so far only one being known to be wounded (Navigator). Air searches continue today from Geraldton to North West Cape and out to longitude 108° E, three Naval Auxiliary vessels assisting. C.I.M. is also conducting two air searches from Bourke. OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA. "MONTAUNE" has a lifeboat in tow proceeding at 2 knots with 20 enemy survivors 90° West of H.M.A. SHIPS. 1030E/26th November.

"PERTH" . Arrived Port Phillip 0939K/26. Ordered to trail "MARIPOSA" sailing Auckland 3rd December for Sydney.

"WESTRALIA" . Sailed Darwin 1025K/26 for patrol.

"GUNBAR" . Arrived Fremantle 0835H/26 from Albany

"TOORIE" . Arrived Williamstown 1415K/26

"DOOMBA" . Arrived Port Melbourne 1945K/26

"UKI" . Entered M.H.T. Graving Dock at 1145K/26

"SWAN" . To sail from Hobart to arrive Port Phillip A.M. 29th November.

"BALLARAT" . Arrived Townsville 1300K/25

"TOOWOOMBA" } Will carry out day and night firings 27th November.  
"WOLLONGONG" }

"MANOORA" . Ordered to proceed direct to Singapore.

"ADELAIDE" . Arrived Sydney 2115K/26.

ALLIED WARSHIPS.

"NOISEAU DES ISLES" . French Auxiliary Schooner arrived Papeete 21st November.

"TROMP" (Dutch). Carrying out search as ordered by C.Z.M. for H.M.A.S. "SYDNEY".

"LE TRIOMPHANT" Will leave Sydney 7th December for Brisbane, Noumea, Brisbane, Darwin, Batavia, Singapore, Colombo, Aden and Suez and arriving the latter Port between 20th and 23rd January.

GENERAL.

A Board consisting of Captain Esdaille, Commander Newcomb, and Lieutenant Knox will carry out selection of Candidates for Commissions in the A/S Branch at Sydney 8th and 9th December.

The British Consul, Noumea, reports the local wireless station intercepted at 1240M/26 a QQQQ from the Dutch Ship "MAPIA" in 24° 56'S: 171° 40'E, suspicious vessel gaining slowly speed 14½ knots, course 220°, but at 1342M/26 a cancellation was received in P.L. and not repeated in M.N. Code. D.C.N.S. in consultation with Air decided on air search from Noumea to be impracticable owing to the large area of search involved. This has now been correctly cleared up.



The position regarding H.M.A.S. "SYDNEY" and Raider action is still obscure. Interrogation of enemy survivors is proceeding with so far few definite facts. The approximate number of enemy survivors is 200, including the Captain (DETMERS) in a lifeboat still to arrive, and so far only one being known to be wounded (Navigator). Air searches continue today from Geraldton to North West Cape and out to longitude 108° E, three Naval Auxiliary vessels assisting. C.Z.M. is also conducting two air searches from Sourabaya and Tjilatjap. "CENTAUR" has a lifeboat in tow proceeding at 4 knots with 62 enemy survivors 90' West of Carnarvon at 1020H/26th November.

AUSTRALIA STATION.

SYDNEY

One lifeboat containing about 40 men and painted brown, was sighted by aircraft A.M. yesterday about 120 miles to the westward of Carnarvon. Two boats painted a similar colour were beached on the coast about 70 miles North of Carnarvon. Survivors from these boats number about 110 Germans from a raider which they state commenced an engagement with a British ship "PERTH" class at about 1500H on 18th November. The position given was 120 miles south-west of Fremantle, but this is considered quite incorrect. They stated that at midnight the raider blew up and they had three life boats and two rubber boats. The British cruiser was on fire and the Germans say they pulled towards her, but before reaching her, the cruiser disappeared and was believed sunk, after which they turned and ran before the wind to where they landed. Police are now in charge of the prisoners.

Air searches have been arranged for this morning by S.W.A.C.M. to endeavour to locate possible survivors from H.M.A.S. "SYDNEY" and the four H.M.A. auxiliary vessels from Fremantle, originally sent with armed guards for the "PERTH", have been diverted to search also for "SYDNEY" survivors.

A signal received from "PERTH" confirms the date of the action as 18th November, states that the action was of short duration, the German vessel was sunk by gunfire and that the condition of the cruiser was not known.

"PERTH" anticipated arriving Port Phillip 0900 today.

"MANGORA" will not now call at Townsville, having been ordered to proceed with despatch direct to Darwin. A.T.S. 18th November. C.Z.M. will travel to Darwin by air and embark there in "MANGORA" for Singapore.

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TOP SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Wednesday, 23th November, 1941.

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OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"SYDNEY" One lifeboat containing about 40 men and painted brown, was sighted by aircraft A.M. yesterday about 120 miles to the westward of Carnarvon. Two boats painted a similar colour were beached on the coast about 70 miles North of Carnarvon. Survivors from these boats number about 110 Germans from a raider which they state commenced an engagement with a British ship "PERTH" class at about 1900H on 19th November. The position given was 120 miles southwest of Fremantle, but this is considered quite incorrect. They stated that at midnight the raider blew up and they had three lifeboats and two rubber boats. The British cruiser was on fire and the Germans say they pulled towards her, but before reaching her, the cruiser disappeared and was believed sunk, after which they turned and ran before the wind to where they landed. Police are now in charge of the prisoners.

Air searches have been arranged for this morning by S.W.A.C.H. to endeavour to locate possible survivors from H.M.A.S. "SYDNEY" and the four H.M.A. Auxiliary vessels from Fremantle, originally sent with armed guards for the "TROCAS", have been diverted to search also for "SYDNEY" survivors.

A signal received from "TROCAS" confirms the date of the action as 19th November, states that the action was of short duration, the German vessel was sunk by gunfire and that the condition of the cruiser was not known.

"PERTH" anticipated arriving Port Phillip 0800 today.

"MANOORA" will not now call at Townsville, having been ordered to proceed with despatch direct to Darwin. E.T.A. 30th November. C.N.S. will travel to Darwin by air and embark there in "MANOORA" for Singapore.

"OLIVER CROMWELL" will depart Fremantle today at 0800 with the same object.

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"BAUGASANI" departed Colombo Sunday, 22nd November for Fremantle.

D.N.I. 11/26/41

6

D.N.I. 11/25/41

6

11/23/41

TOP SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.  
DAILY NARRATIVE.

11/25/41

To 0900 Tuesday, 25th November.  
To 0900 Monday, 24th November, 1941.

.....

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"SYDNEY" has been overdue on return to Fremantle from escort duty since P.M. 21st November and has not replied to instructions from Naval Board to report her E.T.A. for Sydney E.T.A. 1930K/86

The British tanker "TROCAS", bound from Palembang to Fremantle, reported at 1700 yesterday she had picked up 25 German Naval men on a raft in position 24° 06'S: 111° 40'E (about 115 miles W.N.W. of Carnarvon), and requested guards, which have been despatched from Fremantle embarked in four of H.M.A. Auxiliary vessels.

Air searches over the area were ordered for this morning to locate "SYDNEY" or boats. All British and allied Merchant vessels in the area, bound for Australia, were ordered to proceed to the above position to search for survivors.

Dutch Cruiser "TROMP" leaves Sunda Strait this morning and will proceed to Fremantle at high speed to search the probable route taken by H.M.A.S. "SYDNEY".

"CANBERRA" arrived Sydney 1153 yesterday. Her refit having been postponed for 14 days, she is at 4 hours notice for the present.

"PERTH" carried out repair trials off Sydney yesterday and sailed for Melbourne at 2100. E.T.A. 0800 tomorrow.

"TOOWOOMBA" } Departed Port Melbourne 0900 yesterday to  
"WOLLONGONG" } continue working up exercises in Port Phillip.  
Both ships will carry out full calibre day and night firing on Thursday, 27th November.

"WYRALLAH" } With guards embarked, departed Fremantle 0200  
"YANDRA" } this morning and are proceeding towards the  
"OLIVE CAM" } tanker "TROCAS". "HEROS" leaves at 0900 with the same object.

HOSPITAL SHIP.

"MAUNGANUI" departed Colombo Sunday, 23rd November for Fremantle. E.T.A. 1600 December 3rd.

DN1 11/25/41  
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11/27/41

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

11/23/41

To 0900 Sunday, 23rd November, 1941.

11/24/41

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Monday, 24th November, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

....

H.M.A. SHIPS:

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA.

"SCARLETT":

Arrived Williamstown from Fremantle at 0900 yesterday, and departed Port Phillip for Sydney at 2140 last evening. E.T.A. Sydney 1100 Monday, 24th.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"ADELAIDE". Sailed Wellington 0938M/23 for Sydney E.T.A. 1930K/26

"WESTRALIA". Arrived Darwin 1438K/23 from Patrol. Technical director of camouflage will observe "PETE's"

"UKI". Arrived Williamstown 1240K/23 from Port Kembla.

"ADELAIDE":

Arrived Wellington at 0622 yesterday, and expects to enter Australian Station at 1100, 25th Nov.

GENERAL.

"REUBEN":

Arrived Sydney at 2133 yesterday to land an

N.O.C.S. reports H.M.A.S. "DELOIRINE" Acceptance Trials completed satisfactorily and ship taken over Friday, 21st November.

"REUBEN":

Departed Sydney for Townsville at 1035 yesterday.

Rear Admiral Bonham Carter appointed F.O.C. 3rd B.S. to date 2nd December. Flat will be worn in H.M.S. "RAMILIES", "REVENGE", "ROYAL SOVEREIGN" and "RESOLUTION" completing 3rd B.S. on that date.

OPERATIONS.....NEW ZEALAND STATION.

*24/11*

"ACHILLES" departed Wellington yesterday on escort duty to the Eastward, thence to Auckland. E.T.A. 1st December.

H.M.S. "CLEANER" will arrive Auckland 1st December, and commence a combined exercise with "ACHILLES" on 2nd December, both ships returning to Auckland 5th December.

HOSPITAL SHIPS.

"CORAMBA":

Departed Suva 21st November and is due Fremantle 5th December.

11/23/41

~~SECRET~~

23/11

0800 Saturday, 23rd November, 1941. DAILY NARRATIVE.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS. To 0900 Sunday, 23rd November, 1941.

"SAFARI" berthed Williamstown 0800 this morning and will be visited by G.N.S. at 1030.

"TRUSSARDI" } OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION. berthed Port Phillip 2200 and will resume working up practices in Port Phillip next week.

H.M.A. SHIPS:

"CANBERRA": Arrived Williamstown from Fremantle at 0900 yesterday, and departed Port Phillip for Sydney at 2140 last evening. E.T.A. Sydney 1100 Monday, 24th.

"PERTH": Will carry out partial repair trials off Port Jackson tomorrow, and the technical director of camouflage will observe "PERTH's" new camouflage from a Catalina.

"ADELAIDE": Arrived Wellington at 0929 yesterday, and expects to enter Australia Station at 1130, 25th November.

"BUNGAREE": Arrived Sydney at 2333 yesterday to land an appendicitis case, and departed at 0045 today.

"MANOORA": Departed Sydney for Townsville at 1835 yesterday.

"COOLEBAR": Departed Adelaide yesterday for Albany, en route to Fremantle. She will join Group 68 M/S at Fremantle.

"AQUITANIA" departed Singapore 19th November for Sydney. E.T.A. 12.0/42.

OPERATIONS - NEW ZEALAND STATION.

H.M.S. "ACHILLES" departed Wellington yesterday on escort duty to the Eastward, thence to Auckland. E.T.A. 1st December.

H.M.S. "LEANDER" will arrive Auckland 1st December, and commence a combined exercise with "ACHILLES" on 2nd December, both ships returning to Auckland 5th December.

HOSPITAL SHIPS.

"ORANJE": Departed Suez 21st November and is due Fremantle 5th December.

23/11

Friday, 21st November, 1941.  
to 0900 Saturday, 22nd November, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"CANBERRA" berthed Williamstown 0900 this morning and will be visited by C.N.S. at 1030.

"TOOWOOMBA" } berthed Port Melbourne yesterday afternoon and  
"WOLLONGONG" } will resume working up practices in Port Phillip next week.

"BALLARAT" on passage Brisbane to Townsville amended E.T.A. 0600 November 27th.

"DORIE" berthed at Port Melbourne yesterday afternoon to effect repairs to windlass. She was expected to sail at 0900 this morning and on completion of mine recovery operations today will anchor as convenient in Port Phillip, resuming operations on Monday next.

OPERATIONS - ABROAD.

H.M.S. "KANIMBLA" arrives Penang November 28th whence she proceeds to Singapore to embark C.N.S. for passage to Australia.

ALLIED WARSHIPS.

Dutch Cruiser "JAVA" escorting tanker "PENDOPO" departed Thursday Island Westward 2100 November 20th.

French sloop "CHEVREUIL" arrived Sydney 1800 yesterday from Suva.

SHIPPING.

"AQUITANIA" departed Singapore 19th November for Sydney. E.T.A. 1300/28.

"ZEALANDIA" arrived Singapore 20th November whence she proceeds Darwin to embark troops proceeding on Xmas leave.

GENERAL.

S.S. "IRON KING" during passage from Newcastle to Melbourne reports having sunk a floating mine by rifle fire in position 38°22'S, 149° 08'E at 0720 Thursday, 20th November.

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DNI  
AB 22/11

SECRET. DAILY NARRATIVE.  
6900 Friday, 21st November, 1941.

To (old) Thursday OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"BUNGAREE" sailed Geelong 1000K/20 for Lizard Island.

H.M.A. "BALLARAT" sailed Brisbane 0910K/20 with oil lighter in tow for Townsville. E.T.A. 1000K/26.

"CANBERRA" will H.M.A. SHIPS. return by 1330 tomorrow, and will be visited by 1st Naval Member at 1430.

"LEANDER" arrived Suva Noon 20th November, shadowing "MONTEREY".

"MARORA" will arrive Townsville from Sydney 28th November, depart 2 P.M. the same day after embarking 1st Naval Member. ALLIED WARSHIPS. Bay Island, 28th November, and arrive Singapore A.M. Saturday 6th December.

"JAVA" (Dutch) arrived Thursday Island 1350K/20.

"HOLLONGONG" arrived Williamstown from Westernport yesterday.

TRANSPORTS.

OPERATIONS - ABROAD.  
U.S. Army Transport "LIBERTY" sailed "MANILA" 18th November for Port Moresby due Thursday Island 29th November; and Port Moresby 30th November.

GENERAL.

H.M.A. SHIPS intended departing Singapore for Sydney  
"ESMERALDA" (Patrol Boat) commissioned at Sydney 0900K/20th November.

Smoke from an unidentified ship was observed from a Coast Watcher at Mount Nelson, Tasmania, Tasmania, at 1730K/20 off Storm Bay and in consequence "CANBERRA" has been ordered to pass through a position for possible interception at 1100K/21 steaming from the northward at 25 kts. Air searches, 4 aircraft, to commence from Laverton at 0535K/21 have also been arranged.

The progressive trials of H.M.A.S. "KATOOMBA" satisfactorily completed at Sydney 20th November. Mine in the vicinity of Montague Island yesterday, and has the mine on board. A floating mine was sighted by "WARREN" in this area on 18th November.

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HA 21/11

D.N.1.

HA 21/11

TOP SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Thursday, 20th November, 1941. STATION.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"CANBERRA" escorting modified convoy comprising British vessels "ORARI" and "CLAN MACAULAY", departed Sydney 1857 yesterday to rendezvous with H.M.A.S. "ACHILLES" in position 41° 23' S. 174° 32' E at 0930 Saturday 22nd November. "CANBERRA" will arrive Williamstown by 1330 tomorrow, and will be visited by 1st Naval Member at 1430. "MANOORA" will arrive Townsville from Sydney 26th November, depart P.M. the same day after embarking 1st Naval Member, and depart Thursday Island, 28th November, and arrive Singapore A.M. Saturday 6th December. "WOLLONGONG" arrived Williamstown from Westernport yesterday.

OPERATIONS - ABROAD.

H.M.S. "ACHILLES" departed Auckland for Wellington yesterday.

TRANSPORTS.

H.T. "AQUITANIA" intended departing Singapore for Sydney yesterday.

GENERAL

Vice Admiral Sir Guy Royle, accompanied by Paymaster Captain Foley and Commander Nichols, will arrive Townsville by air on Wednesday, 26th November, and embark in H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" which departs the same day for Thursday Island and Singapore.

H.M.A.S. "UKI" en route to Williamstown from Port Kembla, reports that she located a floating mine in the vicinity of Montague Island yesterday, and has the mine on board. A floating mine was sighted by "WARREEN" in this area on 16th November.

D.N. ....  
11/20/41



17/11

0900 Wednesday, 19th November, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA.

"ADELAIDE" escorting modified convoy comprising British vessels "ORARI" and "CLAN MACAULAY", departed Sydney 1257 yesterday to rendezvous with H.M.A.S. "ACHILLES" in position 41 29' S, 174 52'E at 0930 Saturday, 22nd November. "ACHILLES" will escort the convoy to the eastward and "ADELAIDE" proceeds to Auckland to fuel, returning to Sydney so as to arrive not later than 1900 November 27th.

"BALLARAT" with oil lighter in tow arrived Brisbane yesterday afternoon. Sydney 0830/17 on passage Newcastle to Williamstown.

