

DAILY NARRATIVES FOR 15 JUNE 1940 AND 16 JUNE 1940 HAVE BEEN
INCORRECTLY BOUND INTO VOLUME ENCOMPASSING 1 JANUARY 1945 TO 30 JUNE 1945.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Tuesday, 31st December, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS

"BATHURST" completes working up programme today. On Thursday, 2nd January an efficiency trial of the propellers will be carried out when sweeping.

20th M.S.F. carried out further searching sweeps in Bass Strait yesterday with negative results.

"DURRAWEEEN" and "BERYL II" return to Williamstown today and coal.

"ADELE" (Examination Vessel) arrived Darwin yesterday.

"TOLGA" commissioned yesterday at Sydney under the command of Lieutenant-Commander J.H. Malley, R.A.N.

OPERATIONS - AIR.

Operations in connection with U.S.8 yesterday all resulted in negative reports.

Reconnaissance flights from Rabaul yesterday failed to identify one of three Japanese vessels sighted between Bougainville Is. and New Ireland.

CONVOYS AND TRANSPORTS.

U.S.8 expects to arrive Fremantle 0930K on Friday, 3rd January.

"MAURETANIA" departed Port Phillip yesterday morning and effected a rendezvous in Western Bass Strait with "QUEEN MARY", "AQUITANIA", "DOMINION MONARCH" and "AWATEA".

U.S.9 "NIEUW AMSTERDAM" passed Thursday Island yesterday and expects to arrive Sydney on Friday, 3rd January.

TASMAN CONVOY V.K.1. Comprising "EMPRESS of RUSSIA", "MAUNGANUI", "EMPIRE STAR" and "PORT CHALMERS" left Sydney yesterday for Auckland escorted by H.M.S. "ACHILLES". E.T.A. Auckland Friday, 3rd January.

PACIFIC RAIDERS.

According to information obtained from an intelligent Solomon native - presumably one of the crew of S.S. "WOTJON" - his ship was sunk by the raider "WARVIE" on 18th August and one British aircraft was shot down during the same month. The latter information is of particular interest in view of the fact that a Hudson operating from Ironsfield disappeared on 18th August and an air search revealed a patch of oil about 40 miles east of Sorobon Bay which, at the time, was considered to indicate the locality at which the plane was lost.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Monday, 30th December, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS

"MANCOORA" escorting S.S. "TRIENZA" arrived Samarai 0730 yesterday and later sailed for Ocean Island where they are due 1000 Friday, 3rd January.

"ADELAIDE" should arrive Noumea this morning.

20th M.S.F. yesterday carried out 62 1/2% searching sweep of Western Bass Strait Channel with negative result.

"DOOMBA" departed Sydney yesterday for searching sweep off Gabo, thence to Hobart to rejoin 20th M.S.F.

TRANSPORTS.

"MAURETANIA" having embarked troops at Port Melbourne sailed for Bay Anchorage yesterday afternoon and will rendezvous with Convoy U.S.8 in Western Bass Strait at 1800 today.

"ZEALANDIA" arrived Sydney yesterday afternoon.

AIR OPERATIONS.

A search with the object of locating enemy surface vessels and submarines commenced early this morning. Five Hudsons from Laverton are being employed in this search which extends for 300 miles between bearings of 185° and 256° from Cape Otway.

A/S patrol ahead of "MAURETANIA" will be maintained from the time she passes through Port Phillip Heads at about 0830 this morning until she joins Convoy U.S.8 this evening.

SUSPICIOUS SIGHTINGS.

A.C.H. Port Moresby reported that air searches yesterday located 2 ships in positions 6° 18' South, 153° 28' East and 6° 23' South, 153° 46' East at 1538K and 1605K respectively on course 175°. "DAKAR MARU" due Noumea approx. 3/1/41 and "MONTREAL MARU" due Adelaide approx 8/1/41 both from Japan direct are the only two ships that can be plotted in that area. A.C.H. Moresby advise that descriptions do not coincide with these two ships. The descriptions supplied are very general but could cover two of the enemy raiders. H.M.A.S. "MANCOORA" has been advised and a signal despatched to A.C.H. Port Moresby and "MANCOORA" to the effect that unless the ships can be identified control is to be exercised as in A.C.B. 0106 with the object of identification by "MANCOORA".

PACIFIC RAIDERS.

According to information obtained from an intelligent Noumean native - presumably one of the crew of S.S. "NOTOU" - his ship was sunk by the raider "NARVIK" on 16th August and one British aircraft was shot down during the same month. The latter information is of particular interest in view of the fact that a Hudson operating from Archerfield disappeared on 12th August and an air search revealed a patch of oil about 40 miles east of Moreton Bay which, at the time, was considered to indicate the locality in which the plane was lost.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

TO 30 SUNDAY 29th DECEMBER, 1940.

0930 Saturday, 29th December, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A.S. "HOBART" arrived at Fremantle yesterday. Arrangements were made for the public to be admitted to an adjacent wharf area, and for Reporters, Press and Newsreel photographers to obtain suitable publicity material. She sailed later for Sydney, and expects to arrive there on 3rd January.

H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE" left Suva yesterday and expects to arrive at Noumea on 30th December.

H.M.A.S. "WESTRALIA" entered the Australia Station on 27th December.

H.M.A.S. "MORESBY" has arrived at York Roads, Torres Strait, for special surveying duties.

H.M.A.S. "KYBRA" left Sydney yesterday for Jervis Bay with A/S training class.

20th M.S.F. departed Melbourne at midnight 28th/29th. On completion of searching sweeps for passage of H.T. "MAURETANIA" they are to carry out searching sweeps in Bass Strait, and in the approaches to Hobart, for the passage of H.T. "ZEALANDIA" from Hobart to Melbourne on 7th January.

AUXILIARY VESSELS.

OPERATIONS - AIR.

Air searches carried out yesterday for the protection of Convoy U.S.8 were negative.

The aircraft reported over Sydney on 17th December is not now considered to have been an enemy aircraft.

OPERATIONS AIR.

TRANSPORT.

H.T. "ZEALANDIA" expects to arrive Sydney today.

ENEMY RAIDERS - PACIFIC.

S.S. "NELLORE" with survivors from Emirau Island left Rabaul yesterday for Townsville and expects to arrive there on 1st January. The A.R.O. Nauru states that the Enemy Raider did not have Japanese markings or Japanese flag painted on her sides. She wore Nazi man-of-war flag and draped similar flags over each side amidships, and bore the name "Nanyo Maru" or "Manyo Maru". The Administrative Officer, Ellice Islands, who recently arrived at Suva reports that he visited all the Ellice Islands except Niutao and Niulakita (? Nurakita) between 22nd November and 3rd December, and saw nothing suspicious.

The seven selected survivors from Emirau Island arrived at Laverton yesterday and have been asked to be at Victoria Barracks at 0930 today for interrogation by Navy, Army and Air Force Representatives.

NAURU. The Raider "NANYO MARU" yesterday 27th Dec. before daylight warned the signal station at Nauru not to use W/T or the mast would be shot away. Soon after daylight, displaying the Nazi flag fire was opened with what appeared to be 2.5 guns on the cantilever loading arms, oil storage tanks and phosphate works and buildings.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Saturday, 28th December, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS

"CANBERRA" departed Sydney 0600 today escorting U.S.S.

"HOBART" is due at Fremantle today.

"ADELAIDE" arrived Suva yesterday morning escorting bullion ship
"WAIRUNA"

"MANOORA" departed Cairns on Thursday night 26th December, escorting
"TRIENZA" to Ocean Island expecting to arrive Thursday
2nd January, 1941. She has been routed so as to provide
some protection to "NELLOR" carrying survivors from
Emirau Is. to Townsville.

"DOOMBA", "ORARA", "SWAN" and "WARNEGO" will proceed to Hobart on
completion of searching sweeps for passage of Mauretania.

"ADELE" left Thursday Island yesterday and expects to arrive Darwin
on Tuesday, 31st December.

AUXILIARY VESSELS.

"TOLGA" is not now expected to commission until 0900K on Monday,
30th December.

"TERKA" it is anticipated will be ready for commissioning on 16th
February, 1941.

OPERATIONS AIR.

Five searches in all have been arranged today for the
departure of U.S.S from Sydney. They are with the object of
locating possible enemy surface craft, submarines or mines.
Three Hudson bombers are being based on Rabaul in view of the
possibility of Raiders operating in the area.

TRANSPORTS.

CONVOY U.S.S. Departed Sydney at 0700K today.

"ZEALANDIA" arrived Brisbane yesterday and later departed for Sydney.
E.T.A. 1800K tomorrow Sunday.

HOSPITAL SHIP.

"MANUNDA" departed Sydney yesterday and expects to arrive Fremantle
Friday, 3rd January.

VPACIFIC RAIDER ACTIVITIES.

NAURU. The Raider "MANYO MARU" yesterday 27th Dec. before daylight
warned the signal station at Nauru not to use W/T or the
mast would be shot away. Soon after daylight, displaying
the Nazi flag fire was opened with what appeared to be
5.9 guns on the cantilever loading arms, oil storage
tanks and phosphate works and buildings.

1000 FRIDAY 27th DECEMBER, 1942.

Heavy damage was done and all mooring buoys were sunk by Pom pom fire. There were no casualties amongst the Island population.

S.S. "RANGITANE" is considered to have had 11 passengers and crew killed in action.

S.S. "TURAKINA" fought an action lasting 2 1/2 hours and it is believed there are only 23 survivors out of a crew of possibly 50.

S.S. "KOMATA" when attacked had the Chief Officer killed and the 2nd officer later died of wounds.

S.S. "TRIONA" lost 4 of the Phillipino Crew and S.S. "TRIADIC" 1. The seven selected survivors due to leave Townsville by Hudson Plane at 0600K today for Melbourne.

GENERAL.

The members of the Newcastle Seamens Union decided yesterday not to man vessels until fitted with paravanes.

The following awards for distinguished service in the Mediterranean have been made:-

- D.S.O. Cdr. (E) L.S. Dalton, R.A.N.
- D.S.C. Sub.Lts. Thomas Cree, R.A.N.V.R. and James Griffin, R.A.N.V.R. mentioned in Despatches.
- Lieut. J. Simpson, R.A.N.R.(S).

Seven officers selected from the survivors at Emirau, transported by air, were landed at Port Moresby last night and after interrogation will be flown to Townsville today.

"WELLES" has orders to take all survivors at Emirau to Townsville.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

S.S. "BERWICK" (Captain I.M. Palmer, D.S.C.) escorting convoy S.S.5A, sighted a German 8-inch cruiser approximately 300 miles north of the Azores at 0948 B.S.T. 25th December. "BERWICK" reported 'X' turret out of action during the engagement and bad visibility enabled the enemy to escape.

GENERAL.

Flag of R.A.C.A.S. will be transferred temporarily to shore today, his office being located in Orient Company's building, Spring Street, Sydney.

NO T SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

TO 0900 FRIDAY 27th DECEMBER, 1940. 25th December, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"HOBART" due to arrive Fremantle tomorrow will proceed to Melbourne on completion of fuelling. 14 days leave is to be given to W.A. natives.

"WESTRALIA" departed Colombo 23rd December. E.T.A. Fremantle Thursday, 2nd January.

20th M.S.F. at noon yesterday completed searching sweep of Eastern side Bass Strait Channel with negative result. The Flotilla arrived Port Melbourne during the afternoon and has now been placed under Naval Board operational control.

"BATHURST" departed Williamstown 0900 yesterday for exercises in Port Phillip.

"VIGILANT" arrived Thursday Island yesterday.

EMIRAU ISLAND.

Prisoners on board the raider "NARVIC" were not landed at Emirau but the German captain inferred they would be put ashore at Nauru on 29th December. Raiders are stated to have accurate knowledge of shipping movements and survivors believe Merchant Navy recoding tables have fallen into enemy hands.

Seven officers selected from the survivors at Emirau, transported by air, were landed at Port Moresby last night and after interrogation will be flown to Townsville today.

S.S. "NELLORE" has orders to take all survivors at Emirau to Townsville.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "BERWICK" (Captain I.M. Palmer, D.S.C.) escorting convoy W.S.5A, sighted a German 8-inch cruiser approximately 360 miles north of the Azores at 0942 B.S.T. 25th December. "BERWICK" reported 'X' turret out of action during the engagement and bad visibility enabled the enemy to escape.

GENERAL.

Flag of R.A.C.A.S. will be transferred temporarily to shore today, his office being located in Orient Company's building, Spring Street, Sydney.

The Admiralty state that the Norwegian Trawler "OLE JACOB" was captured by a boarding party from a raider who represented herself as H.M.S. "ANTHONY" and signalled that she wished to examine "OLE JACOB"'s papers. It is believed that this ruse was employed on other occasions by this and possibly other raiders.

SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

Wednesday, To 0900 Thursday, 26th December, 1940.

OPERATIONS AUSTRALIA STATION.

"HMAS" departed Cairns p.m. on Monday 23rd December for the Survey Ground.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE" expects to arrive at Suva on 27th December.

H.M.S. "ACHILLES" will escort S.S. "EMPRESS OF RUSSIA", "PORT CHALMERS" and "EMPIRE STAR" from Sydney to Auckland, sailing 28th December. S.S. "MAUNGANUI" will sail in company and be detached later to proceed to Wellington.

20th M/S FLOTILLA yesterday carried out searching sweep of the Eastern side of Bass Strait channel.

H.M.A.S. "ADELE" arrived at Thursday Island yesterday and expects to sail for Darwin on 27th December.

H.M.A.S. "DOOMBA", on completion of refit, is to search an area off Gabo Island during daylight and at dark is to proceed to Melbourne to rejoin 20th M/S Flotilla.

MERCHANT SHIPPING RESTRICTIONS.

No ships are to be sailed for the N.E. coast of New Guinea and Islands in the N.E. area of the Australia Station, nor to proceed through this area, without permission of the Naval Board.

EMIRAU ISLAND.

An unidentified aeroplane was reported yesterday as passing The Flying Boat returning from Emirau Island to Port Moresby at noon today has been instructed to bring 6 selected survivors for interrogation.

Air clearing searches have been ordered for S.S. "NELLORE" proceeding from Kavieng to Emirau today.

Mr. Hopkins, Chief Officer S.S. "RANGITANE", considers Nauru in imminent danger of attack and the Nauru W/T operator disloyal. He also states that the enemy raiders used the big lagoon, Marshall Island, for transferring fuel, and guesses their base to be in the Ellice Islands. He considers the "KULMERLAND" is short of fuel and stores and is probably proceeding to Japan to replenish. His reasons for these assumptions are being ascertained.

Due to adverse weather conditions yesterday over New Guinea air operations were not possible. Emirau Island of the Bismark Sea under Australian RUSE EMPLOYED BY ENEMY RAIDERS. the Squatter and other vessels north of New Hanover. "NORVIA" and "NABU BANU" are stated in

The Admiralty state that the Norwegian Tanker "OLE JACOB" was captured by a boarding party from a raider who represented herself as H.M.S. "ANTENOR" and signalled that she wished to examine "OLE JACOB's" papers. It is believed that this ruse was employed on other occasions by this and possibly other raiders.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Tuesday, 24th December, 1940.

H.M.A. SHIPS

OPERATIONS AUSTRALIA STATION.

"MORESBY" departed Cairns p.m. on Monday 23rd December for the Survey Ground.

"LISMORE" Developed H.P. Piston Valve defects during preliminary progressive trials yesterday at Sydney. A run at full speed and consumption trials will be carried out on Monday, 30th December.

AUXILIARY VESSELS.

It is proposed to commission "TOLGA" at Sydney on Friday 27th December.

OPERATIONS - AIR.

A clearance search inside the Barrier Reef was carried out yesterday for "ZEALANDIA" with negative results.

TRANSPORTS AND CONVOYS.

"NIEUW AMSTERDAM" is expected to arrive at Thursday Island on Monday 30th December.

Introducing the convoy system from Australia to Nauru, it is intended to despatch the first known as convoy A.N.1. about 22nd January. H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" being the escort.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "MONOWAI" returns to Auckland on Saturday 28th December to boiler clean and resumes convoy duties 1st January.

INTELIGENCE

An unidentified aeroplane was reported yesterday as passing over Port Kembla at 4,000 feet.

AIR OPERATIONS.

A parachute is reported to have been observed descending from a height of about 3,000 feet yesterday near Warwick (South Brisbane).

PACIFIC RAIDER ACTIVITIES.

Three vessels reported to be the German "KULMERLAND" Norwegian "NARVIK" and Japanese "NANYO MARU" landed 500 survivors which included 70 women and 7 children on Emirau Island p.m. 21st December. They were the crews and passengers from the following vessels "RANGITANE", "TURAKINA", "TRIASTER", "TRIADIC", "TRIONA", "KOMATA", "VIMI", "HOLMWOOD", "BINGWOOD", "MOTOU" and Medical assistance is being flown today from Port Moresby to attend 10 wounded cases and s.s. "NELORE" is proceeding to embark the survivors. Owing to adverse weather conditions yesterday over New Guinea air operations were not possible. Emirau Island of the Bismark Group under Australian Mandate lies 100 miles south of the Equator and 45 miles north of New Hanover. "NARVIK" and "NANYO MARU" are stated in the report to be capable of 22½ knots armed with eight 8 inch guns, 2 torpedo tubes, multiple pom poms and 3 bomber seaplanes. There is no mention of survivors of the "Port Brisbane" and "MAIMOA" sunk 1000 miles west of Fremantle.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

0900 Tuesday, 24th December, 1940.

H.M.A. SHIPS

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS

"ADELAIDE" will sail from Suva so as to visit Noumea from Monday, 30th December, until a.m. Wednesday, 1st January to shew the Flag.

"MANCOORA" arrived Cairns yesterday whence she will escort S.S. "TRIENZA" to Ocean Island and Nauru.

20th M.S.F. yesterday abandoned sweeping operations to Westward Kangaroo Island and is now proceeding so as to search Eastern side of Bass Strait channel tomorrow and the next day. The Flotilla will arrive Port Melbourne on Friday, 27th December and after fuelling depart the following day to search Western side of Bass Strait Channel.

"BATHURST" when exercising in Port Phillip yesterday developed E.R. defects and is now alongside at Williamstown.

"KANGAROO" sailed from Sydney this morning for Darwin (due to arrive 14th January) calling at Townsville and Thursday Island.

"KYBRA", with A/S training class embarked, will leave Sydney Saturday, 28th December for Jervis Bay returning Friday, 3rd January.

"VIGILANT", arrived Cairns and departed for Thursday Island yesterday. E.T.A. 0800 Thursday, 26th December.

HOSPITAL SHIP "MANUNDA" sails from Sydney Friday, 27th December, for Middle East via Fremantle, Colombo and Aden.

AIR OPERATIONS.

A clearing search for H.T. "ZEALANDIA" by two Hudson aircraft from Townsville commenced at 0530 this morning covering an area inside Barrier Reef between 19° 30'S and 20°S.

GENERAL.

H.M.S. "NIZAM", temporarily commissioned for trials on 19th December, is expected to commission on or about 9th January, 1941.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

0900 Monday, 23rd December, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS

H.M.A.S. "MANOCRA" is due to arrive at Cairns at 1600K today.

H.M.A.S. "MORESBY" arrived at Cairns yesterday, and after refuelling continue on to Sydney.

H.M.A.S. "VIGILANT" is due to arrive at Cairns at 1100K today.

20th M.S.F. yesterday swept up a mine in a position approximately 10 miles East of the position in which S.S. "HERTFORD" was mined.

H.M.S. "ACHILLES", escorting H.T.'s "EMPRESS of RUSSIA" and "DOMINION MONARCH", is due to arrive at Sydney today.

OPERATIONS - AIR.

A clearing search for H.T. "ZEALANDIA" is to be carried out by an aircraft from Townsville commencing 1300K today, and is to be inside reef between 17°S and 20°S.

H.M.A.S. "BATHURST" returned to Station Pier yesterday on completion of exercises in Port Phillip.

H.M.A.S. "DOONAN" is not now expected to complete until p.m. on Sunday 24th December.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "MONOWAI" left Auckland yesterday to escort Convoy A.P.1., consisting of S.S.'s "PORT TOWNSVILLE" and "REMUTAKA", for 48 hours from Cape Brett.

H.M.A.S. "FADELE" (Examination Vessel) arrived Cairns on Friday night and expects to resume the voyage to Thursday Island and Darwin today.

ANTI-TORPEDO BOOM - FREMANTLE.

H.M.A.S. "LITHGOW" was launched from Morts Dock Sydney yesterday. A single line of defence has been laid and has been operating as from 1400 Saturday 21st December.

A safety Perimeter patrol for "QUEEN MARY" with one aircraft from 0400K to 0600K and 2 aircraft from 1745K to 1800K is being carried out daily at Sydney. An A/S Search employing 2 aircraft is carried out daily between Barenjory and Port Kembla.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

H.M.A.S. "SYDNEY" is expected to dock at Malta tomorrow (25th December) after repairs to her rudder estimated to take 3 days.

H.M.S. "APRIS" entered the inner harbour at Bardia 17th December under heavy machine gun fire and sank 3 small ships.

INTELLIGENCE.

An object identified as a small mine of an unknown type with one horn has been washed ashore, 3 miles east of Esperance Western Australia. Photographs are being forwarded.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

OST SECRET.

o 0900 Sunday December 22nd, 1940.

M.A. SHIPS. OPERATIONS AUSTRALIA STATION.

M.A.S. "CANBERRA." Expects to undock p.m. on Tuesday 24th December.

M.A.S. "HOBART." It is expected will arrive Fremantle about Saturday 28th December and after refuelling continue on to Sydney.

M.A.S. "MANOORA." After a two hour stay at Thursday Island departed for Cairns at 2305K yesterday. E.T.A. 1600K tomorrow Monday.

M.A.S. "MORESBY." Arrives Cairns at noon today.

20th M.S.F. A 62 1/2% searching sweep was carried out yesterday Westward of Kangaroo Island with negative results. Today an exploratory sweep is in progress of the area in which S.S. "HERTFORD" was mined. Sweeping of the searched channels in Western Bass Strait are to take place 29th and 30th December for the departure of "MAURETANIA" to rendezvous with U.S.S.

M.A.S. "SWAN." Landed an urgent surgical case at Port Lincoln midnight last night.

M.A.S. "BATHURST." Returned to Station Pier yesterday on completion of exercises in Port Phillip.

M.A.S. "DOOMBA." Is not now expected to complete until p.m. on Sunday 29th December.

M.A.S. "BERYL 11." Departed Williamstown yesterday to rejoin Group 58 sweeping in Bass Strait.

M.A.S. "ADELE." (Examination Vessel) arrived Cairns on Friday night and expects to resume the voyage to Thursday Island and Darwin today.

M.A.S. "LITHGOW." Was launched from Morts Dock Sydney yesterday.

OPERATIONS AIR.

A safety Perimeter patrol for "QUEEN MARY" with one aircraft from 0400K to 0530K and 2 aircraft from 1745K to 1900K is being carried out daily at Sydney. An A/S Search employing 2 aircraft is carried out daily between Barenjory and Port Kembla.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

M.A.S. "SYDNEY." Is expected to dock at Malta tomorrow (23rd December) to effect repairs to her rudder estimated to take 8 days.

M.S. "APHIS." Entered the inner harbour at Bardia 17th December under heavy machine gun fire and sank 3 small ships.

INTELLIGENCE.

An object identified as a small mine of an unknown type with one horn has been washed ashore, 8 miles west of Esperance Western Australia. Photographs are being forwarded.

There is no indication at present as to how or where these breaks occurred.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Saturday, 21st December, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS

"ADELAIDE" has revised orders to escort bullion ship "WAIRUNA" to Fiji and after refuelling at Suva will provide whatever cover practicable for Swedish vessel "KOOKABURRA" bound from Balboa to Brisbane with valuable cargo. "ADELAIDE" is required to escort "ZEALANDIA" from Hobart to Melbourne about 7th January.

"MANOORA" has amended orders to escort H.T. "ZEALANDIA" as far as Cairns whence the latter proceeds to Sydney independently. "MANOORA" will then escort S.S. "TRIENZA" from Cairns to Ocean Island and Nauru.

"WARREGO" } departed Adelaide about noon yesterday to carry out
"SWAN" } exploratory sweep to Westward of Kangaroo Island.
"ORARA" will sail from Adelaide on Monday next to rejoin flotilla.

"BATHURST" berthed Station Pier, Port Melbourne last night and sailed at 0830 this morning for M/S exercises in Port Phillip returning alongside at 1300 today.

"ADELE" on passage to Darwin called at Townsville yesterday for water and will coal at Cairns this morning.

Hospital Ship "MANUNDA" Army intend to arrange departure date from Sydney.

H.M.A. SHIPS ABROAD.

"HOBART" } Approximate arrival dates at Fremantle according to
"WESTRALIA" } present orders 28th December and 2nd January respectively.

CONVOYS AND TRANSPORTS.

U.S.7 arrived Suez December 15th.

U.S.8 "EMPRESS of RUSSIA" and "DOMINION MONARCH", escorted by H.M.S. "ACHILLES", sailed from Wellington 0530 yesterday for Sydney. E.T.A. 0400 Monday, 23rd December.

"QUEEN ELIZABETH" will probably be available for service towards the end of March when the Admiralty desire her to operate with "QUEEN MARY" and "NIEUW AMSTERDAM" on a 6-week cycle between Australia and Ceylon, their total capacity being about 16,000 troops.

FOR GENERAL.

According to information received from the G.P.O. last night, the two cables between Singapore and Hong Kong are broken as is that between Shanghai and Nagasaki and Singapore is cut off from Bangkok via Saigon.

There is no indication at present as to how or where these breaks occurred.

GENERAL.

"SABER" is being fitted with a magnetic shield in view of recent reports of enemy activities.
"SABER" was commissioned for service as an Auxiliary

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Friday, 20th December, 1940.

To 0900 Thursday, 19th December, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS

"CANBERRA" arrived at Sydney this morning to be docked for repairs to the Port Outer Propeller Shaft.

"ADELAIDE" sailed yesterday from Sydney escorting S.S. "WAIRUNA". She intends to escort her until 24th December, and expects to return to Sydney on 27th December. Revised orders are to be issued today instructing her to proceed to Suva.

"MANOORA" escorting H.T. "ZEALANDIA" left Darwin yesterday for Thursday Island.

"BATHURST" entered Port Phillip yesterday.

AIR OPERATIONS.

Air Intelligence, Richmond, reported a heavy explosion at 0800 on 19th December between Norah Head and Newcastle. Nothing was heard or seen from Norah Head or Catherine Hill Bay, and an air search was negative.

At 2335 on 19th December the pilot of a R.A.A.F. aircraft reported having sighted a supposed submarine in a position approximately 8 miles East of Port Kembla. He opened his bomb doors and proceeded to attack, but lost sight of the target. He later reported 2 ships in this area and one of them, S.S. "BOMBO", should have been in the vicinity of the supposed submarine. He was recalled for investigation of details and it transpired that the supposed submarine was not sighted by the 1st Pilot but only by the 2nd Pilot. The latter estimated it to have been 2 or 3 miles away and in the path of the moon.

Air searches commenced at 0330 on 20th December and were negative.

H.M.A. SHIPS OVERSEAS.

H.M.A.S. "PERTH" will escort a convoy to Suez, arriving 23rd December, and is then to join the Mediterranean Fleet.

H.M.A.S. "HOBART" after fuelling at Addu Atoll is to proceed to position 2°N, 83°E and then to Fremantle.

H.M.A.S. "WESTRALIA" will leave Colombo on 23rd December for Fremantle.

PORT MORESBY.

The 3 and 4 fathoms patches in the vicinity of the pier at Port Moresby have been removed, and there is now a depth of water of 30 feet at L.W.O.S.

GENERAL.

H.M.A.S. "KYBRA" is being fitted with a Magnetic Skid in view of recent report of enemy activities.
 H.M.A.S. "GUNBAR" was commissioned for service as an Auxiliary Minesweeper on 18th December.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Thursday, 19th December, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS

"ADELAIDE" sails from Sydney today escorting bullion ship "WAIRUNA"

"MANOORA" arrived Darwin p.m. 17th December.

"KYBRA" arrived Sydney yesterday from Jervis Bay.

"BERYL II" returned to Williamstown yesterday for engine repairs and will rejoin Group 58 on Saturday, 21st December.

"KANGAROO" docked at Sydney yesterday.

OPERATIONS AIR.

The three searches carried out yesterday on the Queensland and N.S.W. coasts to locate possible enemy surface vessels or submarines proved negative.

2 Wirraways carried out a safety perimeter patrol between 1745 and 1900K yesterday providing protection for "QUEEN MARY" at Sydney.

CONVOY U.S.S.

"AWATEA" on arrival at Sydney tomorrow 20th Dec. will remain and embark troops ex "EMPRESS of RUSSIA" in that port together with war equipment and service stores. It appears likely that "EMPRESS of RUSSIA" and "DOMINION MONARCH" will be escorted to Sydney by H.M.S. "ACHILLES".

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

During the bombardment of Bardia 14th - 15th December by a heavy Naval unit an "E" boat attack on this unit proved unsuccessful and an Italian submarine was sunk by destroyers.

SUSPICIOUS SIGHTINGS AND RAIDER REPORTS.

The identity of the seaplane which flew over Sydney on Tuesday, 17th December, has not been established.

Yesterday an aircraft was reported flying over Port Kembla at 15,000 ft. and was considered suspicious but later was identified as a Gannett machine from Mascot. At 0217 today S.S. "IRON KING" from Port Kembla to Melbourne sent out the "attacked by raider" signal in a position 8 miles East of Deal Island. Cancellation of this report was received at 0445. H.M.A.S. "CANNBERRA" was known to be in the vicinity and it is thought that she was the ship referred to. 3 aircraft from Laverton were about to carry out a search of the area but did not take off.

searchlight in the submarine's position.

The DAILY NARRATIVE at Newcastle were closed and lights extinguished and S.S. "HERTFORD" was instructed to put all possible into operation.
To 0900 Wednesday, 18th December, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS H.A.C.A.S. will arrive Laverton p.m. today in aircraft
"CANBERRA".

20th M.S.F. less "ORARA" will leave Adelaide Friday, 20th December to carry out an exploratory sweep in vicinity of the position in which S.S. "HERTFORD" was mined on 7th December. "ORARA", on completion of boiler cleaning, will rejoin Flotilla on Monday next.

"DOOMBA" docked at Cockatoo 0800 this morning. is to be appointed
and will leave Australia shortly for U.S.A.

"NAMBUCCA") are to be sailed from Sydney as soon as practicable for
"COOLEBAR") Adelaide whence they will operate in future.

"MORESBY" departed Sydney 1800 yesterday for Townsville and is now under Naval Board operational control.

"BATHURST" leaves Westernport at noon tomorrow Thursday, for Port Phillip and will come under operational control of D.N.O. Victoria while carrying out working up practices.

"ADELE" departed Brisbane yesterday for Cairns arriving p.m. Saturday, 21st December.

AIR OPERATIONS.

With the object of locating enemy surface craft and/or submarine, air operations on a large scale are being carried out from Sydney today.

CONVOY U.S.8.

Itinerary has been amended as follows:-

"AWATEA" due Sydney Friday, 20th December and on completion disembarkation of passengers returns to New Zealand to embark approximately 680 troops and sail with "DOMINION MONARCH" on Thursday, 26th December to rendezvous with "QUEEN MARY" and "AQUITANIA" at 0500 Sunday, 29th December.

"QUEEN MARY" and "AQUITANIA" leave Sydney 0700 Saturday, 28th December.

"MAURETANIA" embarks troops Sunday, 29th December and sails a.m. Monday, 30th December to rendezvous in Western Bass Strait at 1500 the same day.

U.S.8 due Fremantle Friday, 3rd January and Colombo Sunday, 12th January, 1941.

SUSPICIOUS SIGHTINGS.

At 1750 yesterday a report was received from C.O.I.C. that Army Coast Defence had sighted an unidentified seaplane 15,000 feet over Sydney at 1640. Richmond ordered an air search to locate possible parent ship of seaplane and at 1936 one of the searching planes reported a submarine about 60' S.E. of Sydney but was unable to take offensive action as she had no bombs. The aircraft reported at 1958 that she had lost touch with the submarine and half an hour later sighted what appeared to be a

searchlight in the submarine's position.

The Ports of Sydney and Newcastle were closed and lights extinguished and N.O.C.S. was instructed to put all possible anti-submarine and anti-aircraft measures into operation.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

GENERAL.

R.A.C.A.S. will arrive Laverton p.m. today in aircraft from H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA".

Bay yesterday for Sub-calibre firing and opportunity will be taken to carry out Captain G.D. Yates, R.N. assumed command of Flinders Naval Depot yesterday.

The Commonwealth Government has approved the appointment of an Australian Naval Attache to the Australian Legation at Washington. Commander H.M. Burrell is to be appointed temporarily and will leave Australia shortly for U.S.A.