"KYBRA" departed Brisbane yesterday for Hervey Bay in continuation of A/S training cruise.

"UKI" departed Sydney yesterday for Williamstown to join Group 54 M/S.

GENERAL.

The Mine sighted by "WARREN" 5<sup>1</sup> North Montague Island on Sunday and having lost contact was not located again. Consequently she has abandoned search and proceeded. A photograph was taken and mine appeared to be old, covered with barnacles and seaweed, 4 horns were visible on sides and 1 on top.

ANI

ANI

300 Monday, 17th November, 1941.  
To 0900 Tuesday, 18th November, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

started Fremantle at 1800 yesterday escorting  
"TOOWOOMBA" to vicinity 080° South, 125° East (eastern  
and Australian Night) and expects to part company with  
"BUNGAREE" arrived Geelong 1840K/17.  
"TOOWOOMBA" sailed Westernport 0955K/17 for Williamstown  
and arrived 1735K/17.  
"UKI" arrived Sydney 0826K/17 on passage Newcastle to  
Williamstown.

ALLIED WARSHIPS.

"CHEVREUIL" sailed Suva 1800M/16 for Sydney.

GENERAL.

The Mine sighted by "WARREEN" 5' North Montague  
Island on Sunday and having lost contact was not located again.  
Consequently she has abandoned search and proceeded. A  
photograph was taken and mine appeared to be old, covered with  
barnacles and seaweed. 4 horns were visible on sides and  
1 on top.

GENERAL.

A floating mine was sighted at 1800 yesterday in  
position 25°10' South 150° 12' 30" East (5 miles north of  
Montague Island, South Coast of N.S.W.), by the Government  
Fishing Research launch "SINKER", which was standing by the mine  
last night with ..... destroying it this morning by  
rifle fire. "SINKER" lost contact with the mine during the  
night and is at present searching for it.

*Handwritten:* Z N I 18/11

*Handwritten:* Z N I 18/11

0900 Monday, 17th November, 1941.

In CMCO Summary, 16th November, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"CANBERRA" departed Fremantle at 1626 yesterday escorting "KATOONBA" to vicinity 036° South, 135° East (eastern end Australian Bight) and expects to part company with "KATOONBA" A.M. Thursday, 20th November, proceeding thence to Melbourne, unless otherwise ordered, and arriving at 1300 on Friday 21st November. If not calling at Melbourne will arrive Sydney at 1600 Saturday 23rd November. berth alongside ~~Coaling pier.~~

"KYBRA" arrived Brisbane from Sydney at 0930 yesterday.

"WARRAWEE" arrived Adelaide from Melbourne at 1531 yesterday.  
yesterday.

OPERATIONS - ABROAD. In yesterday to join Group

H.M.S. "ACHILLES" arrived Auckland at 0757 yesterday from Sydney.

Free French Sloop "CHEVREUIL" arrived Suva yesterday.

CONVOY U.S.13. Singapore, Friday, 21st November  
for Sydney arriving 16th November.

Convoy U.S.13. departed Trincomalee for Suez 1730 15th November escorted by H.M.S. "CORNWALL".

GENERAL

A floating mine was sighted at 1530 yesterday in position 36°10' South 150° 13' 30" East (5 miles north of Montague Island, South Coast of N.S.W.), by the Government Fishing Research launch "WIRREEN", which was standing by the mine last night with the intention of destroying it this morning by rifle fire. "WIRREEN" lost contact with the mine during the night and is at present searching for it.

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D.N.I. 17/11/41

To 0900 Sunday, 16th November, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

15th November, 1941.

"CANBERRA" arrived Fremantle 1300 yesterday from escort duty with Convoy U.S.13.

"BUNGAREE" leaves Port Melbourne 1000 tomorrow to carry out test lay in Port Phillip and on completion will berth alongside Geelong pier.

"MANOORA" docks at Cockatoo 0900 tomorrow.

"YERRALL" sailed Thursday Island 1115K/14 escorting "DORIS" to

"WOLLONGONG" arrived Westernport from Jervis Bay at 0930 yesterday.

"WOLLONGONG" Due to arrive Westernport 1000K/15.

"PATERSON" arrived Port Kembla yesterday to join Group

"IGOR" 83 M/S. Westernport 1500K/14.

"HARRIS" Sailed Melbourne 2000 14th for Adelaide.

GENERAL.

"BALLARAT" Sailed Sydney 1000K/14 with Oil Lighter No.1 in tow for Brisbane, E.T.A. 1200K/18.

D.N.I. leaves Singapore, Friday, 21st November

"HARARI" for Sydney arriving 27th November.

"ARA KARA" Arrived Darwin 1100K/14.

..... ALLIED VESSELS.

"CAP. GEN. PALMER" (French). Arrived Noumea 3rd November.

GENERAL.

Captain Sir A.H. Lane lent to R.A. Government and as Commodore and Class for Duty A.M. and C.M.C. R.A. Navy Board Vice Commodore Parry, to duty 1st February.

TRANSPORTS.

Revised. "CANBERRA" is due to arrive Fremantle today and to sail approx. 2300K/15 escorting "IGOR" to a position 36°S 135° E.

*Handwritten red stamp or mark.*

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Friday, 14th November, 1941.

OPERATIONS AUSTRALIA STATION.  
DAILY NARRATIVE.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

To 0900 Saturday, 15th November, 1941.

"WESTRALIA" departed French Island yesterday for patrol.

.....

"HUNTER" arrived Prisoner's pier, Port Melbourne at 1505 yesterday from Cook's Bay. Drill and test lay on Monday.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

departed Jarvis Bay at 1700 yesterday and expects to

"WESTRALIA" sailed Thursday Island 1315K/14 escorting "DORYSSA" to westward.

"WOLLONGONG". Due to arrive Westernport 1000K/15.

"TOOWOOMBA". Arrived Westernport 1855K/14.

"WARRAWEE". Sailed Melbourne Noon 14th for Adelaide.

"BALLARAT". Sailed Sydney 1030K/14 with Oil Lighter No.1 in tow for Brisbane, E.T.A. 1300K/18.

"NARANI". Arrived Newcastle 0802K/14.

"KARA KARA". Arrived Darwin 1142K/14.

H.M.A. SHIPS ABOARD.

ALLIED WARSHIPS.

"YANKEE" departed Ponape 15th November and arrived

"CAP DES PALMES" (French). Arrived Noumea 3rd November.

TRANSFORM.

GENERAL.

"AGUNTANIA" arrived Singapore 14th November and docked 15th

Captain Sir A.H. Lake lent to N.Z. Government and as Commodore 2nd Class for Duty 1st N.M. and C.N.S. N.Z. Navy Board Vice Commodore Parry, to date 1st February.

escort in vicinity of Sunda Strait, escorting "ISLANDIA" thence to Singapore

TRANSPORTS.

H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" is due to arrive Fremantle today and to sail approx. 2300H/15 escorting "KATOOMBA" to a position 36°S 135° E. satisfactorily in Brisbane yesterday.

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Spencer will arrive Sydney from Rabaul P.M. 15th and Melbourne A.M. 17th November. Commander H.J. Buchanan was Townsville, Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne 15th, 17th and 18th November respectively.

*Handwritten:* D.N.I. 11/15/41

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H.M.A.S. "HURRAY" A.M.S. vessel constructed for the Royal Indian Navy, will be launched in Sydney on 8th December.

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*Handwritten:* D.N.I.

*Handwritten signature:* [Illegible]

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

1941/11/14

To 0900 Friday, 14th November, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

- at Sydney reverted to 24 hours' diminishing notice
- "WESTRALIA" departed Wessel Island yesterday for patrol.
  - "BUNGAREE" arrived Prince's pier, Port Melbourne at 1505 yesterday from Geelong, and will carry out drill and test lay on Monday, 17th November.
  - "WOLLONGONG" departed Jervis Bay at 1700 yesterday and expects to arrive Westernport at 0800 tomorrow.
  - "KYBRA" departed Sydney for Brisbane for A/S training cruise at 1240 yesterday. E.T.A. 1200 15th November.
  - "TOORIE" has been placed under orders "BUNGAREE", for mine recovery operations, from yesterday.
  - "NARANI" en route to Newcastle from Williamstown arrived Sydney at 1448 yesterday to stow ballast, and departed for Newcastle at 0145 today.
  - H.M.S. "ACHILLES" departed Sydney at 1230 yesterday for Auckland covering U.S. "MONTEREY". E.T.A. Auckland 0630 16th November.

H.M.A. SHIPS ABROAD.

"VENDETTA" departed Penang for Singapore 12th November and arrived yesterday.

TRANSPORTS.

- H.T. "ACUITANIA" arrived Singapore 11th November and docked 12th November.
- H.T. "ZEALANDIA" H.M.S. "DURBAN" sails P.M. today from Singapore to relieve H.M.A.S. "SYDNEY" as escort in vicinity of Sunda Strait, escorting "ZEALANDIA" thence to Singapore

GENERAL.

Basin trials of A.M.S. No.15 ("TOWNSVILLE") were completed satisfactorily in Brisbane yesterday.

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Captain L.A. Spooner will arrive Sydney from Rabaul P.M. 16th November and Melbourne A.M. 17th November. Commander H.J. Buchanan from Rabaul arrives Townsville, Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne 15th, 16th, 17th and 19th November respectively.

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H.M.I.S. "BOMBAY" A.M.S. vessel constructed for the Royal Indian Navy, will be launched in Sydney on 6th December.

.....

ANI

1941/11/14

0900 Thursday, 13th November, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"ACHILLES" arrived Sydney 0800 yesterday from Auckland.

"ADELAIDE" at Sydney reverted to 24 hours' diminishing notice from 1300 yesterday.

"BUNGAREE" arrived Geelong from Sydney and secured alongside Cunningham pier last night.

"WOLLONGONG" arrived Jervis Bay from Sydney 0745 yesterday whence she sails today for Westernport.

"BALLARAT" departure Sydney for Darwin is further delayed until 0930 tomorrow.

"PATERSON" departed Melbourne for Port Kembla yesterday to join Group 83 M/S. E.T.A. 0800 Saturday, 15th November.

"AUSTRALIA" arrived Vessel Island, midway between Darwin and Thursday Bay.

OPERATIONS - ABROAD.

Dutch Cruiser "JAVA" escorting tanker "PENDOPO" departed Suva Tuesday, 11th November for Sourabaya.

"YANAMTA" arrived Penang 11th November on passage to Singapore to refit.

"UBER" sailed Fremantle 1300H/11th for Albany to carry out minesweeping... George Sound. E.T.A. 0800/14th November.

"BUNGAREE" arrives Port Phillip 1100K/today.

ARRIVED SUVA

"SHEPHERD" (French) called Suva 1100K/13th November.

Handwritten in red: **AB 13/11**

Handwritten initials: **AB**

HOSPITAL SHIPS.

"GRANIE" sailed Batavia 0500/11th November for Aden, due to arrive 18th November at 1400Z, and due Suez 0300 21st November.

Handwritten in red: **AB 14/11**

Handwritten signature: **AB**

Handwritten signature: **AB 14/11**

Handwritten number: **6**

*NID*

0900 Wednesday, 12th November, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

*RR 11/10*

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"MORESEY" sailed Townsville midnight 10th November for Survey Ground due 12th November.

"MARYBOROUGH" arrived Singapore 10th November from Darwin.

"KARA KARA" sailed Thursday Island 1805K/10 for Darwin.

"UKI" proposed sail midnight 16th November from Newcastle for Williamstown calling Sydney for Stores.

"DURRAWEN" } in company arrived Hobart noon 11th Nov.

"KORONA" }

"PATERSON" sails Melbourne Noon 12th November for Port Kembla.

"SYDNEY" sailed Fremantle 1340H/11th November, escorting "ZEALANDIA" to Sunda Strait.

"WESTRALIA" arrived Wessel Island, midway between Darwin and Thursday Island, A.M. 10th November.

"BALLARAT" delayed 24 hours - anticipates sailing for Darwin 15th November with No. 1 Oil Lighter in tow.

"VENDETTA" arrived Penang 11th November on passage to Singapore to refit.

"GUNBAR" sailed Fremantle 1800H/11th for Albany to carry out minesweeping in King George Sound. E.T.A. 0600/14th November.

"BUNGAREE" arrives Port Phillip 1100K/today.

H.M.A. "ZEALANDIA" ALLIED WARSHIPS.

"CHEVREUIL" (French) sailed Papeete 1240M/9 for Suva due 15th November.

HOSPITAL SHIPS.

"ORANJE" sailed Batavia 0500/11th November for Aden, due to arrive 18th November at 1400Z, and due Suez 0800 21st November.

H.M.A.S. "....." by train last night for Sydney to attend a conference at G... Island today and tomorrow; he intends returning on Wed... night's train from Sydney.

*NS 12/11*

It is anticipated that H.M.A.S. "....." will commission on 23rd November.

*NS 12/11*

A floating mine in position... South 140000' East (midway between Wilson's Promontory and Cape Island), was sighted yesterday by S.S. ".....", bound from Melbourne to Newcastle.

*6*



MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

NID

To 0900 Tuesday, 11th November, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

RR 11/11

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"SYDNEY" after escorting "ZEALANDIA" from Fremantle to R.V. intends returning to Fremantle P.M. 19th or A.M. 20th November.

"ADELAIDE" at Sydney, reverts to 8 hours' diminishing notice at 0800 today, and again at 0800 tomorrow. She will escort a modified convoy to 170° West, sailing from Sydney 18th November.

"MANOORA" arrived Sydney from Ocean Island, Nauru area 1600 yesterday and reverted to 12 hours' notice for steam.

20th M.S.F. consisting of "WARREGO", "SWAN", "LITHGOW", "MILDURA", "WARRNAMBOOL", arrived Hobart at 1230 yesterday.

"KYBRA" N.O.I.C. intends sailing "KYBRA" from Sydney A.M. 13th November for A/S training cruise to Brisbane, Hervey Bay and Moreton Bay returning via Newcastle to Sydney P.M. 1st December.

"KARA KARA" expects to arrive Darwin from Thursday Island at 0900 14th November.

"NARANI" departed Williamstown for Newcastle at 0900 yesterday to join Group 77 M/S.

"WARRAWEE" arrived Williamstown yesterday, having completed working up exercises.

Free French "LE TRIOMPHANT" arrived Sydney 1205 yesterday.

TRANSPORTS

H.T. "ZEALANDIA" owing to crew trouble, the cause of which is at present unknown, has delayed her departure from Fremantle. Six firemen left the ship yesterday, and three only have been obtained to replace them, but it is anticipated that the numbers will be completed and she will depart today escorted by H.M.A.S. "SYDNEY".

OPERATIONS ABROAD.

Dutch Cruiser "JAVA" arrived Suva at 1205 yesterday from escorting convoy to the eastward.

GENERAL

D.C.N.S. departed by train last night for Sydney to attend a conference at Garden Island today and tomorrow; he intends returning on Wednesday night's train from Sydney.

It is anticipated that H.M.A.S. "DELORAINÉ" will commission on 22nd November.

A floating mine in position 038°34' South 148°22' East (midway between Wilson's Promontory and Gabo Island), was sighted yesterday by S.S. "WEAR", bound from Melbourne to Newcastle.

.....

RR 11/11

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Monday, 10th November, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"ADELAIDE" arrived Sydney 0600 this morning.

"SYDNEY" escorting H.T. "ZEALANDIA" arrived Fremantle 0630 yesterday.

"WESTRALIA" will probably escort U.S. Transport "DON ESTERAN" from Darwin towards Thursday Island sailing Thursday 13th November.

"HUNGAREE" arrived Sydney yesterday afternoon to exchange a motor boat and sailed last night for Geelong where she expects to berth at 1130 Wednesday, 12th November.

"MANOORA" amended E.T.A. Sydney is 1600 today.

"WOLONGONG" sails from Sydney for Jervis Bay P.M. tomorrow and from Jervis Bay for Westernport P.M. Thursday, 13th November.

"KARA KARA" arrived Thursday Island yesterday for service as boom gate vessel at Darwin.

French Destroyer "LE TRIOMPHANT" 6 hours late on her E.T.A., should now reach Sydney 1130 this forenoon.

H.M.A. SHIPS ABROAD.

"YARRA" grounded in the vicinity of Bahrein (Persian Gulf) on 21st October but sustained only slight damage to assic gear.

CONVOY U.S. 13.

Escorted by H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" departed Fremantle 1830 Saturday, 8th November for rendezvous with H.M.S. "CORNWALL" in position 11°35'S, 99°25' E at 1300 tomorrow. "CORNWALL" will escort Convoy to Trincomalee and "CANBERRA" returns to Fremantle arriving 1000 Saturday, 15th November.

GENERAL.

Rear-Admiral S.S. Bonham-Carter, who was in command of H.M.S. "SUSSEX" when she conveyed H.R.H. the Duke of Gloucester to Melbourne for the Centenary celebrations in October, 1934, has been appointed R.A.C. 3rd B.S. to date 28th November.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

DNI 11/11

11/11

"RANG II" (Italian). At Kobe 7th November.

MOST SECRET.

0900 Saturday, 8th November, 1941.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

To 0900 Sunday, 9th November, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

- "VENDETTA" . Sailed Colombo 1240E/7th November for Singapore.
- "MANOORA" . E.T.A. Sydney 0900K/10th November.
- "SYDNEY" . Expects to arrive Fremantle A.M. 9th November: Escorting "ZEALANDIA".

"ADELAIDE" . Melbourne to Sydney E.T.A. 0500K/10th November.

"BUNGAREE" . Arrived Newcastle 0921K/8th November; intends sail 0600K/9 for Sydney. E.T.A. 1600K/9.

- 20th M.S.F. } "WARREGO"
  - } "SWAN"
  - } "MILDURA"
  - } "WARRNAMBOOL"
  - } "LITHGOW"
- Sailed Port Phillip 1412K/8 for Hobart.

"DURRAWEE" } Sailed Melbourne 1653/8 for Hobart E.T.A. 2300K/10 Nov.

"KOROWA" } In Company.

"DOOMBA" . To sail 0830K/10 for S.C.F.18 - reversing Sweep Wires in Port Phillip on Passage, and returns Port Melbourne P.M. November 21st.

"CANBERRA" Intends to return from R.V. at 16 1/4 knots, arriving Fremantle 0800H/15.

ALLIED WAR SHIPS.

"LE TRIOMPHANT" . Sailed Wellington 1040M/7th Nov. for Sydney. E.T.A. 0530K/10th November.

"CHEVREUIL" . Arrived Papeete 0600W/7th November.

"OISEAU DES ISLES" French Armed Aux. Schooner. Sailed Suva 6th Nov. for Papeete, due 18th November.

H.M. SHIPS.

"ACHILLES" Sailed Auckland for Sydney E.T.A. 0700K/12th Nov.

"MONOWAI" . Arrived Auckland 1020M/8.

ENEMY SHIPS.

"RAMB II" (Italian). At Kobe 7th November.

11/9/41

Friday, 7th November, 1941.  
to 0900 Saturday, 8th November, 1941.

H.M.A. SHIPS. OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS. departed Darwin yesterday for exercises and patrol.

"CANBERRA" arrived Fremantle, escorting Convoy U.S.13, at 0800 yesterday. On completion of escort U.S.13, she is to return to Sydney as convenient, escorting shipping available from Fremantle.

"ADELAIDE" completed repairs to Sydney 1200 yesterday.

"ADELAIDE" arrived Williamstown at 2015 yesterday from escorting H.T. "ZEALANDIA" to the westward. After refuelling she departed for Sydney 0810 this morning.

20th H.S.F. intends departing Melbourne for Hobart 1100 today accompanied by "DURRAWEE" and "KOROWA".

"MORESBY" arrived Townsville from Port Moresby at 0700 yesterday.

"TOOWOOMBA" intends departing Sydney for Jervis Bay A.M. Monday, 10th November, thence to Westernport A.M. Wednesday 12th November, for working up exercises.

GENERAL

The water lighter "KELAT" in tow of tug "UCO" arrived Darwin from Fremantle at 2210 yesterday.

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*Handwritten:* 11/7/41

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1900 Friday, 7th November, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"WESTRALIA" departed Darwin yesterday for exercises and patrol.

20th M.S.F. together with "DURRAWENN" and another Auxiliary M/S vessel to be detailed by D.N.O. Hobart will clear enemy minefield off Hobart. arrived this out, is returning to Fremantle.

"INNISFAIL" commenced repairs to Sydney loops yesterday. arrived Colombo 5th November on passage to Singapore.

SUSPICIOUS SIGHTING. 0549K/S.

A European at Misima (about 115 miles due east of the easternmost tip of New Guinea) reported sighting a steamer with two masts and one funnel on a S.E. course at 1130 November, 5th. A native at Trobriand Island (about 105 miles due north of the easternmost tip of New Guinea and 160 miles N.W. from Misima) reported sighting a large vessel with one mast, two yellow funnels and a black hull at 1700 November, 4th.

A Diving Party from F.S.S. will carry out a search from the No shipping is known to have been in these areas which are not usual for navigation. Neither vessel can be identified but the two vessels, in spite of discrepancy of positions description, appear to be the same vessel which could have moved between the two positions in the time at an average speed of 9 1/2 knots. A.C.H. Townsville advised by telephone last night that an air search was considered impracticable and would not be carried out.

Following are Admiralty change of appointments:-

- Vice Admiral..... to C. North - April, 1942.
- " " Wells to F.C. Commanding Orkneys and Shetlands - 7th January, 1942.
- " " Leatham to F.C.I.C. Malta - 1st January.
- Admiral T.C. Walker to Director of Personal Services - 15th November.

R.C.C.S. suggests "ASHLE" should not replace "BIRURI" as Examination Vessel at Newcastle.

The French minesweeping Sloop "CHERBOUIL" has signalled the following programme of intended movements.

ARRIVE	PLACE	LEAVE
5th November	Papeete	5th November.
5th November	Makatea	5th November.
7th November	Papeete	7th November
15th November	Suva	15th November.
15th November	Sydney	

"WARABEN" is expected to have completed working up programme by P.M. Monday, 15th November.

"TOUJOURNA" completed Gun Trials and 4 hours' Full Power Trial satisfactorily.

"MELORAIN" Full Power Trial abandoned. A further Full Power Trial will be carried out during Acceptance Trials on 22nd November.

To 0900 Thursday, 6th November, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"SYDNEY" sailed King George Sound 0600H/4 for R.V. with "ADELAIDE", later, having carried this out, is returning to Fremantle.

"VENDETTA" arrived Colombo 5th November on passage to Singapore.

"WARREGO" } Secured Port Melbourne 0845K/5.  
"SWAN" }

"LITHGOW" " " arrived " " 1205K/5.

"MILDURA" secured Williamstown at 2215K/5.

GENERAL

A Diving Party from F.N.D. will carry out a search from the Diving Tender "FLINDERS" of the Ports and Harbours Department, today Thursday for the Bowen Anchor and 15 fathoms of cable lost from "KOROWA" on 24th October. Likely positions are buoyed.

The new Twin Screw Corvettes built for Admiralty are to be named after English rivers and will be known as the River Class.

Following are Admiralty change of appointments:-

- Vice Admiral Ford to C. in C. Rosyth - April, 1942.
- " " Wells to F.O. Commanding Orkneys and Shetlands - 7th January, 1942.
- " " Leatham to F.O.I.C. Malta - 1st January.
- Rear Admiral H.T.C. Walker to Director of Personal Services - 19th November.

N.O.C.S. suggests "ADELE" should not replace "BIRUBI" as Examination Vessel at Newcastle.

The French Minesweeping Sloop "CHEVREUIL" has signalled the following programme of intended movements.

<u>Arrive</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Leave</u>
	Papeete	5th November.
6th November	Makatea	6th November.
7th November	Papeete	7th November
16th November	Suva	19th November.
25th November	Sydney	

"WARRAWEE" is expected to have completed working up programme by P.M. Monday, 10th November.

"TOOWOOMBA" completed Gun Trials and 4 hours' Full Power Trial satisfactorily.

"DELORAIN" Full Power Trial abandoned. A further Full Power Trial will be carried out during Acceptance Trials on 23rd November.

*Handwritten:* 11/11/41

0900 Wednesday, 5th November, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"BUNGAREE" from Normanby Sound to Melbourne, will arrive Newcastle at 0700 8th November for coaling.

"WARREGO", "SWAN" and "LITHCOW" arrived Williamstown 1305 yesterday from Bass Strait.

"KARA KARA" departed Townsville at 1055 yesterday. E.T.A. Cairns 1000 today, Thursday Island 9th November.

OPERATIONS - ABROAD.

H.M.S. "ACHILLES" arrived Auckland at 1130 yesterday from Suva.

Free French "LE TRIOMPHANT" arrived Wellington yesterday at 0947.

CONVOY U.S. 13.

Escorted by H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA", Convoy U.S.13 passed Cape Otway westbound at 0900 yesterday.

GENERAL

H.M.A.S. "BALLARAT", which will leave Sydney shortly for Singapore, is to tow oil lighter No. 1 from Sydney to Darwin.

GENERAL

C.C.S. 18 proceeding to Newcastle to inspect the base and return to Sydney P.M. tomorrow.

11/11 5/11

Handwritten mark resembling a stylized 'A' or '4' with a vertical line through it.

To 900 Tuesday, 4th November, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"SYDNEY" arrived King George Sound 0800 yesterday.

"MANOORA" departed Nauru 0830 yesterday for Sydney escorting Greek S.S. "CHLOE" until 0800 tomorrow when "MANOORA" will proceed independently. E.T.A. 0900 November 10th.

"MARYBOROUGH" departed Darwin 1517 yesterday for Singapore. E.T.A. A.M. November 10th.

"MANOORA" sail CONVOY by 1842K/A for Wyborn Reef due 2nd November.

U.S. 13, comprising "QUEEN MARY" and "QUEEN ELIZABETH", escorted by H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" left rendezvous off Jervis Bay at 1700 yesterday for Fremantle.

"MANOORA" In company entered Port Phillip 2030/2nd and "MELBOURNE" MINES. Port Melbourne and Williamstown respectively.

The floating mine reported by S.S. "BURWAH" between Gabo and Wilsons Promontory at 1700 on Sunday, 2nd November was located and exploded by H.M.A.S. "MILDURA" early yesterday morning.

The floating mine reported approximately 2 miles off Barwon Heads early yesterday morning by a local fisherman was later exploded by H.M.A.S. "TOORIE".

The mine found embedded in sand in Mans Bay, King George Sound was excavated yesterday by a party from H.M.A.S. "SYDNEY" and partially destroyed. Parts of the mine and portion of the charge are available for inspection if required.

A floating mine in position 39°40'S, 144°30' E. (approximately 15 miles east of King Island) was sighted by S.S. "KOWHAI", bound from Melbourne to Strahan, at 0622 Sunday, 2nd November. A W/F message has been issued.

"CANBERRA" sailed today at 0715K/3rd November.

GENERAL

C.C.S. is proceeding to Newcastle today to inspect the base and returns to Sydney P.M. tomorrow.

0847K/2nd November.....

A floating mine in position 38°27'S, 143°03' E (30° 07'N) was reported by the S.S. "BURWAH" at 1700 on Sunday, 2nd November. The mine has been signalled and H.M.A.S. "MILDURA" has been informed.

A signal from S.S. W.A., states a report received from Albany that a mine has been washed ashore in Mans Bay, King George Sound. Investigation is being carried out. Mine appears to be some months old and is partially buried on a sandy beach situated 500 feet from the shore.

*Handwritten notes and signatures:*  
 A large red scribble with the number '4111' written vertically in red.  
 A blue scribble with the number '1079' written vertically in blue.  
 A black scribble with the number '4111' written vertically in black.  
 A black scribble with the number '4111' written vertically in black.  
 A black scribble with the number '4111' written vertically in black.



MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Monday, 3rd November, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"CANBERRA" sailed Sydney 0600K/2 for Jervis Bay escorting "QUEEN MARY".

"WESTRALIA" arrived Darwin 1400K/2nd escorting Floating Dock towed by Tugs "CARLOCK" and "BEAVER".

"ADELAIDE" sailed Port Phillip 2210K/2nd escorting "ZEALANDIA" to R.V. with "SYDNEY".

"MORESBY" sailed Port Moresby 1842K/1 for Wyborn Reef due 2nd November.

"KARA KARA" arrived Townsville 0635K/2nd on passage to Darwin.

"DOOMBA" ) In company entered Port Phillip 2038K/2nd and  
"WARRNAMBOOL" ) arrived at Port Melbourne and Williamstown respectively.

"MANOORA" anticipated will sail from Nauru 3rd November escorting "CHLOE" arriving Sydney 9th or 10th November.

H.M. SHIPS.

"MONOWAI" sailed Wellington 2nd November for escort duty to Eastward thence Auckland.

"ACHILLES" sailed Suva 0930M/31st November for Auckland.

TRANSPORTS.

"QUEEN ELIZABETH" arrived Sydney 0642K/2nd from Hobart and sails today.

"QUEEN MARY" sailed Sydney 0600K/2nd for Jervis Bay escorted by "CANBERRA" and sailed today at 0715K/3rd November.

GENERAL

F.F. Light Cruiser "LE TRIOMPHANT" sailed Suva 0647K/2nd November for Wellington due 4th November.

A Floating Mine in position 38°37'S. 148°23' E (90' 074° Wilsons Promontory) was reported by the S.S. "BURWAH" at 1700K/2nd November. A. W/F message has been signalled and H.M.A.S. "MILDURA" in the vicinity informed.

A signal from D.N.O. W.A., states a report received from Albany that a mine has been washed ashore in Mans Bay, King George Sound. Investigation is being carried out. Mine appears to be some months old and is one quarter buried on a Sandy Beach situated 250' from Seal Island.

*Handwritten notes:*  
D.M.  
3/11  
[Signature]

The M/V "LORINNA" at Hobart reports having sunk a Floating Mine in Position  $36^{\circ}19'S$ .  $132^{\circ}20'E$ . at noon 31st October while on passage from Adelaide. Check of Position which is incorrect has been requested.

A mine has been reported approx. 2' off Barwon Heads early this morning by Mr. Stevens a local fisherman who will remain in the vicinity for two hours pending the arrival of "TOORIE" which will pass out the Heads at 0800K/

#### S.S.A. SHIPS.

"SYDNEY" departed Fremantle at 1010 yesterday for A.V. with H.T. "ZEALANDIA" escorting "DUNEDIN" and "TALBOT". On completion of escort of "ZEALANDIA", "SYDNEY" is to return to the South East area.

"ADELAIDE" expects to depart Melbourne at 1800 today, escorting H.T. "ZEALANDIA" to A.P. with "SYDNEY".

"BERGAMOT" departed Hornsby Sound for Melbourne yesterday A.S.A. 1600 11th November; she will call at Sydney en route.

"WILSON" departed Hobart at 0400 yesterday to patrol route of Convoy U.S. 13 eastward of S.C.F. 13.

U.S. Cruiser "PORTLAND" escorting U.S. Army Transport "LIBERTY" passed Port Moresby yesterday on route to Manila via Torres Strait.

French Cruiser "LE TRIUMPHANT" expects to arrive Sydney 10th November for docking.

#### OPERATIONS ABROAD.

Dutch Cruiser "JAVA", with tanker "PENUSPO" and convoy, arrived Java 31st October.

#### TRANSPORTS.

"MAREN MARY" is to be docked at Singapore about 5th December after completion of U.S. 13. Estimated period in dock is one month.

"MAREN ELIZABETH". Tentative arrangements for docking and repairs are being made in Singapore, for the beginning of February, 1943, on completion of U.S. 14. Estimated period in dock is three weeks.

#### INTELLIGENCE.

A Vichy French convoy, escorted by a French warship, departed Madagascar for Saigon prior to 13th October. There is a possibility that the convoy may proceed via the Timor Sea, and that the escort may comprise the sloop "SERIAL CHAMBER" and the submarine "MORGE".

11/11

11/11

11/11

DAILY NARRATIVE.

OS  
RET.

To 0900 Sunday, 2nd November, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"SYDNEY" departed Fremantle at 1018 yesterday for R.V. with H.T. "ZEALANDIA", escorting "DUNTROON" and "TALABOT". On completion of escort of "ZEALANDIA", "SYDNEY" is to return to the South East area.

"ADELAIDE" expects to depart Melbourne at 1800 today, escorting H.T. "ZEALANDIA" to R.V. with "SYDNEY".

"BUNGAREE" departed Normanby Sound for Melbourne yesterday E.T.A. 1600 11th November; she will coal at Sydney en route.

"MILDURA" departed Hobart at 0400 yesterday to patrol route of Convoy U.S. 13 eastward of S.C.F.18.

U.S. Cruiser "PORTLAND" escorting U.S. Army Transport "LIBERTY" passed Port Moresby yesterday en route to Manila via Torres Strait.

French Cruiser "LE TRIOMPHANT" expects to arrive Sydney 10th November for docking.

OPERATIONS ABROAD.

Dutch Cruiser "JAVA", with tanker "PENDOPO" and convoy, arrived Suva 31st October.

TRANSPORTS.

"QUEEN MARY" is to be docked at Singapore about 5th December after completion of U.S.13. Estimated period in dock is one month.

"QUEEN ELIZABETH". Tentative arrangements for docking and repairs are being made in Singapore, for the beginning of February, 1942, on completion of U.S.14. Estimated period in dock is three weeks.

INTELLIGENCE.

A Vichy French convoy, escorted by a French warship, departed Madagascar for Saigon prior to 13th October. There is a possibility that the convoy may proceed via the Timor Sea, and that the escort may comprise the sloop "ADMIRAL CHARNER" and the submarine "MONGE".

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16

2/11

2/11

119

To 0900 Saturday, 1st November, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"ADELAIDE" escorting H.T. "ZEALANDIA" arrived Port Melbourne 0500 this morning and berthed at Princes Pier.

"BUNGAREE" completed minelaying operations yesterday and will return to Melbourne.

OPERATIONS ABROAD.

H.M.S. "ACHILLES" arrived Suva yesterday.

H.M.S. "MONOWAI" arrived Wellington yesterday.

TRANSPORTS

"QUEEN ELIZABETH" departed Hobart early this morning so as to arrive Sydney Heads 0630 tomorrow morning.