"BATHURST" arrived Westernport yesterday.

"KYRRA" left Sydney yesterday for Jervis Bay with A/S training classes embarked.

"HMS II" left Melbourne yesterday to join "DURRAWEN" and "KOROWA" in Bass Strait.

20th M.S.F. arrived Port Adelaide yesterday for boiler cleaning.

OPERATIONS AIR.

Air searches were made at daylight this morning from Archerfield and Richmond with the object of locating any suspicious surface vessels.

CONVOY U.S.S.

S.S. "ANATKA" is to take the place of the "EMPRESS OF RUSSIA" owing to the low speed of the latter, and consequent risk of damage to "QUEEN MARY".

H.M.A. SHIPS OVERSEAS.

The Admiralty have agreed to the Naval Board's proposals that, in view of the increasing Enemy Raider activities in Australian waters, H.M.A.S. "WESTRALIA" is to return to Australia as soon as possible, and H.M.A.S. "SYDNEY" is to return on relief by H.M.S. "SOUTHAMPTON". The latter is due at Suez about 27th December. In view of the need for fast modern minesweepers in the Mediterranean the first pair of "BATHURST" Class will go there, 2nd pair to remain in Australia, and 3rd pair go to Mediterranean.

GENERAL.

H.M.S. "COVENTRY" has been hit right forward by a torpedo from a U boat, but has arrived in harbour only slightly damaged.

Libyan Operations. Sollum escarpment road was harassed on 11th December for 24 hours, Monitors and gun-boats firing continuously, using gas-pops when enemy personnel left their vehicles. Shore batteries replied but no ship was hit.

SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Tuesday, 17th December, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS

"MANCOORA" left Napier Broome Bay yesterday for Sub-calibre firing and return to Darwin. Opportunity will be taken to carry out reconnaissance exercises by aircraft, H.M.A.S. "MANCOORA" having dual role of suspicious vessel and British A.M.C. Later a Spray target will be streamed and attacked by Striking Force.

"MORESBY" leaves Sydney today and expects to arrive at Townsville on 21st December.

"BATHURST" arrived Westernport yesterday.

"KYBRA" left Sydney yesterday for Jervis Bay with A/S training classes embarked.

"BERYL II" left Melbourne yesterday to join "DURRAWEE" and "KOROWA" in Bass Strait.

20th M.S.F. arrived Port Adelaide yesterday for boiler cleaning.

OPERATIONS AIR.

Air searches were made at daylight this morning from Archerfield and Richmond with the object of locating any suspicious surface vessels.

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Libyan Operations. Sollum escarpment road was harassed on 11th December for 24 hours, Monitors and gun-boats firing continuously, using pom-poms when enemy personnel left their vehicles. Shore batteries replied but no ship was hit.

To 0800 Sunday, 15th December, 1940.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0800 Monday, 16th December, 1940. STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA. STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"BATHURST" departed Sydney on Saturday and is due at Westernport today.

20th M.S.F. sweeping yesterday to the Westward of Kangaroo Island proved negative and "WARREGO" and "SWAN" proceeded to Adelaide. On completion of boiler cleaning an exploratory sweep will be carried out in the vicinity of the position in which "HERTFORD" was mined to the Westward of Kangaroo Is.

Group 58. Continues sweeping in Bass Strait today. (S.C.F.L.)

"ADOLE" arrived Brisbane yesterday afternoon and will sail at noon tomorrow OPERATIONS AIR. and Thursday Island en route to Darwin.

Air searches took place a.m. and p.m. yesterday in South Australian waters and Bass Strait with the object of locating a possible submarine.

A reconnaissance flight was carried out on the Queensland coast yesterday to locate a possible minelayer.

The Empire flying boat from Rabaul carried out a search yesterday to locate the presence of raiders in the area.

All the above mentioned operations are being repeated today.

"EXPRESS OF RUSSIA" arrived Wellington yesterday.

Freight Ship "LARGE TRANSPORTS" left Port Melbourne yesterday for Fremantle and The Cape.

"ZEALANDIA" it is anticipated will be ready to leave Darwin on Thursday 19th December for Thursday Island.

SHIPPING ACCIDENT.

"QUEEN ELIZABETH" arrived Singapore 13th December.

At 0800 this morning S.S. "CARDROSS" of 1898 tons gross (James Patrick & Co., Ltd.), bound from Sydney to Melbourne, broadcast an S.C.S. NAURU. stating she had been in collision and was sinking in a position 20 miles south of Sydney.

S.S. "SILKSWORTH" in the vicinity of Ocean Island during the recent raider activities has arrived at Suva. There is no further news of the remaining vessels involved at the time "TRIASTER", "TRIADIC", "TRIONA", "VINI" and "KOMATA". Wreckage from the last named ship has been washed up on Ocean Island a distance of 160 miles from Nauru in a S.E. direction.

INTELLIGENCE.

The Consul-General at Harbin reports that he has received information of the arrival in Japan of 5 or 6 hundred German Naval officers and special ratings believed to be for the purpose of manning raiders and possibly submarines. He grades the report as class "A" for reliability.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Sunday, 15th December, 1940.

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

"CANBERRA" wearing flag F.O.C.A.S. arrived Fremantle early yesterday morning and sailed at 1856 for Sydney where she is due a.m. Friday, 20th December.

20th M.S.F. on completion of sweeping to westward of Kangaroo Island today will proceed to Adelaide for fuel and boiler cleaning.

Aux. M/S Group 58 ("DURRAWEEEN" and "KOROWA") departed Williamstown and anchored off Portsea yesterday.

"NAMBUCCA" } arrived Sydney yesterday afternoon from Newcastle.
"TONGKOL" }

"ADELE" arrived Brisbane yesterday afternoon and will sail at noon tomorrow for Cairns and Thursday Island en route to Darwin.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.A.S. "HOBART" has been directed by C. in C. East Indies to adjust her speed so as to arrive Colombo Tuesday, 17th December.

H.M.S. "ACHILLES" is proceeding to Wellington.

CONVOY AND FREIGHTSHIP.

U.S.S. "EMPRESS OF RUSSIA" arrived Wellington yesterday.

Freight Ship "LARGS BAY" departed Port Melbourne yesterday for Fremantle and The Cape.

SHIPPING ACCIDENT.

At 0300 this morning S.S. "CARDROSS" of 1896 tons gross (James Patrick & Co.Ltd.), bound from Sydney to Melbourne, broadcast an S.O.S. message stating she had been in collision and was sinking in a position 20 miles south of Sydney. Subsequent messages indicated she had collided with S.S. "FIONA" owned by C.S.R. Co. and was making water rapidly. H.M.A.S. "HEROS" happened to be patrolling at the outer end of searched channel at the time and at once proceeded to render assistance. "HEROS" took "CARDROSS" in tow and 4 tugs were despatched, on owner's account, to stand by the vessels. At 0735 "CARDROSS" sank without loss life and "FIONA" is returning to Harbour.

GENERAL.

Admiralty has decided to widen the zone for promotion from Captain to Rear-Admiral so that Captains of outstanding merit may rise to Flag rank earlier than is possible at present.

H.M.A.S. "PARRAMATTA" was taken in hand for docking and minor repairs at Rosby on 10th December, and will be ready for service on 14th December.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Saturday, 14th December, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS

"CANBERRA" is due to arrive at Fremantle today.

"MANCOORA" after escorting "ZEALANDIA" from Darwin to Thursday Island will probably be required to proceed to Nauru with the object of protecting shipping in the vicinity of Nauru and Ocean Island.

"BERYL II" has been ordered to cease diving operations until further orders and to proceed to Williamstown.

20th M.S.F. are carrying out exploratory sweeps to the Westward of Kangaroo Island.

"NAMBUCCA" and "TONGKOL" arrived at Newcastle yesterday.

"COOLEBAR" is to be docked at Sydney on 16th December.

CONVOY U.S.8.

Owing to the breakdown of H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" and the delay in the arrival of H.M.A.S. "HOBART" in Australian waters, it is intended to delay the sailing of Convoy U.S.8 from Sydney until 28th December. This will allow H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" to act as escort from Sydney.

AUXILIARY VESSELS.

Amended Commissioning dates are:- "GUNBAR", 18th December, "TOLGA" 24th December, "TERKA" 8th January.

AIR OPERATIONS.

Air searches yesterday for possible enemy minelayer and submarine were negative. Five aircraft from Laverton carried out a negative search off Western Victoria for a possible enemy submarine this morning, and an aircraft from Archerfield is to try and identify an unknown vessel reported off Townsville yesterday.

HOSPITAL SHIP.

"MANUNDA" departs Melbourne today for Sydney, and expects to arrive there on 16th December.

H.M.A. SHIPS OVERSEAS.

H.M.A.S. "HOBART" left Aden on 12th December and is proceeding to Colombo. The Commander-in-Chief, East Indies, has been informed that as the sailing of U.S.8 has been postponed there is now no need for her to proceed with despatch.

H.M.A.S. "PARRAMATTA" was taken in hand for docking and minor repairs at Bombay on 10th December, and will be ready to 0300 for service on 22nd December.

OPERATIONS NAURU AUSTRALIA STATION.

S.S. "KAIKORAI" arrived at Suva on 13th December from Nauru.

S.S. "KOMATA" arrived off Nauru on 6th December, the same day as S.S. "TRIADIC", and has not since been heard of. An ear marked "KOMATA" was washed up on Ocean Island on 12th December.

REPORTED POSSIBLE SIGHTING OF SUBMARINE.

At 2100 on 4th December the Master of S.S. "MURADA" bound from Adelaide to Melbourne when approaching the swept channel North of King Island sighted about 200 feet on the beam a white phosphorescent patch approximately 150 feet in diameter. With binoculars he saw in the middle of the patch a black object, approximately 5 feet out of the water and 6 to 8 feet long. The white patch appeared to cross astern. He now considers this may have been a submarine.

Yesterday, four aircraft were flown from Laverton to begin a search at daylight of the coastline from Port Fairy to Adelaide and in the vicinity of GENERAL Island. Training aircraft from Parafield are also searching in Spencer Gulf.

32 out of the 50 Town class Destroyers have arrived in the United Kingdom from America. Parafield is carrying out a search within a radius of 100 miles from Cape Moreton to seaward this morning.

Air searches are operating in the focal areas off Fremantle and Darwin this morning.

HOSPITAL SHIP.

"KARARA" arrived yesterday and berthed at Station Pier Port Melbourne this morning.

CONVOYS.

Owing to the defect developed in H.M.A.S. "CARRARA" C. to C. East Indies has been asked to make H.M.A.S. "HEBART" available to carry out the escort of H.M.A.S. from the Great Australian Bight to Celebs.

OPERATIONS ABROAD.

H.M.A.S. "KAIKORAI" arrives Suva Monday, 16th December to fuel and return to Auckland arriving Friday, 20th December.

H.M.A.S. "CARRARA" mined off Orfordness 8th December has arrived in port.

GENERAL.

S.S. "GENERAL" ashore at Barren Heads was reported on fire at 0300X today.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Friday, 13th December, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS

"MANCOORA" arrived Napier Broome Bay yesterday. On completion of landing R.A.A.F. building material and carrying out W/T trials she will return to Darwin for escort duties with "ZEALANDIA".

20th M.S.F. yesterday carried out a 62½% sweep in Backstairs Passage and on the shipping route to the S.E. with negative results. Today exploratory sweeps are to be carried out to the Westward of Kangaroo Island.

AIR OPERATIONS.

Following a report by the pilot of the Douglass Air Liner from Melbourne to Adelaide stating that a submarine was sighted in a position 15 miles N.N.W. of Kingston S.A. at 1945K yesterday, four aircraft were flown from Laverton to begin a search at daylight of the coastline from Port Fairy to Adelaide and in the vicinity of Kangaroo Island. Training aircraft from Parafield are also searching in Spencer Gulf.

One aircraft from Archerfield is carrying out a search within a radius of 100⁰ from Cape Moreton to seaward this morning.

Air searches are operating in the focal areas off Fremantle and Darwin this morning.

HOSPITAL SHIP.

"MANUNDA" arrived yesterday and berthed at Station Pier Port Melbourne this morning.

CONVOYS.

Owing to the defect developed in H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" C. in C. East Indies has been asked to make H.M.A.S. "HOBART" available to carry out the escort of U.S.8 from the Great Australian Bight to Colombo.

OPERATIONS ABROAD.

H.M.S. "MONOWAI" arrives Suva Monday, 16th December to fuel and return to Auckland arriving Friday, 20th December.

H.M.S. "WINDSOR" mined off Orfordness 8th December has arrived in port.

GENERAL.

S.S. "ORUNGAL" ashore at Barwon Heads was reported on fire at 0300K today.

SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

Sloops 3
To 0900 Thursday, 12th December, 1940. Vessels 34
Fast Liners & D.M.S. 197

Merchant OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS

An order has been made under National Security
"CANBERRA" on Monday, 9th December searched in vicinity Sunda Strait
for French vessel "SONTAX" without success and is now knots
proceeding Fremantle arriving Saturday, 14th December.
"CANBERRA" has again experienced trouble with port outer
shaft which will probably necessitate docking.

"MANOORA" departed Darwin at 0930 yesterday for Napier Broome Bay
(270' S.W. of Darwin) to land building material at Drysdale
Mission for R.A.A.F. It was yesterday declared open to ships
proceeding to St. Vincent and Spencer Gulf Ports.

20th M.S.F. delayed by heavy weather failed to reach the area before
dark on Tuesday and consequently no sweeping was carried out.
Yesterday the Flotilla swept a channel 12 cables wide in
Backstairs passage and approach thereto with negative result.
Operations will be resumed today.

"KYBRA", with A/S training classes embarked, will leave Sydney
Monday, 16th December for Jervis Bay returning the following
Friday.

"NAMBUCCA" and "TONGKOL" from Sydney and "UKI" from Newcastle commenced
a searching sweep between Sydney and Newcastle yesterday.
No progress report has yet been received.

"ADELE" departed Sydney yesterday for Darwin. Probable programme is
Brisbane Saturday 14th, Cairns Friday 20th and Thursday
Island Tuesday 24th December. E.T.A. Darwin Sunday, 29th
December.

AIR OPERATIONS.

Two aircraft from Archerfield flew off at daylight
this morning to search an area between Cape Byron and Sandy Cape to a
depth of 100 miles to seaward.

Three aircraft from General Reconnaissance School at
Laverton will carry out navigational exercises today commencing at
0930.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "ENTERPRISE" after a short refit at Simonstown is to be sailed
for East Indies Station early in the New Year.

"CARNARVON CASTLE", damaged during recent action with raider, is
~~to be sailed for East Indies Station early in the New Year~~
proceeding to Simonstown for repairs.

D.E.M.S.

The weekly armament statement issued by D.O.T.M. to
member gives vessels already armed as:-

2.

Sloops	3	Boom Defence Vessels	3
A.M.C.'s	5	War Auxiliary Vessels	24
Fast Liners & D.E.M.S.	197		

Merchant Vessels	(Degaussed	61
	(Fitted P.V.'s	74

An order has been made under National Security regulations making the fitting of paravanes compulsory in ships on Australian register of over 800 tons and speed not less than 9 knots. Preference is to be given ships over 3,000 tons.

GENERAL.

Backstairs passage, closed following the mining of S.S. "HERTFORD" on Saturday last, yesterday declared open to ships proceeding to St. Vincent and Spencer Gulf Ports.

"WATERLOO" is expected to sail for Western Port on Saturday, 14th December.

AIR OPERATIONS.

Laverton is to carry out a diverging search between 115° and 175° for 250 miles from Cape Pillar, Tasmania, commencing 1200K today, Wednesday.

HOSPITAL SHIP.

"WATERLOO" will be berthed at Outer East Station Pier, Port Melbourne, tomorrow, to disembark about 100 cases.

DIVING OPERATIONS - R.E.A.S. "RODRIGUES"

Divers yesterday recovered Telescope, Breech Block, Sluicing arc and gunsight.

"N" CLASS DESTROYERS.

The Admiralty have decided that the Destroyers "TRAVLER", "WIZARD", "NESTOR", "NORMAN" and "HORSEMAN" shall, when ready for service, join the command of the C. in C. Mediterranean.

R.E.S. "BRISBANE STAR"

The C. in C. Mediterranean has requested the Naval Board to communicate the following message to the Master of S.S. "BRISBANE STAR" on her arrival in Australia:

Expeditious manner in which stores from S.S. "BRISBANE STAR" were discharged at Suda Bay at beginning of November reflects credit on Master, Officers and crew whose willingness, co-operation and enthusiasm are much appreciated.

GENERAL.

A German broadcast on 7th December, claimed H.M.S. "SEAL", a minelaying Submarine of 1,520/2,137 tons, captured at the beginning of the war, had been commissioned as a U Boat.

~~SECRET.~~

The DAILY NARRATIVE ashore yesterday has been replicated. British Submarine on 5th December sank 4,000 ton To 0900 Wednesday, 11th December, 1940. and probable hits on 4,000 ton tanker on the 7th.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION. P.D.N.M. Pelly, R.N.)
was mined and disabled off Offordness p.m. 5th December and has
H.M.A. SHIPS tow.

"GOOLGWAI" is to maintain searched Channel at Sydney and "BERMAGUI" searched channel at Newcastle.

"NAMBUCCA", "TONGKOL" and "UKI" will commence a high percentage Searching Sweep two miles wide between Sydney and Newcastle They are to rendezvous at 0800 today, Wednesday, off Catherine Hill Bay.

"ADELE" was to leave Sydney at 1800 yesterday and is due at Brisbane a.m. Friday 13th December.

"BATHURST" is expected to sail for Western Port on Saturday, 14th December.

AIR OPERATIONS.

Laverton is to carry out a diverging search between 115° and 172° for 250 miles from Cape Pillar, Tasmania, commencing 1500K today, Wednesday.

HOSPITAL SHIP.

"MANUNDA" will be berthed at Outer East Station Pier, Port Melbourne, tomorrow, to disembark about 100 cases.

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Expeditious manner in which stores from S.S. "BRISBANE STAR" were discharged at Suda Bay at beginning of November reflects credit on Master, Officers and crew whose willingness, co-operation and enthusiasm are much appreciated.

GENERAL.

A German broadcast on 7th December, claimed H.M.S. "SEAL", a minelaying Submarine of 1,520/2,157 tons, captured at the beginning of the war, had been commissioned as a U Boat.

The Submarine reported ashore yesterday has been refloated. British Submarines on 5th December sank 4,000 ton merchant vessel off STADLANDET and scored probable hits on 4,000 ton tanker on the 7th.

H.M.S. "WINDSOR" (Lieut. Comdr. P.D.H.R. Pelly, R.N.) was mined and disabled off Orfordness p.m. 8th December and has been taken in tow.

"KARIBUCCA" and "GOOLSHAI" arrived Sydney yesterday.

"DAYHURST" is to be worked up for minesweeping and employed in Australian Waters temporarily.

"VIGILANT" cannot now be slipped to Townsville until 24th December.

"BALLANTINE" is being launched today at Williamsdown.

AIR OPERATIONS.

4 aircraft carried out a search yesterday from Fremantle to a depth of 300 miles with negative results.

8 aircraft from Archerfield will carry out a search this afternoon between G. Byron and Lady Elliot Island to a depth of 100 miles off shore.

SHIPPING CASUALTY.

S.S. "HARTFORD" was not streaming P/V's when mined. She has been successfully towed to Port Lincoln and it is considered that 18 aircraft included in her cargo can be salvaged. 42 members of the crew have reached Adelaide.

HAZE BARRIER.

A report received last night stated that the visibility from the island was good but none of the vessels previously in the vicinity had been sighted during the day.

S.S.S.

Norwegian S.S. "SANDVARD" 4111 tons who sailed from Dunbar 5th September for Port Elizabeth with a full cargo of what is considered lost.

British Merchant Ship losses in Norway since commencement of hostilities 22 1 in 831.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

R.N.S. "SUNGAI" escorting S.S. "AGRANGI" departed Java yesterday morning. At 1200 today "SUNGAI" will part company and patrol to the west of Fiji.

2 British Destroyers have been considerably damaged by severe weather, 1 Destroyer in collision and 1 submarine is ashore.

SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Tuesday, 10th December, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"NAMBUCCA" and "GOOLGWAI" arrived Sydney yesterday.

"BATHURST" is to be worked up for minesweeping and employed in Australian Waters temporarily.

"VIGILANT" cannot now be slipped to Townsville until 24th December.

"BALLARAT" is being launched today at Williamstown.

AIR OPERATIONS.

4 aircraft carried out a search yesterday from Fremantle to a depth of 300 miles with negative results.

2 aircraft from Archerfield will carry out a search this afternoon between C. Byron and Lady Elliot Island to a depth of 100 miles off shore.

SHIPPING CASUALTY.

S.S. "HERTFORD" was not streaming P/V's when mined. She has been successfully towed to Port Lincoln and it is considered that 12 aircraft included in her cargo can be salvaged. 42 members of the crew have reached Adelaide.

NAURU RAIDER.

A report received last night stated that the visibility from the island was good but none of the vessels previously in the vicinity had been sighted during the day.

N.C.S.

Norwegian S.S. "NORDVARD" 4111 tons who sailed from Bunbury 5th September for Port Elizabeth with a full cargo of what is considered lost.

British Merchant Ship losses in convoy since commencement of hostilities is 1 in 231.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "MONOWAI" escorting S.S. "AORANGI" departed Suva yesterday morning. At 1600 today "MONOWAI" will part company and patrol to the west of Fiji.

2 British Destroyers have been considerably damaged by severe weather, 1 Destroyer in collision and 1 submarine is ashore.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

TO 0900 Monday, 9th December, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"MANOORA" escorting Troop Transport "ZEALANDIA" arrived Darwin at noon yesterday.

20th M.S.F. arrived Port Melbourne yesterday afternoon and on completion of fuelling sailed 2330 last night for Backstairs Passage.

"DURRAWEEEN" } arrived Williamstown early this morning and are now
"KOROWA" } coaling.

CONVOYS.

U.S.7 escorted by H.M.A.S. "PERTH", and H.M.S. "CAPETOWN" departed Colombo Saturday, 7th December for Suez.

U.S.8 probable itinerary as follows:-

"AQUITANIA" and "QUEEN MARY" embarkation will take place at Sydney on Thursday and Friday 19th and 20th December respectively. Vessels due to sail noon 21st December.

"DOMINION MONARCH" and "EMPRESS of RUSSIA" due to sail from Wellington Thursday, 19th December to rendezvous with "AQUITANIA" and "QUEEN MARY" to the southward of Tasmania a.m., 23rd December.

"MAURETANIA" embarkation will take place at Melbourne Monday, 23rd December and vessel will sail so as to rendezvous with Convoy in Western Bass Strait about 0600 Tuesday 24th December.

Convoy is due Fremantle Saturday, 28th December and anticipates sailing Monday, 30th December. All ships proceed to Colombo except "QUEEN MARY" which goes to Trincomalee.

HOSPITAL SHIP.

"MANUNDA" departed Fremantle Saturday, 7th December and is due Melbourne Thursday, 12th December to land hospital cases, thence to Sydney. After refit and storing, vessel will probably sail for Suez before the end of this month.

RAIDER REPORTS.

S.S. "KARITANE", a cargo vessel of 2,500 tons owned by Union S.S. Co. bound from Dunedin to Melbourne at 0842 yesterday made the "attacked by enemy warship" (RRRR) Distress message from a mid-Tasman position.

H.M.S. "ACHILLES" was sailed from Wellington for position of attack and Naval Board directed shipping in Tasman how to proceed.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

GENERAL.

2.

Sunday, 8th Six hours later another message was received from "KARITANE" stating that a large tanker had been sighted behaving suspiciously and had disappeared in thick weather.

The Mercantile plot readily identified the phantom vessel as the Dutch tanker "NEDERLAND" bound from New Zealand to Mahrein and it was apparent that the distress message amounted to a false alarm.

expects to arrive Fremantle 13th December.

"UKI" are to commence a search on 9th December.

Messages received yesterday from A.R.O. Nauru indicate that a raider has shelled and sunk the British Phosphate Commission steamer "TRIADIC" (6,378 tons) within sight of the island. It is probable that other ships drifting and awaiting favourable weather to proceed alongside to load have also been attacked.

Nauru, a small island only 12 miles in circumference situated about 2,200 miles N.E. of Sydney and just south of the Equator is undefended. No action was practicable yesterday except to warn shipping at, or bound for Nauru and Ocean Island to disperse and make for Fiji or Port Moresby.

SHIPPING CASUALTY.

10,928 tons, of the Federal... Late last night, S.S. "HERTFORD", with the Master and 4 hands onboard and the bilge pumps working, was in tow making for Port Lincoln. There are no casualties but two men were slightly injured as the result of the explosion.

Shipping has been instructed to keep clear of an area with a radius of 50 miles from her position and Spencer Gulf, St. Vincent Gulf and Backstairs Passage have been closed to traffic.

5 small vessels have been sent out and the first expects to arrive in the vicinity about 0900. 2 tugs have also been sent out.

The War Signal Station, Westons Island reported at 0700 a ship resembling S.S. "HERTFORD" bore west, distant 8 miles and appeared to be drifting North fast.

An aircraft from Port Lincoln reported locating 2 boats

Later 3 aircraft will carry out a search to a depth of 100 miles for a possible enemy minelayer.

SHIPPING RESTRICTIONS.

Vessels may now be sailed from Newcastle, Sydney and Port Melbourne, but all ships are to use full lengths of searched channels at Sydney and Newcastle and are not to approach within 15 miles of the coast between these ports.

Vessels proceeding between Brisbane and Wide Bay Bar may at the present at the Master's responsibility proceed on inshore

Present policy is to keep all vessels over 100 tons, gross, above the 100 fathoms line where possible.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

GENERAL.

SECRET.

The sailing of H.M.A.S. "ADELE" has been postponed until

0900 Sunday, 8th December, 1940.

The date of commissioning of H.M.A.S. "GUNBAR" has been

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

If there are no political objections an R.A.A.F. Flying

A. SHIPS.

visit Noumea from Vila, for reconnaissance purposes.

"WBEHRA" expects to arrive Fremantle 13th December.

"WBEHRA" and "UKI" are to commence a clearing sweep today off Norah Head.

They will be joined by "SAMUEL BENBOW" on 9th December and
"NAMBUCCA" on 10th December.

"WEMAGUI" is to maintain the Newcastle searched channel and is to be
ready to commence on 9th December.

"MS.F." has reported the location and sinking of 2 more mines
yesterday east of Clifty Island. It has been ordered to proceed
to Melbourne with despatch to fuel and provision in readiness
to carry out a searching sweep in the vicinity of Kangaroo
Island.

SHIPPING CASUALTY.

"HERFORD", 10,923 tons, of the Federal S.N. Co. and bound from
Fremantle to Adelaide reported at 2031. She had been mined in a
position 25 miles W.S.W. of South Neptune Island, Investigator
Strait. The Master reported that Nos. 1 and 2 hatches were full
and that he was abandoning ship, and standing by. No mention was
made of casualties.

Shipping has been instructed to keep clear of an area with
a radius of 50 miles from her position and Spencer Gulf, St.
Vincent Gulf and Backstair Passage have been closed to traffic.

3 small vessels have been sent out and the first expects to
arrive in the vicinity about 0900. 2 tugs have also been sent out.

The War Signal Station, Neptune Island reported at 0700
that a ship resembling s.s. "HERFORD" bore west, distant 8 miles
and appeared to be drifting North fast.

An aircraft from Port Lincoln reported locating 2 boats
at 0720.

Later 3 aircraft will carry out a search to a depth of
350 miles for a possible enemy minelayer.

SHIPPING DESTRUCTIONS.

Vessels may now be sailed from Newcastle, Sydney and Port
Kembla, but all ships are to use full lengths of searched channels
at Sydney and Newcastle and are not to approach within 15 miles of
the coast between these ports.

Vessels proceeding between Brisbane and Wide Bay Bar may
for the present at the Master's responsibility proceed on inshore
routes.

Present policy is to keep all vessels over 100 tons, gross,
outside the 100 fathoms line where possible.

GENERAL.

The sailing of H.M.A.S. "ADELE" has been postponed until 9th December.

The date of commissioning of H.M.A.S. "GUNBAR" has been postponed until 16th December.

If there are no political objections an R.A.A.F. Flying boat is to visit Noumea from Vila, for reconnaissance purposes.

Considerable damage was caused by fires when Portsmouth and Gasport were bombed on the night 5/6th December.

"CANDERVA" expects to arrive Fremantle a.m. Wednesday, 11th December.

"ADELAIDE" returned to Sydney this morning from Patrol and commenced refit.

"MANGORA" escorting "ZEALANDIA" departed Thursday Is. 1700K Thursday, 5th November for Darwin.

"VIGILANT" arrived Townsville yesterday.

"MAUBUCCA" and "COOLGWAY" are returning to Sydney S.T.A. 0400K Monday 8th December.

"DFARA" departed Pt. Melbourne this morning to rejoin the 20th M.S.F. at Sealers Cove.

"BATHURST" commissioned yesterday at Sydney.

"SAMUEL BENSON", "SUKI" and "TONGKOL" sweep tomorrow in the Newcastle area.

"ZEALANDIA", escorted by "MANGORA" expects to arrive Darwin 0400K tomorrow Sunday 8th December.

HOSPITAL SHIP.

"MANUNDA" arrived Fremantle yesterday.

AIR OPERATIONS.

4 aircraft from Archerfield yesterday afternoon carried out a search on the Queensland Coast with negative results.

5 Hudsons yesterday searched from Sydney to a depth of 300 miles for a possible minelayer, H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE" Co-operating.

MINESWEEPING.

H.M.S. "CARNARVON CASTLE" (Capt. M.J.C. de Merje M.V.O.) was in action with a German Raider 5th December in a position 540 miles due south of Rio Janeiro.

H.M.S. "GLASGOW" shot down a dive bomber when a near miss was scored on her 28th November. On 3rd December she was hit by 2 torpedoes whilst at anchor in Suda Bay (Crete) and proceeded for repairs.

GENERAL.

Rear Admiral W.F. Wake-Walker C.B., O.N.E. will hoist his flag in H.M.S. "FORMIDABLE" as F.O.C. Force "K" 15th December.

Vice Admiral J.H.D. Cunningham C.B., M.V.O., has been appointed F.O.C. Force M to date 15th December.

DAILY NARRATIVE.
DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0800 Friday, 6th December, 1940.
To 0900 Saturday, 7th December, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.
OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS

H.M.A. SHIPS

"ADELAIDE" sailed from Sydney this morning to co-operate with the "CANBERRA" expects to arrive Fremantle a.m. Wednesday, 11th December.

"ADELAIDE" returned to Sydney this morning from Patrol and hours for ste commenced refit.

"MANOORA" escorting "ZEALANDIA" departed Thursday Is. 1740Kares S.C.F. Thursday, 5th November for Darwin.

"VIGILANT" arrived Townsville yesterday. 20th M.S.F. on Monday next, 8th December for provisions and fuel.

"NAMBUCCA" and "GOOLGWAI" are returning to Sydney E.T.A. 0400K

"ORARA" arrived Monday 8th December, yesterday. On completion of gunnery school firings today, she will rejoin Flotilla at

"ORARA" departed Pt. Melbourne this morning to rejoin the 20th M.S.F. at Sealers Cove.

"MANOORA" did not expect to leave Thursday Island for Darwin until

"BATHURST" commissioned yesterday at Sydney, ing delayed.

"SAMUEL BENBOW", "UKI" and "TONGKOL" sweep tomorrow in the Newcastle area.

Escorted by H.M.A.S. "PERTH" and H.M.S. "CAPETOWN" arrived Colombo 1850 TRANSPORTS.

"ZEALANDIA", escorted by "MANOORA" expects to arrive Darwin 0400K as she tomorrow Sunday 8th December. 17 knots.

HOSPITAL SHIP.

SHIPPING CASUALTY.

"MANUNDA" arrived Fremantle yesterday.

At about 1800 yesterday afternoon an aircraft from Bathurst having by chance sighted a quantity of wreckage and a number of men in the water. AIR OPERATIONS. of H.S.W. indicated the position to S.S. "BONALBO".

2 aircraft from Archerfield yesterday afternoon carried out a search on the Queensland Coast with negative results.

at Sydney late last night reported she had picked up 13 survivors from 5 Hudsons yesterday searched from Sydney to a depth of 300 miles south off North Head for a possible minelayer, H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE" The vessel sank 1 Co-operating. es and 7 of the crew, including the Master, are missing.

The port MINESWEEPING. was closed to shipping and sailings for Newcastle on Sydney suspended. *Hardy* searched H.M.S. "CARNARVON CASTLE" (Capt. M.J.C. de Meric M.V.O.) was in action with a German Raider 5th December in a position 540 miles due south of Rio Janeiro.