GENERAL

A floating mine reported by a fisherman about 8 miles N.W. from Barrenjoey Head at noon yesterday was later sunk by H.M.A.S. "BINGERA" despatched from Sydney.

The Admiralty having decided upon a re-distribution of A.M.Cs., H.M.S. "MONTCLARE", a C.P.R. vessel of 16,400 tons built in 1922 with a speed of 17 knots, has been allocated to this station, and H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" will return to Australia.

H.M.A.S. "VENDETTA" will refit at Singapore.

H.M.A.S. "DELORAIN" carried out preliminary steam trials yesterday at Sydney. She is the first A.M.S. vessel fitted for LL. sweep building for Commonwealth.

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Handwritten red signature and vertical lines.

Handwritten mark resembling a stylized '6' or '9'.

POST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

30/10/41

To 0900 Friday, 31st October, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"SYDNEY" intends to sail A.M. 1st Nov. to escort "DUNTROON" to longitude 120°E, then to King George Sound to arrive A.M. 3rd November, remaining until departure for R.V. with H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE" escorting "ZEALANDIA".

"MARYBOROUGH" arrived Darwin 1105K/30th October with "COONGoola" and "MORUYA" in company.

20th M.S.F. sweeping operations Bass Strait.

"INNISFAIL" commissioned at Sydney 0900K/30th October as Loop Repair vessel.

"MANOORA" arrived Nauru 1200K/30th October.

GENERAL

The French ships "LE TRIOMPHANT" and "CAP DES PALMES" arrived Suva 20th October.

Rear-Admiral "HALIFAX" appointed Flag Officer Commanding, Red Sea to date 21st October.

Departed Suva escorted by H.M.A.S. "PRINCE OF WALES" yesterday, en route for Hong Kong via Honolulu and Manila, with troops embarked in both vessels.

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Japanese pearl hunting mother ship "SHOKUHO MARU" arrived Darwin at 1130 yesterday. S.G.I.P. has been asked to report action being taken to control movements of personnel, as the Naval Commanding Officer desires all possible restrictions to be applied.

~~D.N.I.~~ 31/10

~~D.N.I.~~ 31/10

*[Handwritten signature]*

*[Handwritten mark]*

To 000 Friday, 30th October, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"SYDNEY" arrived Fremantle from Bunbury yesterday.

"ADELAIDE" escorting H.T. "ZEALANDIA" departed Sydney for Melbourne at 1830 yesterday.

"MANCORA" intends arriving Mairu from Ocean Island today, and will probably depart for Sydney on 2nd November, escorting "KENILWORTH" from Ocean Island for the first 48 hours.

"MORESBY" arrived Port Moresby from Rabaul at 1808 yesterday.

"KARA KARA" departed Brisbane for Townsville 1130 yesterday. E.T.A.. A.E. Sunday 2nd November.

"WARRAWEE" intends proceeding on gunnery and minesweeping trials in Port Phillip at 0900 tomorrow.

OPERATIONS - ABROAD.

French Light Cruiser "LE TRIOMPHANT" arrived Suva yesterday.

TRANSPORTS.

H.T. "AWATEA" departed Esquimalt escorted by H.M.A.S. "PRINCE ROBERT" yesterday, en route for Hong Kong via Honolulu and Manila, with troops embarked in both vessels.

INTELLIGENCE.

Japanese pearling mother ship "KOKOKU MARU" arrived Darwin at 1130 yesterday. N.O.I.C. has been asked to report action being taken to control movements of personnel, as the Naval Board desire all possible restrictions to be applied.

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*Handwritten:* A 30/10

*Handwritten signatures and initials:* [unclear] 30/10

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0900 Wednesday, 29th October, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"SYDNEY" arrived Bunbury 1825 Monday, 27th October, and in view of delay to "ZEALANDIA" now intends to return to Fremantle instead of calling at Albany.

"BUNGAREE" departed Thursday Island 1455 yesterday to anchor in vicinity of Yule Channel to await improvement in the visibility before laying mines.

20th M.S.F., comprising "WARREGO", "SWAN", "LITHGOW" and "WARRNAMBOOL", departed Hobart 0515 yesterday for sweeping operations in Bass Strait.

"KYBRA" arrived Jervis Bay Monday, 27th October.

H.M.A. SHIPS ABROAD.

F.O.C. Mediterranean Destroyer Flotilla estimates two months will be required to refit "VENDETTA".

TRANSPORTS.

"ZEALANDIA" is expected to leave Sydney about 1200 today after a delay of over a week.

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~~A~~  
~~A~~  
29/10

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*[Handwritten signature]*

*[Handwritten initials]*

*[Faint handwritten notes]*

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Tuesday, 28th October, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"SYDNEY" sailed Fremantle 0828H/27th October for Bunbury.  
E.T.A. 1600H/27th October.

"BUNGAREE" arrived Thursday Island 1045K/27th October.

"MARYBOROUGH" escorting A/V "COONGoola" and "MORUYA" sailed  
Thursday Island 1030K/28th for Darwin due A.M. 30th  
October.

"ADELAIDE" sailed Sydney 1340K/27th for Firing.

"WESTRALIA" sailed Thursday Island escorting Floating  
Dock towed by tugs for Darwin P.M./2nd November.

"KYBRA" sailed Sydney 0955K/27th October for Jervis Bay.

GENERAL

Free French Auxiliary Schooner "OISEAU DES ISLES"  
sailed Raratonga 1441X/20th October for Suva.

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*D.N.*  
*28/10*  
*27/10*

*6*  
*177*  
*27/10*  
*28/10*  
*28/10*



To 100 Monday, 27th October, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS. Sunday, 28th October.

"WESTRALIA" arrived Thursday Island from Darwin at 2117/25th October.

"MORESBY" departed Rabaul yesterday for Port Moresby. E.T.A. 0400 30th October.

"WARRNAMBOOL" arrived Hobart 0905 yesterday to join 20th M.S.F.

"KARA KARA" arrived Brisbane from Sydney 0220 yesterday. She

OPERATIONS - NEW ZEALAND STATION.

H.M.S. "MONOWAI" departed Auckland 25th October for escort duties to the eastward, thence to Wellington.

CONVOY U.S. 13.

C. in C. East Indies has advised that H.M.S. "CORNWALL" will be available to escort U.S.13 from the vicinity of Cocos Islands.

TRANSPORTS.

~~"ELIZABETH" arrived Hobart 1824 yesterday from Sydney.~~

~~"ELIZABETH" is still delayed at Sydney by her refractory crew. Report tomorrow morning.~~

*27/10*

GENERAL.

C.I.C. has asked that a Dutch cruiser may join escort of the first conventional transport - Singapore troop convoy in order to give assistance to officers and men. C. in C. India favours the proposal and has asked if J.C.I.C. concurs.

*26/10*

*27/10*  
*[Handwritten signatures]*

~~SECRET~~

DAILY NARRATIVE.

~~SECRET~~ SECRET.

to 0900 Saturday, 26th October, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.  
To 0900 Sunday, 26th October.

"PERSEUS" sailed Townsville 0350K/24th October for Thursday Island due 28th October.

"WARRIOR" sailed Williamstown 1700K/24th to join 20th M.S.F. at Hobart. OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS - L.A.V. "COORAGULLA" and "MORUYA", and tug "WARRIOR" and "REVEREND" with Floating Dock in tow.

"CANBERRA" arrived Sydney 0800 yesterday from Auckland. She reports having sunk a floating mine in Mid Tasman on October 23rd. "WARRIOR" commissioned 0900K/23rd October at Sydney.

"WARRIOR" arrived Port Melbourne 2115K/24th October.

"SYDNEY" intends to leave Fremantle and arrive Bunbury tomorrow, thence to Albany arriving Thursday, 30th October.

H.M. SHIPS.

"ACHILLES" will arrive Sydney 12th November and be available for escorting "WARRIOR".

OPERATIONS - ABROAD.

H.M.S. "KANIMBLA" will be sailed by C. in C., East Indies so as to arrive Fremantle 15th December.

"ORANJE" sailed Sydney 0050K/24th October for Batavia and Suez speed 22 knots.

TRANSPORTS.

"QUEEN ELIZABETH" arrived Hobart 1224 yesterday from Sydney.

"QUEEN ELIZABETH" sailed Sydney 0900K/24th October for Hobart.

"ZEALANDIA" is still delayed at Sydney by her refractory crew. N.O.C.S. will make a further report tomorrow morning.

GENERAL.

Captain R.A.B. Miller, R.A.N., has assumed command of H.M.A.S. "PERSEUS" L.A.V. 24th October.

GENERAL.

C.Z.M. has asked that a Dutch cruiser may join escort of the first convenient Fremantle - Singapore troop convoy in order to give experience to officers and men. C. in C. China favours the proposal and has asked if A.C.N.B. concurs.

Dutch Cruiser "JAVA" with Tanker "WENDOPO" and Convoy comprising "PERSEUS", "WARRIOR", "WARRIOR", "WARRIOR" which sailed Cairns 0900K/24th October due to arrive Port A.S. 27th October.

*Handwritten notes:*  
26/10  
25/10  
D.A.  
6  
26/10  
27/10

Friday, 24th October, 1941.  
to 0900 Saturday, 25th October, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"BUNGAREE" sailed Townsville 0952K/24th October for Thursday Island due 28th October.

"WARRENAMBOOL" sailed Williamstown 1700K/24th to join 20th M.S.F. at Hobart. E.T.A. 1100/26.

"MARYBOROUGH" with A/V "COONGOOOLA" and "MORUYA", and tugs "CARLOCK" and "BEAVER" with Floating Dock in tow, arrived Thursday Island 1230K/24th October.

"WOLLONGONG" commissioned 0900K/23rd October at Sydney.

"TOORIE" arrived Port Melbourne 2119K/24th October. en route to Townsville, Thursday Island and Darwin.

U.S.S. "PORTLAND" H.M. SHIPS. one transport to Manila is expected to arrive Port Moresby about 31st October.

"ACHILLES" will arrive Sydney 12th November and be available for escorting "MONTEREY".

"MONOWAI" arrived Auckland 23rd October. arrive at Colombo before late December. G. in C. East Indies has been asked whether H.M.S. "ALBATROSS" HOSPITAL SHIPS. to arrive Fremantle on 15th December.

"ORANJE" sailed Sydney 0059K/24th October for Batavia and Suez speed 20 knots.

"QUEEN MARY" departed Hobart for Sydney 0430 23rd October.

TRANSPORTS.

"QUEEN ELIZABETH" sailed Sydney 0906K/24th October for Hobart.

"QUEEN MARY" arrived Sydney 1015K/24th.

GENERAL

Captain H.M.L. Waller, R.A.N., has assumed command of H.M.A.S. "PERTH" A.M. 24th October.

F.F. Cruiser "LE TRIOMPHANT" sailed Papeete 23rd October for Suva due to arrive A.M. 29th October, and intends leaving Suva 31st October for Auckland due 2nd November.

Dutch Cruiser "JAVA" with Tanker "PENDOPO" and Convoy comprising "POELAU BRAS", "POLYDORUS", "BENGKALIS", "SOEKABOEMI" which sailed Cairns 0530K/22nd October due to arrive Suva A.M. 27th October.

~~D.N.A.~~  
25/10  
15  
6  
27/10

To <sup>02</sup> Friday, 24th October, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"CANBERRA" will be available to escort convoy U.S.13 to vicinity of Cocos Islands.

"ADELAIDE" departed Sydney at 1607 yesterday for firing and returned at 2118.

"WESTRALIA" departed Darwin for Thursday Island 0841 yesterday E.T.A. a.m. Sunday 26th October.

"KARA KARA" departed Sydney for Brisbane at 1034 yesterday en route to Townsville, Thursday Island and Darwin.

U.S.S. "PORTLAND" escorting one transport to Manila is expected to arrive Port Moresby about 31st October.

OPERATIONS - ABROAD.

As H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" cannot arrive at Colombo before 10th December, C. in C. East Indies has been asked whether H.M.S. "KANIMBLA" can be spared to arrive Fremantle on 15th December.

TRANSPORTS.

"QUEEN MARY" departed Hobart for Sydney 0430 23rd October.

GENERAL.

It is anticipated that H.M.A.S. "INNISFAIL" will commission on Tuesday 28th October.

.....

~~DN~~ 24/10

23/10

PH

6

24/10

DAILY NARRATIVE.  
DAILY NARRATIVE

MOST SECRET.

900 Thursday, 23rd October, 1941.  
To 0600 Wednesday, 22nd October, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS. OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

- "CANBERRA" departed Auckland 0001 yesterday for Sydney.
- "WESTRALIA" arrived Darwin 1340 yesterday. from Geraldton.
- "WARRENANBOOL." on completion of working up programme will leave Port Melbourne P.M. tomorrow to join 20th "AUREL" M.S.F. at Hobart. today.
- "KARA KARA" having been delayed 24 hours will sail from Sydney this morning for Darwin calling Brisbane, Townsville "CORONA" and Thursday Island. Floating Deck 1025K/21st October.
- "DUTCH CRUISER "JAVA" escorting a c nvoy. departed Cairns 1030 yesterday for Suva.

TRANSPORTS

OPERATIONS -. ABROAD.

- "DUNN ELIZABETH" left Sydney for Hobart morning tide 24th Oct.
- "H.M.A.S. "AUSTRALIA" departed Colombo yesterday. Floating Deck 1015K/24th October.

GENERAL

GENERAL

Admiral Sir Ragnar Colvin arrived England 17th October. Admiralty report the Free French (Pacific) have requisitioned 3 master Schooner "OISEAU DES ISLES" and have armed her for F.P. Naval Service in French Oceania.

Dutch Hospital Ship "ORANJE" will depart Sydney 0200 tomorrow for Batavia, thence to Suez. The floating dock passed A'pater Point 0325K/20th October, North.

.....

~~D.N.I.~~  
22/10  
23/10

22/10

DAILY NARRATIVE.

T. SECRET.

Tuesday, 21st October, 1941.

To 0900 Wednesday, 22nd October, 1941.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"SYDNEY" arrived Fremantle 0750H/21st October from Geraldton.

"BUNGAREE" arrived Townsville 2015K/21st October.

"ADELE" will dock in Sydney today.

"WARRNAMBOOL" arrived Port Melbourne 1530K/21st October.

"KOROWA" undocked Hobson's Bay Floating Dock 1625K/21st October.

"NARANI" } Docked 21st October.

"MARAWAH" }

TRANSPORTS

"QUEEN ELIZABETH" sails Sydney for Hobart morning tide 24th Oct.

"QUEEN MARY" sails from Hobart to arrive Sydney 1015K/24th October.

GENERAL

Admiralty report the Free French Authorities (Pacific) have requisitioned 3 master Schooner "OISEAU DES ISLES" and have armed her for F.F. Naval Service in French Oceania.

The Floating Dock passed Archer Point 2332K/20th October, North.

..... position of a German Naval unit at 500 miles north of Auckland at 0900 this morning.

..... According to a signal received from U.S.A.I.S. the British Naval Attaché, Tokio, has reported that various indications ..... all units of the Japanese Navy are mobilized and on a ..... basis.

*Handwritten mark: a red diagonal slash with a blue line underneath.*

*Handwritten in red: 22/10*

*Handwritten in blue: B*

*Handwritten in blue: m*

*Handwritten in blue: 6*

*Handwritten in red: 27/10*

*Handwritten in blue: 22/10*

*Handwritten signature in blue.*

To 0900 Tuesday, 21st October, 1941.

From 0900 Monday, 20th October, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"CANBERRA" intends sailing from Auckland at 1400 today for Sydney. E.T.A. 0700 25th October.

"SYDNEY" departed Geraldton for Fremantle 1600 yesterday. E.T.A. 0900 today.

"MARYBOROUGH" departed Cairns for Thursday Island yesterday accompanied by "COONGOOLA" "MORUYA" and Floating Dock in tow of tugs "CARLOCK" and "BEAVER". E.T.A. A.M. Sunday 26th October.

"WARRENAMBOOL" departed Port Melbourne for working up exercises in Port Phillip yesterday.

"KARA KARA" it is intended, will sail from Sydney A.M. tomorrow for Darwin, calling at Brisbane, Townsville and Thursday Island en route. She will be used as gate vessel for Boom Defence, Darwin.

OPERATIONS - NEW ZEALAND STATION.

H.M.S. "ACHILLES" escorting "MARIPOSA" to equator, departed Auckland at 1530 yesterday. Proceeds to Suva on completion of escort duties. It requires 4 to 6 weeks to effect repairs.

H.M.S. "MONOWAI" departed Wellington for Auckland 1624 yesterday.

HOSPITAL SHIP.

"MAUNGANUI" arrived Fremantle 0540 yesterday from Wellington and departed at 1850 for Colombo. E.T.A. 30th October.

INTELLIGENCE.

Third class bearings from Coonawarra and Waipap indicate possible position of a German Naval unit as 500 miles north of Auckland at 0042 this morning.

According to a signal received from C.O.I.S. the British Naval Attache, Tokio, has reported that various indications show all units of the Japanese Navy are mobilized and on a complete war basis.

.....

*Handwritten:* A 2/110

*Handwritten:* A

*Handwritten:* 2/11/41

1. 0900 Monday, 20th October, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"CANBERRA" escorting "MARIPOSA" arrived Auckland 2030 yesterday. The former returns to Sydney by 25th October.