H.M.S. "GLASGOW" shot down a dive bomber when a near miss was surface minelayer scored on her 28th November. On 3rd December she was hit by 2 torpedoes whilst at anchor in Suda Bay (Crete) miles between head and proceeded for repairs. South Head, Sydney.

OPERATION GENERAL.

Rear Admiral W.F. Wake-Walker C.B., O.B.E. will hoist his flag in H.M.S. "FORMIDABLE" as F.O.C. Force "K" 15th December.

for sub Vice Admiral J.H.D. Cunningham C.B., M.V.O., has been appointed F.O.C. Force M to date 15th December.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

EXAMINATION VESSEL.

To 0900 Friday, 6th December, 1940.

"ADLAIDE" on completion long refit at Sydney will sail on Sunday next, 8th December for Darwin arriving Thursday, 28th December after OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION and Thursday Island.

H.M.A. SHIPS

GENERAL.

"ADELAIDE" sailed from Sydney this morning to co-operate with the air search. In consequence, her 12 days' refit has been temporarily deferred. prize crew onboard.

"MORESBY" fitting out at Sydney for surveying duties is at 72 hours for steam for the present.

20th M.S.F. yesterday swept up and destroyed two more mines in area S.C.F.5 to the eastward of Clifty Island.

Group 58 will return to Port Melbourne with 20th M.S.F. on Monday next, 9th December for provisions and fuel.

"ORARA" arrived Port Melbourne at noon yesterday. On completion of gunnery school firings today, she will rejoin Flotilla at Sealers Cove.

"MANCOORA" did not expect to leave Thursday Island for Darwin until p.m. yesterday owing to "ZEALANDIA" being delayed.

CONVOYS.

U.S.7 escorted by H.M.A.S. "PERTH" and H.M.S. "CAPETOWN" arrived Colombo 1850 yesterday.

U.S.8 "EMPRESS of RUSSIA" will probably be withdrawn from this convoy as she is unable to steam more than 17 knots.

SHIPPING CASUALTY.

At about 1600 yesterday afternoon an aircraft from Rathmines having by chance sighted a quantity of wreckage and a number of men in the water off the coast of N.S.W. indicated the position to S.S. "BONALBO".

This vessel proceeded to the scene and on arrival at Sydney late last night reported she had picked up 13 survivors from S.S. "NIMBIN", a cargo motor vessel of 1052 tons, which had sunk off Norah Head at 1530 following an external explosion. The vessel sank in a few minutes and 7 of the crew, including the Master, are missing.

The port of Newcastle was closed to shipping and sailings for Newcastle from Sydney suspended until the searched channel has been swept by Aux. M/S vessel "UKI" this morning.

AIR OPERATIONS.

A search with the object of locating an enemy surface minelayer commenced at 0445 this morning. 4 aircraft from Richmond are being employed in this search which extends for 300 miles between bearings of 050° and 115° from South Head, Sydney.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "MONOWAI" escorting S.S. "AORANGI" departed Auckland yesterday for suva.

EXAMINATION VESSEL.

"ADELE" on completion long refit at Sydney will sail on Sunday next, 8th December for Darwin arriving Thursday, 26th December after calling at Brisbane, Cairns and Thursday Island.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.GENERAL.

H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" was expected to re-enter the Australia Station at 1700K yesterday.

Norwegian tanker "OLE JACOB" arrived Kobe yesterday flying German flag with German prize crew onboard.

H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE" arrived Sydney at 0820 today Thursday.

H.M.A.S. "FORSEBY" arrived Sydney at 1355 yesterday Wednesday and is being fitted out for Surveying duties. It is anticipated her departure from Sydney will be on Monday, 16th December.

H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" is expected to arrive Darwin escorting "ZERLANDIA" on the night of the 8th/7th December. This latter vessel should be ready to leave during the night of the 12th/13th in order to allow "MANOORA" to be at Thursday Island Sunday 15th December.

Aux. A/S Vessels "HEEOS" and "St. GILES" arrived Sydney at 0845 yesterday Wednesday having been recalled from their cruise and exercises to provide protection for large transports in Sydney.

Patrol Launch "VICILANT" is to assist "MORSEBY" in the triangulation and other Survey Work.

H.M.A.S. intend to return to Port Melbourne on Monday 9th December with the exception of "GRARA" who will be available for Gunnery School Firing tomorrow Friday and later rejoin the Flotilla at Sealers Cove.

The two floating mines reported yesterday in the Western Approaches to the Bass Straits were located in position $39^{\circ} 09' S$ $145^{\circ} 39' E$ and sunk by rifle fire.

H.M.A.S. "BATHURST" carries our Acceptance Trial today and on completion will be taken over by C.C.S.

AUXILIARY VESSEL - due to adverse weather S.S. "HARANI" was late in arriving at Sydney and will not be requisitioned until today.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

H.M.A.S. "MOROWAI" arrived Auckland at 0924 yesterday Wednesday.

H.M.A.S. "FORSEBY" torpedoed 300 miles west of Blacksod Bay a.m. 2nd December sank p.m. the same day.

AIR OPERATIONS.

There were two searches made yesterday both with negative results. The first was a search for Floating mines in the Western approach to Bass Strait and the second a search from Sydney to a depth of 250 miles seaward for a Japanese steamer erroneously reported by the Dutch Ship "GADILLA". Subsequent investigation revealed that the ship reported acting suspiciously was the coastal vessel "ECHUNGA" (about 3350 tons gross).

SECRET.

CONVOY B.S.S.
DAILY NARRATIVE.

"MONARCH" departed Sydney 1057 yesterday and expects to arrive To 0900 Thursday, 5th December, 1940. day, 7th December.

"STAVIA". It is now anticipated that repairs will be completed and the ship OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION. on Saturday, 21st December.

H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" was expected to re-enter the Australia Station at 1700K yesterday Wednesday.

H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE" arrived Sydney at 0520 today Thursday.

The New Zealand Naval Board report that the small H.M.A.S. "MORESEBY" arrived Sydney at 1355 yesterday Wednesday and is being fitted out for Surveying duties. It is anticipated her departure from Sydney will be on Monday, 16th December.

H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" is expected to arrive Darwin escorting "ZEALANDIA" on the night of the 6th/7th December. This latter vessel should be ready to leave during the night of the 12th/13th in order to allow "MANOORA" to be at Thursday Island Sunday 15th December.

Aux. A/S Vessels "HEROS" and "St. GILES" arrived Sydney at 0945 yesterday Wednesday having been recalled from their cruise and exercises to provide protection for large transports in Sydney.

Patrol Launch "VIGILANT" is to assist "MORESEBY" in the triangulation and other Survey Work.

20th M.S.F. intend to return to Port Melbourne on Monday 9th December with the exception of "ORARA" who will be available for Gunnery School Firing tomorrow Friday and later rejoin the Flotilla at Sealers Cove.

The two floating mines reported yesterday in the Western Approaches to the Bass Straits were located in position $39^{\circ} 09' S$ $145^{\circ} 39' E$ and sunk by rifle fire.

H.M.A.S. "BATHURST" carries our Acceptance Trial today and on completion will be taken over by C.C.S.

AUXILIARY VESSEL - due to adverse weather S.S. "NARANI" was late in arriving at Sydney and will not be requisitioned until today.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "MONOWAI" arrived Auckland at 0924 yesterday Wednesday.

H.M.S. "FORFAR" torpedoed 300 miles west of Blacksod Bay a.m. 2nd December sank p.m. the same day.

AIR OPERATIONS.

There were two searches made yesterday both with negative results. The first was a search for Floating mines in the Western approach to Bass Strait and the second a search from Sydney to a depth of 250 miles seaward for a Japanese steamer erroneously reported by the Dutch Ship "GADILLA". Subsequent investigation revealed that the ship reported acting suspiciously was the coastal vessel "ECHUNGA" (about 3350 tons gross).

CONVOY U.S.S.

"DOMINION MONARCH" departed Sydney 1057 yesterday and expects to arrive Wellington at 0600 Saturday, 7th December.

"MAURETANIA". It is now anticipated that repairs will be completed and the ship ready to sail from Melbourne on Saturday, 21st December.

"HAWAII" escorting "ZEALANDIA" expects to leave Thursday Island today arriving GENERAL at midnight on Friday, 8th December.

The New Zealand Naval Board report that the small coasting vessel HOLMWOOD (546 tons) is overdue at Lyttleton since 27th November. Air and sea searches have failed to trace the ship and her capture and/or sinking by an Armed Raider is presumed.

"ST. GILES", "HEROS" (Group 51 A/S) arrived Newcastle last Monday night.

"SWAN", "ORARA" are carrying out an exploratory sweep in the vicinity of Deal Island today.

"GEORGINA", "HARRISCA", "GOOLCFAI" are searching for floating mines reported by C.S. "SUNDALBER" west of Wilsons Promontory today. One Anson aircraft is assisting.

MINES.

"CITY of DELHI" yesterday located and sunk 2 mines in searched channel No. 5. 9½ and 11½ miles ESE of Clifty Island.

"CITY of DELHI" yesterday sighted a floating mine in a position 13 miles WSW of Deal Island.

It is considered that these mines may have been cut by Beachast Vessels using P.V.'s

"SOORANGAI"

The body of Chief E.R.A. Green was recovered yesterday. The diver reports that the after part of the vessel from the engine room to the stern is ovalized through the explosion of depth charges.

H.C.B.

"CITY of SYDNEY" 6988 tons proceeding to Port Pirie from Adelaide stranded yesterday on Spoelwater Point in Spencer Gulf. She was refloated a few hours later presumably undamaged.

SUSPICIOUS VESSEL.

The Master of the Dutch Tanker "GAMILA" on arrival at Sydney yesterday evening reported having observed a vessel with Japanese markings acting suspiciously in the searched channel 3 miles from Sydney Heads at 1700Z yesterday. As the presence of this vessel is not accounted for, the port of Sydney has been closed except to vessels streaming P.V.'s and a search by 5 aircraft is in progress to locate her. The searched channel is being swept during the day.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

"FAME" aground on the N.E. Coast of England in October has been refloated and towed into harbour.

H.M.S. "SACUNWAY" torpedoed in the N.E. approaches 1st December is proceeding DAILY NARRATIVE. ~~Kingdom.~~

To 0900 Wednesday, 4th December, 1940. (Ret.) was torpedoed
End December, 300 miles west of Ireland.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS

"MANOORA" escorting "ZEALANDIA" expects to leave Thursday Island today arriving Darwin midnight on Friday, 6th December.

"MORESEY" is returning to Sydney to complete fitting out for Survey work. E.T.A. tomorrow morning.

"BATHURST" will carry out M/S running trials at Western Port and Port Phillip.

"KYBRA", "St. GILES", "HEROS" (Group 51 A/S) arrived Newcastle last Monday night.

"WARREGO", "SWAN", "ORARA" are carrying out an exploratory sweep in the vicinity of Deal Island today.

"DURRAWEEEN", "KOROWA", "NAMBUCCA", "GOOLGWAI" are searching for floating mines reported by S.S. "BUNDALEER" west of Wilsons Promontory today. One Anson aircraft is assisting.

MINES.

20th M.S.F. yesterday located and sunk 2 mines in searched channel No.5. $9\frac{1}{2}$ and $11\frac{1}{2}$ miles ESE of Cliffy Island.

S.S. "CITY of DELHI" yesterday sighted a floating mine in a position 13 miles WSW of Deal Island.

It is considered that these mines may have been cut by Merchant Vessels using P.V.'s

"GOORANGAI"

The body of Chief E.R.A. Green was recovered yesterday. The diver reports that the after part of the vessel from the engine room to the stern is demolished through the explosion of depth charges.

N.C.S.

S.S. "CITY of SYDNEY" 6986 tons proceeding to Port Pirie from Adelaide stranded yesterday on Shoalwater Point in Spencer Gulf. She was refloated a few hours later presumably undamaged.

SUSPICIOUS VESSEL.

The Master of the Dutch Tanker "GADILA" on arrival at Sydney yesterday evening reported having observed a vessel with Japanese markings acting suspiciously in the searched channel 5 miles from Sydney Heads at 1730K yesterday. As the presence of this vessel is not accounted for, the port of Sydney has been closed except to vessels streaming P.V.'s and a search by 5 aircraft is in progress to locate her. The searched channel is being swept during the day.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "FAME" aground on the N.E. Coast of England in October has been refloated and towed into harbour.

H.M.S. "SACUENAY" torpedoed in the N.W. approaches 1st December is proceeding to the United Kingdom.

H.M.S. "FORFAR" A.M.C. (Capt. H.N. Lake Ret.) was torpedoed 2nd December, 300 miles west of Ireland.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS

"ROSEBERY" departed Sydney yesterday afternoon for Heron Bay.

Group 51 Aux. A/B vessels "KIBRA", "HERON" and "St. GILES" departed Sydney yesterday for Newcastle.

20th E.S.F. was probably unable to sweep yesterday owing to thick fog. At noon the Flotilla, with pilot vessel "AKUNA" in company, was endeavouring to enter Sealers Cove on the Eastern side of Wilsons Promontory.

Group 34 and "GOOLGWAI" owing to dense fog in vicinity of Wilsons Promontory were probably unable to sweep in Bass Strait yesterday.

AUXILIARY VESSELS.

"VIGILANT" (patrol vessel) sailed from Maryborough yesterday for Townsville where she expects to arrive 5th December to be slipped before proceeding to Thursday Island.

"ADEL" (examination vessel) on completion of refit at Sydney on Saturday next, 7th December, requires 24 hours for steam trials before sailing for Darwin.

MINES.

S.S. "MUNDALERR", Adelaide Steamship Co. vessel of 4,200 tons bound from Sydney to Melbourne, reported she had sighted mines in a position $039^{\circ} 17'$ South, $145^{\circ} 22'$ East at 0620K this morning. An area with a radius of 5 miles from this position has been declared dangerous, shipping warned and 20th E.S.F. has been ordered to carry out a searching sweep.

GENERAL.

At 1640K yesterday depth charges in "GOORANGAI" were blown up. It will now be practicable to resume diving operations on what remains of the wreck.

SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Tuesday, 3rd December, 1940.

20 0900 Monday, 2nd December, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS

"MORESBY" departed Sydney yesterday afternoon for Moreton Bay.

Group 51 Aux. A/S vessels "KYBRA", "HEROS" and "St. GILES" departed Sydney yesterday for Newcastle.

20th M.S.F. was probably unable to sweep yesterday owing to thick fog. At noon the Flotilla, with pilot vessel "AKUNA" in company, was endeavouring to enter Sealers Cove on the Eastern side of Wilsons Promontory.

Group 54 and "GOOLGWAI" owing to dense fog in vicinity of Wilsons Promontory were probably unable to sweep in Bass Strait yesterday.

AUXILIARY VESSELS.

"VIGILANT" (patrol vessel) sailed from Maryborough yesterday for Townsville where she expects to arrive 5th December to be slipped before proceeding to Thursday Island.

"ADELE" (examination vessel) on completion of refit at Sydney on Saturday next, 7th December, requires 24 hours for steam trials before sailing for Darwin.

MINES.

S.S. "BUNDALEER", Adelaide Steamship Co. vessel of 4,200 tons bound from Sydney to Melbourne, reported she had sighted mines in a position $039^{\circ} 17'$ South, $145^{\circ} 22'$ East at 0620K this morning. An area with a radius of 5 miles from this position has been declared dangerous, shipping warned and 20th M.S.F. has been ordered to carry out a searching sweep.

GENERAL.

At 1640K yesterday depth charges in "GOORANGAI" were blown up. It will now be practicable to resume diving operations on what remains of the wreck.

SECRET

SEC. 15

DAILY NARRATIVE.

TO 0900 SUNDAY 1ST DECEMBER, 1940.
DAILY NARRATIVE.

OPERATIONS -- AUSTRALIA STATION.

To 0900 Monday, 2nd December, 1940.

H.M.A. SHIPS:

"CANBERRA", OPERATIONS -- AUSTRALIA STATION.

will be relieved by H.M.A.S. "PERTH" in position 5° 25' South. H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" arrived Thursday Island a.m. Saturday 30th and was expected to sail today Monday escorting the troop transport "ZEALANDIA". H.M.A.S. "ACHILLES" at approximate position 34° 00' South 170° 00' East and will commence the return passage to Sydney today when relieved by H.M.S. "ACHILLES" who will escort "AORANGI" to Auckland.

H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" will be relieved of her escort duties with U.S. 7 p.m. tomorrow Tuesday and will return to Fremantle.

20th M.S.F. Another mine was swept yesterday in a position 242° South East Point 7.7 miles. Total number of mines swept to date:- Wilsons Promontory Area 12, Cape Otway Area 2, Lonsdale Area 1 (Floating).

Patrol Launch "VIGILANT" at Maryborough should be ready for sea p.m. today and will proceed to Townsville for slipping en route to Thursday Island.

GENERAL.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "NAPIER" commissioned for trials and Service with an R.A.N. crew on Friday 29th November under the command of Captain S.H.T. Arliss, R.N.

Convoy U.S.S. 3.7. in conjunction with D.N.O. VIC.

"DOMINION MONARCH" sails from Sydney Wednesday 4th December for Wellington. H.M.A.S. "TAMBAR" has been ordered to return to Moreton Bay.

GENERAL.

The launch of H.M.A.S. "ARUNTA" was successfully completed at 0920 yesterday Sunday.

S.S. "VARANI" of the Illawarra S.N. Co., Sydney, is to be requisitioned on 2nd December, 1940, for fitting out as an Auxiliary Minesweeper.

Admiral of the Fleet Sir Charles M. Forbes, K.C.B., D.S.O. has been appointed C. in C. Plymouth to date 1st May, 1941.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

TO 0900 SUNDAY, 1ST DECEMBER, 1940.

OPERATIONS -- AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS:

"CANBERRA", escorting Convoy U.S.7 in company with H.M.A.S. "PERTH", will be relieved by H.M.S. "CAPETOWN" in position $5^{\circ} 25'$ South, $86^{\circ} 30'$ East.

"ADELAIDE", escorting S.S. "AORANGI", will be relieved by H.M.S. "ACHILLES" in approximate position $34^{\circ} 00'$ South $170^{\circ} 00'$ East and will return to Sydney.

"WARREGO" } left Port Phillip yesterday to resume clearing sweeps
"SWAN" } in Wilson's Promontory area. The result was
"ORARA" } negative.

"ORARA" is to be made available for gunnery school firings on 6th December.

"NA MBUCCA" } will be supplied with water by the Pilot Steamer
"DURRAWEEEN" } "AKUNA" at Rabbit Island today.
"KOROWA" }
"GOOLGWAI" }

GENERAL.

One Leading Seaman and 2 Able Seamen R.A.N.R. serving as gun's crew in S.S. "PORT BRISBANE" and not amongst survivors landed, and 2 Able Seamen R.A.N.R. serving as gunlayers in S.S. "MAIMOIA" must be considered missing, probably prisoners of war.

Diving operations on H.M.A.S. "GOORANGAI" are to be discontinued until Depth Charges have been destroyed. This demolition is to be arranged by C.S.T. in conjunction with D.N.O. VIC.

The vessel reported yesterday morning as acting suspiciously off Urangan is considered to have been S.S. "BURANDA" and the port has been reopened. H.M.A.S. "TAMBAR" has been ordered to return to Moreton Bay.

S.S. "HAITAN", with Baltic evacuees on board, after calling at Cairns will proceed to Brisbane only. Arrangements will be made for evacuees for southern States to proceed by rail.

S.S. "NARANI" of the Illawarra S.N. Co., Sydney, is to be requisitioned on 2nd December, 1940, for fitting out as an Auxiliary Minesweeper.

Admiral of the Fleet Sir Charles M. Forbes, K.C.B., D.S.O. has been appointed C. in C. Plymouth to date 1st May, 1941.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Saturday, 30th November, 1940.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Friday, OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS

"ADELAIDE", escorting S.S. "AORANGI" with 200 air trainees embarked, cleared Sydney Heads at 0150 this morning. Their departure was delayed by about 9 hours due to a tug colliding with "AORANGI".

"WARRECO" } arrived Melbourne yesterday to fuel and will sail at
 "SWAN" } 0900 this morning to resume clearing sweeps in Wilsons
 "ORARA" } Promontory area.

"NAMBUCCA" } arrived Welshpool yesterday to embark provisions
 "DURRAWEEEN" } and will proceed to Rabbit Island tomorrow Sunday
 "KOROWA" } for water, before resuming sweeping operations with
 "GOOLGWAI" } 20th M.S.F.

"COOLEBAR" arrived Sydney yesterday from Brisbane to undergo refit.

"UKI" departed Sydney this morning for Newcastle.

Patrol Vessel "VIGILANT" at Maryborough is expected to be ready for sea Monday, 2nd December. She is to be shipped at Townsville en route Thursday Island.

CONVOY U.S. 8 "DOMINION MONARCH" when ready is to be sailed from Sydney to Wellington.

AIR SEARCH carried out yesterday afternoon by 5 Hudsons from Richmond to provide clearance for "AORANGI" was duly completed with negative result.

CONVOY U.S. 2 "EMPERESS OF RUSSIA" is expected to leave Hong Kong p.m. today Friday.

OPERATIONS - NEW ZEALAND STATION.

H.M.S. "ACHILLES" at present patrolling to the northward of Auckland will rendezvous with H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE" and S.S. "AORANGI" in the vicinity of Three Kings and escort the latter to Auckland.

H.M.S. "MONOWAI" is returning to Auckland instead of visiting Nauru and Ocean Island as arranged.

GENERAL.

A report was received early this morning from A.R.O. Maryborough that a ship of about 3,000 tons was observed acting suspiciously near the fairway at entrance to URANGAN yesterday forenoon.

Naval Board has closed the port and D.N.O. Queensland was instructed to despatch "TAMBAR" from Brisbane to carry out a searching sweep in the area under suspicion.

One Hudson plane flew off from Archerfield at 0500 this morning with the object of locating a possible raider.

During diving operations yesterday one of "GOORANGAI's" depth charge pistols was inadvertently set to "FIRE". D.N.O. has ordered diving to cease until low water slack on Monday next and a message warning shipping to keep clear of the wreck was broadcast.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Friday, 29th November, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

The Flag of Rear-Admiral J.G. Crace was transferred from H.M.A.S. "PERTH" to H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" at 2000 Wednesday 27th November.

H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE" arrived Sydney at 0330 today Friday and on completion of repairs to Engine Room defects and refuelling will escort "AORANGI" to Auckland.

H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" expects to arrive Thursday Island tomorrow Saturday and will depart the following day and escort "ZEALANDIA" to Darwin.

20th M.S.F. sweeping operations yesterday resulted in a further four mines being swept in the Eastern Wilsons Promontory Area. These mines were in approximately the same position as the two swept yesterday viz. 90° - 10 miles from Clifty Is.

Aux. A/S Vessels "KYBRA", "St. GILES" and "HEROS" will leave Sydney in company a.m. Monday 2nd December and visit Newcastle, Port Stephens and Broken Bay returning to Sydney on Friday 6th December. Anti-submarine exercises, sub-calibre firing and Co-operational Exercises with the Military will be carried out.

CONVOY U.S.7 escorted by H.M.A.S. "PERTH" departed from Fremantle at 0752 yesterday Thursday. On completion of fuelling at 1107 H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" departed and both ships will form the Ocean Escort.

CONVOY U.S.8 "EMPRESS of RUSSIA" is expected to leave Hong Kong p.m. today Friday.

AIR OPERATIONS.

An Air Search in the S.W. Area was carried out yesterday to a depth of 300 miles with negative result.

An Air Search in the S.E. Area will commence at 1345 today to provide clearance for AORANGI.

GENERAL.

A report from the Norwegian Ship "TAI PING YANG" on her arrival at Auckland states that she passed through a large quantity of small wreckage and an oil patch covering an area of 6 miles x 2 miles in the position from which "RANGITANE" sent her Raider Report.

The Norwegian ship "UDDERHOLM" reported ashore near Gazelle Point, Noumea, on the 13th November has been refloated and is now discharging her cargo in Nehoua Bay.

AIR OPERATIONS.

SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

An I/S Patrol over Gage Roads, a clearing search to a depth of
To 0900 Thursday, 28th November, 1940. Control ahead of the convoy
until 1800 is arranged from Fremantle for today.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"CANBERRA" arrived Fremantle yesterday from the search for raider and
landed survivors ex "PORT BRISBANE". Sails today to
overtake and escort U.S.7.

"PERTH" sails this morning from Fremantle escorting U.S.7.

"MANGORA" departed Darwin yesterday for Thursday Island and the
escort of "ZEALANDIA" to Darwin.

"ADELAIDE" on return to Sydney is to escort "AORANGI" to Auckland
after refuelling tomorrow.

"MORESBY" arrives Sydney this morning from Jervis Bay.

20th M.S.F. swept up and sunk a further 2 mines yesterday in the
Wilson's Promontory area.

"COOLEBAR" from Brisbane expects to arrive Sydney 1100K tomorrow
29th November.

CONVOYS.

U.S.7 departs Fremantle today and expects to arrive Colombo on
Thursday 5th December.

RAIDER ACTIVITIES.

27 survivors from S.S. "PORT BRISBANE" were picked up by
H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" and landed yesterday at Fremantle. The remainder
of the crew including 1 woman passenger are prisoners on board the
raider. From accounts given by the rescued it is learned that
2 searchlights were directed on "PORT BRISBANE" and fire at once
opened at 2000 yards. "PORT BRISBANE" did not reply with her
2 6" guns and was abandoned. Time bombs were placed in her by a
boarding party and later a torpedo caused the vessel to sink.

The Search by air and H.M.S. "ACHILLES" for the Pacific
Raider yesterday proved negative. It continues today.

INTELLIGENCE.

Fishermen from Port Albert (to the Eastward of Wilsons
Promontory) report that a vessel with Japanese markings acted
suspiciously in the vicinity about 6 weeks ago and may be connected
with the laying of mines in Bass Strait. From Sydney it is reported
that 2 Japanese ships arrived several hours late of schedule which
delay could not be attributed to adverse weather conditions.

AIR OPERATIONS.

1 aircraft is operating from Townsville and 1 from Archerfield
today carrying out clearing searches for transport "ZEALANDIA".

DAILY NARRATIVE.

2.

2900 Wednesday, 27th November, 1940.

An A/S Patrol over Gage Roads, a clearing search to a depth of 300 miles covering U.S.7 and an A/S Patrol ahead of the convoy until 1600H is arranged from Fremantle for today.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"PERTH" arrived Fremantle this morning - a day earlier than expected. OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "ACHILLES" visit to Auckland and Campbell Islands for the purpose of raider intelligence proved negative. "ACHILLES" departed Brisbane early this morning. When off Cape York, "ACHILLES" will part company and return to Sydney arriving 1500 Friday, 29th November.

GENERAL. When search commenced yesterday sweep up two mines in approximate position 33° 53' South and 145° 56' East.

Capt. H.L. Howden, O.B.E., R.A.N., commanding H.M.A.S. "HOBART" has been awarded the C.B.E. for services rendered during operations undertaken off Cape York.

"SAMUEL BENSON" returned to Sydney yesterday having engaged in the search for the floating mine reported by H.M.S. "HOBART" off Newcastle on Saturday last.

"COLEBAR" departed Brisbane yesterday to undergo short refit at Sydney.

"BERYL II" reported yesterday all depth charges in the wreck of "HOBART" are set to "SAFE".

PACIFIC OCEAN RAIDER.

S.S. "BRANDIBAR", a passenger and cargo vessel of 13,712 tons gross owned by the New Zealand Shipping Co. whose normal run is from U.K. to New Zealand via Panama Canal, early this morning made the "attacked by enemy warship" (S.R.S.R.) distress message from a position about 500 miles East of Auckland.

H.M.S. "ACHILLES" has left Lyttelton to search and H.M.S. "HOBART" is returning to Sava.

GENERAL.

S.S. "MORRIS", a Queensland intrastate vessel of 400 tons requisitioned from Adelaide Steamship Co. arrived Melbourne yesterday and will be fitted out at Williamstown for service as an auxiliary vessel.

SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

0900 Wednesday, 27th November, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

"PERTH" arrived Fremantle 0630 this morning - a day earlier than expected. "CANBERRA" have been ordered to return to Fremantle, the former to arrive before the latter.

"ADELAIDE" escorting Transport "ZEALANDIE" departed Brisbane early this morning. When off Sandy Cape, "ADELAIDE" will part company and return to Sydney arriving 1500 Friday, 29th November.

20th M.S.F. When searching S.C.F.5 yesterday swept up two mines in approximate position $38^{\circ} 58'$ South and $146^{\circ} 56'$ East. A clearing sweep of this area will be commenced today and is to be completed before clearing operations are undertaken off Cape Otway.

"SAMUEL BENBOW" returned to Sydney yesterday having engaged in the search for the floating mine reported by S.S. "NOORA" off Newcastle on Saturday last.

"COOLEBAR" departed Brisbane yesterday to undergo short refit at Sydney.

"BERYL II" reported yesterday all depth charges in the wreck of "GOORANGAI" are set to "SAFE".

REARMOUNTS SERVICE.

PACIFIC OCEAN RAIDER.

"ADRIAN" is expected to complete her refit and sail from Sydney. S.S. "RANGITANE", a passenger and cargo vessel of 16,712 tons gross owned by the New Zealand Shipping Co. whose normal run is from U.K. to New Zealand via Panama Canal, early this morning made the "attacked by enemy warship" (R.R.R.R.) distress message from a position about 500 miles East of Auckland. H.M.S. "ACHILLES" has left Lyttleton to search and H.M.S. "MONOWAI" is returning to Suva.

GENERAL.

S.S. "TOORIE", a Queensland intrastate vessel of 400 tons requisitioned from Adelaide Steamship Co. arrived Melbourne yesterday and will be fitted out at Williamstown for service as an auxiliary M/S vessel.

ACTION

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Tuesday, 26th November, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. Ships "PERTH" and "CANBERRA" have been ordered to return to Fremantle, the former to arrive before the latter, both should arrive on Thursday, 28th November.

H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" arrived Darwin 1845 yesterday Monday from Exercises and Patrol.

20th M.S.F. continued Minesweeping operations in the Bass Straits. One mine was swept by "SWAN" in a position 148° - 2.5 miles from South East Point and later sunk by "GOOLGWAI". Today, Tuesday, a Searching Sweep of S.C.F.5 will be made to a distance 30 miles each side of South East Point. All ships will rendezvous at Apollo Bay on Saturday 30th November in readiness to commence sweeping in the Cape Otway Area.

The search for a floating mine reported off Newcastle on Saturday 23rd November has been abandoned. "SAMUEL BENBOW" is returning to Sydney and "BERMAGUI" to Newcastle. A floating petrol drum was sighted by aircraft and later salvaged 5 miles east of Redhead.

EXAMINATION SERVICE.

"ADELE" is expected to complete her refit and sail from Sydney on 7th December for Darwin.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "MONOWAI" departed from Suva at 0900 yesterday, Monday for Nauru, Ocean Island and Islands in the Gilbert and Ellice Groups, returning to Suva not later than 13th December.

AUXILIARY VESSELS.

"VIGILANT" having completed fitting out will be ready for sea tomorrow Wednesday. She is to leave Townsville when ready and proceed to Thursday Island.

GENERAL.

H.M. the King has approved Surgeon Captain Leonard Darby C.B.E., F.R.S., and Surgeon Captain W.J. Carr, C.B.E. R.A.N., to be his Honorary Surgeon and Physician respectively.

NO ACTION

DAILY NARRATIVE.

SECRET Sunday, 24th November.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Monday, 25th November, 1940. AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"PERTH" and "CANBERRA" at 2200K yesterday were to have abandoned the search for enemy raider and return to Fremantle the former arriving Thursday morning and the latter p.m. Thursday 28th November. After refuelling they will form the escort of U.S.7.

"ADELAIDE" arrived Brisbane yesterday escorting Transport "ZEALANDIA".

"WARREGO", "SWAN", "ORARA", "DURRAWEE", "KOROWA" and "NAMBUCCA" on completion of sweeping off Wilsons Promontory yesterday anchored for the night at Sealers Cove. "GOOLGWAI" from Sydney is expected to join the Flotilla at noon today.

"SAMUEL BENBOW" arrived Newcastle yesterday morning and later left to join "BERMAGUI" in search for the floating mine reported by "NOORA" and as yet not located.

"BERYL II" during diving operations yesterday recovered the body of A.B. Carter from the wreck of "GOORANGAI". Diving is continuing today, hampered by heavy seas and poor visibility, carried out a search with negative result. The area was declared dangerous, shipping warned and a "QF" message originated.

AIR SEARCHES.

"NOORA" was ordered by Naval Board to close the examination vessel at Sydney. Air searches arranged yesterday were cancelled owing to low visibility and the state of the weather. The routine patrol off the Queensland coast from Archerfield is in progress this morning.

Auxiliary S/S vessel "SAMUEL BENBOW" was sailed from Sydney last night to assist with TRANSPORTS. today in which one aircraft from Bathurst will co-operate.

"AQUITANIA" arrived Sydney yesterday.

CONVOY U.S.8 will probably comprise "QUEEN MARY", "AQUITANIA", "MAURETANIA", "DOMINION MONARCH" and "EMPRESS of RUSSIA".

"ZEALANDIA" arrived Brisbane yesterday. An interceptable vessel of 1800 tons, also named "ZEALANDIA" was reported by enemy warship (HRRR) distress message reporting she was being chased by a suspicious ship in a position approximately 55 miles west of Brisbane.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

H.M.A.S. "AUSTRALIA" now commencing refit in the U.K. is to be completed and ready for sea by 21st December.

From an intercepted Admiralty message it would appear that it is intended to use A.M.C.'s for the transport of troops from the U.K. to Freetown.

GENERAL.

H.M. the King has approved Surgeon Captain Leonard Darby C.B.E., R.A.N., and Surgeon Captain W.J. Carr, C.B.E. R.A.N., to be his Honorary Surgeon and Physician respectively.

"MAURETANIA" departed at Station Pier, Port Melbourne, at 0630 this morning.

to 0900 Sunday, 24th November.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

L.M.A. SHIPS - Aircraft from Richmond to make a step aside diverging search from Peajory Head to a depth of 300 miles. Aircraft took on passage from Adelaide to Wilson's Promontory have been delayed by bad weather.

"WARREGO"
"SWAN")

"NAMBUCCA"
"ORARA"
"DURRAWEEEN"
"KOROWA") were unable to sweep yesterday and proceeded to Oberon Bay on the Western side of Wilson's Promontory to shelter until weather moderated.

"GOOLGWAI" from Sydney expects to arrive Wilson's Promontory at noon tomorrow, Monday.

"TAMBAR" arrived Brisbane yesterday to rejoin Group 54.

OPERATIONS OVER SEAS.
FLOATING MINE.

S.S. "NOORA", an interstate vessel of 1072 tons, owned by Adelaide Steamship Co., bound from Coffs Harbour to Melbourne, reported having sighted a floating mine 30 miles off Newcastle yesterday forenoon.

H.M.S. "BERMAGUI" was despatched from Newcastle to investigate and two aircraft from Richmond, hampered by heavy seas and poor visibility, carried out a search with negative result. The area was declared dangerous, shipping warned and a "QF" message originated.

"NOORA" was ordered by Naval Board to close the examination vessel at Sydney to give details of mine sighted, and the Master's report seems to leave little doubt that the object sighted was a mine fitted with 4 or 5 horns.

Auxiliary M/S vessel "SAMUEL BENBOW" was sailed from Sydney last night to assist with the search today in which one aircraft from Rathmines will co-operate.

RAIDER REPORT.

S.S. "OORAMA", an interstate vessel of 1050 tons, also owned by Adelaide Steamship Co., bound from Burnie to Newcastle, at 1525 yesterday made the "attacked by enemy warship" (RRRR) distress message reporting she was being chased by a suspicious ship in a position approximately 55 miles south of Gabo.

Two aircraft were despatched from Laverton to investigate, but owing to poor visibility and bad weather the vessel was not located. At 2000K, however, "OORAMA" was heard, by Melbourne radio, replying to a signal from Naval Board, but due to low power of her W/T set and atmospheric conditions, the message was unintelligible. At 0800 this morning a report was received from "OORAMA", via La Perouse Radio, to the effect that a steamer had followed and attempted to close and later veered off.

"CONVOY U.S.8"

"MAURETANIA" berthed at Station Pier, Port Melbourne, at 0830 this morning.

AIR OPERATIONS.

Searches ordered for today, Sunday, as follows:-

Five aircraft from Richmond to make a step aside diverging search from Barrenjory Head to a depth of 350 miles. Aircraft took off at 0500 this morning, but were recalled on account of visibility and they are now at 1 hour's notice until 1200.

Five aircraft from Laverton to make a step aside diverging search from Lakes Entrance to a depth of 350 miles. This search is held up pending improvements of visibility - and the planes are at one hour's notice until 1200.

One aircraft from Archerfield took off at 0430 this morning to search a radius 80 miles from Cape Moreton.

MINESWEEPING OPERATIONS.OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "ACHILLES" arrived Lyttelton yesterday.

H.M.S. "MONOWAI", escorting H.T. "RANGATIRA", arrived Suva from Auckland yesterday.

H.M.S. "WARRECO" and "SWAN" are due in the Bass Straits a.m. today.

FREIGHTSHIPS.

"ALBIONIA" escorted by H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE" departed from Sydney p.m. yesterday Friday and both ships expect to arrive at Brisbane at 1500 tomorrow Sunday.

AUXILIARY VESSELS.

H.M.S. Patrol Vessel "VIGILANT" now fitting out at *Linnville* is expected to be ready for sea on Wednesday 27th November.

"ANTONIA" sailed from Sydney p.m. yesterday and is expected to arrive Yarraville at 1000 Tuesday 28th November. After discharge of a small quantity of cargo the vessel will commence fitting out at Williamstown as an Auxiliary Sweeper.

AIR OPERATIONS.

Air search for the purpose of locating the Surface Raider, carried out yesterday by S.W.A.C.H.Q. was negative.

Searches today Friday will be -

(i) Commencing at 0430 from Cape Moreton between the bearings 347° and 174° for a distance of 80 miles.

(ii) Commencing at 1415 from Lakes Entrance between 100° and 157° to provide clearance for "AGUITANIA".

GENERAL.

The Experimental Department of the Portland A/S School is to be transferred to Paislie in Ayrshire on Thursday 28th November and H.M.S. "GSPREY" will transfer from Portland to Durnoon in Argyllshire on the 15th January, 1941.

CONVOY U.S.S.

"AGUITANIA" is due Port Phillip at 1400 today Saturday.

SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Saturday, 23rd November, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A.S. "PERTH" departed Fremantle at 1037 yesterday Friday for the purpose of hunting the surface raider recently operating on the Durban/Fremantle route. *ing been instructed to*
H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" after reaching a position 29° 20'S, 95° 30'E at 2200 yesterday Friday has been ordered to proceed Westward until 2200 tomorrow Sunday and then turn Eastward provided no further information of the surface raider is received.
and "SWAN" left Adelaide yesterday for Wilsons Promontory.

MINESWEEPING OPERATIONS.

Group 54 ("NAMBUCCA", "ORARA", "DURRAWEEEN" and "KOROWA") departed from Hobsons Bay at 1400 yesterday Friday for Mine Clearing operations in the Bass Straits. These vessels will be joined by "GOOLGWAI" who left Sydney at 2236 yesterday Friday.

H.M.A. Ships "WARREGO" and "SWAN" are due in the Bass Straits a.m. today.

FREIGHTSHIPS.

"ZEALANDIA" escorted by H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE" departed from Sydney p.m. yesterday Friday and both ships expect to arrive at Brisbane at 1500 tomorrow Sunday.

AUXILIARY VESSELS.

H.M.A. Patrol Vessel "VIGILANT" now fitting out at *Yarraville* ~~Yarraville~~ is expected to be ready for sea on Wednesday 27th November.

S.S. "TOORIE" sailed from Sydney p.m. yesterday and is expected to arrive Yarraville at 1000 Tuesday 26th November. After discharge of a small quantity of cargo the vessel will commence fitting out at Williamstown as an Auxiliary Sweeper.

AIR OPERATIONS.

Air search for the purpose of locating the Surface Raider, carried out yesterday by S.W.A.C.H.Q. was negative.

Searches today Friday will be -

(i) Commencing at 0430 from Cape Moreton between the bearings 347° and 174° for a distance of 80 miles.

(ii) Commencing at 1415 from Lakes Entrance between 100° and 157° to provide clearance for "AQUITANIA".

GENERAL.

The Experimental Department of the Portland A/S School is to be transferred to Fairlie in Ayrshire on Thursday 28th November and H.M.S. "OSPREY" will transfer from Portland to Dunoon in Argyllshire on the 15th January, 1941.

CONVOY U.S.S.

"MAURETANIA" is due Port Phillip at 1400 today Saturday.

"MANTANITA" is due Sydney at 1430 tomorrow Sunday.

SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Friday, 22nd November, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"PERTH" arrived Fremantle yesterday flying flag of F.O.C.A.S. and escorting U.S.7. Has this morning been instructed to support "CANBERRA" in search for surface raider operating 1000 miles West of Fremantle and is proceeding accordingly.

"ADELAIDE" arrived Sydney 2350K yesterday.

"WARREGO" and "SWAN" left Adelaide yesterday for Wilsons Promontory.

"ORARA" exercised in Port Phillip yesterday and returned to Princes Pier.

"NAMBUCCA", "ORARA", "DURRAWEEEN" and "KOROWA" sail today to sweep the enemy minefield off Wilsons Promontory under S.O. 20th M.S.F.

CONVOYS.

U.S.7 arrived Fremantle yesterday. Sailing is being delayed owing to the raider situation in the Indian Ocean.

U.S.8 "QUEEN MARY" arrived Sydney yesterday.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "ACHILLES" programme is altered in view of enemy raider operating in the Indian Ocean and she will now proceed direct to Timaru N.Z. from Campbell Island.

INDIAN OCEAN RAIDER.

A message was intercepted this morning from S.S. "PORT BRISBANE" (8700 tons on passage Adelaide to Durban) to the effect that she was being shelled by a surface warship 290 miles N.W. of the position given by "MAIMOA" attacked on Wednesday 20th November and 1000 miles west of Fremantle.

SHIPPING CASUALTY.

S.S. "ORUNGAL" A.U.S.N. Corp. Interstate passenger and cargo vessel of 5826 gross tons ran ashore at 2215K yesterday off Barwon Head 5 miles from the entrance to Port Phillip. On passage from Sydney to Melbourne the vessel had 17 passengers on board. The Examination Steamer "VICTORIA" was ordered to stand by shortly after the stranding and remained in the vicinity throughout the night unable to give assistance owing to the very heavy weather prevailing. At 0540 today the passengers and 40 members of the crew were taken off by the Queenscliff Life Boat which returned for the remainder at 0800. There was 12 ft. of water in No.2 hold 10 feet in the stokehold. The Master stated the position was hopeless and abandoned ship at 0845 this morning.

DATE. NARRATIVE.

0900 Thursday, AIR OPERATIONS. 1940.

A search with the object of locating an enemy raider was to be carried out by 6 aircraft from Perth today to a depth of 450 miles. One aircraft from Archerfield this morning is carrying out a reconnaissance patrol to a depth of 80 miles off Moreton Bay.

SEA SHIPS

"CASHERA" arrived GENERAL. 1950 yesterday and sailed at 0035 this morning, with aircraft embarked, to search for The visit of C.O.I.S. (Capt. F.J. Wylie, R.N.) to Melbourne and Wellington N.Z. towards the end of the year has been approved by the Admiralty. Williamstown 0900 yesterday for Sydney.

M/S Vessel "TAMBAR" on completion of refit at Sydney sailed for Brisbane yesterday to rejoin Group 74.

"SWANER" arrived Williamstown yesterday. It is understood this vessel is credited with the first of the three mines swept up during the recent operations off Wilsons Promontory.

"BRUNGA" berthed at Princes Pier last night.

"BANGAL" at 2045 last night was sunk after collision with M.V. "DUNTRON" just off the South Channel, in Examination Area. An intensive search by boats from "DUNTRON", the Queenscliff life boat and other small craft failed to locate any survivors and it is feared the whole complement of 24 officers and men must be considered lost. "DUNTRON", with 30 passengers embarked, was outward bound to Sydney at the time of the collision but returned to harbor and is now berthed at Nelson Pier, Williamstown. State Publicity censors and Communication Censor have been instructed to withhold any reference to shipping accidents in Victorian waters until the next of kin have been informed.

AIR OPERATIONS.

A/S patrol ahead of Convoy U.S.7 commenced at 0430 this morning and will be maintained until convoy reaches Fremantle at 0900 today Thursday.

TRANSPORTS AND FREIGHT SHIPS.

"MAKENTANIA" (U.S.S.) departed Fremantle 0900 yesterday for Port Phillip arriving 1400 Saturday, 23rd November.

Passenger ship "THENIBOOCLES" departed Port Phillip yesterday for Albany en route to Capetown and U.K.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "MOLGAI" escorting H.T. "BANGALIA" departed Auckland Tuesday, 19th November for Suva.

RAIDER - INDIAN OCEAN.

The Shaw Savill & Albion Company's "MAIBO", a cargo vessel of 10,000 tons gross built in 1920 which left Fremantle on Sunday, 17th November for Durban, sent out a raider distress message at 1830 yesterday in position 31° 50' South, 100° 21' East (about 840 miles West of Perth) stating that she was being

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Thursday, 21st November, 1940. A.S. "CANBERRA" to sail from Fremantle to locate raider and instructed "MAIMOA" to report present situation but no reply has been received.

(All times 'K')

RAIDER - SOUTH ATLANTIC.H.M.A. SHIPS

"CANBERRA" arrived Fremantle 1050 yesterday and sailed at 0035 this morning, with aircraft embarked, to search for raider. Sunday last, 17th November for Capetown.

"ADELAIDE" departed Williamstown 0900 yesterday for Sydney.

Aux. M/S Vessel "TAMBAR" on completion of refit at Sydney sailed for Brisbane yesterday to rejoin Group 74.

"DURRAWEE" arrived Williamstown yesterday. It is understood this vessel is credited with the first of the three mines swept up during the recent operations off Wilsons Promontory.

"NAMBUCCA" berthed at Princes Pier Last night. 18th November, has searched in Sydney but there is no evidence of minelaying.

"COORANGAI" at 2045 last night was sunk after collision with M.V. "DUNTROON" just off the South Channel, in Examination Area. An intensive search by boats from "DUNTROON", the Queenscliff life boat and other small craft failed to locate any survivors and it is feared the whole complement of 24 officers and men must be considered lost. "DUNTROON", with 50 passengers embarked, was outward bound to Sydney at the time of the collision but returned to harbour and is now berthed at Nelson Pier, Williamstown. State Publicity censors and Communication Censor have been instructed to withhold any reference to shipping accidents in Victorian waters until the next of kin have been informed.

AIR OPERATIONS.

A/S patrol ahead of Convoy U.S.7 commenced at 0430 this morning and will be maintained until convoy reaches Fremantle at 2000 today Thursday.

TRANSPORTS AND FREIGHT SHIPS.

"MAURETANIA" (U.S.8) departed Fremantle 0900 yesterday for Port Phillip arriving 1400 Saturday, 23rd November.

Freight Ship "THEMISTOCLES" departed Port Phillip yesterday for Albany en route to Capetown and U.K.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "MONOWAI" escorting H.T. "RANGATIRA" departed Auckland Tuesday, 19th November for Suva.

RAIDER - INDIAN OCEAN.

The Shaw Savill & Albion Company's "MAIMOA", a cargo vessel of 10,000 tons gross built in 1920 which left Fremantle on Sunday, 17th November for Durban, sent out a raider distress message at 1830 yesterday in position 31° 50' South, 100° 21' East (about 840 miles West of Perth) stating that she was being

DAILY NARRATIVE.

The Naval Board ordered H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" to sail from Fremantle to locate raider and instructed "MAIMOA" to report present situation but no reply has been received.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.RAIDER - SOUTH ATLANTIC.

D/F fix from Penang, Simonstown and Durban indicated a raider was in a position about 500 miles South of Trinidad at 0511 yesterday. It will be recalled S.S. "QUEEN ELIZABETH" sailed from Trinidad on Sunday last, 17th November for Capetown. Cleaning expected to be ready for sea a.m. tomorrow Thursday.

H.M.A.S. "MORESBY" departed GENERAL. Sydney at 1011 yesterday Tuesday for Jarvis Bay.

The Three ratings landed at Berbera on 10th August, from H.M.A.S. "HOBART" who were captured during subsequent operations in British Somaliland are now reported interned at Camp Diredaa in Abyssinia.

Japanese vessel "KOGYO MARU", observed to be acting suspiciously off Gabe Island on the night of 18th November, has been searched in Sydney but there is no evidence of minelaying activities.

Vice Admiral Sir George Edward-Collins has been appointed F.O.C., North Atlantic to date 12th December.

departed Fremantle 1140 yesterday Tuesday expects to arrive at Sydney Sunday, 24th.

"QUEEN MARY" expects to arrive Sydney a.m. tomorrow Thursday.

"AURESTAVIA" departure from Fremantle has been delayed owing to bad weather until 0700 today Wednesday.

AIR OPERATIONS.

A Clearing Search in the S.W. area to provide cover for S.S. "T" will be made today, Wednesday and an A/S patrol ahead of the convoy will be maintained during daylight hours.

An Air Search by aircraft from Laverton today Wednesday to provide cover for "QUEEN MARY", commencing at 0645 from the Whistone Lighthouse on a bearing of 130° for 085° and thence to the East Coast of Tasmania.

In the afternoon a search of both the West and East Coasts of Tasmania will be made.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

It is reported that the German Pocket Battleship "SCHERN" may be in the vicinity of the Azores.

GENERAL.

Commander Calder will visit Navy Office on Sunday, 24th November, to discuss Minelaying.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Wednesday, 20th November, 1940.

To 0900 Tuesday, 19th November, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE" arrived Williamstown at 2045 yesterday Tuesday and on completion of fuelling expects to sail at 0900 today for Sydney, E.T.A. 2000 tomorrow Thursday.

H.M.A. SHIPS "WARREGO" and "SWAN" now at Port Adelaide boiler cleaning expect to be ready for sea a.m. tomorrow Thursday.

H.M.A.S. "MORESBY" departed from Sydney at 1011 yesterday Tuesday for Jervis Bay.

H.M.A.S. "ORARA" berthed at Port Melbourne at 1220 yesterday Tuesday and will be available for Gunnery School Firings tomorrow Thursday.

Aux. M/S Vessels "DURRAWEE" and "KOROWA" will return to Melbourne for coal, stores, etc., at p.m. tomorrow Thursday.

H.M.S. "MAURETANIA" arrived Fremantle yesterday.

H.M.S. "QUEEN MARY" CONVOY U.S.S. from Trinidad on Sunday 17th November and is due at Capetown 27th November.

"AQUITANIA" departed Fremantle 1140 yesterday Tuesday expects to arrive at Sydney Sunday, 24th.

"QUEEN MARY" expects to arrive Sydney a.m. tomorrow Thursday.

"MAURETANIA" departure from Fremantle has been delayed owing to bad weather until 0700 today Wednesday.

British Destroyer "BUREA" collided with and sank an A/S Trawler in AIR OPERATIONS. The Trawler's depth charges sank H.M.S. "ANSON" standing by.

A Clearing Search in the S.W. area to provide cover for U.S.7 will be made today, Wednesday and an A/S patrol ahead of the Convoy will be maintained during daylight hours.

An Air Search by aircraft from Laverton today Wednesday, to provide cover for "QUEEN MARY", commencing at 0545 from the Eddystone Lighthouse on a bearing of 130° for 235' and thence to the East Coast of Tasmania.

In the afternoon a search of both the West and East Coasts of Tasmania will be made.

A report was received from the War Signal Station on Gabo Island last night to the effect that 8 splashes about 40 feet in height in the vicinity of the stern of Japanese "KORYU" from Melbourne passing Gabo Island.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS. It is reported that the German Pocket Battleship "ADMIRAL SCHEER" may be in the vicinity of the Azores. Gabo Island and the present intention is to carry out a sweep for mines in this area on completion of her refit at Sydney.

GENERAL.

Commander Calder will visit Navy Office on Monday, 25th November, to discuss Minelaying.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Sunday, 18th November, 1940.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Tuesday, 19th November, 1940.

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

"MANOORA" departed Darwin yesterday to carry out exercises in conjunction with the R.A.A.F. and patrol. She will return to Melbourne before returning to Sydney whence she will sail.

"WARRECO" and "SWAN" arrived Adelaide yesterday and will clean boilers.

"KYBRA" departed Sydney yesterday for Jervis Bay. She will carry out exploratory sweeps with negative results, from a position

"ORARA" returned to Port Phillip today to coal in readiness for Gunnery School firings on Thursday, 21st November. This morning to land Press Photographers.

TRANSPORTS.

U.S.S. "MAURETANIA" arrived Fremantle yesterday.

S.S. "QUEEN ELIZABETH" sailed from Trinidad on Sunday 17th November and is due at Capetown 27th November.

(U.S.S.) will be sailed from Fremantle so as to arrive Sydney at high water on Sunday, 24th November.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "MONOWAI" escorting H.T. "RANGATIRA" arrived Auckland yesterday from Suva.

Polish Destroyer "BURZA" collided with and sunk an A/S Trawler in the Clyde 16th November. The Trawler's depth charges damaged H.M.S. "ARROW" standing by.

H.M.S. "DECOY" (Commander E.G. McGregor) was hit by a bomb at Alexandria 13th November, 2 Officers and 9 ratings being killed. Captain and Air Percy Noble have

5 British Cruisers with Troops embarked from the Middle East have arrived at Piraeus.

INTELLIGENCE.

A report was received from the War Signal Station on Gabo Island last night to the effect that 6 splashes about 40 feet in height were observed in the vicinity of the stern of Japanese "KOGYO MARU" bound to Sydney from Melbourne passing Gabo Island 7 miles distant at 1810K yesterday. As a precautionary measure, shipping has been warned not to pass within 15 miles of Gabo Island and the present intention is for "DOOMBA" to carry out a sweep for mines in this area on completion of her refit at Sydney.

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DAILY NARRATIVE.

SECRET

17th 30 DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Monday, 18th November, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS "YASSI" - "YASSI" departed from Sydney on Wednesday, for Brisbane, and will replace "COOLEBAR", who is to return to Sydney as soon as convenient after relief.

"PERTH" will rendezvous with Convoy U.S.7 to the Westward of Kangaroo Island at 1700 today Monday to take over escort from H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE".

"ADELAIDE" on completion of escort duties with U.S.7 will fuel at Melbourne before returning to Sydney whence she will sail p.m. Friday, 22nd November to escort "ZEALANDIA" to Sandy Cape.

"ORARA" with "DURRAWEEEN" and "KOROWA" yesterday carried out exploratory sweeps, with negative results, from a position 26 miles East of Wilson's Promontory to outside 100-fathom line. "ORARA" intended to arrive Corner Inlet at 0630 this morning to land Press Photographers.

TRANSPORTS and FREIGHTSHIPS.

"STRATHEDEN" (U.S.7) sailed from Adelaide 0730 this morning to rendezvous with convoy at 1900 today.

"ACQUITANIA" (U.S.8) will be sailed from Fremantle so as to arrive Sydney at high water on Sunday, 24th November.

TRANSPORT "ZEALANDIA", with 600 troops embarked, will sail from Sydney on Friday next, 22nd November for Darwin calling at Brisbane.

FREIGHTSHIP "THE ISTOCLES" berthed Port Melbourne yesterday and will sail tomorrow with approximately 100 Naval personnel embarked for Capetown and U.K.

"ACQUITANIA" GENERAL.

Admirals Sir Dunbar Nasmyth and Sir Percy Noble have been appointed C. in C. Plymouth and Western Approaches respectively from next month.

Searches yesterday, Saturday, to the eastward and westward of the Strait, in the vicinity of Cape Moreton, Townsville, Whitsunday, Mackay and Gladstone and in the S.E. area were negative.

Today Sunday there will be the following -

- (1) From Cape Wickham, King Island bearing 210° and 270° to a depth of 300 miles commencing at 0800.
- (2) From Cape Jaffa on a bearing of 090° for 200 miles then 055° for 150 miles to the entrance of the Spencer Gulf commencing at 0530.
- (3) To cover the area in (2) to commence from the West and search eastwards commencing at 1800.

TO 000 SUNDAY, 17th NOVEMBER, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

Auxiliary M/S Vessels - "TAMBAR" is to depart from Sydney on Wednesday, 20th, for Brisbane, and will replace "COOLEBAR", who is to return to Sydney as soon as convenient after relief.

"ORARA" proceeded to East Bass Strait at 0745 yesterday Saturday, from Portsea where she has been sheltering.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "ACHILLES" departed from Sydney at 1625 yesterday, Saturday, for Auckland.

H.M.S. "MONOWAI" intends to carry out the following programme departing from Suva on Monday 25th November, to visit Nauru, Ocean Island, and several other small islands, returning to Suva not later than 13th December and thence to Auckland.

CONVOY U.S. 7. "STRATHMORE" with troops embarked departed Port Melbourne at 1505 yesterday, Saturday, for a Bay Anchorage, and will proceed today, Sunday, to rendezvous in the Western Bass Strait with "ORION" and "BATORY" escorted by H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE".

"STRATHEDEN" arrived at Adelaide at 2144 yesterday, Saturday.

CONVOY U.S. 8. "QUEEN MARY" expects to arrive Sydney at high water, Thursday 21st November, and is proceeding from Fremantle via the south of Tasmania. S.T.O. Bombay has reported that the draught of this ship makes her unsatisfactory in view of the distance out she has to anchor, and suggests that in future Trincomalee should be used.

"AQUITANIA" arrived at Fremantle at 1500 yesterday, Saturday.

AIR OPERATIONS.

Searches yesterday, Saturday, to the eastward and westward of Bass Strait, in the vicinity of Cape Moreton, Townsville, Whitsunday Passage, Mackay and Gladstone and in the S.W. area were negative.

Today Sunday there will be the following -

- (1) From Cape Wickham, King Island between bearings 210° and 270° to a depth of 300 miles commencing at 0530.
- (2) From Cape Jaffa on a bearing of 280° for 280 miles then 045° for 150 miles to the entrance of the Spencer Gulf commencing at 0530.
- (3) To cover the area in (2) to commence from the West and search eastwards commencing at 1500.

U.S. Ships "RAPID" and "WILCOX" commission 23th November and "HURON" 19th December.

SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

Friday, 15th November 1940.
DAILY NARRATIVE.

From 0900 Sat. 16th Nov. 1940

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS

"PERTH" departed Fremantle yesterday for rendezvous with "ADELAIDE" and U.S.7.

"CANBERRA" is expected to arrive Fremantle on Wednesday, 20th November

"MANGORA" has been detailed to escort "ZEALANDIA" from Thursday Island to Darwin and return, the operation commencing approximately 30th November.

"MORESBY" intends carrying out a cruise with A/S Class embarked leaving Sydney Tuesday 19th November for Jervis Bay and returning 29th November, proceeds to Moreton Bay 2nd December arriving 4th December. A stay of three days (6th - 9th December) is included in the programme and final return to Sydney is arranged for 12th December.

"ORARA" is sheltering in Port Phillip until the weather in Bass Strait moderates.

CONVOYS.

U.S.8 "QUEEN MARY" arrived at Fremantle yesterday. "AQUITANIA" is due today.

AIR OPERATIONS.

A patrol during daylight hours is being carried out today at Fremantle presumably for protection of "QUEEN MARY".

A Search is in progress this morning from King Island and during the afternoon a search will take place from Lakes Entrance the object of both being to locate enemy surface vessels or minelayers.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

Five only of 37 vessels in Convoy HX are now missing.

The French submarine "POUCELET" which had instructions to torpedo H.M.S. "MILFORD" was engaged by the latter and holed. The crew surrendered and scuttled the submarine.

Aircraft from H.M. Ships "EAGLE" and "ILLUSTRIOUS" using torpedoes and bombs were responsible for the successful raid on the Italian Fleet at Taranto night of 11th 12th November.

H.M.A.S. "HOBART" will leave Aden for the return voyage to Australia not later than 14th December.

H.M.S. "MONOWAI" escorting H.T. "RANGATIRA" arrived Suva Thursday 14th November and departed yesterday for Auckland.

H.M. Ships "NAPIER" and "NIZAM" commission 28th November and "NUBIAN" 19th December.

To 0900 Friday, 15th November, 1940.

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

"ADELAIDE" departed Sydney 2310 yesterday to escort H.F.'s "ORION" and "BATORY" to rendezvous. As a result of the report by "WARREGO" having completed repairs to boiler brickwork sailed for Port Melbourne at 0800 this morning. "WARREGO" by A.C. and "SWAN" are now proceeding independently so as to carry out searching sweep in Backstairs Passage tomorrow morning. They will then sweep in Investigator Strait until a.m. Monday, 18th November when both ships proceed to Adelaide for boiler cleaning.

"ORARA" will carry out exploratory sweeps in vicinity of Wilson's Promontory today and tomorrow Saturday.

"DURRAWEE" } secured alongside Welshpool Pier at 1400 yesterday
"KOROWA" } to coal and embark provisions. They will commence sweeping at daylight tomorrow in Wilson's Promontory area of minor defects.

"ORARA" departed from Port Phillip at 1100 yesterday, CONVOYS AND FREIGHT SHIPS. the Western Pass Straits.

"STRATHEDEN" sailed from Port Melbourne at 0500 this morning and passed through Port Phillip Heads at 0730 on passage to Adelaide. When proceeding down the Bay, "STRATHEDEN" reported she was unable to run starboard paravane owing to a fractured link in chain. She was told to proceed in execution of previous orders at 1815 yesterday.

"ORION" } departed Sydney Heads 0030 this morning. He searched
"BATORY" } Escorted by H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE" they should reach rendezvous clear of the swept channel to the Westward of King Island, at 1800 Sunday, 17th November where "STRATHMORE" joins the Convoy.

FREIGHT SHIP "NESTOR", with 201 Naval and Air Force personnel embarked, departed Port Phillip yesterday for South Africa and United Kingdom calling at Fremantle. Search commenced at 0830 today between Broken Bay and Montague Island to a depth of 100 miles with the object of locating the ship reported. The result of this search AIR OPERATIONS.

One Hudson aircraft from Richmond will carry out A/S patrol ahead of Convoy "U.S.7" between 0500 and 1800 today Friday. Air operations yesterday, Wednesday, were all negative.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

H.M.A.S. "AUSTRALIA" on completion of convoy escort duties was ordered yesterday to proceed to the Clyde.

H.M.A.S. "WESTRALIA" was detached from Force "V" at daylight this morning and is proceeding to Colombo arriving Sunday, November 17th.

"ORION" and "BATORY" will depart from Sydney p.m. today on escorts for troop convoys in South Atlantic are to be strengthened owing to the possibility of an armed raider being at large. "CARRARA" will leave patrol in approx. position 30° S. 90° E. at 0800 Thursday, and adjust her speed GENERAL.

H.M.S. "NERISSA", one of the new "JAVELIN" class destroyers, has been taken over by the Polish Government. She was commissioned with Polish crew on 24th October and renamed "PIORUN".

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

"QUEEN MARY" departed Bombay 9th November. E.T.A. Fremantle
TO 0900 THURSDAY, 14th NOVEMBER, 1940.

"MAURITANIA" departed Bombay 8th November. E.T.A. Fremantle
Saturday 11th November.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

"MAURETANIA" departed Colombo 11th November. E.T.A.

H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE" from patrol arrived Sydney at 1825 yesterday
Wednesday, and will depart p.m. today escorting U.S.7
("ORION" and "BATORY"). As a result of the report by
S.S. "CALEDON" of a suspicious ship off Point Perpendicular
orders to come to immediate readiness for sea were given by
A.C.H.Q. S.E. Area and the ship was ready to proceed at
0745 but has now reverted to usual notice.

H.M.S. "ACHILLES" It is expected that the repairs to the mast will
be completed tomorrow Friday, and to the aircraft on
Saturday 16th November. After degaussing tests have been
carried out intends to proceed to Auckland which will be
either on the 16th or 17th November.

H.M.A.S. "WARREGO" berthed at Williamstown at 1730 yesterday,
Wednesday, is expected to be ready for sea a.m. tomorrow
Friday, on completion of repairs to the Brickwork of No. 1
Boiler, and the making good of minor defects.

H.M.A.S. "SWAN" departed from Port Phillip at 1123 yesterday,
Wednesday, for sweeping operations in the Western Bass
Straits.

H.M.A.S. "ORARA" on completion of sweeping operations yesterday,
Wednesday, was ordered to proceed to Port Melbourne for coal
and stores and arrived at 0700K.

H.M.A.S. "NAMBUCCA" departed Port Melbourne at 1815 yesterday,
Wednesday, and will join "GOORANGAI" and "BERYL II" at
daybreak and commence sweeping operations in the searched
channel for entering Port Phillip.

H.M.A.S. "PERTH" intends to depart from Fremantle p.m. tomorrow
Friday, to rendezvous with "ADELAIDE" and U.S.7.

A suspicious ship was reported by S.S. "CALEDON" at 2345
yesterday, Wednesday, when in a position 168° 12½ miles from Point
Perpendicular Lighthouse. As a result of this report an Air Search
commenced at 0530 today between Broken Bay and Montague Island to
a depth of 140 miles with the object of locating the ship reported.
The result of this search is negative.

AIR OPERATIONS.