"MORESBY" intends to depart Rabaul about 26th October for Port Moresby to fuel and will then proceed to Cairns to clean one boiler before leaving for Adolphus Channel about Friday, 7th November.

"TOORIE" arrived Port Melbourne yesterday from Sydney.

Dutch Cruiser "JAVA" arrived Cairns yesterday whence she sails 22nd October to escort a convoy of five vessels to Suva. Dutch tanker "PENDOPO" also arrived Cairns yesterday.

GENERAL.

H.M.A.S. "PERTH" reports a serious fire early yesterday morning resulting in damage which, according to preliminary estimate, will require 4 to 6 weeks to effect repairs.

.....

~~D.M.~~ 20/10

19/10

W.B.

OK 20/10

~~OK~~



SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE

To 0900 Saturday, 18th October, 1941.

SECRET. OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

"SYDNEY" left Fremantle 1800 yesterday and expects to arrive To 0900 SUNDAY 19th OCTOBER, 1941. Today.

"ANGLAIS" arrived at Sydney 1535 yesterday and was instructed to revert to 12 hours' notice for sea or securing in dock. OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA.

"AUSTRALIA" passed Thursday Island westbound at 1110 yesterday. H.M.A. SHIPS. On completion of escort and covering operations she intends to proceed to Darwin for fresh water, arriving about 22nd October. Progress subject to progress.

"TOORIE", on passage Sydney to Melbourne E.T.A. 1800K/ today.

"VENDETTA" will refit at Singapore. entered Waterloo Bay 1847 yesterday.

"WARRENHOLM" secured GENERAL. route 1825 yesterday.

"UCO" with Lighter "KELAT" in tow sailed Fremantle noon 18th October for Darwin, expected to arrive 9th November. towing gear, probable time required 2 days.

A Japanese Flying Boat arrived at Dilli (Timor) 18th October containing 21 men and 1 woman. to Melbourne, passed Gabe Island 1800 yesterday.

Netherlands Cruiser "JAVA" passed Archer Point southbound at 1722K/18th October.

Netherlands Cruiser "JAVA" passed Thursday Island southbound 0755 yesterday, en route to Cairns.

H.M. SHIPS.

H.M.S. "ACHILLIS" escorting S.S. "STIRLING CASTLE", arrived at Auckland 18th October.

GENERAL

No. 4 Naval Oil Tank - Fremantle. In order to carry out repairs to cracks at the bottom of this tank it is proposed to arrange storage of approximately 2,500 tons in commercial tanks, being excess of quantity transferable to other tanks. *11/9*

Pattern 6 *19/10* reports that a Pattern 6 Target lost on Monday 13th October and was not recovered after prolonged sea and air search.

Captain H.C. Garcia, R.A.N. left Sydney by train yesterday for Melbourne.

Commander V.I.A. Moran, R.A.N. assumed command of H.M.A.S. "VAMPIRE" on 18th October.

*2/11*

*18/10*

*11/9*

*19/10*

To 0900 Saturday, 18th October, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"SYDNEY" left Fremantle 1300 yesterday and expects to arrive at Geraldton at 0900 today.

"ADELAIDE" arrived at Sydney 1533 yesterday and was instructed to revert to 12 hours' notice for sea on securing in dock.

"WESTRALIA" passed Thursday Island westbound at 1110 yesterday. On completion of escort and covering operations she intends to proceed to Darwin for fresh water, arriving about 22nd October. Programme subject to progress Floating Dock and fresh water requirements.

"DOOMBA", "ORARA" and "PATERSON" entered Waterloo Bay 1847 yesterday.

"WARRNAMBOOL" secured Port Melbourne 1325 yesterday.

"MARYBOROUGH", "COONGOOLA", "MORUYA" and 2 Tugs with Floating Dock in tow arrived at Cairns 1015 yesterday. A.R.O. Cairns reports that the tugs require repairs to towing gear, probable time required 3 days.

"TOORIE", on passage from Sydney to Melbourne, passed Gabo Island 1800 yesterday.

Netherlands Cruiser "JAVA" passed Thursday Island southbound 0735 yesterday, en route to Cairns.

H.M. SHIPS.

H.M.S. "ACHILLES" escorting S.S. "STIRLING CASTLE", arrived at Auckland 18th October.

GENERAL

No. 4 Naval Oil Tank - Fremantle. In order to carry out repairs to cracks at the bottom of this tank it is proposed to arrange storage of approximately 2,500 tons in commercial tanks, being excess of quantity transferable to other Naval tanks.

Pattern 6 Target. D.N.O. W.A., reports that a Pattern 6 Target was lost on Monday 13th October and was not recovered after prolonged sea and air search.

Captain R.C. Garsia, R.A.N. left Sydney by train yesterday for Melbourne.

Commander W.T.A. Moran, R.A.N. assumed command of H.M.A.S. "VAMPIRE" on 16th October.

*Handwritten notes:*  
D.V.  
18/10  
MR  
19/10

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 ~~Saturday~~ <sup>Friday 17th</sup>, 18th October, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"CANBERRA" escorting s.s. "MARIPOSA" departed Sydney yesterday for Auckland. E.T.A. 0730 Sunday, 19th October.

"SYDNEY" intends to leave Fremantle at 1500 today for Geraldton returning Tuesday, 21st October.

"ADELAIDE" on return to Sydney from Tasman escort duty will dock at Cockatoo today, if she arrives before 1915, otherwise tomorrow.

"MANOORA" is escorting s.s. "RECINA", a Yugoslav vessel under charter to British Phosphate Commission, from Nauru to Ocean Island arriving today.

"BUNGAREE" departed Sydney 1755 yesterday for Townsville. E.T.A. 0900 October 21st.

"TOORIE" departed Sydney yesterday for Melbourne. E.T.A. 21st October.

"TOORIE" arrived Wellington 0800/18th October.

TRANSPORTS.

"QUEEN MARY" arrived Hobart 1714 yesterday from Sydney.

"QUEEN MARY" arrived Sydney 1510K/18th October.

"QUEEN MARY" sailed Sydney 1400K/18th for Hobart.

INITIAL .....

"QUEEN MARY" due to arrive at Suva 20th November.

*Handwritten:* 18/10

*Handwritten:* MB.

"QUEEN MARY" sailed Sydney 1400K/18th for Hobart.

*Handwritten:* H.S. who

*Handwritten:* 18/10

To 0800 Wednesday, 15th October, 1941.

To 0900 Thursday, 16th October, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS. OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"WESTRALIA" - proceeded from anchorage off Archer Point at 1540K/15th for Thursday Island. E.T.A. 0700K/17th M.L. in tow. side of boat's line for entire length

"WARRNAMBOOL" to join 20th M.S.F. at Hobart when completed working up. departed at 1500 yesterday.

"TOOWOOMBA" when ready to be sailed from Sydney for Westernport and Melbourne for working up.

"HUNGAREE" arrived Sydney 1320K/15th October. under orders

"MARYBOROUGH" sailed Townsville 0920K/15th to escort Floating Dock.

"BERMAGUI" arrived Port Stephens 0820K/15th October. Dock left Bowen at 0700 yesterday for Cairns. The departure of "BERMAGUI" from Sydney for Melbourne has H.M. SHIPS. 48 hours being to defective generators.

"MONOWAI" arrived Wellington 0542M/15th October. Docked Dock tomorrow, and H.M.A.S. "DORSET" on return to Sydney on Friday

TRANSPORTE.

"QUEEN ELIZABETH" arrived Sydney 1515K/15th October.

"QUEEN MARY" sailed Sydney 1400K/15th for Hobart.

HOSPITAL SHIPS.

"ORANJE" due to arrive at Suez 20th November.

GENERAL

French Sloop (Minesweeper) "CHEVREUIL" arrived 2 a.m. 7th October.

Lieutenant-Commander V.F. Kennedy, R.N.R., will represent the A.C.N.S. at General Behrenschof's funeral at ...

*Handwritten notes:*

~~D.N.I.~~

15/10

16/10

16/10

16/10

To 0900 Wednesday, 15th October, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"WARRAGO", "SWAN", "MILDURA", "LITHGOW" arrived at Hobart at 1530 yesterday. Whilst sweeping yesterday the latter vessel sank a floating mine in a position 219° Tasman Island Lighthouse 4.6 miles. Hobart approach channel has been searched 62½ for width 8 cables either side of centre line for entire length without result.

"DOOMBA" secured Port Welshpool at 1639 yesterday.

"KARA" entered Waterloo Bay at 1631 yesterday.

"PATERSON" is to sail at 1600 today from Port Melbourne for Wilson's Promontory area, and to come under orders of H.M.A.S. "DOOMBA".

"GENERAL" departed Surabaya October 11th and expect Thursday Island 16th October, en route to Cairns.

"FALIE" to be docked at Chapman's Slip today. Floating Dock left Bowen at 0730 yesterday for Cairns. The departure of H.M.A.S. "TOORIE" from Sydney for Melbourne has been delayed 48 hours owing to defective generators.

It is proposed to dock H.M.A.S. "TOOWOOMBA" at Cockatoo Dock tomorrow, and H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE" on return to Sydney on Friday.

"KARA KARA" was commissioned at 0900 yesterday for service as gate vessel for Boom Defence, Darwin.

TRANSPORTS

H.T. "QUEEN MARY" sails from Sydney for Hobart today.

H.T. "QUEEN ELIZABETH" is due to arrive at Sydney from Fremantle today.

ABROAD - VARIOUS

The Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean Fleet intends sailing H.M.A.S. "VENDETTA" for Singapore on completion of boiler cleaning on 19th October.

Lieutenant-Commander V.E. Kennedy, R.A.N., will represent the A.C.N.B. at General Behrenschof's funeral at Bandoeng today.

.....

~~D.N.T.~~ ~~CH~~ 15/10

5/10/41

To 0900 Tuesday, 14th October, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"ADELAIDE" escorting "STIRLING CASTLE" departed Sydney 1649 yesterday to rendezvous with H.M.S. "ACHILLES" in position 034° South, 167° East at 1200 tomorrow Tuesday. "ADELAIDE" will return direct to Sydney arriving P.M. Friday, 17th October.

"WESTRALIA" arrived Townsville 1250 yesterday.

"WARRNAMBOOL" departed Port Melbourne yesterday for exercises in Port Phillip

"MARYBOROUGH" arrived Townsville 0830 yesterday.

Dutch Cruiser "JAVA" departed Sourabaya October 11th and expects to arrive Thursday Island 18th October, en route to Cairns.

SHIPPING.

H.T. "QUEEN MARY" arrived Sydney at 1248 yesterday from Fremantle.

H.T. "ZEALANDIA" arrived Sydney at 1900 yesterday from Newcastle.

AUXILIARY VESSELS.

"KARA KARA", having fitted out at Sydney for service as gate vessel Darwin boom, was taken over yesterday after satisfactory acceptance trials.

*Handwritten red markings:*  
A large red checkmark is drawn over the text.  
Below it, the date "14/10" is written in red ink.  
Further up, there are some faint red scribbles and the number "12/10" written in red.

*Handwritten blue initials:* "MP"

*Handwritten signature and date:* "G.H. 14/10"

To 0900 Monday, 13th October, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"ADELAIDE" arrived Sydney 0556K/13th October from N.Z. escorting "CITY OF DELHI".

"MUNGAREE" sailed Port Phillip 2115K/12th for Sydney.

"TOOWOOMBA" arrived Sydney 0842K/12th October from Brisbane.

H.M. SHIPS.

"ACHILLES" arrived Auckland 10th October and will R.V. with H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE" in position 34°S. 167°E. at 1300L/15th October to take over escort of "STIRLING CASTLE".

GENERAL

1st N.M. accompanied by Paymaster Captain J.B. Foley, will arrive Melbourne by train today Monday, 13th October from Sydney.

Admiralty of the Fleet Sir Dudley Pound, Admiral Sir Reginald Drax, placed on the Retired List at own request to facilitate promotion to date 1st October.

Rear-Admiral Pridham placed on Retired List and promoted to Vice Admiral to date 1st October.

"FERRIS" carrying Service cargo, departed Port Phillip yesterday for .....

~~MA~~  
13/10

... was reverted to 6 hours' notice on the ... to carry out examination and repair of certain machinery preparatory to refit.

... has reported that, at 0414 on Tuesday, when in a position 13° South 167°30' East, the following was read on ... begins: "STOP FROM WINDS IMMEDIATELY, LEAVE TO OR I WILL OPEN FIRE ON YOU" - ends. Signal too faint to be R/T'd and was not heard by any H.M. ship station.

The Admiralty report that a Greek ship overdue at Colombo since 23th September was possibly the victim of a raider attack in the vicinity of the Maldiva Islands on 26th September.

Mr. Blatny, Chief Commonwealth Industrial Officer, will arrive at Darwin on 14th October to investigate industrial trouble.

The object reported washed ashore near Portland (Victoria) on 10th October was a Paravane, and not a Mine.

13/10

13

SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Sunday, 12th October, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS:

"SYDNEY" intends to proceed to sea for exercises on 13th and 14th October.

"MANGORA", escorting S.S. "TRIENZA", arrived at Nauru yesterday.

"MORESBY" arrived at Rabaul yesterday.

"20TH M.S.F." left Sydney 1335 yesterday for Hobart.

"ORARA" left Port Melbourne 1710 yesterday for Wilson's Promontory Area.

"BINGERA" arrived at Sydney 0536 yesterday.

"TOOWOOMBA" is due to arrive at Sydney today.

"MARYBOROUGH" is due to arrive at Townsville today.

SHIPPING.

S.S. "TARIFA", carrying Service cargo, departed Port Phillip yesterday for Aden.

GENERAL.

H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" has been reverted to 8 hours' notice on one engine until noon Thursday to carry out examination and repair of certain machinery preparatory to refit.

H.M.S. "ACHILLES" has reported that, at 0414 on Tuesday, when in a position 38° South 167°30' East, the following was read on 500 kc/s, begins: "STOP YOUR VESSEL INSTANTLY, HEAVE TO OR I WILL OPEN FIRE ON YOU" - ends. Signal too faint to be D/F'd and was not heard by any N.Z. shore station.

The Admiralty report that a Greek ship overdue at Colombo since 28th September was possibly the victim of a raider attack in the vicinity of the Maldivé Islands on 26th September.

Mr. Blakely, Chief Commonwealth Industrial Officer, will arrive at Darwin on 14th October to investigate industrial trouble.

The object reported washed ashore near Portland (Victoria) on 10th October was a Paravane, and not a Mine.

17/10

108



MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

to 0900 Saturday, 11th October, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS. OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA.

"CANBERRA" arrived Sydney 1400 yesterday from Tasman patrol.

20th N.S.F. arrived Sydney 1600 yesterday and sails today for Hobart.

"BUNGAREE" arrived Geelong 0825 yesterday from Port Phillip and sails tomorrow for Sydney arriving P.M. 15th October.

"HARRNAMBOOL" arrived Port Melbourne yesterday from Westernport.

"TOOWOOMBA" commissioned at Brisbane 9th October, sailed for Sydney 1400 yesterday where she expects to arrive 1000 tomorrow.

"HEROS" arrives Fremantle yesterday to join Group 53.

SHIPPING.

CONVOY U.S.12B. arrived Colombo 8th October.

H.M.T. "QUEEN ELIZABETH" arrived Fremantle 0918 October 9th from Trincomalee and sailed 1630 yesterday for Sydney. E.T.A. 1500 Wednesday, 15th October.

H.T. "ZEALANDIA" arrived Brisbane 0600 yesterday and later sailed for Newcastle. E.T.A. 0600 tomorrow.

HOSPITAL SHIP "MAUNGANUI" departed Wellington yesterday for Fremantle due 19th October.

A convoy of five vessels, including the tanker "PENDOPO", escorted by Dutch Cruiser "JAVA" will sail from Cairns 21st October for Suva proceeding at 10 knots. After fuelling from "PENDOPO" the convoy proceeds to a position 016° South, 163° West whence "JAVA" and "PENDOPO" return to Sourabaya.

GENERAL.

Third class bearings from three New Zealand stations obtained at 1736K yesterday indicated the possibility of a German mobile unit within 300 miles of a position 20° South, 160° East. H.M.A. Ships "WESTRALIA" and "MANOORA" were informed.

A mine was reported ashore yesterday about 25 miles west of Portland (Vic). F.N.D. has despatched R.M.S. party.

French L.C. "LE TRIOMPHANT" expects to arrive Suva Wednesday, 15th October.

.....

~~D.A.~~  
11/10

11/10

11/10

11/10

DAILY NARRATIVE

MOST SECRET.

9/10/10

To 0900 Friday, 10th October, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"CANBERRA" Date of arrival Sydney from Patrol 10th October.

20th M.S.F. E.T.A. Sydney P.M. 10th October.

"BERYL II." undocked Hobsons Bay Floating Dock 1100K/9.

"MORESBY" sailed Port Moresby 1743K/8th for Rabaul. E.T.A. 11th October.

"ORARA" secured Melbourne 1210K/9th with salvaged R.A.A.F. A/C on board.

"WARRNAMBOOL" E.T.A. Melbourne 1130K/10th from Westernport.

TRANSPORTS.

"ZEALANDIA" will transport 800 troops from Darwin to Hobart on completion of her present voyage to Singapore. Anticipated sailing date from Darwin 17th November.