Air operations yesterday, Wednesday, were all negative.

CONVOYS AND FREIGHTSHIPS.

U.S.7 - "STRATHMORE" arrived and berthed at Port Melbourne at 2050
yesterday, Wednesday.

"STRATHEDEN" is expected to sail for Port Adelaide p.m.
today Thursday.

"ORION" and "BATORY" will depart from Sydney p.m. today on
completion of embarkation.

H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" will leave patrol in approx. position
10° S. 90° E. at sunset today Thursday, and adjust her speed
to arrive Fremantle at daylight Wednesday 20th November.

U.S. - "QUEEN MARY" departed Bombay 9th November. E.T.A. Fremantle tomorrow Friday.

"AQUITANIA" departed Bombay 8th November. E.T.A. Fremantle Saturday 16th November.

"MAURETANIA" departed Colombo 11th November. E.T.A. Fremantle Monday 18th November.

S.S. "THEMISTOCLES" is expected to sail from Melbourne Tuesday 19th November with 110 Naval Personnel.

"[Name]" arrived Darwin yesterday.

GENERAL.

A report from New Zealand Naval Board states that wreckage washed up on the West Coast of North Island after investigation leaves little doubt that it comes from "TURAKINA".

"BATHURST" completed Full Power Trial yesterday satisfactorily and attained a mean speed on the Measured Mile of 15.12 knots.

"[Name]" reports having completed 41 miles of sweeping yesterday with negative results. Has been instructed with "BURRAWBEN" and "GRARA" to proceed to Rabbit Island (Corner Inlet) on completion of sweeping today to obtain water from "CAPE YORK" tomorrow then proceed to Welshpool for coal and provisions.

"[Name]" and "SCORANGAI" yesterday completed a 50% sweep of the searched channel in the entrance to Port Phillip. Sweeping in the same area will be carried out today with the additional assistance of "NAMESCOCA".

"[Name]" proceeded to Welshpool yesterday to embark a new float.

"[Name]" it is intended should leave Sydney for Jervis Bay with A/S Class embarked on Monday 18th November returning to Sydney Friday 22nd November.

AIR SEARCHES.

Further searches to locate enemy mine-layer are in progress today from Sydney, Spencer Gulf and Fremantle. Reconnaissance for mines is being made today in the approaches to Port Phillip and the Ristans area.

ENEMY MINES.

A floating mine was observed and sunk yesterday by "SWAN" in a position 22 miles from Point Lonsdale. It is ascertained that this mine was cut by "SWAN" off Otway 8th November and makes a total of 8 to date accounted for.

AUXILIARY VESSELS.

The Adelaide Steamship Company's "TOORIE" was commissioned yesterday for H/S.

CONVOYS.

The Troops ex U.S.G were due to depart Bombay yesterday for Suez in Convoy B.N.87.

SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

"S.7" "STRATHEDEN" departed at Port Melbourne late yesterday afternoon.

To 0900 Wednesday, 13th November, 1940.

"BATOBY" and H.M.S. Transport "MADAGASCAR" escorted by H.M.S. "ACHILLES" arrived Sydney yesterday Monday.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.S. "MADAGASCAR" departed Sydney 11th November expecting H.M.A. SHIPS to arrive Fremantle a.s. Monday, 18th November.

"PERTH" returned to Fremantle yesterday from Patrol.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

"MANOORA" arrived Darwin yesterday.

"WARREGO" is expected at Williamstown this morning to fuel.

Yesterday swept with negative results the searched channel to the South of Deal Island a length of 62 miles $2\frac{1}{2}$ cables wide. Sails again today to sweep the searched channels connecting the entrance to Port Phillip and N.W. of King Island.

"SWAN" arrived Williamstown yesterday. Sails independently today at 0900K to sweep in conjunction with "WARREGO".

"KOROWA" reports having completed 41 miles of sweeping yesterday with negative results. Has been instructed with "DURRAWEE" and "ORARA" to proceed to Rabbit Island (Corner Inlet) on completion of sweeping today to obtain water from "CAPE YORK" tomorrow then proceed to Welshpool for coal and provisions.

"BERYL II" and "GOORANGAI" yesterday completed a 50% sweep of the searched channel in the entrance to Port Phillip. Sweeping in the same area will be carried out today with the additional assistance of "NAMBUCCA".

"ORARA" proceeded to Welshpool yesterday to embark a new float.

"KYBRA" it is intended should leave Sydney for Jervis Bay with A/S Class embarked on Monday 18th November returning to Sydney Friday 22nd November.

AIR SEARCHES.

Further searches to locate enemy minelayer are in progress today from Sydney, Spencer Gulf and Fremantle. Reconnaissance for mines is being made today in the approaches to Port Phillip and the Brisbane area.

ENEMY MINES.

A floating mine was observed and sunk yesterday by "SWAN" in a position 22 miles from Point Lonsdale. It is considered that this mine was cut by "SWAN" off Otway 9th November and makes a total of 8 to date accounted for.

AUXILIARY VESSELS.

The Adelaide Steamship Company's "TOORIE" was requisitioned yesterday for M/S.

CONVOYS.

The Troops ex U.S.6 were due to depart Bombay yesterday for Suez in Convoy B.N.8 $\frac{1}{2}$.

DAI 2. NARRATIVE.

U.S. 7 "STRATHEDEN" berthed at Port Melbourne late yesterday afternoon.

"BATORY" and N.Z. Transport "MAUNGANUI" escorted by H.M.S. "ACHILLES" arrived Sydney yesterday Monday.

U.S. 8 "MAURETANIA" departed Colombo p.m. 11th November expecting to arrive Fremantle a.m. Monday, 18th November.

until this evening when she will return to Fremantle to fuel and sail on Thursday, 14th November to rendezvous with U. OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

19 Vessels out of 38 in Convoy HX 84 are now accounted for. "ADMIRAL SHEER" opened fire when hull down. H.M.S. "JERVIS BAY" and probably 6 other ships are reported hit.

"DURRANEN" and "MARA" continued sweeping yesterday to the south of Island in the Kent Group with negative result. GENERAL.

C.O.I.S. is proposing a visit to Melbourne and Wellington at the end of the year to discuss Intelligence matters. Ex Danish "DANMARK" en route Freetown has had her Australian Armed Guard augmented at Capetown by 4 ratings, owing to trouble experienced during the voyage.

The Norwegian vessel "TEMERAIRE" is being examined at Bunbury for evidence of mine laying.

"BATHURST" consumption trials at 12 and 14 knots were completed satisfactorily yesterday. An area 15 miles east and 10 miles south of Brisbane head to the Northward of Brisbane will be searched for mines this morning by aircraft from Archerfield.

CONVOY U.S. 7.

The following is corrected itinerary:-

"MAUNGANUI" escorted by H.M.S. "ACHILLES", arrived Sydney early this morning.

"BATORY" troop embarkation in "ORION" Thursday, 14th November. Both vessels escorted by H.M.S. "ADELAIDE", will from Sydney at 0800 Friday, 15th November for rendezvous CP to the westward of King Island.

"STRATHEDEN" sailed from Burnie at 2110 last night to rendezvous with "SWAN" at 0600 this morning. If "SWAN" is unable to sweep, "STRATHEDEN" will be advised to proceed independently with paravanes stretched and is expected to arrive Melbourne midnight today. Loading 2,500 tons cargo will commence on arrival. She will sail for Adelaide about 0100 Friday, 15th November arriving about 0100 Sunday, 17th November. Troops embark the same day and vessel sails early Monday, 18th November for rendezvous CP to the westward of Kangaroo Island.

"MAURETANIA" sailed from Sydney at 0800 this morning and expects to arrive Melbourne about 0200 Thursday, 14th November. Troops embark Saturday, 16th November and vessel sails for rendezvous CP about midnight.

Time of rendezvous CP 1800K Sunday, 17th November.
PJ 1800K Monday, 18th "
(Convoy U.S. 7 due Fremantle Thursday, 21st November.

2. NARRATIVE.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

At about midnight on Sunday, 10th November the Norwegian tanker "OLE JACOBS" (8,300 tons) - possibly on passage from Balik Papan to Colombo - reported she was being shelled in a position about 300 miles N.W. of Sumatra. The distress message was subsequently cancelled but C. in C. East Indies did not consider it genuine and accordingly ordered a search now in progress, covering a wide area at the entrance to the Bay of Bengal by Force "V" comprising H.M.A. Ships "CANBERRA" and "WESTRALIA" and H.M. Ships "CAPETOWN" and "DURBAN". H.M.S. "MONOWAI" escorting H.T. "RANGITIRA" departed Auckland yesterday for Suva.

GENERAL.

Bass Strait is to be opened to traffic commencing daylight Thursday, 14th November.

The amount of sweeping carried out yesterday Sunday uncertain. At 1815 "KOROWA" was reported to have entered Waterloo Bay (West side of Wilson's Promontory).

"KOROWA" was reported off Gabo at 1830 yesterday Sunday approx. In view of weather conditions arrival in Wilson's Promontory Area will not be before 7 p.m. today Monday at the earliest.

"KOROWA" and "MIRAL" abandoned sweeping operations at 1430 yesterday Sunday on account of weather and returned to base. They proceeded at 0845 today Monday to commence sweeping.

AIR OPERATIONS.

East Australia - commencing at 0700 today Monday a Diverging Search from Sofronest Island between bearings 090° and 130° to a depth of 200 miles. The result of the Air Search yesterday Sunday was negative.

West Coast - commencing at 0500 today Monday a Diverging Search from Sydney between the bearings 090° and 145° to a depth of 200 miles. This search has been completed with negative result. The result of yesterday's search was negative.

South Australia - commencing at 0800 today Monday a Diverging Search from Warday Is., in the Spencer Gulf, between the bearings of 130° and 210° to a depth of 200 miles. The result of the search yesterday Sunday was negative.

CONVOYS AND ESCORT.

"MANTONIA" departed from Bombay, Friday, 8th and expects to arrive Fremantle on Saturday the 15th November.

"MANTONIA" and "MANTONIA" are being further delayed for 24 hours due to the resultant delay in sweeping operations due to bad weather.

"MANTONIA" arrived Sydney at 1700 yesterday Sunday.

SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

0900, Sunday, 10th November, 1940.

To 0900 Monday, 11th November, 1940.

OPERATIONS AUSTRALIA STATION.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A.S. SHIPS:

H.M.A.S. "PERTH" arrived Gage Roads at 1640 yesterday Sunday, and departed on Patrol at 0230 today Monday, the yesterday to patrol the S.W. Area.

H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" arrived Booby Is. at 1400 Saturday 9th and departed at 1900 the same day for Darwin, yesterday at Sydney Heads and resumed patrol off Sydney.

"MANOORA" Arrived MINESWEEPING OPERATIONS and at 1900X departed for Darwin.

"WARRECO" and "SWAN" abandoned sweeping operations and hove-to at 1245 yesterday Sunday. "SWAN" reported that she was proceeding to the lee side of King Island for shelter. At 0400 today Monday "WARRECO" was in a position approx. 50 miles East of the North End of King Island and making slow progress towards "SWAN" who was still sheltering in lee of King Is. Phillip yesterday for Wilson's Promontory, and in company with "ORARA" and "DURRAWEEEN".

"KOROWA", "DURRAWEEEN" and "ORARA" - The amount of sweeping carried out yesterday Sunday uncertain. At 1815 "KOROWA" was reported to have entered Waterloo Bay (East side of Wilson's Promontory). Pass Strait to the entrance to Port Phillip.

"WAMBUCCA" was reported off Gabo at 1326 yesterday Sunday approx. speed 7/8 knots. In view of weather conditions arrival in Wilson's Promontory Area will not be before p.m. of today Monday at the earliest. Port Phillip, and on Tuesday, 12th November, "WARRECO" is to sweep ahead.

"GOORANGAI" and "BERYL II" abandoned sweeping operations at 1450 yesterday Sunday on account of weather and returned to Queenscliff. They proceeded at 0345 today Monday to recommence sweeping. Sweeping operations in progress.

AIR OPERATIONS.

West Australia - commencing at 0700 today Monday a Diverging Search from Rottnest Island between bearings 210° and 330° to a depth of 200 miles. The result of the Air Search yesterday Sunday was negative.

New South Wales - commencing at 0500 today Monday a Diverging Search from Sydney between the bearings 087° and 145° to a depth of 200 miles. This search has been completed with negative result. The result of yesterday's search was negative.

AIR OPERATIONS.

South Australia - commencing at 0800 today Monday a Diverging Search from Warday Is., in the Spencer Gulf, between the bearings of 199° and 244° to a depth of 260 miles. The result of the search yesterday Sunday was negative.

Morning searches from Fremantle are being arranged with the same object from tomorrow, Friday, 15th November.

CONVOYS AND ESCORT.

U.S.8 "AQUITANIA" departed from Bombay, Friday, 8th and expects to arrive Fremantle on Saturday the 16th November.

U.S.7 "STRATHMORE" and "STRATHEDEN" are being further delayed for 24 hours due to the resultant delay in sweeping operations due to bad weather.

"ZEALANDIA" arrived Sydney at 1700 yesterday Sunday.

To 0900. Sunday, 10th November, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.OPERATIONS AUSTRALIA STATION.H.M.A. SHIPS:"PERTH":

Wearing flag of F.O.C.A.S., departed Fremantle yesterday to patrol the S.W. Area.

"ADELAIDE":

Embarked ratings short of complement yesterday at Sydney Heads and resumed patrol off Sydney.

"MANOORA":

Arrived Thursday Island yesterday and at 1900K departed for Darwin.

"NAMBUCCA":

Departed Sydney early yesterday morning for the entrance to Port Phillip, where she will join Group 54. Owing to adverse weather prevailing in the S.E. Area, she is not expected to rendezvous before p.m. Monday.

"KOROWA":

Departed Port Phillip yesterday for Wilson's Promontory, and in company with "ORARA" and "DURRAWEEEN" is sweeping today off Deal Island.

"BERYL II" and "GOORANGAI": (Group 54) Are today sweeping a channel in Central Bass Strait to the entrance to Port Phillip.

"WARREGO" and "SWAN": Are sweeping a channel N.W. of King Island today. Tomorrow Monday, "SWAN" will sweep ahead of "STRATHEDEN" from Burnie to Port Phillip, and on Tuesday, 12th November, "WARREGO" is to sweep ahead of "STRATHMORE" through Bass Strait to Port Phillip.

Note: Boisterous weather prevailing in Bass Strait today is expected to hamper considerably minesweeping operations in progress.

"BERYL" MINES.

During minesweeping operations yesterday, 2 mines which appeared to be of the German "X" type very recently laid were swept up and sunk by "WARREGO" and "SWAN" in the vicinity of Cape Otway. "DURRAWEEEN" and "ORARA" also swept up and sank 2 mines in the Wilson's Promontory Area. Including the mines which destroyed "CAMBRIDGE" and "CITY OF RAYVILLE", a total of 6 is now accounted for. It is not expected that Bass Strait will be reopened to general shipping before Thursday, 14th November.

AIR OPERATIONS.

Searches are being carried out today and daily until Wednesday, 13th November, from Sydney to a depth of 200 miles and from Spencer Gulf to a depth of 260 miles, with the object of locating an enemy minelayer. Morning searches from Fremantle are being arranged with the same object from tomorrow (Monday) until Friday, 15th November.

GENERAL.

A complete break in the South Australia to Western Australia cable is reported in a position north of Kangaroo Island, the cause being unknown.

0900 SATURDAY, 9th NOVEMBER, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"ADELAIDE" was ordered last night to patrol off Sydney. N.O.C.S. has been requested to arrange transport for 65 ratings who were left ashore when "ADELAIDE" sailed at short notice early yesterday morning.

Auxiliary M/S Vessel "NAMBUCCA" will leave Sydney as soon as possible for sweeping operations off Wilson's Promontory.

Auxiliary A/S Vessel "KYBRA" arrived Sydney yesterday from Jervis Bay.

"BATHURST" will carry out consumption trials at 12 and 14 knots on Tuesday next, 12th November, and full power trial the following day.

MINED SHIPS.

S.S. "CAMBRIDGE" sunk off Wilson's Promontory on the night of 7th November, carried no passengers and her crew of 56 was landed at Welshpool yesterday with the exception of one man missing. Aerial searches for mines and survivors were made twice during both the forenoon and afternoon near Wilson's Promontory and three upturned boats were sighted. Searches to locate a possible minelayer were carried out yesterday by aircraft from both Laverton and Richmond between 090° and 184° for 300' from Rame Head, and another between 260° and 263° for 300' from Cape Otway. The visibility was poor, particularly in Otway area, and nothing suspicious was sighted.

S.S. "CITY OF RAYVILLE", a cargo vessel of 5,883 tons built in 1920 and owned by the American Pioneer Line, was reported severely damaged - probably by a mine - at about 1930K yesterday 6 miles to the southward of Cape Otway. She was on passage from Adelaide to Melbourne loaded with general cargo.

H.M. Auxiliary Vessel "BERYL II" at Queenscliff was ordered by Naval Board to proceed and search for survivors and 3 fishing boats were sent from Apollo Bay to assist. The tug "JAMES PATTERSON" was despatched from Melbourne at Owner's expense in case salvage should prove practicable, but the ship sank during the night. All of the crew of 38 - with one exception - are safe and were landed at Apollo Bay by the fishing boats early this morning.

H.M.A. Ships "WARREGO" and "SWAN", on passage from Adelaide, were ordered to proceed with despatch and they were sighted by W.S.S. Otway early this morning. These ships, together with "ORARA" and "DURRAWEE", will carry out a searching sweep off Cape Otway today, and "KOROWA" will leave Port Melbourne at noon for Wilson's Promontory.

The existence of danger areas within 30 miles radius from both Wilson's Promontory and Cape Otway was broadcast to all ships. Port Phillip and Bass Strait have been closed to shipping until further orders, and ships proceeding through the area are to make for nearest convenient port.

Minister for Navy, American Consul Melbourne (Mr. Dickover) and the Melbourne Manager for Wilhelm Wilhelmsen, Agents for American Pioneer Line, have all been informed.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Thursday, 7th November, 1940.
To 0900 Friday, 8th November, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE" departed Sydney at 0959 yesterday Thursday for firing and returned 3 hours later. Has been ordered with all despatch to a position 105° Gabo Is. 95 miles and departed at 0515 today Friday.

H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" departed from Port Moresby at 1432 yesterday Thursday for Thursday Island.

British Ship "CAMBRIDGE" (10846 tons 11 knots built 1916) sank in position (approx.) 6 miles east of Wilsons Promontory about 2300 yesterday Thursday as the result of an explosion. Three lifeboats from the ship approached the W.S.S. at Wilsons Promontory and the sinking was reported from one of them by lamp. No W/T report was received from the ship. In view of the possibility of the loss being occasioned by a mine "WARREGO" and "SWAN" have been ordered to return from Adelaide to Port Melbourne; "ORARA" was returning to Port Phillip and was ordered to proceed to pick up survivors and she was reported by Wilsons Promontory to be carrying out this duty at 0900. The survivors are to be landed at Welshpool after which "ORARA" will return and continue sweeping. "BERYL II" and "COORANCAI" are now carrying out sweep in Searched Channel approaches to Port Phillip. "DURRAWREN" was at Port Melbourne and proceeded to sea at 0330. Air Searches to locate a possible minelayer commenced at daylight, aircraft operating from Richmond and Laverton on both the N.S.W. and Victorian Coasts. "ADELAIDE" is expected to reach the datum position off Gabo at 1600 today Friday.

Minister for Navy and Defence Co-ordination have been informed. No publicity given.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "KANIMBLA" arrived Durban a.m. Thursday 7th November.

Until further orders all independent sailings of Merchant Ships from and to the United Kingdom in the Atlantic Ocean North of Sierra Leone have been suspended. Successive concentration of shipping in Japanese waters until it is seen that Japanese assurances not to detain are borne out in practice.

CONVOY AND TRANSPORTS.

U.S.7 "ORION" arrived Sydney at 0730 yesterday Thursday "STRATHEDEN" is expected to arrive Melbourne 0230K/9.

Transport "ZALANDIA" arrived Brisbane a.m. yesterday Thursday and departed at 1300 the same day and expects to arrive Sydney a.m. Sunday 10th.

The Dutch Ship "JOHAAN de WITT" and "NIEUW ZEELAND" which formed Convoy U.S.5A are being retained in the Mediterranean for urgent Military Requirements.

GENERAL.

The flight of Tiger Moths from the Mainland to Launceston which had been postponed on account of bad weather was completed yesterday. "ORARA" acted as Safety Ship.

SECRET

DAILY NARRATIVE.

0900 Wednesday, 5th November, 1940.
To 0900 Thursday, 7th November, 1940.

OPERATIONS - Australia Station.
OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"ADELAIDE" returned to Sydney yesterday on completion of firing practice.
"ADELAIDE" will leave Sydney for exercises at 0900 today and return.
"ORARA" departed Port Melbourne yesterday to act as safety ship for aircraft on flight from Laverton to Launceston today.
"DURRAWEEEN", "ORARA" and "KOROWA" sail on Sunday 10th November to carry out clearing sweeps in Bass Strait for Convoy U.S.7. Examination Service at Port Adelaide.

AIR CONVOYS.

U.S.7 "BATORY" arrived Wellington yesterday from Sydney. Escort arrangements for this convoy are as follows:-
H.M.S. "ACHILLES" escorts "BATORY" from Wellington to Sydney. "ADELAIDE" escorts "ORION" and "BATORY" from Sydney to a rendezvous in the Great Australian Bight (being joined en route by "STRATHMORE" from Melbourne and "STRATHEDEN" escorted by "WARREGO" and "SWAN" from Adelaide) where "PERTH" forms the ocean escort of the Convoy to Colombo and Latitude 20° North in the Red Sea.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.
OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "CANBYRRA" leaves Bombay this afternoon and expects to arrive Auckland tomorrow.
H.M.S. "MONOWAI" escorting H.T. "RANGITIRA" arrived Auckland yesterday from Suva.
H.M.S. "ACHILLES" departed Auckland yesterday for Wellington whence H.M. Ships "LAURENTIC" and "PATROCLUS" torpedoed West of Ireland and 3rd November have both sunk.

The pocket battleship "ADMIRAL SHEER" is operating in the North Atlantic Ocean.

British troops who arrived Bombay in this convoy on November 4th will embark and leave on November 18th in convoy B.N.8 due Suez November 20th.

GENERAL.

It is the policy of the Greek Government to avoid excessive concentration of shipping in Japanese waters until it is seen that Japanese assurances not to detain are borne out in practice.

AUSTRALIAN M/S VESSELS.

The Admiralty requires the first two "BAYHURST" class to proceed to Alexandria for installation of A/S equipment. Their subsequent base (Aden was originally intended) is under consideration.

GENERAL.

Agreeable to a request made by Collector of Customs S.M. directed an armed guard to be placed on board "PIKKE LOTI" at

... last night but DAILY NARRATIVE. ... on shore had been arranged for the crew action was withheld until this is available. to 0900 Wednesday, 6th November, 1940.

Payr. Lt. Cdr. J.D. Bates, R.N.V.R. arrived and reported at Australia House, Tuesday, 29th October.

OPERATIONS - Australia Station.

Members of the Sydney District Amalgamated H.M.A. SHIPS. Union and the Australian Society of Engineers decided yesterday not to resume work until their claims for increased "PERTH" wearing flag F.O.C.A.S. arrived Fremantle at noon with the naval cons yesterday. ... at Cockatoo and Wort's Dock.

"ADELAIDE" will leave Sydney for exercises at 0900 today and return to harbour during the afternoon.

"MORESBY" arrived Sydney yesterday from Jervis Bay.

"WONGALA" will be laid up for twelve days to effect repairs to clutch. Meanwhile the pilot launch will endeavour to carry on Examination Service at Port Adelaide.

AIR OPERATIONS.

The flight of moth aircraft from Laverton to Launceston postponed from last week has been arranged for tomorrow Thursday.

A Clearing Search, with negative result, was carried out yesterday by one Hudson to provide cover for H.T. "ZEALANDIA" on passage from Bowen to Brisbane. Another search 40' to seaward of 100-fm. line between 23° 20'S and 27° 30'S commenced at 0530 this morning by one Hudson from Rockhampton.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" leaves Bombay this afternoon and expects to arrive Fremantle Saturday, 16th November.

H.M.S. "ACHILLES" departed Auckland yesterday for Wellington whence she will depart Friday, 8th November to escort "BATORY" and "MAUNGANUI" to Sydney.

CONVOYS.

U.S.6 troops who arrived Bombay in this convoy on November 4th will embark and leave on November 12th in convoy B.N.8½ due Suez November 23rd.

U.S.8. according to present intentions will comprise "QUEEN MARY" "AQUITANIA", "MAURETANIA" and "NIEUW AMSTERDAM" sailing December 12th from Sydney.

AUSTRALIAN M/S VESSELS.

The Admiralty requires the first two "BATHURST" Class to proceed to Alexandria for installation of A/S equipment. Their subsequent base (Aden was originally intended) is under consideration.

GENERAL.

Agreeable to a request made by Collector of Customs N.B. directed an armed guard be placed on board "PIERRE LOTI" at

dney last night but as no accommodation on shore had been arranged for the crew action was withheld until this is available.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

Payr. Lt.Cdr. J.D. Bates, R.A.N.V.R. arrived and reported at Australia House, Tuesday, 29th October.

Members of the Sydney district Amalgamated Engineering Union and the Australian Society of Engineers decided yesterday not to resume work until their claims for increased wages is recognized. This dispute threatens to interfere with the Naval construction programme at Cockatoo and Mort's Dock.

H.M.A.S. "PERTH" is expected to arrive Fremantle at 1030K today Tuesday which is 15 hours late on her original E.T.A.

H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE" intended to proceed for Exercise from Sydney at 0900 today Tuesday and return to harbour approx. 5 hours later. Departure is to be delayed until after Conference with the Crown Solicitor and Lieut.-Commander Dixon who proceeded from Melbourne last night for that purpose.

H.M.A.S. "MARDORA" reports that examination of the first gun mounting to be lifted indicates that repairs can be completed in 48 hours for each mounting i.e. the original estimate of 4 days' delay at Port Moresby is not being exceeded. Departure should now be on Friday 8th arriving Darwin Tuesday 12th November.

H.M.A.S. "KYBBA" departed Sydney at 1720 yesterday Monday for Jervis Bay.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "GREYON FAY" escorting the captured French "CUBA" (11,300 tons) Passenger ship; 15 knots; built 1923) to Freetown is to be supported by H.M.S. "DRAGON" and "ROYAL SOVEREIGN". "CUBA" is short of fuel and may have to be towed.

The London Broadcast contained the news of the torpedoing of two A.M.C.'s in "LAURENTIC" (Captain E.F. Vivian, R.N. ret'd.) and "PAYMOCLUS" (Capt. C.C. Wynter, R.N. ret'd.) will be sailed for ... as daily number.

CONVOY AND ESCORT.

H.S.5A arrived at Suez on Saturday 2nd November.

H.S.6 escorted by H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" arrived Bombay at 0203Z yesterday Monday. ... to search for a is intended.

TRANSPORTS.

"ZEPALANDIA" arrived Bowen 1450 Sunday 3rd., was expected to sail at midnight yesterday Monday and to arrive Brisbane at 2600 Wednesday 6th November. A Clearing Search by Aircraft will be carried out today and again tomorrow.

H.M.S. "GENERAL" escorted by ... "GENERAL" departed Suez yesterday for ...

GENERAL.

The Examination Vessel at Port Adelaide, H.M.A.S. "WONGALA" is off Station on account of a defective clutch.

Commander F.L. Cavaye assumed Command of H.M.S. "HUSCHUTTER" a.m. yesterday Monday. ...

T S I RET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Tuesday, 5th November, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. Ships "WARRECO" and "SWAN" departed from Port Melbourne at 1500 yesterday Monday and expect to arrive Adelaide 1000 Friday 8th November.

H.M.A.S. "PERTH" is expected to arrive Fremantle at 1030K today Tuesday which is 15 hours late on her original E.T.A.

H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE" intended to proceed for Exercise from Sydney at 0900 today Tuesday and return to harbour approx. 5 hours later. Departure is to be delayed until after Conference with the Crown Solicitor and Lieut.-Commander Dixon who proceeded from Melbourne last night for that purpose.

H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" reports that examination of the first gun mounting to be lifted indicates that repairs can be completed in 48 hours for each mounting i.e. the original estimate of 4 days' delay at Port Moresby is not being exceeded. Departure should now be on Friday 8th arriving Darwin Tuesday 12th November.

H.M.A.S. "KYBRA" departed Sydney at 1720 yesterday Monday for Jervis Bay.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "GRETTON BAY" escorted Sydney yesterday and expects to arrive at (11,300 tons) Passenger ship; 15 knots; built 1923) to Freetown is to be supported by H.M.S. "DRAGON" and "ROYAL SOVEREIGN". "CUBA" is short of fuel and may have to be towed.

The London Broadcast contained the news of the torpedoing of two A.M.C.'s in "LAURENTIC" (Captain E.P. Vivian, R.N. retd.) and "PATROCLUS" (Capt. G.C. Wynter, R.N. retd.) Brisbane will be sailed for Newcastle to fully bunker.

CONVOY AND ESCORT.

U.S.5A arrived at Suez on Saturday 2nd November.

U.S.C escorted by H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" arrived Bombay at 0203Z yesterday Monday.

TRANSPORTS.

"ZEALANDIA" arrived Bowen 1430 Sunday 3rd., was expected to sail at midnight yesterday Monday and to arrive Brisbane at 2000 Wednesday 6th November. A Clearing Search by Aircraft will be carried out today and again tomorrow.

H.M.S. "MONOWAI" escorting transport "RANGITIKA" departed Suva yesterday for Auckland.

GENERAL.

The Examination Vessel at Port Adelaide, H.M.A.S. "WONGALA" is off Station on account of a defective clutch.

(escort vessel) was bombed 2nd November.

Commander F.L. Cavaye assumed Command of

H.M.S. "RUSHCUTTER" a.m. yesterday Monday. (vessel) has been refloated and is in harbour.

GENERAL

Orders have been placed in Australia for 25 4" gun mountings. DAILY NARRATIVE. delivered in about 6 months' time and output therefrom to be 1 per month.

To 0900 Monday, 4th November, 1940. Vessels have been brought under the same restrictions as British Vessels regarding the use of W/T on the Australia Station.

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

"PERTH" is now expected to arrive Fremantle 1930K today.

"CANBERRA" arriving Bombay today escorting U.S.6 is to sail on Wednesday 17th where the Flag of F.O.C.A.S. will be transferred from "PERTH" on Monday November 18th.

"ADELAIDE" returned to Sydney from the escort of S.S. "AWATEA" on Friday 1st November.

"MANOORA" will be delayed at Port Moresby 4 days lifting two 6" gun mountings for examination of defective training gear.

"ORARA" berthed at Port Melbourne yesterday.

"WARREGO" and "SWAN" sail today for Adelaide.

CONVOYS.

U.S.7 "BATORY" departed Sydney yesterday and expects to arrive at Wellington on Wednesday 6th November.

U.S.8 The ships of this convoy ex U.S.6 will return to Australia independently.

TRANSPORTS.

"ZEALANDIA" on completion of disembarkation of troops at Brisbane will be sailed for Newcastle to fully bunker.

AIR SEARCH.

An unidentified ship was reported passing Cape Borda (Kangaroo Island) at 2130K yesterday steering S.W. Aircraft were standing by to search but a telephone message to Cape Borda disclosed that only a light had been sighted and no action is intended.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "ACHILLES" arrived Auckland yesterday escorting S.S. "AWATEA"

H.M.S. "MONOWAI" escorting transport "RANGITIRA" departed Suva yesterday for Auckland.

H.M. Ships "INTREPID" and "SIKH" were damaged by mines 1st November and returned to harbour H.M.S. "PINTAIL" (escort vessel) was bombed 2nd November.

H.M.S. "ASHANTI" recently ashore has been refloated and is in harbour.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

2.

To 0-00 Sunday, 3rd November.

GENERAL.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

Orders have been placed in Australia for 25 4" guns and mountings, the first to be delivered in about 6 months' time and output therefrom to be 1 per month.

"MANOORA" arrived Port Moresby 1000 yesterday Saturday and will sail for Greek Merchant Vessels have been brought under the same restrictions as British Vessels regarding the use of W/T on the Australia Station. yesterday from vicinity of Wilson's Promontory. The flight of aircraft from Laverton to Launceston has again been postponed.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

R.N. & R.N.A. SHIPS.

"YIRREK" departed Cecece Island 1st November and is due Fremantle Tuesday next, 3th November.

"HONGKAI" escorting H.F. "HANGATIRA" arrived Suva yesterday from New Zealand.

"STURIE" (Lieutenant Commander G.T. Cooper), one of the old admiralty "B" class destroyers, ran ashore on YIRREK Island in the Inner Hebrides a.m. 30th October and is a total loss. Three ratings are missing.