GENERAL.

Engineer Rear-Admiral Bodell and Mr. Breeze are to arrive from New Zealand by Air 8th October to investigate for the Government of New Zealand the supply of material for ship-building in New Zealand, vessels larger than the Castle Type Minesweeping Trawler. They will visit both Sydney and Melbourne to confer.

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D.V.I.

10/10

GENERAL.

.....

SECRET

DAILY NARRATIVE

SECRET

Thursday, 9th October, 1941.

9/10

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Thursday, 9th October, 1941.

20th M.S.F. comprised "SEAN", "FRANK", "LITHCOW", "MILDURA" and "MILLIQUET" departed Sydney yesterday to carry out searching operations off Newcastle. The Flotilla will depart Sydney next, 10th October and will be following morning for Hobart to provide A/S and S/S protection for "QUEEN MARY".

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"BUNGAREE" intends proceeding at 0900K today for exercises in Port Phillip, anchoring off Portarlington pier and proceeding into Geelong at daybreak tomorrow.

"MORESBY" arrived at Port Moresby 1236 yesterday.

20th M.S.F. carried out a further 62½% searching sweep yesterday without result.

"WARRNAMBOOL" arrived at Western Port 1020 yesterday.

"ORARA" reported at 1740 yesterday that she was returning with salvaged R.A.A.F. plane and expected to arrive at 0400 today.

"DOOMBA" departed 1600 yesterday from Port Melbourne for Wilson's Promontory area.

"HEROS" departed Albany 1330 yesterday and expects to arrive at Fremantle 1030 tomorrow.

H.M.A.S. "YANDRA" is now considered to have been the British vessel "MADALE" which left Fremantle 0355/8th October.

OPERATIONS - NEW ZEALAND STATION.

H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE" was to rendezvous at 0600M today with S.S. "CITY OF DELHI" off Farewell Spit and escort her to Sydney.

Spacer aircraft sent from Richmond and ordered to proceed to Sydney. The vessel was later identified as the Panamanian "MAYSON" en route to SHIPPING. from Newcastle.

TRANSPORT "QUEEN MARY" left Fremantle 1500 yesterday for Sydney.

GENERAL.

H.M.A.S. "CAIRNS" was successfully launched at Maryborough on 7th October.

D. W. 11/10/41  
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B

0900 Wednesday, 8th October, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"SYDNEY" having escorted Convoy U.S.12B. to vicinity Sunda Strait, returned to Fremantle at 1635 yesterday.

20th M.S.F. comprising "WARREGO", "SWAN", "LITHGOW", "MILDURA" and "BALLARAT" departed Sydney yesterday to carry out searching sweeps between Sydney and Newcastle. The Flotilla will return to Sydney on Friday next, 10th October and sail the following morning for Hobart to provide A/S and M/S protection for "QUEEN MARY".

"MARYBOROUGH" departed Brisbane 1200 yesterday for Townsville. E.T.A. a.m. Sunday, 12th October.

"HEROS" en route to Fremantle arrived Albany 1730 yesterday.

SHIPPING.

H.T. "QUEEN MARY" arrived Fremantle 1200 yesterday and, on completion fuelling, will sail for Sydney

HOSPITAL SHIP "WANGANELLA" departed Sydney yesterday for Colombo.

SUSPICIOUS SIGHTINGS.

The unidentified vessel sighted off Rottnest Island at 0015/6th October by H.M.A.S. "YANDRA" is now considered to have been the British vessel "ARMADALE" which left Fremantle 2035/5th October bound for Abadan.

A vessel reported by Brookvale observation post yesterday afternoon as suspicious and moving south from a position about 40 miles east of Brookvale was located by a Hudson aircraft sent from Richmond and ordered to proceed to Sydney. The vessel was later identified as the Panamanian "NORTUN" en route to Melbourne from Newcastle.

As the channel at Port Welshpool. A diving party from R.S.P. will arrive today at the position which is believed to be the plane lies in 5 fathoms. The Ports and Harbour will also assist. \*\*\*\*\* was saved but the diver Observer was drowned with the plane. Accident occurred at 1100K/8th October.

H.S. Vessel "BROCK" was successfully landed Brisbane 1100K/8th October.

Shipping Dock tared by the "WANGANELLA" and "HEAVEN" with motor launches "COONINGOLA" and "WAL" in company sailed from anchorage Moreton Bay 1700K/8th October for Bowen. 0700K/19th October. The motor launch "WAL" is under way the passage. The motor launch "WOLFE" was requisitioned for the purpose of being shipped on board H.M.A.S. "WANGANELLA".

An unidentified ship was sighted by Island Light at 0815K/8th October by "YANDRA". Vessel signalled Dutch "WILHELMUS" came to

*Handwritten notes in red and black ink at the top right of the page.*

*Handwritten note: D.N. 11/10/41*

*Handwritten note: Jan 8/10*

*Handwritten note: 8/10*

*7/10*  
*7/10*

To 00 Tuesday 7th October, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"ADELAIDE" arrived Wellington 0621M/6th October and sailed 1244M/6th for Patrol. Will enter Australia Station at 1830K/11 October. E.T.A. Sydney 0500K/13th October.

"CANBERRA" sailed Sydney 1240K/6th to prescribed Tasman Patrol positions returning a.m. 10th October.

"BUNGAREE" entered Port Phillip 2136K/6th will berth alongside Port Melbourne 0730K/7th October.

"BERYL II." docked Hobsons Bay Floating Dock 0805K/6.

"MORESBY" arrived Cairns and sailed for Port Moresby. E.T.A. 1201K/8th October.

"NAMBUCCA" completed boiler cleaning at Adelaide.

"SYDNEY". E.T.A. Fremantle 0600H/7th October.

H.M. SHIPS.

"MONOWAI" sailed Auckland 0915M/6th escorting the British ships "SURREY", "PORT SAINT JOHN" and "VICTOR ROSS" to 39°S. 170°W.

TRANSPORTS.

"QUEEN MARY" E.T.A. Fremantle 0600H/7th October.

"QUEEN ELIZABETH" E.T.A. Fremantle 0700H/9th October.

GENERAL

M.S. Vessel No. 25 ("GAWLER") was successfully launched 4th October at Whyalla.

"ORARA" and "PATERSON" have been directed by D.N.O. Victoria to assist in the salvage of an R.A.A.F. Wirraway Plane No. 5 Squadron, Laverton, which crashed 6th October in the entrance to the channel at Port Welshpool. A diving party from F.N.D. will arrive today at the position which is buoyed. The plane lies in 5 fathoms. The Ports and Harbour launch will also assist. The Pilot was saved but the Sergeant Observer was drowned with the plane. Accident occurred at 1100K/6th October.

M.S. Vessel "BROOME" was successfully launched Brisbane 1100K/6th October.

*D.N.O.*

H.M.A.S. "WESTRALIA" escorting Floating Dock towed by tugs "CARLOCK" and "BEAVER" with motor launches "COONGoola" and "MORUYA" in company sailed from anchorage Moreton Bay 1700K/6th October for Bowen. E.T.A. 0700K/12th October. The motor launch "MAKO" is unfit to make the passage. The Motor launch "WOLLOMAI" which was requisitioned 4th October has been shipped on board H.M.A.S. "WESTRALIA".

*7/10*

An unidentified ship was sighted 295°S. Rottneest Island Light at 2215H/5th October by "YANDRA" A/S vessel. Vessel signalled Dutch "SALLAND'S" name to "YANDRA"

DATE 2. NARRATIVE

it is now established this was incorrect. The unknown vessel proceeded to sea again it is thought. In the meantime Dutch "SAIDJA" arrived in Fremantle and it is possible though not probable on evidence that this may have been the vessel. Precautions for entry today of H.M.A.S. "SYDNEY" and H.T. "QUEEN MARY" are being taken.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A.S. SHIPS.

"CANBERRA" - It is V.O.C.A.S.' present intention to sail "CANBERRA" at noon today to cover shipping in Tasman Sea. \*\*\*\*\*

"AUSTRALIA" departed Brisbane at 0722 yesterday to escort floating dock to Darwin, but returned with tug and floating dock to anchorage in Moreton Bay owing to stress of weather and difficulties in towing.

"TONGAREVA" arrived Sydney from Jarvis Bay 0859 yesterday.

OPERATIONS - NEW ZEALAND STATION.

H.M.A.S. advises that by D.P. fix at 0856 yesterday a German Naval mobile unit may have been within 160 miles of 40° 40' S. 160° W. (in the vicinity of Stewart Island, N.Z.). H.M.A.S. "ACHILLE", which departed Suva at 0730 on 4th October, had been ordered to proceed to Auckland at 25 knots, complete with fuel and prepare to sail on completion. H.M.A.S. "ADOLPH" is to return to Wellington from eastward, arriving at 0200 today, and refuel.

H.M.A.S. "MONREVAL" arrived Auckland at 0358 yesterday.

TRANSPORTS.

"ALBAJAK" arrived Singapore yesterday.

*27/10*  
*6/10*

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE

To USOC Sunday, 5th October, 1941.

From 0900 Monday, 6th October, 1941.

A STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

on return to Fremantle Tuesday next, 7th October, will remain based there for the present. She will  
"CANBERRA" - It is F.O.C.A.S' present intention to sail on night  
"CANBERRA" at noon today to cover shipping in Tasman Sea.

"WESTRALIA" departed Brisbane at 0722 yesterday to escort floating dock to Darwin, but returned with tugs and floating dock to anchorage in Moreton Bay owing to stress of weather and difficulties in towing.

"TOORIE" arrived Sydney from Jervis Bay 0859 yesterday.

OPERATIONS - NEW ZEALAND STATION.

N.Z.N.B. advises that by D.F. fix at 0336 yesterday a German Naval mobile unit may have been within 180 miles of 46°30' S. 168°E. (in the vicinity of Stewart Island, N.Z.). H.M.S. "ACHILLES", which departed Suva at 0730 on 4th October, has been ordered to proceed to Auckland at 25 knots, complete with fuel and prepare to sail on completion. H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE" is to return to Wellington from eastward, arriving at 0300 today, and refuel.

H.M.S. "MONOWAI" arrived Auckland at 0358 yesterday.

TRANSPORTS.

"SIBAJAK" arrived Singapore yesterday.

*D. J. J.*  
*6/10*

To 0900 Sunday, 5th October, 1941.

To 0900 OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS. OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

"SYDNEY" on return to Fremantle Tuesday next, 7th October, will remain based there for the present. She will be required to escort "ZEALANDIA" from Australian Bight R.V. about 24th October to Sunda Strait.

"BUNGAREE" departed Jervis Bay 1800 yesterday for Port Phillip. E.T.A. 0500 Tuesday, 7th October.

"SWAN" arrived Jervis Bay 0400/3rd October from Broome.

"TOORIE" departed Jervis Bay yesterday for Sydney where she was due early this morning for repairs to steering gear.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"MONROE" SHIPPING. Auckland 5th October and sails 8th October escorting Convoy A.P.89 to Position 42°S, 158°W.

"QUEEN ELIZABETH" departed Trincomalee 2210 October 3rd for Fremantle. E.T.A. 0900 Thursday, 9th October.

GENERAL

"ZEALANDIA" departed Rabaul yesterday for Brisbane. E.T.A. 0600 Friday, 10th October. from H.M.A.S. "MORRESBY"

while at Townsville; Diving operations carried out have so far proved negative.

The Preliminary Trials of No. 10 Minesweeper ("TOOWOOMBA") carried out in Harvey Bay have proved satisfactory, except \*\*\*\*\* Main Bearing. Detailed report being forwarded by Air Mail.

\*\*\*\*\*

*Handwritten notes and signatures:*  
A large red diagonal line is drawn across the lower half of the page.  
A red signature or initials are written in the center, with "H/10" written below it.  
A blue signature is written on the right side.  
A blue signature is written at the bottom center.



~~MOST SECRET.~~

DAILY NARRATIVE

MOST SECRET.

To 0900 Saturday, 4th October, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"CANBERRA" arrived Sydney 0900/3rd October.

"WARRNAMBOOL" sailed Sydney 1050K/3rd October for Jervis Bay.

"WATO" arrived Darwin 0455K/3rd October from Broome.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"MONOWAI" returns Auckland 5th October and sails 6th October escorting Convoy A.P.80 to Position 42°S. 158°W.

GENERAL

The loss of a Lewis Gun from H.M.A.S. "MORESBY" while at Townsville; Diving operations carried out have so far proved negative.

The Preliminary Trials of No. 10 Minesweeper ("TOOWOOMBA") carried out in Hervey Bay have proved satisfactory, except No. 6 Main Bearing. Detailed report being forwarded by Air Mail.

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*Handwritten notes:*  
D.V.I.  
7/10  
4/10  
G.H. [Signature]

*Handwritten mark:* 11/9

0900 Thursday, 2nd October, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND STATIONS.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"ADELAIDE" departed Wellington yesterday escorting "CALIFORNIA STAR" to the eastward and will return to Wellington arriving 1230 Monday, 8th October.

"WESTRALIA" arrived Brisbane 1620 yesterday and will probably sail Sunday, 5th October to protect floating dock during tow to Darwin.

20th M.S.F. were sweeping outside 50-fathom line between Sydney and Newcastle yesterday, but abandoned operations during the afternoon owing to weather.

"MARYBOROUGH" departed Sydney 1234 and expects to arrive Brisbane 0800 tomorrow en route to Singapore.

"NARANI" arrived Port Melbourne yesterday from Sydney to join Group 54.

"BINGERA" departed Fremantle yesterday and expects to arrive Sydney 0800 October 11th to join Group 51.

HOSPITAL SHIPS.

"WANGANELLA" sailed Port Melbourne 1205/30th September for Sydney. E.T.A. 0800K/2nd October.

\* \* \* \* \*

GENERAL.

D.N.O. ~~and reports~~ the Floating Dock will commence towing from Pill Light at daylight Sunday, 5th October.

*Handwritten:* ~~D.N.O.~~ 7/10

H.M.A.S. "MORSEY" reports Lewis Gun No. L.2734 disappeared from its mounting Port Wing Signal Bridge. Is considered to have been thrown overboard and N.O.I.C. Townsville has been requested to arrange Diving Operations.

*Handwritten:* D.N.O. 1/10

*Handwritten:* A.D. ...

*Handwritten:* 1/10

0900 Wednesday, 1st October, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"ADELAIDE" arrived Wellington 1455M/30th September. Is required to return Sydney by 14th October.

"MANOORA" due to arrive Ocean Island 30th September from Port Moresby.

"NARANI" on passage Sydney to Melbourne is E.T.A. 0800K/1st October.

S H I P P I N G.

"MARIPOSA" is expected to sail from Sydney 16th October to New Zealand.

TRANSPORTS.

"ZEALANDIA" arrived Rabaul 29th September. Will be required to sail from Sydney 17th October for Singapore.

HOSPITAL SHIPS.

"WANGANELLA" sailed Port Melbourne 1205/30th September for Sydney. E.T.A. 0630K/2nd October.

GENERAL.

D.N.O. Queensland reports the Floating Dock will commence Towing from the Pile Light at daylight Sunday, 5th October.

H.M.A.S. "MORESBY" reports Lewis Gun No. L.9724 disappeared from its mounting Port Wing Signal Bridge. Is considered to have been thrown overboard and N.O.I.C. Townsville has been requested to arrange Diving Operations.

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"WANGANELLA" arrived Port Melbourne from Fremantle at 1840 yesterday.

*D.N.O. 1/10*

*A.D.N.I. 1/10. Check of Ships Co is being carried out.*

*Handwritten notes and signatures at the bottom of the page, including "30/9", "1/10", and "3/10".*

To 0900 Tuesday, 30th September, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"ADELAIDE" on arrival Wellington is to remain under orders of C.C.N.Z. for a period of about ten days.

"WESTRALIA" departed Sydney for Brisbane at 1201 yesterday.

"STUART" shifted berth from Williamstown to 18 Victoria Dock yesterday.

"MARYBOROUGH" will sail from Sydney for Singapore at 1200 on 1st October, and escort motor boats "MAKO" "MORUYA" and "COONGOOLA" from Brisbane to Darwin en route. They will remain in company with floating dock during passage inside Barrier Reef.

"BUNGAREE" departed Sydney yesterday for Jervis Bay for trial lays

"MORESBY" sailed yesterday from Townsville for Trinity Passage, thence Cairns arriving 0900 6th October.

"WARRNAMBOOL" subject to satisfactory minesweeping, degaussing and compass trials, will be ready to proceed for working up exercises Friday 3rd October.

OPERATIONS - ABROAD.

H.M.S. "MONOWAI" arrived Auckland yesterday from escort duty to the eastward.

CONVOYS AND TRANSPORTS.

CONVOY U.S.12B. H.M.S. "DANAE" will rendezvous with U.S.12B. close at 1001, 3rd October and escort H.T. "SIBAJAK" to Singapore.

"QUEEN MARY" expects to sail from Trincomalee for Fremantle on 4th October.

"QUEEN ELIZABETH" it is anticipated, will sail from Trincomalee for Fremantle on 6th October.

HOSPITAL SHIP.

"WANGANELLA" arrived Port Melbourne from Fremantle at 1640 yesterday.

.....

*D.N.A.*

*30/9*

*30/9*

*30/9*

DAILY NARRATIVE.

MOST SECRET.

1. 0900 Monday, 29th September, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"SYDNEY" expects to arrive Fremantle a.m. Tuesday, 7th October from escort duty with U.S.12B.

"KYBRA" returned to Sydney yesterday from A/S training cruise.

"BINGERA" will depart Fremantle Wednesday, 1st October, to join Group 51 based on Sydney.

"ORARA" arrived Townsville 1415K/27th September.

SHIPPING.

"ORARA" intends shifting berth to 18 Victoria Dock at 0900K/  
CONVOY U.S.12B. escorted by H.M.A.S. "SYDNEY" departed Fremantle 1200 yesterday to rendezvous with H.M.S. "GLASGOW" in a position about 100 miles S.W. of Sunda Strait at 1001 Friday, 3rd October.

FREIGHT SHIP "MONTORO" arrived Darwin yesterday from Port Moresby.

INTELLIGENCE.

An immediate message received from the Admiralty early this morning in which A.C.N.B. is included amongst the addressees, advised that D/F bearings at 0518 G.M.T. yesterday indicated a German surface vessel in an area within 300 miles of a position 40° South, 155° west (approximately 1500 miles east of Auckland). H.O.C.S. anticipates that "KARA KARA" will be commissioned 3rd October.

According to our plot S.S. "PORT MONTREAL" a vessel of 5,800 tons bound from Brisbane to Panama, was close to the above position yesterday afternoon.

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*Handwritten in red: 29/9*

*Handwritten in blue: RR*

*Handwritten in black: JH 30/9*

*Handwritten in black: JH 30/9*

*Handwritten in black: PS*

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MOST SECRET?

DAILY NARRATIVE.

MOST SECRET.

To 0900 Sunday, 28th September, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"CANBERRA" arrived Fremantle 0802H/27th September and sailed 1500H/27th for Sydney. E.T.A. 0730K/3rd October.

"WANDORA" departed Port Moresby at 1600 yesterday and intends proceeding through China Strait at daylight today.

"MORESBY" arrived Townsville 1415K/27th September, and arriving at Ocean Island Tuesday 30th September.

"STUART" intends shifting berth to 18 Victoria Dock at 0900K/29th September. Arrives at Townsville from Flinders Passage area at 1500 today.

"ORARA" sailed Port Melbourne 1700K/27th September for M/S duties Wilson's Promontory Area.

H.M.S. TRANSPORTS. "ACHILLES" sailing "MONTBARY" arrived Suva 0350 25th Sep. Vessels departed at 1500 the same day.

"ZEALANDIA" sailed Port Moresby 0623K/27th September for Rabaul. E.T.A. 1800K/29th September.

GENERAL.

N.O.C.S. anticipates that "KARA KARA" will be commissioned 6th October.

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*27/9*

*MR*

*27/9*

*27/9*

DAILY NARRATIVE.

MOST SECRET.

MOST SECRET. Friday, 26th September, 1941.

To 0900 Saturday, 27th September, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"STUART" arrived Melbourne from Fremantle and berthed at Nelson Pier, Williamstown at 0850 today.

"MANOORA" departed Port Moresby at 1608 yesterday and intends proceeding through China Strait at daylight today, Bougainville Strait at daylight tomorrow, and arriving at Ocean Island Tuesday 30th September.

"MORESBY" is due to arrive at Townsville from Flinders Passage area at 1500 today.

OPERATIONS - ABROAD.

H.M.S. "ACHILLES" escorting "MONTEREY" arrived Suva 0530 25th September; both vessels departed at 1500 the same day.

GENERAL.

H.M.A.S. "SANDRA" (Auxiliary Minesweeper) having fitted out at Williamstown commissioned yesterday and will join Group 88 based on Adelaide.

CONVOYS.

H.M.A.S. escorted by H.M.A.S. "SYDNEY" arrived Fremantle 1945 yesterday.

*Handwritten in red: A 27/9*

*Handwritten in blue: MA*

*Handwritten in blue: MA*

*Handwritten in red: A 26/9*

*Handwritten in black: 27/9*

*Handwritten in black: 27/9*

DAILY NARRATIVE.

MOST SECRET.

To 0900 Friday, 26th September, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"MANOORA" will leave Port Moresby so as to arrive Ocean Island A.M. Monday, 29th September.

"ADELAIDE" escorting "LANARKSHIRE" to 170°, departed Port Phillip 1744 yesterday. After dispersal, "ADELAIDE" proceeds to Wellington arriving 1400M Tuesday, 30th September and after fuelling will be available to escort a modified convoy to Sydney.

"WESTRALIA" carried out firing off Sydney yesterday and returned to harbour.

"VOYAGER" arrived Sydney 0935 yesterday and is now at 7 days' notice for steam.

"HEROS" on passage from Sydney to Fremantle is delayed at Adelaide making good repairs due to damage sustained in heavy weather.

"TOORIE" departed Williamstown 1600 yesterday for Jervis Bay to operate with "BUNGAREE".

"ALLENWOOD" } (Auxiliary minesweepers) will leave Sydney  
"KIANGA" } tomorrow Saturday to work up in Broken Bay  
returning Friday, 3rd October.

GENERAL.

H.M.A.S. "WARRAWEE" (Auxiliary Minesweeper) having fitted out at Williamstown commissioned yesterday and will join Group 63 based on Adelaide.

CONVOYS.

U.S.12B. escorted by H.M.A.S. "SYDNEY" arrived Fremantle 1945 yesterday.

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DAILY NARRATIVE

MOST SECRET.

To 0900 Thursday, 25th September, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"MANOORA" arrived Port Moresby 0854K/24th September, escorting "ZEALANDIA".

"ADELAIDE" will carry out Sub-calibre Firing today returning to Williamstown for fuel and will then await departure of convoy P.M. today.

20th M.S.F. consisting of "WARREGO", "SWAN", "LITHGOW", "MILDURA", sailed Sydney 1512K/24th September for M/S operations between Sydney and Newcastle.

"HEROS" arrived Adelaide 1600K/24th September on passage to Fremantle.

"WESTRALIA" F.Q.C.A.S. intends to sail "WESTRALIA" so as to arrive Brisbane 1st October.

H.M. SHIPS.

"MONOWAI" arrived Wellington 0716M/24th September, and departed 1450M/25th September, escorting "ATHLONE CASTLE" to eastward returning to Auckland 29th September.

G E N E R A L.

D.N.O., W.A., leaves Perth 27th September for Melbourne to visit Navy Office.

Admiralty have requested N.S.H.Q. Ottawa to sail two Canadian Ships "PRINCESS MARGUERITE" and "PRINCESS KATHLEEN" to Suez calling at Honolulu, Suva, Port Darwin, Singapore, Colombo and Aden. Date of sailing not yet known.

Paymaster Captain JOLLEY is on passage to take up appointment Fleet Accountant Officer, China, and will visit appropriate officers at Sydney, and Navy Office in connection with supply arrangements for Far East. No date of his arrival is given.

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H.M.A.S. "SINGAPORE" reached at 0900 yesterday under command of Lieutenant R.J. Barton, R.A.N.R. (S).

H.M.A.S. "HULLOCK" completed full power, stopping starting, return and circle trials at Sydney satisfactorily yesterday.

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MOST SECRET. 0900 Tuesday, 23rd September, 1941.

0900 Wednesday, 24th September, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"ADELAIDE" intends proceeding for day and night sub-calibre firings in Port Phillip at 1615 today.

"STUART" departed Fremantle for Melbourne at 1900 22nd September. E.T.A. 0530 Saturday 27th September.

"VOYAGER" departed Brisbane at 1730 yesterday for Sydney. E.T.A. 0800 tomorrow.

20th M.S.F. consisting of "WARREGO", "SWAN", "LITHGOW", "MILDURA" and "BALLARAT" intends sailing at 1400 today for mine-sweeping operations between Sydney and Newcastle.

"BALLARAT" arrived Sydney from Melbourne at 1406 yesterday.

"NARANI" departed Sydney for Melbourne yesterday and will join Group 54 M/S on arrival. E.T.A. 0600 27th September.

CONVOY U.S.11B.

H.M.A.S. "SYDNEY" advises that Convoy U.S.11B. has been delayed owing to weather, and that E.T.A. at entrance to searched channel at Fremantle will be 1001 Friday 26th September, instead of 0700 today.

HOSPITAL SHIP

"WANGANILLA" arrived Fremantle from Singapore at 2040 yesterday.

INTELLIGENCE

Navy Office, Wellington, reports that H.M.S. "ACHILLES" when in position 33°55' South 171°00' East (approximately 100 miles North West of North Island, New Zealand), between 1600 and 1700 on 20th September, intercepted a transmission in 150 centimetres wave length, indicating the possibility of an enemy unit in this area.

GENERAL

H.M.A.S. "WARRNAMBOOL" commissioned at 0900 yesterday under command of Lieutenant S.J. Barton, R.A.N.R.(S).

H.M.A.S. "WOLLONGONG" completed full power, stopping starting, astern and circle trials at Sydney satisfactorily yesterday.

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Handwritten notes and signatures at the bottom of the page, including red and blue ink markings and the number '2419' written multiple times.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE

To 0900 Tuesday, 23rd September, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"CANBERRA" expects to arrive Fremantle from Colombo 0800 Saturday, 27th September, whence she will sail as convenient for Sydney escorting any ships sailing eastward about that time.

"MANOORA" escorting "ZEALANDIA", departed Thursday Island 1300 yesterday for Port Moresby. E.T.A. 0600 tomorrow.

"BENDIGO" departed Darwin 1715 yesterday for Singapore arriving Tuesday 30th September.

H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE"

S.S. "LANARKSHIRE", bound for Panama, was expected to sail today but owing to a gun defect which involves lifting the mounting, she will probably be delayed until Friday next. Question of escort by "ADELAIDE" has been referred to F.O.C.A.S.

OPERATIONS - ABROAD

H.M.S. "ACHILLES" departed Auckland yesterday escorting "MONTEREY" to the equator whence the former proceeds to Suva.

CONVOY U.S.12B.

H.M.S. "GLASGOW" has been detailed by C. in C. East Indies to relieve H.M.A.S. "SYDNEY" as Ocean escort A.M. 1st October at a rendezvous yet to be arranged.

HOSPITAL SHIPS

"MAUNGANUI" departed Fremantle yesterday for Wellington. E.T.A. 0900 October 2nd proceeding south about Tasmania.

GENERAL

Port War Signal Station at Thursday Island was manned yesterday.

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MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE

MOST SECRET

MONDAY.

To 0900 Tuesday, 22nd September, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA

To 0900 Friday, 21st September, 1941.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

"STUART" arrived Fremantle 0815H/21st sails 1700H/22nd for Melbourne. E.T.A. 0530K/26.

"VOYAGER" arrived Brisbane A.M. 21st September.

"MARYBOROUGH" arrived Sydney 0832K/21st September. Tomorrow for Port Moresby according to "CLELAND" STA 0530 24th

H.M. SHIPS.

"ACHILLES" arrived Auckland 1051M/21st September. E.T.A. 0800

TRANSPORTS

"MONTORO" sailed Thursday Island 1001K/21st September for Port Moresby. E.T.A. 0130K/24th September. To arrive Jarvis Bay p.m. Monday, 23th September.

HOSPITAL SHIPS

"MAUNGANUI" arrived Fremantle 0330H/22nd September.

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OPERATIONS -- OVERSEAS.

"S.S. ..." departed Wellington on 18th September for escort duties to the Eastward, returning to Wellington on conclusion.

*Handwritten in red: 2/19*

H.M.A. SHIPS -- AUSTRALIA.

"KARMA" was in port at Bombay on 18th September for docking and refit. Ready for service 8th October.

*Handwritten in black: 2/19*

*Handwritten initials in blue: MR*

*Handwritten signature in black: J. M. G.*

*Handwritten signature in black: J. M. G.*

*Handwritten in red: 2/19*

*Handwritten initials in black: MR*

MOST SECRET

day 20th September, 1941.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Sunday, 21st September, 1941.

arrived Williamstown yesterday evening and berthed at Station

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS

"ADELAIDE" berthed at Port Melbourne at 0855 yesterday.

"MANCOORA" intends departing Thursday Island at 1000 tomorrow for Port Moresby escorting "ZEALANDIA" ETA 0530 24th September.

"BALLARAT" departed at 1650 yesterday for Sydney ETA 0800 Tuesday 23rd September.

"ORARA" arrived Port Melbourne from Wilson's Promontory area at 0750 yesterday.

"TOORIE" N.O.C.S. has requested that "TOORIE" be sailed to arrive Jervis Bay p.m. Monday, 29th September.

"NARANI" intends departing Sydney for Melbourne a.m. Tuesday, 23rd September to join Group 54 M/S.

"HULLON" departed Sydney yesterday to join Group 53 Auxiliary A/S

OPERATIONS -- OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "MONOWAI" departed Wellington on 19th September for escort duties to the Eastward, returning to Wellington on conclusion.

with H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE" escorting R.M.T.'s "ACQUITANIA" "JOHAN VAN OLSCHANSKI" and "STALJAN" when "SYDNEY" relieved

H.M.A. SHIPS -- ABROAD.

"YARRA" was taken in hand at Bombay on 16th September for docking and refit. Ready for service 8th October.

completed acceptance trials yesterday and vessel was taken to Sydney.

GENERAL.

The second preliminary trial of A.M.S. vessel No.10 ("TOOWOOMBA") being unsatisfactory, was abandoned on 19th September and the vessel returned to Maryborough.

21/9/41

21/9

21/9

To 0900 Saturday 20th September, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION

H.M.A. SHIPS. OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA

✓ "ADELAIDE" having escorted Convoy U.S.12B to Bass Strait R.V. arrived Williamstown yesterday evening and berths at Station Pier 0900 this morning.

✓ "MANOORA" escorting "ZEALANDIA" and "MONTORO" arrived Thursday Island 0410 this morning.

✓ "WESTRALIA" is required to protect floating dock during tow from Brisbane to Darwin leaving about 27th September.

✓ "VOYAGER" arrived Townsville 0700 yesterday and sailed at 1600 for Brisbane. E.T.A. 0600 tomorrow Sunday.

✓ "BUNGAREE" subject to satisfactory equipment trial, will leave Sydney for trial lay at Jervis Bay P.M. Monday, 29th September whence she departs 3rd October for Melbourne.

✓ 20th M.S.F. comprising "WARREGO", "SWAN", "LITHGOW" and "MILDURA" arrived Sydney 0700 this morning.

✓ "BENDIGO" when ready will leave Darwin for Singapore.

✓ "MARYBOROUGH" on completion of leave at Sydney is to sail for Singapore. She will escort three motor boats to Darwin and remain in company with floating dock during passage inside Barrier Reef.

✓ "HEROS" departed Sydney yesterday to join Group 53 Auxiliary A/S vessels based on Fremantle.

CONVOY U.S.12B.

H.M.A.S. "SYDNEY", departed Westernport 0900 yesterday escorting H.M.T. "MARNIX VAN ST. ALDEGONDE" to Bass Strait R.V. with H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE" escorting H.M.T.'s "AQUITANIA" "JOHAN VAN OLDENBARNEVELT" and "SIBAJAK" where "SYDNEY" relieved "ADELAIDE" as escort to Fremantle arriving 0900 Wednesday 24th September.

GENERAL

✓ H.M.A.S. "WARRNAMBOOL" completed acceptance trials yesterday and vessel was taken over at Sydney.

H.M.A.S. "MELBOURNE" carried out Consumption trials at 8 and 10 knots satisfactorily.

H.M.A.S. "MANSFIELD", Auxiliary M/V Vessel, paid off into Dockyard hands, Melbourne, e.s. 19th September for conversion to Naval Duties.

Handwritten in red: *19/9 20/19*

Handwritten in blue: *MP*

Handwritten in black: *20/19*

Handwritten in black: *20/19*

Handwritten in black: *20/19*

To 0900 Friday, 19th September, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA

H.M.A. SHIPS.

- ✓ "SYDNEY" in Westernport. Sails this A.M. to take over escort of U.S.12B. in Bass Strait.
- ✓ "CANBERRA" arrived Colombo 17th September.
- ✓ "PATERSON" arrived Williamstown 18th September, escorting "CYGNUS" and "SAGITTAS" from Lakes Entrance.
- ✓ "MARYBOROUGH" sails 0900K/19th September for Sydney. E.T.A. 0900K/21st September.
- ✓ "MANCOORA" passed Archer Point northbound 1500K/18th for Port Moresby escorting "ZEALANDIA" and "MONTORO".

TRANSPORTS

- ✓ "MARNIX VAN ST. ALDEGONDE" sailed Port Melbourne 1400K/18th for Bay anchorage preparatory to joining Convoy U.S.12B. today off Melbourne.

H.M. SHIPS.

- ✓ "MONOWAI" arrived Wellington 18th September.

HOSPITAL SHIPS.

- ✓ "WANGANELLA" sailed Singapore 17th September for Fremantle. E.T.A. 23rd September.

GENERAL

The departure from Sydney of H.M.A.S. "HEROS" is delayed owing to bad weather.

D.N.O. Queensland reports it is anticipated the Floating Dock will be ready for sea 30th September.

- ✓ Free French "LE TRIOMPHANT" (Destroyer 2,500 tons) sailed from Honolulu 16th September for Tahiti and surrounding Islands from 23rd September to 9th October.