TRANSPORTS.

"ZEALANDIA" passed Archer Point 1250 yesterday and is due Bowen about noon today.

GENERAL.

R.N.A.S. "WYTHORST'S" preliminary trials were completed satisfactorily at Sydney yesterday.

R.N.S. "ARAWA" has reported to C. in C. South Atlantic considerable deficiencies in ship's provisions which will be investigated when the ship reaches U.E. in near future.

Commander Rowlands will probably visit Navy Office this week.

"MANOORA" is expected to arrive Bowen at 1000 Sunday, 3rd November 1921.

The End of the world headed by Captain Long Sherrington Havelock travelling to Sydney in the ship "YIRREK" is expected to reach Brisbane a.m. tomorrow.

Acting Captain J.C.D. Ingalls, R.N., assumed command of R.N.A.S. "WYTHORST'S" a.m. yesterday, Friday.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

SECRET.

To 0900 Sunday, 3rd November.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

To 0900 Saturday, 2nd November, 1943.
H.M.A. SHIPS.

"MANOORA" arrived Port Moresby 1000 yesterday Saturday and will sail for Thursday Island tomorrow.

"ORARA" was recalled at noon yesterday from vicinity of Wilson's Promontory. The flight of aircraft from Laverton to Launceston has again been postponed.

H.M.A. SHIPS OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS. ARRIVED Princes Pier Port Melbourne at 1425 yesterday Friday.

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

"PERTH" departed Cocos Island 1st November and is due Fremantle Tuesday next, 5th November. The occupants of the launch is missing.

"MONOWAI" escorting H.T. "HANGATIRA" arrived Suva yesterday from New Zealand.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

"STURDY" (Lieutenant Commander G.T. Cooper), one of the old Admiralty "S" class destroyers, ran ashore on TIRRE Island in the Inner Hebrides a.m. 30th October and is a total loss. Three ratings are missing.

H.M.S. "ARAWA" after completion of her present escort duties has been ordered to Belfast and will be taken in hand for repairs at Harland & Wolff's Yard.

TRANSPORTS.

"ZEALANDIA" passed Archer Point 1250 yesterday and is due Bowen about noon today.

AIR OPERATIONS.

The flight of one Anson and five Moths scheduled for yesterday Friday GENERAL Launceston via Yanakie and Blinders Island has been postponed until tomorrow Sunday.

H.M.A.S. "BATHURST'S" preliminary trials were completed satisfactorily at Sydney yesterday. Thursday 31st October to act as Safety Ship has been informed accordingly.

H.M.S. "ARAWA" has reported to C. in C. South Atlantic considerable deficiencies in ship's provisions which will be investigated when the ship reaches U.K. in near future.

Commander Newcombe will probably visit Navy Office this week.

FREIGHT SHIP.

"ZEALANDIA" is expected to arrive Bowen at 1300 Sunday, 3rd November from Thursday Island.

GENERAL.

The Thai Mission headed by Captain Luang Dhamrong Navasvasti travelling to Sydney in the Dutch ship "RUYS" is expected to reach Brisbane a.m. tomorrow Sunday. This will be reported tomorrow Saturday.

Acting Captain J.C.D. Esdalle, R.A.N., assumed command of H.M.A.S. "PENGUIN" A.M. yesterday, Friday.

H.M.A. "WARRIOR" (Lt. Com. R.S. ...) ...

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0800 Friday, 1st November, 1940.
To 0900 Saturday, 2nd November, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

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

H.M.A.S. "MANCOORA" arrived at Thursday Island 0130 yesterday Friday and having completed her escort duties with "ZEALANDIA" departed for Port Moresby at 0530 the same day. "ADSLAIDA" Sydney yesterday evening escorting H.S. "AWATEA" clear of the focal area for SIG and returning to

H.M.A. Ships "WARREGO" and "SWAN" arrived Princes Pier Port Melbourne at 1425 yesterday Friday.

"MORESBY" departed Sydney yesterday for Jervis Bay with A/S Aux. M/S Vessel "GOOLGWAI" at 1617 yesterday Friday when off Bradley's Head collided with the Fishing Launch "PLOVER". One of the occupants of the launch is missing. "WARREGO" and "SWAN" propose sailing on Monday 4th November for Adelaide carrying out searching sweeps en route and arriving Adelaide on Friday 8th November.

Searching OPERATIONS OVERSEAS. carried out in Spencer Gulf until after the departure of "STRAHEREN" from

H.M.S. "ACHILLES" departed Auckland at 0930 yesterday Friday for patrol and rendezvous with "AWATEA" at daylight Sunday, 3rd November, searched channels. "ORARA" departed Port Phillip last night to carry out the duties of

H.M.S. "ARAWA" after completion of her present escort duties has been ordered to Belfast and will be taken in hand for refit at Messrs. Harland & Wolff's Yard.

AUXILIARY VESSELS.

H.S. "TOLGA" (Adelaide) AIR OPERATIONS. been requisitioned for Naval Service and will be fitted out in Sydney.

The flight of one Anson and five Moths scheduled for yesterday Friday from the Mainland to Launceston via Yanakie and Flinders Island has been postponed until tomorrow Sunday on account of bad weather. H.M.A.S. "ORARA" departed from Port Phillip at 1910 Thursday 31st October to act as Safety Ship has been informed accordingly.

"ZEALANDIA" passed Thursday Island this morning en route Bowen.

CONVOY.

U.S.7 - Commander Garcia, Commodore of Convoy, will visit Navy Office, Sunday, 3rd November.

H.S. "AWATEA" departed Sydney yesterday for Auckland and Vancouver with 205 Serv FREIGHT SHIP. embarked.

"ZEALANDIA" is expected to arrive Bowen at 1300 Sunday, 3rd November from Thursday Island.

The search to a GENERAL. 205 miles from Sydney carried out yesterday for "AWATEA" proved negative.

The Thai Mission headed by Captain Luang Dhamrong Navasvasti travelling to Sydney in the Dutch ship "RUYS" is expected to reach Brisbane a.m. tomorrow Sunday. This will be repeated tomorrow Saturday.

Acting Captain J.C.D. Esdaile, R.A.N., assumed command of H.M.A.S. "PENGUIN" A.M. yesterday, Friday.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

H.S.S. "BALPOLE" (Lt. Cdr. H.G. Boverman) mined off Harwich 25th October has arrived in harbour.

SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Friday, 1st November, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"PERTH" leaves Cocos Island today and is due at Fremantle on Tuesday, 5th November.

"ADELAIDE" departed Sydney yesterday evening escorting S.S. "AWATEA" clear of the focal area for 250' and returning to Sydney tonight.

"MORESBY" departed Sydney yesterday for Jervis Bay with A/S Training classes and returns to Sydney on Tuesday, 5th November.

20th M.S.F. "WARREGO" and "SWAN" propose sailing on Monday 4th November for Adelaide carrying out searching sweeps en route and arriving Adelaide on Friday 8th November. Searching sweeps will also be carried out in Spencer Gulf until after the departure of "STRATHEDEN" from Adelaide 14th November to join U.S.7. "ORARA", "DURRAWEEEN" and "KOROWA" will undertake the sweeping of Bass Strait searched channels. "ORARA" departed Port Phillip last night to carry out the duties of safety vessel off Wilsons Promontory today.

AUXILIARY VESSELS.

S.S. "TOLGA" (Adelaide S.S. Coy.) has been requisitioned for Naval Service and will be fitted out in Sydney.

CONVOY AND TRANSPORTS.

U.S.5A is due at Suez today.

"ZEALANDIA" passed Thursday Island this morning en route Bowen.

FREIGHTSHIP.

S.S. "AWATEA" departed Sydney yesterday for Auckland and Vancouver with 205 Service personnel embarked.

AIR OPERATIONS.

The search to a depth of 300 miles from Sydney carried out yesterday for "AWATEA" proved negative.

A clearing search by one aircraft is in progress today for "ZEALANDIA" between Thursday Island and Bowen. This will be repeated tomorrow Saturday.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "WALPOLE" (Lt.Cdr. H.G. Bowerman) mined off Harwich 28th October has arrived in harbour.

INTELLIGENCE.

To 0900 Thursday, 31st October, 1940.

An Admiralty graded B3 report states that German ships in Chinese and Russian ports have been ordered to Japan. German Naval and Air Officers are also said to be overseeing the construction of bases in Japan.

M.M.S.F. with "BURFAREN" in company departed Port Melbourne yesterday for exercises in Port Phillip returning p.m. tomorrow. GENERAL. from the flotilla will act as safety vessel of all ships.

Cdr. F.L. Cavaye, R.N. is appointed to "RUSHCUTTER" in command and as D.N.O. N.S.W. 4th November and Acting Cdr. N.K. Calder to "PENGUIN" for Command of "BUNGAREE".

The Burns Philp Motor Vessel "NEPTUNA" reports her port engine broken down and that she is proceeding to Sydney direct on the starboard engine.

The sailing of Creek merchant vessels from Australian ports to China and Japan is suspended. Bombay that ships in this convoy, namely "QUEEN MARY", "AQUITANIA" and "MAURETANIA", should return to Sydney after disembarking troops at Bombay.

FREIGHT SHIPS.

S.S. "PERIOD", a collier of 2,700 tons, chartered for Naval Service is expected to arrive Newcastle today. After loading 3,000 tons coal she will sail for Port Moresby to discharge 500 tons, thence to Darwin where the balance will be discharged using the grabs at "ARKABA".

GENERAL.

Admiralty has concurred in R.N.'s proposal that the launching at Sydney on 30th November of the first Australian built Tribal destroyer be given publicity for propaganda purposes.

Captain

Lieutenant (C) T.L. Smith, R.N., is appointed in command of "H.M.S."

DAILY NARRATIVE.

TOP SECRET. WEDNESDAY 30th OCTOBER, 1940.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

To 0900 Thursday, 31st October, 1940.

"ARLBERG" will proceed for exercise from Sydney at 0900 today Wednesday and re-enter the harbour two hours later.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

20th M.S.F. with "DURRAWEN" in company departed Port Melbourne yesterday for exercises in Port Phillip returning p.m. tomorrow. One ship from the flotilla will act as safety vessel off Wilsons Promontory between 0700K and 1400K tomorrow Friday during flight of one Anson and five Moths from Laverton to Launceston.

Aux. M/S Vessel "UKI" arrived Sydney from Newcastle yesterday.

Auxiliary A/B Vessels "PRINCESS WYANDRA" and "STIRLING" having been ordered to proceed CONVOY U.S.6. exercise in the vicinity whilst the two Japanese factory ships and 15 whale chasers also D.S.T. has advised S.S.T.O. Bombay that ships in this convoy, namely "QUEEN MARY", "AQUITANIA" and "MAURETANIA", should return to Sydney after disembarking troops at Bombay.

TRANSPORTS.

"MANOORA" departed from Darwin p.m. yesterday and is being escorted as far as Thursday Island by H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" and will then proceed south FREIGHT SHIPS. where she expects to arrive a.m. Sunday 3rd November.

S.S. "PERIOD", a collier of 2,700 tons, chartered for Naval Service is expected to arrive Newcastle today. Auckland After loading 3,000 tons coal she will sail for Port Moresby to discharge 500 tons, thence to Darwin where the balance will be discharged using the grabs ex "ARKABA". focal area. When approaching Auckland, H.M.S. "ACHILLAS" will meet the ship outside the focal area and escort her to harbour.

GENERAL.

Appointments - Admiralty has concurred in N.B.'s proposal that the launching at Sydney on 30th November of the first Australian built tribal destroyer be given publicity for propaganda purposes.

Captain Rawlings to be Rear Admiral 1st Battle Squadron with the acting rank of Rear Admiral.

Lieutenant (O) V.A. Smith, R.A.N., is mentioned in Despatches 26.10.40 for bravery when attacking German Battle Cruiser "SCHARNHORST" (Lieutenant Smith - H.M.S. "ARK ROYAL" 1st S.S. Squadron).

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

1000 WEDNESDAY 30th OCTOBER, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE" will proceed for exercise from Sydney at 0900 today Wednesday and re-enter the harbour two hours later.

H.M.A.S. "MORESBY" having embarked the New Zealand Yachtsmen for training will leave Sydney p.m. tomorrow Thursday and proceed to Jervis Bay, returning to Sydney p.m. Tuesday, 5th November.

H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" departed from Darwin at 1530 yesterday Tuesday, escorting "ZEALANDIA" to Thursday Island at which port the expected time of arrival is 0100 Friday 1st November. It is then proposed to visit Port Moresby 1st/2nd November returning to Thursday Island 5th/6th November and to Darwin on Friday 8th November.

Auxiliary A/S Vessels "BINGERA" "YANDRA" and "MYRALLAH" having been ordered to proceed to Bunbury and exercise in the vicinity whilst the two Japanese Factory Ships and 15 whale chasers also remain in that area, departed from Fremantle at 2055 yesterday, Tuesday.

TRANSPORTS.

"ZEALANDIA" departed from Darwin p.m. yesterday and is being escorted as far as Thursday Island by H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" and will then proceed south to (Townsville) where she expects to arrive a.m. Sunday 3rd November.

BOWEN for bunkers

"AWATEA" is expected to leave Sydney tomorrow Thursday for Auckland and before sailing will embark 205 Service personnel. An air search will be made to provide cover and H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE" will escort her clear of the focal area. When approaching Auckland, H.M.S. "ACHILLES" will meet the ship outside the focal area and escort her to harbour.

GENERAL.

Appointments - Rear Admiral Pridham-Whippel to be Vice Admiral Commanding Light Forces, and Second in Command Mediterranean Fleet, with the acting rank of Vice Admiral.

Captain Rawlings to be Rear Admiral 1st Battle Squadron with the acting rank of Rear Admiral.

Lieutenant (O) V.A. Smith, R.A.N., is mentioned in Despatches 26.10.40 for bravery when attacking German Battle Cruiser "SCHARNHORST" (Lieutenant Smith - H.M.S. "ARK ROYAL" No. 821 Squadron).

DAILY NARRATIVE.

0900 Monday, 28th October, 1940.
to 0900 Tuesday, 29th October, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

20th M.S.F. Intends sailing 0930K tomorrow Wednesday, 30th October for exercise in Port Phillip returning p.m. Friday 1st November. H.M.A. Ships "WARREGO" and "SWAN" will carry out height finding exercises in the vicinity of Port Arlington on Thursday and Friday, an aircraft from Laverton has been arranged.

H.M.A. escorted by H.M.A.S. "PENIN" wearing Flag F.O.C.A.S. sailed from Fremantle yesterday for Bombay arriving p.m. 5th November.

CONVOYS.

U.S.5A. According to schedule should have passed Aden yesterday.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "MONOWAI" escorting a transport with garrison troops for Suva embarked departed Wellington yesterday.

H.M.S. "ARAWA" is expected to arrive in the U.K. about 16th November. Following her period on the China Station the opportunity will be taken to give leave and refit.

H.M. Ships "RAINBOW" and "TRIAD" (Lt.Cdrs. J.D. Luce and E.R.J. Oddie respectively) are presumed lost, being overdue from a patrol in the Gulf of Tarranto.

H.M.A. SHIPS ABROAD.

An intercepted message from C. in C. South Atlantic to H.M.A.S. "AUSTRALIA" states that the names of the crew of "AUSTRALIA's" aircraft are not included in the list of airmen prisoners of war at present in French hands at Dakar.

A punt made of heavy timber borks adrift from the wreck of "MAKARIKI" yesterday considered a danger to navigation. Examination steamer was instructed to warn all shipping entering Port Phillip.

GENERAL.

Italian demands on the Greeks have been refused and British assistance by sea, air and financially asked.

An official press statement announces the total loss of the "EMPRESS of BRITAIN". The Admiralty states that 570 survivors have arrived on the Clyde including a number of seriously wounded and 10 dead.

SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Monday, 28th October, 1940.

0800 Sunday, 27th October, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A.S. "PERTH" after turning over Convoy U.S.6 to H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" on Wednesday, 30th October, will arrive Cocos Island the same day. She will sail for Fremantle 1st November arriving p.m. Tuesday, 5th November.

CONVOY.

U.S.6 escorted by H.M.A.S. "PERTH" wearing Flag F.O.C.A.S. sailed from Fremantle 0800 yesterday for Bombay arriving p.m. 4th November.

H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" departed Colombo 0332Z Friday 25th October and will OPERATIONS OVERSEAS. 6 at 0800Z 30th October and escort convoy to Bombay. H.M.A.S. "PERTH" after

Due, no doubt, to recent heavy losses of shipping, it would appear from intercepted messages that escorts of convoys in Western Approaches have been considerably strengthened.

Vic The Berlin press claims - and the latest Natel confirms that the "IMPRESS of BRITAIN" (42,000 tons) was bombed and abandoned off N.W. coast of Ireland on Saturday morning, 26th October.

AIR OPERATIONS.

It will be recalled that this liner sailed from Wellington on 2nd May as flagship of Commodore of Convoy U.S.3.

Clearing Search to a depth of 250 miles will be made by aircraft operated from Pearce to provide cover for U.S.6.

GENERAL.

C. in C. China expects Singapore conference to terminate tomorrow. Australia and New Zealand representatives will probably leave by air on Friday morning, 1st November.

A punt made of heavy timber broke adrift from the wreck of "KAKARIKI" yesterday and was considered a danger to navigation. Examination steamer was instructed to warn all shipping entering Port Phillip.

Flying boat "AWARUA" which left Sydney early this morning for Auckland was obliged to return to Rose Bay owing to oil leak.

reported on arrival at Sydney that when in the vicinity of Flat Rock approximately 25 miles from Auckland her starboard paravane was lost, at the same time the members of the crew report having felt a "shock" in the fore part of the ship.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

0900 Sunday, 27th October, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" is to escort "ZEALANDIA" from Darwin to Thursday Island and will then operate in Northern Waters being based on Darwin.

"PERTH" flying flag of R.N.Z.A.S. arrived Fremantle yesterday.

"ACGLAIDE" after exercising yesterday returned to Sydney in the afternoon.

CONVOYS AND ESCORTS.

U.S.6 escorted by H.M.A.S. "PERTH" will leave Fremantle at 0800 today Sunday.

H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" departed Colombo 0332Z Friday 25th October and will rendezvous with U.S.6 at 0600Z 30th October and escort convoy to Bombay. H.M.A.S. "PERTH" after relief will remain in the vicinity of the Cocos Islands until Friday 1st November and then return to Fremantle.

U.S.R. Vice Admiral Goldsmith will return to Australia and be available as Commodore for this Convoy.

AIR OPERATIONS.

A/S Patrol will be provided for U.S.6 during daylight hours today Sunday.

A Clearing Search to a depth of 250 miles will be made by Aircraft operating from Pearce to provide cover for U.S.6.

AIR SEARCHES.

FREIGHT SHIPS.

"AWATEA" with 205 Service personnel onboard will be met by H.M.S. "ACHILLES" on Saturday 2nd November and escorted through the Focal Area to Auckland.

GENERAL.

S.S. "AWATEA" reported on arrival at Sydney that when in the vicinity of Flat Rock approximately 25 miles from Auckland her starboard paravane was lost, at the same time the members of the crew report having felt a "shock" in the fore part of the ship.

S.S. "KIMBERLY" following her recent successful action against Italian destroyers in the Red Sea is undergoing repairs at Port Sudan and is expected to continue on service 31st October.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

0900 Saturday, 26th October, 1940.

0900 Friday, 25th October, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS

"PERTH" flying flag of F.O.C.A.S. arrived Fremantle yesterday.
"ADELAIDE" after exercising yesterday returned to Sydney in the afternoon. She is to carry out 4 days' gunnery and torpedo exercises including full charge 6-inch day and night.
"MORESBY" will be made available to co-operate with H.M.S. "ACHILLES" intending to carry out firings and practices after arrival Sydney Tuesday, 12th November.
"BERMAGUI" left Sydney yesterday morning and rejoined Group 77 at Newcastle.
"KOROWA" came under the orders of S.O. 20th M.S.F. as from 20th M.S.F. yesterday 25th October. Princes Pier where "ORARA" is now coaling.

A/S Vessel "YANDRA" arrived Fremantle yesterday.

CONVOYS.

A/S Vessel "HYBRA" with training class embarked will leave Fremantle escorted by H.M.A.S. "PERTH" yesterday.
A/S air patrol was established during daylight hours covering Gage Roads. On departure one aircraft will patrol ahead of the convoy until sundown.

U.S.7 "ORION" departed Durban 24th October for Sydney direct expecting to arrive 7th November. required for refuelling ships of this convoy which arrived Fremantle early this morning.

AIR SEARCHES.

Air operations in S.W. area were carried out yesterday with a search is being carried out today from Port Moresby to locate and identify a Japanese vessel reported passing Anir yesterday. Shipping plot fails to position this ship.

GENERAL.

U.S. "ARKABA" departed Thursday Island will proceed to Port Moresby arriving Thursday.
H.M.S. "LIVERPOOL" torpedoed 14th October, C. in C. Mediterranean states has nothing of the fore part remaining before "A" Turret. Temporary repairs are being undertaken at Alexandria to enable her to proceed to a South African port. Other 4" gun mountings and ammunition could be manufactured in this country.

H.M.S. "KIMBERLEY" following her recent successful action against Italian destroyers in the Red Sea is undergoing late repairs at Port Sudan, and is expected to continue on service 31st October.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Friday, 25th October, 1940.

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

"ACHILLES", after arrival at Sydney on Tuesday, 12th November, escorting S.S.'s "BATORY" and "MAUNGANUI" from New Zealand, wishes to carry out 4 days' gunnery and torpedo exercises including full charge 6-inch day and night firings.

"ADELAIDE" arrived Sydney yesterday from patrol and intends to proceed to sea this morning returning to harbour later in the day.

20th M.S.F. entered Port Phillip early this morning. "WARREGO" and "SWAN" on completion of fuelling at Williamstown will proceed alongside Princes Pier where "ORARA" is now coaling.

Aux. A/S Vessel "YANDRA" arrived Fremantle yesterday.

Aux. A/S Vessel "KYBRA" with training class embarked will leave Sydney Monday next for Broken Bay.

CONVOY "U.S.6"

Tanker "BULYSESSES" arrived Fremantle yesterday afternoon three days overdue from Basra. She is required for refuelling ships of this convoy which arrived Fremantle early this morning.

Air operations in S.W. area were carried out yesterday with negative results.

GENERAL.

S.S. "ARKABA" departed Darwin yesterday and after calling Thursday Island will proceed to Port Moresby arriving Monday, 28th October to discharge 300 tons coal.

With a view to arming D.E.M.S. and small ships which might be built in Australia for service in Far East, Admiralty has asked Naval Board whether 4" gun mountings and ammunition could be manufactured in this country.

The darkened ship sighted by W.S.S. Archer Point late on Wednesday night, 23rd October, has not yet been identified.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Thursday, 24th October, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

Aux. M/S Vessel "BERMAGUI" will return to Newcastle tomorrow Friday from Sydney, having completed her refit.

CONVOY.

U.S.6 escorted by H.M.A.S. "PERTH" is expected to arrive Fremantle at 0730 tomorrow Friday.

Air Operations - A clearing Search by two aircraft in the S.W. Area was made yesterday with negative result. A further clearing search will be made today in the S.W. Area to a depth of 250 miles. A/S patrol for the Convoy will be provided.

GENERAL.

S.S. "ARKABA" was expected to sail from Darwin p.m. yesterday Wednesday to discharge 300 tons coal at Port Moresby. This ship arrived Darwin on the 12th September last, the discharge of her coal cargo, approx. 3,000 tons, having been delayed owing to Labour Trouble.

The United States ship "MONTEREY" departed from Honolulu on Monday 21st for Hong Kong where American Evacuees will be embarked.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

CONVOY D.H.7 was attacked off Massawa in the Red Sea by 2 Italian Destroyers 21st October. The escort consisted of H.M.S. "SUCKLAND", R.M.A.S. "TARRA", H.M.S. "LEANDER" and H.M.S. "KIMBERLEY". "KIMBERLEY" was holed in the Engine Room and with both engines out of action was taken in tow by "LEANDER". From later signals it is gathered that one enemy destroyer was aground and abandoned and later blown up. No damage to the convoy is reported.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Tuesday, 22nd October, 1940.

To 0900 Wednesday, 23rd October, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

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

H.M.A. SHIPS Instead of returning to Port Melbourne last night is to carry out a searching sweep in Eastern Bass Strait. 20th M.S.F. returns to Port Melbourne today. One hundred fathom line.

"MANOORA" arrived Darwin yesterday. and departed Fremantle yesterday.

"DURRAWEEEN" returned to Williamstown yesterday.

"KYBRA" returned to Sydney yesterday from working up at Jarvis Bay.

"KOROWA" at Port Melbourne is at 24 hours' notice owing to Engine Room defects. H.L.O. last night contains the

pleasurable information that the 3 pdr. Hotchkiss gun's crew, consisting of one P.O. and two A.B.'s landed at Berbera on CONVOYS and believed killed in subsequent operations are now reported to be prisoners of war.

U.S. 5A. escorted by H.M.S. "CALEDON" departed Colombo 21st October. The convoy is due to arrive Suez Friday 1st November.

U.S. 6. Five aircraft will carry out a clearing search this afternoon for U.S. 6 to a depth of 250 miles. U.S. 6 complement.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "YARRA" a despatch TRANSPORTS 20 tons completed in 1917, was mined and sunk in Thames approaches 19th October.

"ZEALANDIA" arrived Darwin yesterday to disembark troops. C. Weller, is amongst those missing, possibly 1st Officer S.M. of

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

CONVOY B.N. 7 was attacked off Massama in the Red Sea by 2 Italian destroyers 21st October. The escort consisted of H.M.S. "AUCKLAND", H.M.A.S. "YARRA", H.M.S. "LEANDER" and H.M.S. "KIMBERLEY". "KIMBERLEY" was holed in the Engine Room and with both engines out of action was taken in tow by "LEANDER". From later signals it is gathered that one Enemy destroyer was aground and abandoned and later blown up. No damage to the convoy is reported.

Air searches were carried out yesterday but no suspicious ship was sighted and it is considered improbable that a hostile vessel was sighted by S.S. "KARITANE". Searching sweeps are however, being carried out by 20th M.S.F. in Eastern Bass Strait.

GENERAL.

"KISC HAY" at Fremantle has been placed in quarantine owing to the detection of a case of C.S.N. A H/S trawler is now being used as examination vessel.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Tuesday, 22nd October, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS. "ROBORA" arrived Williamstown 1650 yesterday from Adelaide.

20th M.S.F. instead of returning to Port Melbourne last night is to carry out a searching sweep in Eastern Bass Strait between Hogan Group and one hundred fathom line.

Hospital ship "MANUNDA" arrived and departed Fremantle yesterday. Departed Sydney 1035 yesterday Sunday. "MAURETANIA" will sail from Port Melbourne at 0600 today Monday and anchor in the vic. H.M.A. SHIPS ABROAD. until ordered to proceed.

"HOBART", taken in hand for refit at Colombo on 19th October, is to be ready for service 19th November. A message received from N.L.O. last night contains the pleasurable information that the 3 pdr. Hotchkiss gun's crew, consisting of one P.O. and two A.B.'s landed at Berbera on 9th August and believed killed in subsequent operations are now reported to be prisoners of war but place of internment is not known. sent out a

"STUART" will probably be in dockyard hands for 4 months or more. In consequence, N.O.I.C. Malta has made proposals for the disposal of her crew in excess of 2/5 complement. Sunday. At 0130 Monday this vessel was no longer in sight.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

air raider's furthest on circle at 18 knots Eastwards of the Bass Straits
H.M.S. "VENETIA" a destroyer of 1100 tons completed in 1917, was mined and sunk in Thames approaches 19th October. Her Commanding Officer, Lieut.-Comdr. B.H.de C. Weller, is amongst those missing. position 180 miles S.E. of Cape and departed from Sydney at 0330.

CONVOY U.S.C.

"MAURETANIA" sailed from Port Melbourne at 0800 yesterday and anchored off Dromana two hours later whence she proceeded so as to reach the rendezvous at 1600. The convoy of three ships and escorting cruiser was sighted by W.S.S. Cape Otway at 1846K.

RAIDER REPORT.

Air searches were carried out yesterday but no suspicious ship was sighted and it is considered improbable that a hostile vessel was sighted by S.S. "KARITANE". Searching sweeps are, however, being carried out by 20th M.S.F. in Eastern Bass Strait.

GENERAL.

"KING BAY" at Fremantle has been placed in quarantine owing to the detection of a case of C.S.M. A M/S trawler is now being used as examination vessel.

MONDAY 21st OCTOBER, 1940.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Monday, 21st October, 1940. AUSTRALIA STATION.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

Aux. M/S Vessel "KOROWA" arrived Williamstown 1650 yesterday Sunday from Adelaide.

Arrived Thursday Island last night. According to programme she should leave Thursday Island today escorting "ZEALANDIA" to Darwin.

TRANSPORTS.

U.S.6 - "QUEEN MARY" and "ACUITANIA" escorted by H.M.A.S. "PERTH" was departed Sydney 1035 yesterday Sunday. "MAURETANIA" will sail from Port Melbourne at 0800 today Monday and anchor in the vicinity of Hovel Beacon until ordered to proceed.

"ZEALANDIA" escorted by H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" departed Thursday Island at 1030 yesterday Sunday and expects to arrive Darwin at 2100 tomorrow Tuesday.

Arrived today at Port Melbourne and to rendezvous in Bass Strait. It is anticipated despatch of this convoy from Fremantle will take place p.m. 22nd October.

RAIDER REPORT.

S.S. "KARITANE" (Union S.S. Co. Ltd. 2330 Tons Gross) sent out a Raider Report shortly before midnight Sunday, her position at the time being approx. 90 miles S. by W. from Gabo Island Light. A report made an hour later reported that a suspicious vessel had been following her since 2100 Sunday. At 0130 Monday this vessel was no longer in sight.

Air searches of the possible raider's furthest on circle at 18 knots Eastwards of the Bass Straits commenced at 0545 today.

Two "BATURST" Class shall be stationed at A den and the remaining 8 of this class employed in the Western Approaches.

H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE" has been ordered to proceed with all despatch towards a position 120 miles S.E. of Gabo and departed from Sydney at 0800.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "GENERAL" (Commander R.N.) is now ready for service and will be employed on the New Zealand Station.

H.M.S. "FAME" (Lieut.-Cdr. W.S. Clouston) and H.M.S. "ASHANTI" and (Commander W.G. Davis) are still ashore on the East Coast of England and cannot be refloated for some days.

They were engaged by cruisers at extreme range 17th October, after being sighted in the Western Approaches and pursued in the direction of Brest. Our aircraft also

attacked with bombs and scored a near miss. The enemy fired torpedoes without effect.

GENERAL.

A course consisting of a small number of damaged Executive Officers unmarried and under 30 years of age who have some Mechanical knowledge commences today in "VERNON". These officers are volunteers and will later join the Mine Disposal Party.

GENERAL.

The U.S. Yacht "DIRECTOR III" engaged on scientific research struck a reef at the entrance to Gladstone Harbour 18th October and is abandoned, personnel and scientific equipment having been landed by the Pilot Launch.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

TO 0900 SUNDAY 20th OCTOBER, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"PERTH" leaves Sydney this morning escorting Convoy U.S.6.

"MANOORA" arrived Thursday Island last night. According to programme she should leave Thursday Island today escorting "ZEALANDIA" to Darwin.

"KOROWA" arrives Port Melbourne today joining group 58 M/S. She was reported passing Cape Otway at 0722 today.

CONVOYS.

U.S.6. "QUEEN MARY" and "AQUITANIA" leave Sydney this morning. "MAURETANIA" embarks troops today at Port Melbourne and leaves tomorrow to rendezvous in Bass Strait. It is anticipated despatch of this convoy from Fremantle will take place p.m. Saturday 26th October.

EVACUEES.

British Ship "NESTOR" is due at Melbourne today with 82 children on board from the U.K.

AUSTRALIAN M/S VESSELS.

The Admiralty intends that the first two "BATHURST" Class shall be stationed at A den and the remaining 8 of this class employed in the Mediterranean.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "MONOWAI" (Commander H.V.P. McClintock, R.N.) is now ready for service and will be employed on the New Zealand Station. She will undertake the escort of Troops from New Zealand to Fiji in the near future.

Enemy Destroyers were engaged by cruisers at extreme range 17th October, after being sighted in the Western Approaches and pursued in the direction of Brest. Our aircraft also attacked with bombs and scored a near miss. The enemy fired torpedoes without effect. Our ships were undamaged when darkness intervened.

H.M.S. "DUNDALK" previously reported sunk through a boiler explosion was mined.

GENERAL.

The U.S. Yacht "DIRECTOR II" engaged on scientific research struck a reef at the entrance to Gladstone Harbour 18th October and is abandoned, personnel and scientific equipment having been landed by the Pilot Launch.

SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

0800 Friday, 18th October, 1940.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Saturday, 19th October, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"ADELAIDE" sailed from Sydney at noon yesterday for patrol and returned to harbour last night.

"KOROWA" departed Adelaide yesterday and expects to arrive Melbourne tomorrow Sunday.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

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

"LIVERPOOL" has reached harbour.

"DUNDALK", a minesweeping sloop of the "HUNT" class built during the last war, was sunk off Harwich after boiler explosion.

"HOBART" arrived Colombo 17th October.

A.I.F. FREIGHT SHIP.

"ZEALANDIA" is due at Thursday Island today whence H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" will escort her to Darwin. One flying boat was to leave Port Moresby at 0600K this morning for Townsville and will report shipping en route.

"ARKABA" at Darwin is expected to complete discharging coal end November.

GENERAL.

Navy House, situated at the S.E. Corner of Collins and William Streets, was officially opened by the Lord Mayor of Melbourne (Cr. A.W. Coles) yesterday afternoon in the presence of Admiral Sir Ragner and Lady Colvin.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

0900 Friday, 18th October, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A.S. "MORESBY" arrived Sydney at 0755 yesterday Thursday.

Aux. A/S Vessels "WYRALLAH" and "BINGERA" arrived Fremantle p.m. Wednesday, 16th October from Sydney (departure noon 7th).

Aux. A/S Vessel "YANDRA" proceeding to Fremantle was reported passing Cape Otway at 1116 yesterday Thursday.

H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" expects to arrive Thursday Island p.m. tomorrow Saturday.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "CHESHIRE" torpedoed on the 14th October off N.W. Coast of Ireland is being towed into harbour.

H.M.S. "LIVERPOOL" (Rear-Admiral A.J.L. Murray D.S.O., O.B.E.) was torpedoed and seriously damaged in the Eastern Mediterranean on Monday, 14th October.

CONVOY AND ESCORT.

U.S.5A escorted by H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" arrived Colombo at 1325 yesterday Thursday.

AIR OPERATIONS.

One aircraft from Archerfield made a search yesterday of the area through which "ZEALANDIA" will pass, as far north as 23° 30'S, with negative result.

This area will be searched again today during the aircraft's return flight from Townsville.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "CHESHIRE" (Capt. E.D.B. McCarthy, R.N.) attacked and sank 3 Italian Destroyers off Sicily 18th October.

H.M.S. "CHESHIRE" (A.M.C.) (Capt. M.R. Bernard R.N. ret.) was torpedoed 100' W. of the N.W. coast of Ireland 14th October and is proceeding under her own steam into harbour.

GENERAL.

Explosion was near missed by H.K. bombs 14th October.
Dispatch Vessel "MARNE" was reported to be aground 14th October on the coast of the Chinese Hainan Is., bordering the Gulf of Tonkin.
Lt. J.S. Burnford, R.N. left the U.K. 13th October for Australia and New Zealand.
G.L. Cant, R.N., assumed command of H.M.A.S. "LYBRA" yesterday.

SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

0900 Thursday, 17th October, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"PERTH" arrived Sydney yesterday to dock.

"ADELAIDE" returned to Sydney on completion of sub-calibre firing yesterday afternoon.

"MORESBY" arrives Sydney today from Melbourne. Advance party proceeds on 21 days' leave tomorrow Friday.

"KYBRA" departed Sydney yesterday to work up in Jervis Bay.

"YANDRA" passed Wilsons Promontory 1345K yesterday bound Fremantle.

"KOROWA" arrived Port Adelaide yesterday from Fremantle en route Port Melbourne.

with 212 Vichy adherents transferred from "PIRRAE LOTI" sailed CONVOYS. Brisbane Monday, 14th October for Saigon calling at Rebaul.

U.S. 5A. escorted by H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" is due at Colombo today.

U.S. 6. H.M.A.S. "PERTH" is now to undertake the ocean escort from the Sydney to the rendezvous in the Indian Ocean with "CANBERRA".

"STURVILLE" arrived Saigon Sunday, 13th October having sailed from AIR OPERATIONS.

A flying boat left Archerfield this morning providing cover for "ZEALANDIA" between Brisbane and Townsville.

repairs to this vessel will be completed to enable her to EVACUEES.

H.T. "BATORY" arrived Sydney yesterday completing the voyage with children from the U.K.

having embarked 800 troops and 300 tons of coal for OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS. Brisbane 1750K yesterday for Thursday Island whence H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" will escort her

H.M.S. "AJAX" (Capt. E.D.B. McCarthy, R.N.) attacked and sank 3 Italian Destroyers off Sicily 12th October.

H.M.S. "CHESHIRE" (A.M.C.) (Capt. M.R. Bernard R.N. ret.) was torpedoed 160' W. of the N.W. coast of Ireland 14th October and is proceeding under her own steam into the harbour.

GENERAL.

The Admiralty was near missed by H.E. bombs 14th October. French Despatch Vessel "MARNE" was reported to be aground 14th October on the coast of the Chinese Hainan Is., bordering the Gulf of Tonkin.

A gangway definitely identified as belonging to the Captain J.H. Durnford, R.N. left the U.K. 13th October for Australia and New Zealand. Lieut.-Cdr. G.L. Cant, R.A.N., assumed command of H.M.A.S. "KYBRA" yesterday.

SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Wednesday, 16th ^{Oct.} September, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS

"PERTH" departs Port Melbourne at 0845 today Tuesday and docks at Cockatoo on arrival Sydney today, Wednesday.
"ADELAIDE" is unable to carry out full calibre firing off Sydney today owing to large drafting changes. She will, however, proceed to sea this morning for sub-calibre firing returning to harbour on completion.
"TAMBAR" from Group 74 Auxiliary M/S Vessels based on Brisbane will be docked at Sydney tomorrow.

NEW CALEDONIA.

S.S. "TANDA" with 219 Vichy adherents transferred from "PIERRE LOTI" sailed from Brisbane Monday, 14th October for Saigon calling at Rebaul.

"PIERRE LOTI" departed Brisbane yesterday afternoon for Sydney. Three officers and some of her crew wished to leave the ship and proceed to Saigon in "TANDA" but they were dissuaded and the armed guard strengthened.

"DUMONT D'URVILLE" arrived Saigon Sunday, 15th October having sailed from Noumea 25th September.

CONVOY U.S. 6.

"MAURETANIA" repairs to this vessel will be completed to enable her to sail on Monday, 21st October.

A.I.F. FREIGHTSHIP.

"ZEALANDIA" having embarked 800 troops and 350 tons of coal for bunkers, sailed from Brisbane 1930K yesterday for Thursday Island whence H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" will escort her to Darwin arriving 22nd October.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "BERWICK" (Captain I.M. Palmer) has been withdrawn from Home Fleet and will leave the Clyde on 28th October for the Mediterranean.

GENERAL.

The broad pendant of Commodore W.E. Parry, C.B., Commanding New Zealand Squadron, was struck yesterday. He has been appointed 1st N.M. and C.N.S. New Zealand at Wellington and Captain H.M. Barnes has taken command of H.M.S. "ACHILLES".

A gangway definitely identified as belonging to the French Vessel "NOTOU" has been found on a beach near Noumea.

It will be recalled "NOTOU" has been overdue at Noumea since 18th August last and it is supposed she was sunk by the same raider that attacked "TURAKINA" on 20th August.

SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

0900 Tuesday, 15th ^{Oct} September, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

SHIPS OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A.S. "PERTH" departs Port Melbourne at 0845 today Tuesday and expects to arrive Sydney 1030 tomorrow Wednesday. Sub-calibre firing will be carried out in Port Phillip before departure and a full calibre firing before entering Port Jackson.

H.M.A.S. "MORESBY" departed Port Melbourne at 0800 yesterday Monday and expects to arrive Sydney 0730 Thursday 17th.

Aux. A/S Vessel "YANDRA" departed Sydney at 1740 yesterday Monday for Fremantle.

H.M.A.S. SHIPS ABROAD.

"PARRAMATTA" whilst escorting a convoy in the Red Sea yesterday was bombed - there was no damage.

"BRATHEDER" is due Melbourne this afternoon.

EXAMINATION SERVICE.

"FALIE" having completed fitting out assumed duties as Examination Vessel at Sydney yesterday.

British ship "TANDA" tomorrow and will be disembarked at Saigon.

EVACUEES.

H.T. "BATORY" arrived Port Melbourne at 1125 yesterday. Whilst approaching the berth at Station Pier the ship grounded on the edge of the Dredged Channel. At 2000 this transport departed and expects to arrive Sydney at 0800 tomorrow Wednesday.

HOSPITAL SHIP.

"MANUNDA" departed Sydney at 1250 yesterday Monday for Aden calling at Fremantle and Colombo en route. The Engineers dispute delayed sailing for 24 days.

TRANSPORTS.

H.T. "ZEALANDIA" arrived Brisbane at 1921 yesterday Monday and after embarking troops is expected to sail p.m. today for Darwin.

NEW CALEDONIAN DEPORTEES.

"PIERRE LOTI" arrived at Brisbane yesterday from Noumea with 219 Vichy Adherents who were transferred to "TANDA" for passage Saigon.

TOP SECRET.

201 Sunday, 13th Oct DAILY NARRATIVE.

0900 Monday, 14th October, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS

"AUSTRALIA" was ordered by the Admiralty yesterday possible - presumably from Gibraltar - and proceed towards Las Palmas in the Canary Islands.

"PERTH" berthed at Port Melbourne this morning.

"DOOMBA" arrived Sydney yesterday to refit.

"KYBRA" departure for Jervis Bay is deferred until Wednesday 16th October to effect a change of Commanding Officers.

U.S.S. "ALBATROSS" is expected to arrive Colombo Thursday, 17th October, whence H.M.S. "CALDON" will depart to Gulf of Aden.

CONVOYS.

U.S.S. according to schedule should have arrived Suez yesterday.

four days until Sunday, 20th October. "MURRETANIA" will sail in this convoy notwithstanding her speed is reduced to 81 knots consequent upon two of her six boilers developed serious defects, which will require about two months to repair.

EVACUEES.

"BATORY" berthed at Port Melbourne this morning.

"STRATHEDEN" is due Melbourne this afternoon.

INTELLIGENCE.

NEW CALEDONIAN DEPORTEES.

British Naval reports that according to reliable information, a Japanese force which includes a Japanese ship "TANDA" tomorrow and will be disembarked at Saigon. The British ship "TANDA" tomorrow and will be disembarked at Saigon.

HOSPITAL SHIPS.

C.O.I.S. has received reports that it is rumoured "AMIRAL CHARNER" returned to Saigon. "MANUNDA" is intended to sail p.m. today. The engineers dispute is settled.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "REVENGE" 7 Destroyers and 6 Motor Gunboats bombarded Cherbourg 11th October. The reply by shore batteries was ineffective.

GENERAL.

Navy House, Melbourne, is to be opened on Friday, 18th October, for the use of Naval Ratings. A Canteen, cafe, reading and billiard rooms are included in the services provided. Limited accommodation will be available with modern bathing facilities.

SEC.
To 0900 Sunday, 13th October.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS .

H.M.A.S. "AUSTRALIA" was ordered by the Admiralty yesterday to sail as soon as possible - presumably from Gibraltar - and proceed at 25 knots towards Las Palmas in the Canary Islands.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" departed CONVOYS. at 1800 yesterday Friday and expects to arrive Darwin p.m. Saturday, 18th

"U.S.5 A", escorted by H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA", is expected to arrive Colombo Thursday, 17th October, whence H.M.S. "CALEDON" will escort to Gulf of Aden. "JOHANN DE WITT" and "NIEUW ZEELAND" will then join another convoy for Suez. OVERSEAS.

"U.S.6". Departure date from Sydney has been delayed by four days until Sunday, 20th October. "MAURETANIA" will sail in this convoy notwithstanding her speed is reduced to 21 knots consequent upon two of her six boilers having developed serious defects, which will require about two months to repair. OVERSEAS.

"ZEALANDIA" departed Sydney at 2309 Thursday 10th October and expects to arrive Brisbane a.m. tomorrow Sunday. After INTELLIGENCE. will sail for Darwin p.m. Tuesday.

British Naval Attache at Tokio, in a message to the Admiralty, reports that according to reliable information, a Japanese force, which includes 3 seaplane carriers, 1 submarine flotilla, and 3 destroyer flotillas, has arrived in the Palau Islands, situated approximately 1,300 miles from Darwin. The delay being occasioned by defects in two boilers.

C.O.I.S. has received a report from British Liaison Officer, Saigon, that it is rumoured "AMIRAL CHARNER" returned to Saigon instead of proceeding Noumea, because "DUMONT D'URVILLE" stated she was to be intercepted by H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE".

The French ship "PIERRE LOTI" departed from Noumea a.m. yesterday Friday and expects to arrive Brisbane a.m. Monday 14th October. The 108 Vichy adherents will be transferred to "TANSA" the same day. GENERAL.

H.M.S. "NAPIER" and "N" class destroyers, to be manned mainly by R.A.N. personnel, will be designated 7th Destroyer Flotilla. The voyage to Australia about 15th December. No cargo has been transhipped.

GENERAL INFORMATION.

French ship "PIERRE LOTI" departed Noumea today and arrives Brisbane Monday 14th. In company with "TANSA". The French authorities in Indo China will provide all necessary facilities for the reception of the crew and will permit "TANSA" to sail when disembarkation is completed at Darwin.

SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Friday, 11th October, 1940.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

To 0900 Saturday, 12th October, 1940.

H.M.A.S. SHIPS

"MANOORA" int OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION. OK today to rendezvous with troop transport "ZEALANDIA" at Thursday Island.

H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" departed Fremantle 1200 yesterday Friday and expects to arrive Darwin p.m. Saturday, 19th

"BARBICQ" has October. the duties of S.O. 20th Mine sweeping Flotilla

"LOREDA" departed Melbourne yesterday and expects to arrive Syd OPERATIONS OVERSEAS. 13th October.

H.M.A.S. "AUSTRALIA" on arrival at Gibraltar will temporarily join Force H. exchange groups. "TONGKOL" joins Group 50 at Brisbane and "GOOSEHAWK" Group 50 at Sydney.

"YARRA" N.O.C.S. CONVOYS AND TRANSPORTS. Sails p.m. on Monday, 14th October for Fremantle direct.

"ZEALANDIA" departed Sydney at 2359 Thursday 10th October and expects to arrive Brisbane a.m. tomorrow Sunday. After embarking troops will sail for Darwin p.m. Tuesday, 2nd October.

U.S. 5A has been ordered to Colombo for Port Adelaide expecting to arrive 0830K Wednesday, 16th October.

US. 6 "MAURETANIA" entered Port Phillip at 0600 today Saturday approximately 24 hours late. The delay being occasioned by defects in two boilers.

S.S. "TIKRA" (Adelaide S.S. Company) has been requisitioned at Cairns and GENERAL. fitted out for Naval Service at Sydney.

The French ship "PIERRE LOTI" departed from Noumea a.m. yesterday Friday and expects to arrive Brisbane a.m. Monday 14th October. The 109 Vichy adherents will be transferred to "TANDA" the same day for passage to Saigon. refuelling port, this convoy will proceed direct to Suez enabling

British ship "CERAMIC" undergoing repairs, at Capetown, on account of collision damage is expected to continue the voyage to Australia about 15th December. No cargo has been transhipped. "TANIA" arrives Port Melbourne today. Ocean escorts will be carried out by "ADLAIDE" from Sydney to rendezvous in Bass Strait, "PERTH" to a rendezvous in the Indian Ocean and "CANBERRA" thence to Bombay.

NEW CALLEDONIAN DEPARTURE.

French ship "PIERRE LOTI" departs Noumea today and arrives Brisbane Monday 14th to connect with S.S. "TANDA". The French authorities in Indo China will provide all necessary facilities for the reception of the deportees and will permit "TANDA" to sail when disembarkation is completed at Saigon.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

2.

To 0900 Friday, 11th October, 1940.

H.M.S. "MANLEDONE" (Capt. S. H. ...) was mined East of Dover
OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS "MANCOORA" was damaged by incendiary bombs 7th October the
 resultant fire being under control within 2 hours.
 "MANCOORA" intends to depart Fremantle at 1200K today to rendezvous
 with troop transport "ZEALANDIA" at Thursday Island.
 A call is being made at Shark Bay en route.
 "WARRECO" has assumed the duties of S.O. 20th Mine sweeping Flotilla
 "DOOMBA" departed Melbourne yesterday and expects to arrive
 Sydney at 0500K Sunday, 13th October.

"TONGKOL" and "GOORNAMBLE" approval has been given for these two
 ships to exchange groups. "TONGKOL" joins Group 74
 at Brisbane and "GOORNAMBLE" Group 50 at Sydney.

"YANDRA" N.O.C.S. intends to sail from Sydney p.m. on Monday, 14th
 October for Fremantle direct.

"KYBRA" sails from Sydney on Monday 14th October for working up
 exercises at Jervis Bay returning to Sydney on
 Thursday 22nd October.

"KOROWA" departed Fremantle yesterday for Port Adelaide expecting
 to arrive 0830K Wednesday, 16th October.

AUXILIARY VESSELS.

S.S. "TERKA" (Adelaide S.S. Company) has been requisitioned at
 Cairns and will be fitted out for Naval Service at
 Sydney.

CONVOYS.

U.S.5A Should Colombo be decided upon as the refuelling port,
 this convoy will proceed direct to Suez enabling
 the troops to disembark 10 to 14 days earlier than
 anticipated.

U.S.6. "MAURETANIA" arrives Port Melbourne today. Ocean escorts
 will be carried out by "ADELAIDE" from Sydney to
 rendezvous in Bass Strait, "PERTH" to a rendezvous in
 the Indian Ocean and "CANBERRA" thence to Bombay.

NEW CALEDONIAN DEPORTEES.

French ship "PIERRE LOTI" departs Noumea today and
 arrives Brisbane Monday 14th to connect with S.S. "TANDA".
 The French authorities in Indo China will provide all necessary
 facilities for the reception of the deportees and will permit
 "TANDA" to sail when disembarkation is completed at Saigon..

DAILY NARRATIVE.

2.

0900 Thursday, 10th October, 1943.

OPERATIONS ABROAD.

H.M.S. "HAMBLEDON" (Cdr. S.H. Carlill R.N.) was mined East of Dover 7th October and is in tow.

H.M.S. "VERNON" was damaged by incendiary bombs 7th October the resultant fire being under control within 2 hours.

From intercepted signals it appears that an attempt is likely to be made by Enemy forces operating from French Biscay Ports, to capture the Azores Islands (Portuguese) tomorrow respectively.

5 of the 8 2nd Town class Flotilla of Ex American Destroyers have arrived at Dover.

"GENERAL" departs Fremantle this morning for Melbourne to join Group 88 in 3 Vessels. She will call at Adelaide en route.

An Admiralty enquiry has been received by A.C.N.B. and N.Z.N.B. for rescue motor craft capable of 14 knots and above for English Channel work in winter.

Action will be taken against French surface warships accompanied by submarines should an attempt to dive be made when met by H.M. Ships. S.S. "IRON BARON" (Broken Hill Pty. Coy.) grounded yesterday near Port Pirie and expected to refloat at High Water.

EVACUEES.

"STRATHEDAN" departed Fremantle last night. E.T.A. Adelaide Sunday morning, 13th October.

"BATORY" departed Fremantle last night for Melbourne. E.T.A. 0800K Monday, 14th October.

4 Aircraft from Pearce will today search 200' to the southward of Albany to provide cover for "BATORY".

U.S.V. will comprise "SIR INDOOR", "STRATHEDAN", "ORION" and "BATORY". Tentative date of departure from Sydney 7th November.

GENERAL.

Air raid on morning of 8th October resulted in War Office being hit and the Admiralty narrowly escaped damage.

On 7th October French Sloop "ADMIRAL CHARNER" was at Saigon and the Despatch Vessel "MARE" at Hong Kong.

SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

Wednesday, 9th October, 1940.

To 0900 Thursday, 10th October, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A.S. "PERIN" will proceed to Melbourne and expects to arrive at 0500 Monday, 14th October.

H.M.A. "WANOORA" escorting "STRATHEDEN" and "BATORY" arrived Fremantle at noon yesterday.

H.M.A. "WARREGO" and "SWAN" after exercising in Port Phillip yesterday returned to Port Melbourne and Williamstown respectively.

"DOOMBA" will sail for Sydney today to undergo refit.

H.M.A. "KOROWA" escorted by "PERIN" departed Fremantle at 0800 this morning for Melbourne to join Group 58 Auxiliary M/S Vessels. She will call at Adelaide en route. Clearing searches were provided by aircraft operating from Pearce yesterday Tuesday.

NEW CALEDONIA.

French passenger ship "PIERRE LOTI" with an armed guard from H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE" and 132 French citizens embarked will leave Noumea so as to arrive Brisbane a.m. Monday, 14th October. If considered advisable by C. in C. China these Frenchmen - who are all Vichy adherents - will be sent to Saigon in S.S. "TANDA" leaving Brisbane 15th October.

NEW ZEALAND EVACUEES. GULF - COLVILLE CHANNEL.

"STRATHEDEN" departed Fremantle last night, E.T.A. Adelaide yesterday Sunday morning, 13th October. of Tryphena (Southern end of Great Barrier Island). The report is being investigated.

"BATORY" departed Fremantle last night for Melbourne. E.T.A. 0800K Monday, 14th October.

DARWIN.

4 Aircraft from Pearce will today search 200' to the southward of Albany to provide cover for "BATORY".

U.S.7 will comprise "STRATHMORE", "STRATHEDEN", "ORION" and "BATORY". Tentative date of departure from Sydney 7th November.

EVACUEE SHIPS.

GENERAL.

"WANOORA" and "STRATHEDEN" are due Fremantle at 0800 today Wednesday. Air raid on morning of 8th October resulted in War Office being hit and the Admiralty narrowly escaped damage.

On 7th October French Sloop "ADMIRAL CHARNER" was at Saigon and the Despatch Vessel "MARNE" at Hong Kong.

SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

0000 Wednesday, 9th October, 1940.

0900 Tuesday, 8th October, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A.S. "PERTH" after transferring convoy U.S.5A to "CANBERRA", will proceed to Melbourne and expects to arrive at 0500 Monday, 14th October.

H.M.A.S. "MORESBY" entered Port Phillip at 0516 today, Wednesday and intends anchoring off Port Arlington.

H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE" repairs to collision damage necessitate 8 hours' Notice for Steam until 0800 today Wednesday and then 24 hours' Notice for Steam until p.m. Monday, 14th.

CONVOY U.S.5A. escorted by "PERTH" departed Fremantle at 0900 yesterday Tuesday and will rendezvous with "CANBERRA" at 1800 today Wednesday. "CANBERRA" will act as Ocean Escort until relieved by "CALEDON" on Wednesday, 16th October. Clearing searches were provided by Aircraft operating from Pearce yesterday Tuesday.

"MYRALLAH" and "BINGERA" departed Sydney yesterday for Fremantle expecting to arrive Friday, 18th October where A/S cover OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS. S.S.C.

H.M.S. "KANIMBLA" arrived Durban yesterday Tuesday. in Group 86 M/S relieving "KOROWA".

H.M.S. "ARAWA" escorting H.T. "ORCADES" from Mauritius is due Cape Town 12th October.

CONVOYS.

U.S.5 escorted NEW ZEALAND - HAURAKI GULF - COLVILLE CHANNEL.

U.S.5A arriving Floating mines were reported by a Fishing vessel p.m. yesterday Tuesday in a position 3 miles S.W. of Tryphena (Southern end of Great Barrier Island). The report is being investigated.

U.S.6 "MAHSTANIA" arrived Fremantle yesterday from Singapore and continued on to Melbourne this morning expecting to arrive at DARWIN. 11th Heads 0730X Friday, 11th October.

Yesterday Tuesday, a Stop Work Meeting resulted in a one day strike of all Union Labour. Waterside Workers propose resuming the discharge of Coal etc. from "ARKABA" and "MONTORO" at 0830 today Wednesday. Provided the Waterside Workers re-commence discharging, all Service Personnel will be withdrawn from this work, as a patrol vessel.

EVACUEE SHIPS.

DARWIN STRIKE.

"BATORY" and "STRATHEDEN" are due Fremantle at 0800 today Wednesday escorted by H.M.A.S. "MANOORA". Personnel yesterday consisted of 250 tons of coal and 90 tons of General Cargo. A settlement is expected to be effected tomorrow Wednesday, the Union having agreed to continue the discharge of coal from "ARKABA" with mechanical grabs.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

H.M.A.S. "WESTRALIA" departed Mauritius on Sunday, 6th October, for Colombo.

H.M. Trawler "KINGSTONE SAPPHIRE" was torpedoed 50 miles S.E. of Cardiff 5th October.

SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Tuesday, 8th October, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

For the information of the Fleet to the effect that intense air H.M.A. SHIPS United Kingdom have left remarkably few marks. London appears almost normal with the exception of the East End. "PERTH" arrived Fremantle yesterday and leaves today with U.S.5A houses with to rendezvous with and turn convoy over to. Little notice "CANBERRA" at 1800K tomorrow. other than taking precautions and the improved anti aircraft barrage is already "ADELAIDE" arrived Sydney this morning from Noumea.

"MORESBY" departed Sydney yesterday for exercise in Port Phillip of all annual arriving 0900 tomorrow Wednesday and berthing at unacceptable Port Melbourne 1400K Friday 11th October.

"WARREGO" and "SWAN" departed Port Melbourne yesterday for exercise in Port Phillip Bay and returned in the evening.

"WYRALLAH" and "BINGERA" departed Sydney yesterday for Fremantle expecting to arrive Friday, 18th October where A/S cover will be provided for U.S.6.

"ALFIE CAM" arrived Fremantle yesterday to join Group 66 M/S relieving "KOROWA".

CONVOYS.

U.S.5 escorted by H.M.S. "SHROPSHIRE" is due at Aden today.

U.S.5A arrived Fremantle yesterday and is expected to continue the voyage to Bombay today.

U.S.6 "MAURETANIA" arrived Fremantle yesterday from Singapore and continued on to Melbourne this morning expecting to arrive at Port Phillip Heads 0722K Friday, 11th October.

AUXILIARY VESSELS.

"VIGILANT" was taken over at Maryborough on Saturday 5th October as a patrol vessel.

DARWIN STRIKE.

Discharge by Service personnel yesterday consisted of 250 tons of coal and 90 tons of General Cargo. A settlement is expected to be effected tomorrow Wednesday, the Union having agreed to continue the discharge of coal from "ARKABA" with mechanical grabs.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

H.M.A.S. "WESTRALIA" departed Mauritius on Sunday, 6th October, for Colombo.

H.M. Trawler "KINGSTONE SAPPHIRE" was torpedoed 50 miles S.W. of Cadiz 5th October.

GENERAL.

Monday, 7th October, 1943.

A reassuring statement is issued by the Admiralty for the information of the Fleet to the effect that intense air attacks on the United Kingdom have left remarkably few marks. London appears almost normal with the exception of the East End near the Docks. Generally, one bomb only wrecks one or two houses with one other nearby suffering the loss of glass. Little notice is paid by persons to sirens other than taking precautions and the improved anti aircraft barrage is already preventing the penetration of formations into London. Thursday Island on Saturday, 12th October will escort her to Darwin and back to The Japanese demand for the supply of 3,000,000 tons of oil annually from the N.E.I. over the normal exports is unacceptable and will be resisted.

An official press report announces that Lt. Cdr. F.N. Cook, R.A.N. has been mentioned in despatches. A patrol by aircraft was arranged to commence early this morning.

"AQUITANIA" arrived Sydney 1147 yesterday.

"LAURETANIA" was due Fremantle 0800 this morning.

A.I.P. FREIGHTSHIP.

"MANOORA" will leave Sydney Thursday next, 10th October to coal and load cargo at Newcastle and will then proceed to Brisbane arriving Monday, 14th October to embark 300 troops and more cargo for Darwin. She will sail the following day for Thursday Island arriving 19th October whence H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" will escort her to Darwin arriving 22nd October.

HOSPITAL SHIPS.

According to the Admiralty there is nothing in international law to prevent naming hospital ships by Naval personnel.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "STUART" obtained contact with an Italian submarine, believed to be the "CONDAR" of 620/853 tons built in 1937, near Alexandria on the night of 29th September. Following attacks by depth charges, the submarine surfaced and was promptly bombed and destroyed by a flying boat. Of the crew, 47 survivors were rescued and 2 are missing, believed killed.

SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

Monday, 6th October, 1940.

To 0900 Monday, 7th October, 1940.

Australia Station.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS

"MANOORA" was expected to rendezvous with Hired Transports "STRATHEDEN" and "BATORY" yesterday and escort them to Fremantle arriving Wednesday next. "MANOORA" will then sail as convenient to meet "ZEALANDIA" at Thursday Island on Saturday, 19th October and escort her to Darwin and back to Thursday Island.

CONVOYS.

U.S.5A is expected to arrive Fremantle this afternoon. A/S patrol by aircraft was arranged to commence early this morning.

U.S.6. "AQUITANIA" arrived Sydney 1147 yesterday.

"MAURETANIA" was due Fremantle 0800 this morning.

A.I.F. FREIGHTSHIP.

"ZEALANDIA" will leave Sydney Thursday next, 10th October to coal and load cargo at Newcastle and will then proceed to Brisbane arriving Monday, 14th October to embark 800 troops and more cargo for Darwin. She will sail the following day for Thursday Island arriving 19th October whence H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" will escort her to Darwin arriving 22nd October.

HOSPITAL SHIPS.

According to the Admiralty there is nothing in international law to prevent manning hospital ships by Naval personnel.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.A.S. "STUART" obtained contact with an Italian submarine, believed to be the "GONDAR" of 620/853 tons built in 1937, near Alexandria on the night of 29th September. Following attacks by depth charges, the submarine surfaced and was promptly bombed and destroyed by a flying boat. Of the crew, 47 survivors were rescued and 2 are missing, believed killed.

Hydrographic Division of the Hydrographic Branch being transferred to Exeter.

"MARYBOROUGH" (L.D.V.) is to be launched from the Maryborough on Thursday, 17th October.

three destroyers and one sloop are...
Although several attacks from the air were made on our fleet during its recent sweep of the Mediterranean...

DAILY NARRATIVE.

0900 Sunday, 6th October, 1940.

10 Saturday, 5th October, 1940.

Operations Australia Station.

M.A.S. "ADELAIDE" expects to arrive Sydney at 0515, Tuesday, 8th October and is to be taken in hand for repairs on arrival. Ship is to be kept at four hours notice for steam if possible.

Auxiliary A/S vessel "YANDRA" was to have sailed from Sydney a.m. tomorrow, Monday with "WYRALLAH" and "BINGERA" for Fremantle. A fractured fibula has necessitated the Commanding Officer being relieved and it is proposed to defer the sailing for one week to allow the new Commanding Officer to be trained in A/S duties.

Auxiliary M/S vessel "ALFIE CAM" departed Albany at 0800 yesterday, Saturday for Fremantle.

Operations Overseas.

M.A.S. "AUSTRALIA" has been ordered to proceed on patrol in the vicinity of the Azores with the object of preventing the enemy attempting to capture these islands. Will proceed to Gibraltar to fuel when necessary.

M.A.S. "CANBERRA" departed Colombo a.m. Thursday, 3rd October and will escort U.S.5A.

U.S.5A is expected to arrive Fremantle at 1700 tomorrow, Monday and to depart at 1200 Tuesday, 8th October. Clearing searches with negative results were carried out by aircraft in West Australia yesterday and a further search will be made today. A/S patrol by aircraft will be provided.

U.S.6. The Commodore of this Convoy, Vice-Admiral M.L. Goldsmith arrived at Fremantle in s.s. "STRATHMORE" yesterday, and is due at Adelaide at 1600 Wednesday, 9th October.

H.T. "AQUITANIA" is expected to arrive Sydney at 1100 today, Sunday.

Admiralty Chart Supplies Division of the Hydrographic Branch is being transferred to Exeter.

H.M.A.S. "MARYBOROUGH" (L.D.V.) is to be launched from the yard of Walkers Ltd. Maryborough on Thursday, 17th October.

M.A.S. "AUSTRALIA" it is now stated received two hits from 6 inch S.L.P. shells during the Dakar action. Reconnaissance shows that the French battleship "RICHELIEU", three destroyers and one sloop are still at Dakar. Although several attacks from the air were made on our Fleet during its recent sweep of the Mediterranean no

DAILY NARRATIVE.

damage was suffered by any ship.

To 20 Saturday, 5th October, 1940.

S.S. "SWORDFISH" 1st October attacked 4 small destroyers off Cherbourg and it is believed registered one hit.

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

"ADELAIDE" departs Noumea today for Sydney where repairs will be taken in hand on arrival, Tuesday, 8th October.