The Port of Sydney will be closed from 2100K to 2200K/21st September during Black-out requirements.

- ✓ H.M.A.S. "WOLLONGONG" carried out Consumption Trials at 8 and 10 knots satisfactorily.

H.M.A.S. "MARRAWAH", Auxiliary M/S Vessel, paid off into Dockyard hands, Melbourne, a.m. 18th September for conversion to Naval Duties.

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19/9

19/9

19/9

To 0900 Thursday, 18th September, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"SYDNEY" departed Port Melbourne at 1100 yesterday for report Westernport and arrived at 1600 the same day.

"ADELAIDE" departed Sydney at 1823 yesterday escorting H.T. "SIBAJAK" to R.V. with "SYDNEY". She will then proceed to Port Phillip. E.T.A. 1700 tomorrow, returning to Port Jackson by Wednesday 24th September.

"MANGORA" escorting "ZEALANDIA" and "MONTORO" departed Bowen at 0830 yesterday for Port Moresby. E.T.A. 0700 20th September.

"LITHGOW" departed Port Phillip at 1438 yesterday to rejoin 20th M.S.F. off Jervis Bay.

"KYBRA" departed Sydney for Jervis Bay on an A/S training cruise at 1854 yesterday.

H.M.A. SHIPS ABROAD

"CANBERRA" C. in C. East Indies intends sailing "CANBERRA" a.m. tomorrow from Trincomalee direct to Fremantle. E.T.A. 0800 26th September.

H.M.A.S. "NORMAN" commissioned 15th September under command of Commander H.M. Burrell.

C.A.S. and C.A.S. arrived Townsville 1700 yesterday from Port Moresby. CONVOYS today for Sydney and Canberra.

U.S. 12A, escorted by H.M.S. "CORNWALL", departed Trincomalee 1700, 16th September. had sunk a floating mine by rifle fire in a position approximately 3 miles N.W. from Bougainville light (HOSPITAL SHIPS).

"MANUNDA" arrived Sydney at 1330 yesterday. Vessel of 423 tons fitted out at Willoughby for Auxiliary M/S service, is to be commissioned on Home GENERAL 23 September.

A.M.S. vessel "TOOWOOMBA" will resume preliminary trials in Hervey Bay today.

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18/9/9



To 0900 Wednesday, 17th September, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"SYDNEY" departs Port Melbourne this afternoon for Westernport whence she sails a.m. Friday, 19th September to rendezvous with Convoy U.S.11B.

"MANOORA" escorting "ZEALANDIA" and "MONTORO" arrived Bowen 0700 yesterday and were expected to sail at 0800 this morning for Port Moresby.

20th M.S.F. carried out searching sweep to the northward of Gabo Island yesterday but sweeping was abandoned during the afternoon owing to heavy weather.

"STUART" departed Batavia 1030 yesterday for Fremantle. Steaming at 15 knots, her E.T.A. is 1430 Sunday, 21st September.

"MARYBOROUGH" will carry out repair trial in Port Phillip tomorrow and if satisfactory sail for Sydney the following morning.

CONVOYS

"U.S.12A." escorted by H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" arrived Trincomalee 1100 Monday, 15th September.

GENERAL

C.N.S. and C.A.S. arrived Townsville 1700 yesterday from Port Moresby. They leave today for Sydney and Canberra.

S.S. "NGAKUTA" bound from Hobart to Devonport, reported at 0930 yesterday she had sunk a floating mine by rifle fire in a position approximately 3 miles N.N.W. from Eddystone Light (NE Coast of Tasmania).

H.M.A.S. "WARRAWEE", a requisitioned vessel of 423 tons fitting out at Williamstown for Auxiliary M/S service, is to commission on Wednesday, 24th September.

H.M.A. SHIPS "ALLENWOOD" and "KIANGA" commissioned at Sydney yesterday for service as Auxiliary M/S vessels.

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Handwritten notes in red ink: a checkmark, "16/9", and "17/9".

Handwritten initials in blue ink: "AA" and "17/9".

To 0900 Tuesday, 16th September, 1941.

To 0900 Monday, 15th September, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION

H.M.A. SHIPS

- ✓ "STUART" at Batavia - thence Fremantle E.T.A. 21st September.
- ✓ "VOYAGER" passed Thursday Island 1215K/15th September for Cairns. E.T.A. 17th September.
- ✓ "INNISFAIL" arrived Sydney 1315K/15th September from Brisbane.
- ✓ "MORESBY" - survey operations vicinity TRINITY Passage, Barrier Reef.
- ✓ "LITHGOW" ordered to rejoin 20th M.S.F. off Jervis Bay 19th September.

U.S. 1EB - Departure of the New Zealand portion of U.S. 1EB. has been 24 hours.

HOSPITAL SHIPS

- ✓ "MANUNDA" arrived Port Melbourne 0815K/15th September, and sailed 1240K/15th for Sydney. E.T.A. 1001/17th September speed 13.5 knots.
- ✓ "WANGANELLA" arrived Singapore 15th September.

GENERAL

✓ H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" has disembarked her damaged aircraft No. A2-1 and embarked A2-11 to replace 1700K/13th September.

✓ 1st N.M. and C.A.S. are to leave Rabaul at 0830K/16th September for Port Moresby and leave Port Moresby 1330K/16th September for Townsville. E.T.A. (approx) 1630K/16th September.

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17/9

To 0900 Monday, 15th September, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION

H.M.A. SHIPS.

20th M.S.F. consisting of "WARREGO", "SWAN" and "MILDURA" expects to arrive in Sydney, after sweeping operations, at 0600 Saturday 20th September.

H.M.A. SHIPS ABROAD

"STUART" arrived Batavia from Singapore at 1830 yesterday.

CONVOYS

U.S.12B. - Departure of the New Zealand portion of U.S.12B. has been delayed for 24 hours.

HOSPITAL SHIPS

"MANUNDA" entered Port Phillip at 1942 yesterday and will berth at Port Melbourne this morning.

GENERAL

C.N.S. and C.A.S. arrived Rabaul last evening, and intend leaving by air this morning for Kavieng, returning to Rabaul P.M. today.

15/9

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15/9



To 0900 Saturday, 15th September, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

"SIDNEY" exercising in Port Phillip, returns today Saturday.

To 0900 Sunday, 14th September. 1200K/14th September.

"MANOORA" arrived Brisbane 1200K/12th September, escorting "ZEALANDIA" and "MONTORO".

"LYRA" arrived 6. OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION. /S Training Cruise.

H.M.A. SHIPS at Port Melbourne 1200K/15th September.

"VOYAGER" departed Darwin 0830 yesterday for Cairns, 15th September from Sydney. E.T.A. 1600 Wednesday, 17th September.

"SEALION" sailed Singapore 15th September for Australia via Batavia.

"MANOORA", escorting "ZEALANDIA" and "MONTORO", departed Brisbane 1450 yesterday for Bowen.

Lt. Commander C.J. Stephenson, R.N., assumed command of H.M.A.S. "VENETTA" 7th D.F. 1st September.

20th M.S.F., on completion of present operations in Bass Strait, will proceed to Sydney, where the Flotilla will be based for the present. 1400K in order to obtain a knowledge of the layout and functions of a Naval Training Base.

"BALLARAT", on completion working up, is to leave Melbourne for Sydney to be put over D.G. range, and will then join 20th M.S.F. Robe, South Australia, and a R.N.S. Party is being despatched by road.

The trawler "MARY ANN" reported at 1630K/12th September that her rudder had broken off in position off Tollgate Island (Waterman's Bay). Messrs. Cam and Sons have arranged for a ship to sail from Sydney to assist. GENERAL.

"MANOORA" reports her aircraft is unserviceable due to accident. C.N.S. and C.A.S. arrived Port Moresby yesterday afternoon, and leave this morning for Rabaul. 1500K/13th September.

Intended Progress of H.M.A.S. "VOYAGER"

The floating mine reported near Robe on Friday last, was recovered yesterday with 60 fathoms of mooring wire attached, and is estimated to have been laid eight months ago.

17th September	Darwin	13th September.
18th September	Cairns	15th September.
20th September	Brisbane	23rd September.
	Sydney	-

R.N.S. reports the following Flag Appointments:- Rear-Admiral McCreger as Additional A.C.M.S. 9th September, Dalrymple-Hamilton to Iceland 5th September and Moody as R.A. Naval Air Stations 30th September.

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To 0900 Saturday, 13th September, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"SYDNEY" exercising in Port Phillip, returns today Saturday.

"VOYAGER" arrived Darwin 0712K/12th September.

"MANOORA" arrived Brisbane 1535K/12th September, escorting "ZEALANDIA" and "MONTORO".

"KYBRA" arrived Sydney 0543K/12th September from A/S Training Cruise.

"BALLARAT" at Port Melbourne 1300K/12th September.

"MARRAWAH" arrived Port Melbourne 2300K/12th September from Sydney.

"STUART" sailed Singapore 12th September for Australia via Batavia.

GENERAL

Lt. Commander C.J. Stephenson, R.A.N., assumed command of H.M.A.S. "VENDETTA" 7th D.F. 1st September.

A Parliamentary Committee consisting of 8 Members will visit F.N.D. on Monday 15th September at 1400K in order to obtain a knowledge of the layout and functions of a Naval Training Depot.

A floating mine just off shore, is reported 1532K/12 September by the Police near Robe, South Australia, and a R.M.S. Party is being despatched by road.

The trawler "MARY CAM" reported at 1630K/12th September that her rudder had broken off in position off Tollgate Island (Bateman's Bay). Messrs. Cam and Sons have arranged for a ship to sail from Sydney to assist.

"MANOORA" reports her aircraft is unserviceable due to accident (not specified) and requests early replacement which Air Board are arranging. E.T.A. replacement noon 13th September.

Intended Programme of H.M.A.S. "VOYAGER".

<u>Arrive</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Depart</u>
17th September	Darwin	13th September.
21st September	Cairns	18th September.
25th September	Brisbane	23rd September.
	Sydney	-

N.L.O. reports the following Flag Appointments:- Rear-Admirals McGregor as Additional A.C.N.S. 9th September, Dalrymple-Hamilton to Iceland 5th September and Moody as R.A. Naval Air Stations 30th September.

*Handwritten:* AH 13/9

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*Signature:* Jess

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Friday, 12th September, 1941.

MOST SECRET.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

To 0900 Thursday, 11th September, 1941.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"VOYAGER" is due at Darwin today from Sourabaya.

"MORESBY" has arrived at Trinity Passage.

"INNISFAIL" departed Brisbane for Sydney at 1100 yesterday.  
E.T.A. 1800 14th September.

H.M.A. SHIPS ABROAD.

"STUART" arrived Singapore from Colombo yesterday.

OPERATIONS - ABROAD.

H.M.A.S. "MONOWAI" arrived Auckland yesterday.

U.S. Boeings left Darwin yesterday.

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"KISS" departed Sydney yesterday for exercises.

11/9  
~~11/9~~  
12/9

MR

Shu 12/9

SKG 12/9

DAILY NARRATIVE. 1941.

MOST SECRET.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA

To 0900 Thursday, 11th September, 1941., comprising

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"SYDNEY" has reverted to 4 hours' notice for steam and will leave Port Melbourne at 0830 tomorrow Friday for exercises in Port Phillip returning to Princes Pier 0900 the following morning.

20th M.S.F., comprising "WARREGO", "SWAN" and "MILDURA", departed Port Melbourne 0830 this morning. "LITHGOW" will rejoin Flotilla when repairs to oil fuel pump, estimated to require one week, have been effected.

"WARRNAMBOOL" completed steam trials satisfactorily yesterday.

"KYBRA" departed Sydney yesterday for exercises.

*[Faint text: ...has returned from Sydney to Port Phillip ... Examination Service Duties from ... "CLARE" which latter ship has returned to Sydney.]*

SPECIAL DESPATCH

*[Faint text: ...departed for Singapore. L.Y.S. 15th September.]*

SPECIAL

*[Faint text: ...of refit "VIGOR" is to relieve ... as a Maritime Vessel at Newcastle. ... Flying Fortress Aircraft landed at Port Moresby 8th September on passage from East Island to Darwin and Dampier. Proceeding to ... today.]*

*[Handwritten in red: 11/9]*

*[Handwritten in blue: 11/9]*

*[Handwritten signature]*

*[Handwritten in red: 11/9]*

1900 Wednesday, 10th September, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"WARREGO", "SWAN", "LITHCOW" and "MILDURA", comprising 20th M.S.F. are to sail 0630K/11 September for M/S operations in Bass Strait.

"CANBERRA" sailed Fremantle 2345H/9th September, escorting U.S.12A.

"BALLARAT" carrying out M/S trials in Port Phillip today.

"MANOORA" sailed 0001/10 for Brisbane. E.T.A. Cape Moreton noon 12th September, escorting "ZEALANDIA" and "MONTORO".

"MARRAWAH" sailed 0600K/9th for Sydney. E.T.A. 1300K/9.

H.M.A. SHIPS ABROAD.

"STUART" sailed Colombo 7th September for Singapore. E.T.A. 11th September.

EXAMINATION SERVICE.

H.M.A.S. "GERARD" has returned from Sydney to Port Kembla and taken over Examination Service Duties from H.M.A.S. "ST. GILES" which latter ship has returned to Sydney.

HOSPITAL SHIPS

"WANGANELLA" sailed Fremantle 0630H/9th September for Singapore. E.T.A. 15th September.

GENERAL

On completion of refit "ADELE" is to relieve "BIRUBI" as Examination Vessel at Newcastle.

9 Boeing Flying Fortress Aircraft landed at Port Moresby 8th September on passage from Wake Island to Darwin and Manila. Proceeding to Darwin today.

*Handwritten in red: 10/9*

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*Handwritten in black: 10/9*

*Handwritten in red: 9/9*

*Handwritten in black: [initials]*



DAILY NARRATIVE

to 0900 Tuesday, 9th September, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"CANBERRA" escorting U.S.12A arrived Fremantle 1001 yesterday. ✓

"SYDNEY" at Port Melbourne is at 12 hours' notice from 0800 this morning, making good defects, estimated to take 36 hours. ✓

"DOOMBA" after carrying out D.E.M.S. ratings' firing in Port Phillip, departed for sweeping operation in Bass Strait at 1630 yesterday. ✓

"KYBRA" returned to Sydney at 1425 yesterday from an A/S training cruise to Moreton Bay. ✓

"MARRAWAH" arrived Newcastle from Brisbane at 1329 yesterday. ✓

H.M.A. SHIPS ABROAD

"VOYAGER" after a delay of 24 hours in Sourabaya will now arrive Darwin at 0430 12th September. ✓

OPERATIONS - ABROAD

H.M.S. "LEANDER" arrived Wellington at 0340 yesterday and departed for Auckland 1543.

TRANSPORTS

H.T. "JOHAN VAN OLDENBARNEVELT" arrived Wellington 0625 7th September.

H.T. "AQUITANIA" escorted by H.M.S. "LEANDER" arrived Wellington 0340 yesterday.

HOSPITAL SHIPS

"MANUNDA" arrived Fremantle from Suez 1935 yesterday.

GENERAL

1. N.Z.N.B. ordered the Free French Cruiser "LE TRIOMPHANT" which left San Diego for Honolulu on 6th September, to sail from Honolulu for Papeete direct when ready.

2. H.M.A.S. "WARRNAMBOOL" completed gun trials satisfactorily yesterday. Owing to engine trouble, completion trial was deferred until tomorrow.

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9/9

9/9

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE

To 0900 Monday, 8th September, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"CANBERRA" escorting Convoy U.S.12A, comprising "QUEEN MARY" and "QUEEN ELIZABETH" is expected to arrive Fremantle this morning.

"SYDNEY" entered Port Phillip Heads 0600 this morning and berths Williamstown at 0900. After fuelling she will proceed to Princes Pier.

"LITHGOW" departed Sydney 1800 yesterday for Melbourne. E.T.A. 0500 Wednesday, 10th September.

GENERAL

HOSPITAL SHIP "WANGANELLA" arrived Fremantle yesterday from Melbourne.

A floating mine in position 00° 14' S., 148° 12' E. was reported by vessel "TAHOA" on passage to Launceston from Melbourne on 8/9/41. It was observed in bright sunlight from a distance of about 1000 yards and the mast of the ship occupied half the mine's bulk. A V.F. message has accordingly been signalled.

819

173 819

711

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

TO 0900 SUNDAY 7th SEPTEMBER, 1941.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"KYBRA" Arrived Newcastle 0823K/6th September.

"DURRAWEEEN" } To sail in Company at 0830K/8th September for  
"KOROWA" } M/S duties in Bass Strait.

"MARRAWAH" Sailed Brisbane 6th September for Melbourne via  
Newcastle E.T.A. 8th September.

H.M.A. SHIPS - ABROAD.

"STUART" Sails Colombo 7th September E.T.A. Singapore 11th  
September (speed 15 knots).

GENERAL.

A Floating Mine in position 40° 14' S., 146° 12' E. was reported by Master "TAROONA" on passage to Launceston from Melbourne at 0855K/6th September. It was observed in bright moonlight about 6 feet abreast foremast and the wash of the ship exposed half the mines bulk. A W.F. message has accordingly been signalled.

4/7/19 6