"DURRAWEE" arrived Williamstown yesterday to effect Windlass repairs.

"WARRECO" and "SWAN" secured at Princes Pier yesterday.

"DOOMBA" and "ORARA" arrived at Port Melbourne this morning.

"KANGAROO" will be delayed approximately three weeks repairing the Sydney Loop System before proceeding to Darwin.

EXAMINATION SERVICE.

"FALIE" was commissioned at Sydney yesterday as a tender to "RUSHCUTTER" under the Command of Lieut.-Cdr. C.V. Woods, R.A.N.R.

CONVOY U.S.5A.

Three aircraft will operate from Pearce today carrying out a clearing search ahead of the convoy. It is anticipated that departure from Fremantle will be taken about 1000H Tuesday, 8th October. "CANBERRA" departed Colombo Thursday 3rd October to take over the escort from "PERTH" at a rendezvous on Wednesday 9th October.

EVACUEES.

Hired transport "BATORY" sailed from Singapore 2nd October for Fremantle expecting to arrive Wednesday, 9th October with 477 children evacuees on board from the United Kingdom. "STRATHEDEN" sailed in company. Both vessels will be escorted to Fremantle by "MANOORA" from a rendezvous tomorrow Sunday, 6th October.

DARWIN STRIKE.

Service personnel will continue the discharge of coal from "ARKABA" and Service cargo from "MONTORO" today. The Union proposal in settlement of the strike to use baskets in one hold and grabs in the remaining three was rejected.

NEW CALEDONIA.

H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE" at the request of the Governor before departure from Noumea today will land an Armed Guard to be placed on board the French "PIERRE LOTI" sailing about Wednesday 9th October for Sydney with deportees.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

H.M.A.S. "AUSTRALIA" it is now stated received two hits from 6 inch S.A.P. shells during the Dakar action. Reconnaissance shows that the French battleship "RICHELIEU", three destroyers and one sloop are still at Dakar. Although several attacks from the air were made on our Fleet during its recent sweep of the Mediterranean no

damage was suffered by any ship.

H.M.S. "SWORDFISH" 1st October attacked 4 small destroyers off Cherbourg and it is believed registered one hit.
In 0900 Friday, 4th October, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS

"BARRECO" } will berth Princes Pier, Port Melbourne, at 1030 this
"EFAN" } forenoon.

"DOOMBA" } departed Burnie yesterday morning to carry out searching
"ORARA" } sweep in Bass Strait. "DOOMBA" and "ORARA" return to
"DURRAWEN" } Melbourne tomorrow Saturday and "DURRAWEN" is expected
this morning to effect repairs to windlass.

"PAPUACUI" refitting at Sydney will probably not complete until Thursday, 17th October, as further defects have been found in deck and hull plates.

"MAKUEL BEMPO" yesterday joined Group 50 Auxiliary M/S Vessels based on Sydney.

"LANGAFOO" is to be used for repairs to loop at Sydney.

AIR OPERATIONS.

An Air search by 6 Hudsons operating from Mount Garbier was carried out yesterday in the Western approaches to Bass Strait to provide cover for Convoy "U.S. 5A". Not a single ship was sighted.

CONVOYS.

"U.S. 5" escorted by H.M.S. "SHROPSHIRE" sailed from Colombo, Wednesday, 2nd October, for Suez.

ALL.F. FREIGHT SHIPS.

"AKABA" is being unloaded at Darwin by Service labour. Discharging was commenced at 1600K yesterday and suspended half an hour later at the request of the waterside union. As the strikers remained adamant, unloading will be resumed this morning.

"ZEALANDIA" arrived Sydney yesterday from Darwin.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" arrived Colombo Tuesday, 1st October.

GENERAL.

H.M.S. "KING GEORGE V" was commissioned on 1st October under command of Captain W.R. Patterson, R.N.

SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Thursday, 3rd September, 1940.
To 0900 Friday, 4th October, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. Ships "OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION" left Melbourne at 0845 yesterday Wednesday for Exercises in Port Phillip.

H.M.A. SHIPS

H.M.A.S. "MORESBY" departed Sydney at 0900 yesterday, Wednesday, "WARREGO" } will berth Princes Pier, Port Melbourne, at 1030 this
"SWAN" } forenoon.

Aux. M/S Vessels "DOOMBA", "ORARA" and "DURRAWAEN" arrived Burnie at 0730 yesterday Wednesday.

"DOOMBA" } departed Burnie yesterday morning to carry out searching
"ORARA" } sweep in Bass Strait. "DOOMBA" and "ORARA" return to
"DURRAWAEN" } Melbourne tomorrow Saturday and "DURRAWAEN" is expected
this morning to effect repairs to windlass.

"BERMAGUI" refitting at Sydney will probably not complete until Thursday, 17th October, as further defects have been found in deck and hull plates.

"SAMUEL BENBOW" yesterday joined Group 50 Auxiliary M/S Vessels based at Sydney.

"KANGAROO" is to be used for repairs to loop at Sydney.

U.S.5A - "WINDU ZEELAND" departed Port Phillip at 0757 yesterday Wednesday. AIR OPERATIONS. "JOHANN de WITT" at

rendevous and both ships expect to arrive Fremantle. An Air search by 6 Hudsons operating from Mount Gambier was carried out yesterday in the Western approaches to Bass Strait to provide cover for Convoy "U.S.5A". Not a single ship was sighted. 6th October.

CONVOYS.

AIR OPERATIONS.

"U.S.5" escorted by H.M.S. "SHROPSHIRE" sailed from Colombo, Wednesday, 2nd October, for Suez. For U.S.5A an Air Search was made to a depth of 250 miles with negative result.

A further A.I.F. FREIGHT SHIPS. are today commencing at 0830.

"ARKABA" is being unloaded at Darwin by Service labour. Discharging was commenced at 1600K yesterday and suspended half an hour later at the request of the waterside union. As the strikers remained adamant, unloading will be resumed this morning.

"ZEALANDIA" arrived Sydney yesterday from Darwin.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" arrived Colombo Tuesday, 1st October.

GENERAL.

H.M.S. "KING GEORGE V" was commissioned on 1st October under command of Captain W.R. Patterson, R.N.

SECRET.
MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Wednesday, *October*
To 0900 Thursday, 3rd September, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

H.M.A. Ships "WARRECO" and "SWAN" departed Port Melbourne at 0845 yesterday Wednesday for Exercises in Port Phillip.

H.M.A.S. "MORESBY" departed Sydney at 0900 yesterday, Wednesday, for Jervis Bay.

Aux. M/S Vessels "DOOMBA", "ORARA" and "DURRAWEE" arrived Burnie at 0730 yesterday Wednesday.

"WARRECO" "ALFIE CAM" was reported sheltering at Albany on the night 1st/2nd October.

"BERYL II" is to return to Williamstown today Thursday for repairs to Engine defects. Sweeping programme is to be resumed on Monday, 7th October.

"TAMBAR" arrived Sydney at 0530 yesterday from Brisbane. from Sydney on Monday, 7th October direct for Fremantle to carry out A/S operations for Convoy

CONVOYS AND TRANSPORTS.

U.S.5A - "NIEUW ZEELAND" departed Port Phillip at 0757 yesterday Wednesday and later joined "JOHANN de WITT" at rendezvous and both ships expect to arrive Fremantle Monday, 7th escorted by H.M.A.S. "PERTH".

U.S.6. - "MAURETANIA" expects to arrive Fremantle 0800 Sunday 6th October.

AIR OPERATIONS.

To provide cover for U.S.5A an Air Search was made to a depth of 250 miles with negative result.

A further search is being made today commencing at 0830. aircraft to the westward of Bass Strait.

U.S.6. "AQUITANIA" left Fremantle yesterday for Sydney expecting to arrive at 1100K Sunday, 6th October.

DARWIN STRIKE.

A strike of all wharf labourers was declared at Darwin yesterday the object of which is to prevent the use of labour saving grabs for the discharge of coal cargoes. The collier "ANKADA" is directly affected having 2,600 tons of coal still undischarged alongside and the Burns Philp "MONTORO" with a quantity of defence cargo is idle at the wharf. The District Naval Officer Darwin reports that the situation is not hopeful.

OPERATIONS ABROAD.

H.M.S. "RESOLUTION" has arrived in harbour.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Wednesday, 2nd October, 1940.

Aircraft with British markings attacked with torpedoes one of our Merchant Convoys on the East Coast of England recently.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

The Admiralty desires to investigate further the manufacturing in Australia Perceives Mark VII Star and is enquiring as to whether 12 pounder guns in Australia could requirements. "ADELAIDE" is intended to return to Sydney for repairs leaving Noumea on Saturday, 5th October.

"MANOORA" departed Fremantle yesterday proceeding at 12 knots towards 15°S where a rendezvous will be arranged by C. in C. China with "STRATHEDEN" and "BATORY" due to leave Singapore today for Fremantle.

"WARREGO" is to take over the duties of S.O. 20th Minesweeping Flotilla before the departure of "DOOMBA" to Sydney for refit which commences at Sydney on Monday, 14th October.

"DOOMBA", "ORARA" and "DURRAWEEEN" expect to arrive Burnie at 0814K today.

"WYRALLAH", "YANDRA" and "BINGERA" - N.O.C.S. intends to sail from Sydney on Monday, 7th October direct for Fremantle to carry out A/S operations for Convoy U.S.6.

AUSTRALIAN MINE SWEEPERS.

The following names have been proposed to the Admiralty for the second batch of 10 Admiralty ships building in Australia:- "WOLLONGONG", "CESSNOCK", "GERALDTON", "LAUNCESTON", "TAMWORTH", "CAIRNS", "IPSWICH", "GAMBIER", "PIRIE" and "BROOME".

CONVOYS.

U.S.5 was due to arrive Colombo yesterday 1st October.

U.S.5A "NIEUW ZEELAND" departed Port Melbourne 1330K yesterday for the Bay Anchorage off Hovel Light. Air searches will be carried out today and tomorrow by 6 Laverton aircraft to the Westward of Bass Strait.

U.S.6. "AQUITANIA" left Fremantle yesterday for Sydney expecting to arrive at 1100K Sunday, 6th October.

DARWIN STRIKE.

A strike of all wharf labourers was declared at Darwin yesterday the object of which is to prevent the use of labour saving grabs for the discharge of coal cargoes. The collier "ARKABA" is directly affected having 2,600 tons of coal still undischarged alongside and the Burns Philp "MONTORO" with a quantity of defence cargo is idle at the wharf. The District Naval Officer Darwin reports that the situation is not hopeful.

OPERATIONS ABROAD.

H.M.S. "RESOLUTION" has arrived in harbour.

2.
DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Tuesday, 1st October, 1940.

GENERAL.

Aircraft with British markings attacked with torpedoes one of our Merchant Convoys on the East Coast of England recently.

H.M.A. SHIPS
The Admiralty desires to investigate further the possibility of manufacturing in Australia Paravanes Mark VII Star and is enquiring as to whether 12 pounder guns in Australia could be made available for despatch to Alexandria for urgent requirements.

is now berthed Princes Pier, Port Melbourne.
Lieut.-Cdr. (O) Carr, R.A.N. has been appointed to H.M.A.S. "AUSTRALIA" vice Fogarty and will sail in "STRATHMORE" later.

"BONTHORPE" is expected to complete refit at Fremantle by Friday, 18th October.

"ALFIE CAM" arrived Albany yesterday in continuation of her passage to Fremantle.

"KANGAROO" will be ready to sail from Sydney for Darwin a.m. Monday, 7th October, calling Brisbane, Townsville and Thursday Island remaining 8 days at each port. Expected time on passage 28 days.

"GOORANGAI" departed Williamstown 0600K this morning to sweep entrance to Port Phillip.

AUXILIARY VESSELS.

"KYBRA" commissioned at Sydney yesterday under command of Lieutenant-Commander B.T. Brewster, R.N.

CONVOY "U.S. 5A"

"JOHANN de WITT" was delayed sailing from Sydney yesterday owing to a dispute with part of the crew and further delay was caused by difficulty in obtaining suitable boiler gauges to replace those fractured during gun trials.

"NIHUW ZEELAND" after embarking 933 troops at Port Melbourne this morning will sail for Bay anchorage at 1330K today.

Air search (commencing about noon) will be carried out today by 5 Hudsons operating from the advanced base at Moruya.

CONVOY "U.S. 6"

"ACQUITANIA" arrived Fremantle yesterday morning and leaves for Sydney today arriving noon Sunday, 6th October.

Vice Admiral Goldsmith, Commodore of Convoy, left Colombo in "STRATHMORE" 27th September for Melbourne.

H.M.A. TROOPSHIP.

"ZEALANDIA" departed Brisbane yesterday for Sydney. E.T.A. tomorrow Wednesday.

DAILY NARRATIVE.NEW CALEDONIA.

To 0900 Tuesday, 1st October, 1940.

Air searches yesterday failed to locate "DUMONT D'URVILLE" or "ADMIRAL CHANIER". These searches have now been discontinued. OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION. Insurances made to H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE" by "DUMONT D'URVILLE" to proceed to Indo H.M.A. SHIPS probably be carried out.

"PERTH" flying the flag of F.O.C.A.S. departed Sydney 0216K this morning escorting troopship "JOHANN de WITT".

"WARREGO" is now berthed Princes Pier, Port Melbourne. in absence but will be re-introduced when necessary.

"UKI" having effected engine room repairs at Newcastle is now C. ready for service. C. has directed that French

warships met at sea are to be prevented from going to any French ports. "BONTHORPE" is expected to complete refit at Fremantle by Friday, 18th October. Casablanca. Submarines are to be

treated as hostile and sunk on sight unless on the surface and "ALFIE CAM" arrived Albany yesterday in continuation of her passage to Fremantle.

H.M.S. "ARK ROYAL" is establishing by air reconnaissance

"KANGAROO" will be ready to sail from Sydney for Darwin a.m. Monday, 7th October, calling Brisbane, Townsville H. and Thursday Island remaining 2 days at each port. Expected time on passage 22 days.

"GOORANGAI" departed Williamstown 0600K this morning to sweep entrance to Port Phillip.

A conference held in Sydney yesterday regarding the "MANUNDA" proved AUXILIARY VESSELS. matter will be taken to court at an early date.

"KYBRA" commissioned at Sydney yesterday under command of Lieutenant-Commander B.T. Brewster, R.N.

CONVOY "U.S. 5A"

"JOHANN de WITT" was delayed sailing from Sydney yesterday owing to a dispute with part of the crew and further delay was caused by difficulty in obtaining suitable boiler gauges to replace those fractured during gun trials.

"NIEUW ZEELAND" after embarking 933 troops at Port Melbourne this morning will sail for Bay anchorage at 1330K today.

Air search (commencing about noon) will be carried out today by 5 Hudsons operating from the advanced base at Moruya.

CONVOY "U.S. 6."

"ACQUITANIA" arrived Fremantle yesterday morning and leaves for Sydney today arriving noon Sunday, 6th October.

Vice Admiral Goldsmith, Commodore of Convoy, left Colombo in "STRATHMORE" 27th September for Melbourne.

H.M.A. TROOPSHIP.

"ZEALANDIA" departed Brisbane yesterday for Sydney. E.T.A. tomorrow Wednesday.

NEW CALEDONIA.

Air searches yesterday failed to locate "DUMONT D'URVILLE" or "ADMIRAL CHARNER". These searches have now been discontinued, it being considered that assurances made to H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE" by "DUMONT D'URVILLE" to proceed to Indo China will probably be carried out.

H.M.A.S. "MANCORA" arrived Fremantle at 0930 yesterday Sunday.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.A.S. "WARREGO" at 2300 yesterday, Sunday,

C. in C. East Indies reports that Force "V" is in abeyance but will be re-introduced when necessary.

C. in C. South Atlantic has directed that French warships met at sea are to be prevented from going to any French West African ports - force being used if necessary - but they may proceed to Dakar or Casablanca. Submarines are to be treated as hostile and sunk on sight unless on the surface and escorted.

H.M.S. "ARK ROYAL" is establishing by air reconnaissance the presence or otherwise of "RICHELIEU" at Dakar.

H.M.A.S. "AUSTRALIA's" aircraft was shot down by a French fighter during the operations at Dakar.

Lieut.-Commander (O) P.K. Fogarty, R.A.N.,
 Lieutenant G.J.I. Clarke, R.A.A.F.,
 Leading Pl. C.K. Bunnett.

GENERAL.

A conference held in Sydney yesterday regarding the "MANUNDA" proved abortive and the matter will be taken to court at an early date.

An Italian destroyer of the Curtatore Class was attacked and sunk by a submarine on the 22nd September in a position 47 miles N.E. of Brindisi.

The German ship "WESER" (9300 tons 17 knots) was captured off the West Coast of Mexico on the night 25th/26th September. (Previously reported in the Press.)

It is reported that the French Battleship "RICHELIEU", 8 Cruisers and several destroyers have left Dakar for an unknown destination.

AIR OPERATIONS.

Searches for the French Sloops "DUMONT D'URVILLE" and "ADMIRAL CHARNER" carried out yesterday Sunday proved negative. Further searches will be made today.

Six aircraft from Richmond will carry out a search commencing at 1800 today Monday to provide cover for U.S.5A. Further searches will be carried out tomorrow.

TRANSPORTS.

U.S.5A - "JOHANN de WITT" escorted by H.M.A.S. "WARREGO" will leave Sydney p.m. today Monday.

U.S.6 - "ACQUITANIA" was due Fremantle at 0800 today Monday.

"ZEPHYRUS" is expected to arrive Brisbane at 1800 today Monday.

GENERAL.

Lieutenant H.B. Brassey, R.A.N.V.R. serving in H.T.B. 8 has been mentioned in Despatches for Good Service against enemy Aircraft.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900, Sunday, 29th September, 1940.
To 0900 Monday, 30th September, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" arrived Fremantle at 0930 yesterday Sunday.

H.M.A. Ships:

H.M.A.S. "WARREGO" arrived Williamstown at 2300 yesterday, Sunday,

"MANOORA" is due from Fremantle today. It has been arranged

H.M.A.S. "MORESBY" arrived Sydney at 0104 yesterday Sunday from
October, Jervis Bay, then to Fremantle and later clear
of the Lesauin.

Auxiliary A/S Vessels "YANDRA", "WYRALLAH" and "BINGERA" are to be

"BINGERA" N.O.C.S. sailed from Sydney for Fremantle where they are to
taken in provide A/S protection for Convoy U.S.6.

alterations to accommodation estimated to take 10 days.
This requires consideration in view of need for A/S

H.M.A. SHIPS OVERSEAS, 6 at Fremantle.

H.M.A.S. "AUSTRALIA" reports with regret that the following are
refit. missing as a result of Enemy Action on the 25th
September.

Lieut.-Commander (O) F.K. Fogarty, R.A.N.,
Flight Lieutenant G.J.I. Clarke, R.A.A.F.,
Leading Tel. C.K. Bunnett.

U.S.5a: Which leaves Sydney on Monday, 30th September, will be
escorted by "PERTH" to a rendezvous 505 miles from Fremantle
on the Colombo OPERATIONS OVERSEAS. or by "CANBERRA" in that
position.

An Italian destroyer of the Curtatore Class was attacked
and sunk by a submarine on the 22nd September in a position 47
miles N.E. of Brindisi.

AUXILIARY VESSELS.

The German ship "WESER" (9200 tons 17 knots) was captured
off the West Coast of Mexico on the night 25th/26th September.
Coy.) (Previously reported in the Press.)
Monday, for conversion to Naval service.

It is reported that the French Battleship "RICHELIEU",
8 Cruisers and several destroyers have left Dakar for an unknown
destination.

AIR OPERATIONS.

French Sloop "DUMONT D'URVILLE" was located yesterday by
aircraft in Searches for the French Sloops "DUMONT D'URVILLE" and
course "AMIRAL CHARNER" carried out yesterday Sunday proved negative.
the Further searches will be made today.

Six aircraft from Richmond will carry out a search
commencing at 1300 today Monday to provide cover for U.S.5A.
Further searches will be carried out tomorrow.

TRANSPORTS.

During the period of TRANSPORTS. H.M.A.S. "GUARD" Lieutenant
R.C. Robinson, R.A.N., has assumed command, and the ship will
Waller U.S.5A - "JOHANN de WITT" escorted by H.M.A.S. "PERTH" will leave
September. Sydney p.m. today Monday.

U.S.6 - "ACQUITANIA" was due Fremantle at 0800 today Monday.

"ZEALANDIA" is expected to arrive Brisbane at 1300 today Monday.

GENERAL.

The Masters of French GENERAL. Vessels have been instructed
to scuttle Lieutenant H.B. Brassey, R.A.N.V.R. serving in M.T.B. 8
unavo has been mentioned in Despatches for Good Service against enemy
Aircraft.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900, Sunday, 29th September, 1940. N., has been appointed in command of H.M.A.S. "ANITA", and Lieutenant D.E. Antill, R.A.N.V.R., in command of Motor Anti-Submarine Boat 12.

The death of Captain G.I. Clare, C.M.G., R.A.N. (Retd.), at Adelaide yesterday, and funeral taking place today.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. Ships:

"MANOORA": Is due to arrive Fremantle today. It has been arranged that she will rendezvous in Lat. 15° South with "STRATHEDEN" and "BATORY", leaving Singapore 2nd October, and escort them to Fremantle and later clear of the Leeuwin.

"BINGERA": N.O.C.S. reported that it is intended "BINGERA" be taken in hand at Sydney tomorrow - Monday - for alterations to accommodation estimated to take 10 days. This requires consideration in view of need for A/S protection U.S.6 at Fremantle.

"TAMBA": Sailed from Brisbane yesterday for Sydney to dock and refit. E.T.A. Sydney 1500K Tuesday, 1st October.

CONVOYS.

U.S.5a: Which leaves Sydney on Monday, 30th September, will be escorted by "PERTH" to a rendezvous 505 miles from Fremantle on the Colombo route and taken over by "CANBERRA" in that position.

AUXILIARY VESSELS.

The owners of S.S. "GUNBAR" (North Coast Steam Navigation Coy.) have been instructed to deliver the vessel at Sydney tomorrow, Monday, for conversion to Naval service.

NEW CALEDONIA.

French Sloop "DUMONT D'URVILLE" was located yesterday by aircraft in the expected position and was at the time maintaining her course to Indo-China. Aircraft will continue to locate and position the vessel daily.

10TH DESTROYER FLOTILLA.

During the period of refit of H.M.A.S. "STUART", Lieutenant R.C. Robinson, R.A.N., has assumed command, and Captain (D) H.M.L. Waller, D.S.O., R.A.N., transferred to H.M.A.S. "VAMPIRE" 26th September.

GENERAL.

The Masters of French Merchant Vessels have been instructed to scuttle their ships where capture by the British appears unavoidable.

TO 0900 SATURDAY, 28th SEPTEMBER, 1940.

Commander D.H. Harries, R.A.N., has been appointed in command of H.M.S. "NIGER", and Lieutenant D.H. Antill, R.A.N.V.R., in command of Motor Anti-Submarine Boat 12.

The death is reported of Captain C.J. Clare, C.M.G., R.A.N. (Retd.), at Adelaide yesterday, the funeral taking place today.

"SWAN" on arrival from Sydney berthed Princess Pier, Port Melbourne. The claims of the engineers of Hospital Ship "MANUNDA" are being heard at Sydney tomorrow, Monday.

"MORESBY" will arrive Sydney early tomorrow morning and return to Jervis Bay the following day.

"ADELE" arrived Sydney yesterday for refit and to give leave.

"KANGAROO" commissioned at Sydney yesterday for service as a boom defence vessel at Darwin.

OPERATIONS - DAKAR.

H.M.A.S. "AUSTRALIA" and H.M.S. "BARNAM" were both hit by shell fire, but we have not yet received a report as to the damage sustained.

H.M.S. "CUMBERLAND" damaged by an 11" shell reported yesterday she was seaworthy and will be able to steam at 23 knots on 4 shafts when temporary repairs have been effected at Freetown.

H.M. Destroyers "FORTUNE" and "FORSCYTHE" each sank a French submarine.

H.M.A.S. "ADMIRAL" was GENERAL. H.M.S. "ADMIRAL" is proceeding from the West Indies to the Cape.

Captain S.R.T. Arliss, R.N., has been nominated by the Admiralty in command of H.M.S. "WAPFER" and as Captain (D) of the new destroyers to be manned by R.A.N. personnel.

Admiralty has proposed that Commanders Rosenthal and Burrell (R.A.N.) be earmarked for command of H.M. Destroyers "NORMAN" and "NORSEMAN" respectively.

H.M. Destroyer "ADMIRAL" will be at Port Melbourne at 0900.

The H.M. Destroyers "ADMIRAL", "ADMIRAL" and "ADMIRAL" have been reported at Cape Town and are reported to be available for service.

GENERAL.

Commander H.M.S. "ADMIRAL" - H.M. Destroyer has been mentioned in dispatches for his services during the war.

Captain H.V. Adams R.N. (ret.) has been mentioned in dispatches for his services during the war.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

TO 0900 SATURDAY, 28th SEPTEMBER, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"SWAN" on arrival from Sydney berthed Princes Pier, Port Melbourne, yesterday afternoon.

"MORESBY" will arrive Sydney early tomorrow morning and return to Jervis Bay the following day.

"ADELE" arrived Sydney yesterday for refit and to give leave.

"KANGAROO" commissioned at Sydney yesterday for service as a boom defence vessel at Darwin. Proceeding to Burke on Wednesday, 2nd October, for coal and returning to Melbourne on Saturday, 5th October.

OPERATIONS - DAKAR.

H.M.A.S. "AUSTRALIA" and H.M.S. "BARHAM" were both hit by shell fire, but we have not yet received a report as to the damage sustained.

H.M.S. "CUMBERLAND" damaged by an 11" shell reported yesterday she was seaworthy and will be able to steam at 23 knots on 4 shafts when temporary repairs have been effected at Freetown.

H.M. Destroyers "FORTUNE" and "FORESIGHT" each sank a French submarine.

GENERAL.
H.M.A.S. "AUSTRALIA" together with H.M.S. "ARK ROYAL" is proceeding from the recent operations at Dakar to the Clyde.

Captain S.H.T. Arliss, R.N., has been nominated by the Admiralty in command of H.M.S. "NAPIER" and as Captain (D) of the new destroyers to be manned by R.A.N. personnel.

Admiralty has proposed that Commanders Rosenthal and Burrell (R.A.N.) be earmarked for command of H.M. Destroyers "NORMAN" and "NORSEMAN" respectively.

Hired transport "NIUW ZEELAND" will berth at Port Melbourne at 0800 today Friday.

AUXILIARY VESSELS. The Intrastate ships "TERKA", "YULGA" and "TOGARIN" have been inspected at Cairns and are reported as being suitable for conversion to Auxiliary M/S Vessels.

GENERAL.

Lieutenant (O) H.B. Gerret R.A.N. - H.M.S. "ARK ROYAL" has been mentioned in Despatches for Good Service in the Mediterranean. (No publication of this announcement before 2nd October)

Captain H.V. Hudson R.N. (ret.) has assumed Command of H.M.A.S. "WESTRALIA".

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Thursday, DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Friday, 27th September, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

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

H.M.A.S. "PERTH" arrived Sydney at 1600 yesterday Thursday from Fremantle. Sydney today.

H.M.A.S. "SWAN" will arrive Port Melbourne from Westernport p.m. today Friday.

H.M.A. Aux. M/S Vessels "DOOMBA", "ORARA" and "DURRAWEE" depart Port Melbourne at 0900 today Friday to carry out sweeping operations in Wilson's Promontory vicinity, proceeding to Burnie on Wednesday, 2nd October, for coal and returning to Melbourne on Saturday, 5th October.

U.S.S. "NIEUW ZEELAND" departed Sydney yesterday for Melbourne. Aux. M/S Vessel "BERYL II" completed repairs and departed Port Melbourne at 0800 yesterday Thursday to carry out sweeping operations.

Aux. A/S Vessel "KYBRA" will commission at Sydney on Monday, 30th September. EVACUEES.

H.M.A.S. "ADELE" is due Sydney p.m. today Friday. 82 children from the United Kingdom. Latest reports give her arrival at Albany on 4th October from Capetown.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

H.M.A.S. "AUSTRALIA" together with H.M.S. "ARK ROYAL" is proceeding from the recent operations at Dakar to the Clyde.

AIR OPERATIONS. No. 11 Squadron at Port Moresby is to organise Air searches the objects of which are to locate and shadow the French Sloops "DUMONT D'URVILLE" and "ADMIRAL ADELAIDE CHARNER". 5th October.

CONVOY U.S.5A.

Hired transport "NIEUW ZEELAND" will berth at Port Melbourne at 0900 today Friday.

AUXILIARY VESSELS. The Intrastate ships "TERKA", "TOLGA" and "TOORIE" have been inspected at Cairns and are reported as being suitable for conversion to Auxiliary M/S Vessels. One French Submarine was hit leaving harbour and aircraft claim 2 direct hits on another Submarine at periscope depth.

GENERAL.

Lieutenant (O) H.B. Gerret R.A.N. - H.M.S. "ARK ROYAL" has been mentioned in Despatches for Good Service in the Mediterranean. (No publication of this announcement before 2nd October)

Captain H.V. Hudson R.N. (ret.) has assumed Command of H.M.A.S. "WESTRALIA". Chinese have been granted unobstructed entry into Indo China.

A demand by the Japanese to obtain a supply of 3 million tons of oil annually out of a total of 8 million tons is being considered by the Netherlands East Indies Government.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Thursday, 26th September, 1940.

To 0900 Wednesday, 25th September, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS

"PERTH" passed Wilsons Promontory East at 1706K yesterday and arrives Sydney today.

"MORESBY" departed Sydney yesterday for Jervis Bay on an A/S training cruise. Sunday, 24th September.

"WAR" "BONTHORPE" commenced a four weeks' refit at Fremantle 23rd September consisting mainly of repairs to boilers.

"ALPHEA" departed Sydney yesterday for Fremantle. E.T.A. Wednesday, 27th September.

CONVOYS.

U.S. 5A "NIEUW ZEELAND" departed Sydney yesterday for Melbourne.

U.S. 6 "QUEEN MARY" arrived Sydney yesterday from Singapore with interned Enemy Aliens.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

EVACUEES.

H.M.S. "VIVACIONS" (Lieut.-Comdr. P.F.W. Parish) was damaged by mine in British ship "NESTOR" has on board 82 children from the United Kingdom. Latest reports give her arrival at Albany as 4th October from Capetown.

NEW CALEDONIA.

French sloop "DUMONT D'URVILLE" sailed from Noumea yesterday her captain having given an assurance that she would proceed direct to Indo China. The Ex Governor, Col. Denis was not on board. The Tanker "ERINNA" has been arranged to refuel "ADELAIDE" at Noumea 5th October.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

Colonel Denis' family will probably embark in "DUMONT D'URVILLE" today for passage to Saigon whence the French DAKAR - "H.M.S. "CUMBERLAND" was hit by an 11" shell and suffered considerable damage disabling her port engines. At the reduced speed of 10 knots she is proceeding for repairs. H.M. Ships "DRAGON" and "INGLEFIELD" were damaged slightly during the same operations. H.M.A.S. "AUSTRALIA" obtained hits on a French Destroyer causing her to be set on fire. One French Submarine was hit leaving harbour and aircraft claim 2 direct hits on another Submarine at periscope depth.

AIR OPERATIONS.

GENERAL.

Arrangements have been made for a flying boat from Port Moresby to proceed to Gibraltar. The Dockyard plant at Gibraltar sustained damage during a bombing attack by French aircraft 24th September.

The Japanese have been granted unobstructed entry into Indo China.

A demand by the Japanese to obtain a supply of 3 million tons of oil annually out of a total of 6 million tons is being considered by the Netherlands East Indies Government.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Wednesday, 25th September, 1940.

To 0900 Tuesday, 24th September, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

"KANCOORA" escorting "DUNERA" arrived Fremantle early yesterday morning and both ships sailed again at 1830K. "KANCOORA" will escort until dusk tomorrow and then return to Fremantle arriving Sunday, 29th September.

Auxiliary M/S "WARRECO" arrived Fremantle yesterday and after fuelling sailed at 1400K for Melbourne arriving Monday morning, 30th September.

"ALFIE CAM" departed Adelaide yesterday for Fremantle. E.T.A. Wednesday, 2nd October.

"ADELE" departed Brisbane yesterday for Sydney. E.T.A. Friday, 27th September.

U.S.S. - "QUEEN MARY" expects to arrive Sydney Heads at 1400 tomorrow Wednesday. "ACQUITANIA" departed Bombay on Sunday 22nd September to arrive Fremantle 0800 Monday, 30th September.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "VIVACIOUS" (Lieut.-Comdr. F.R.W. Parish) was damaged by mine in the Thames Estuary on 22nd September.

B.B.C. NEWS Official British Announcement that General de Gaulle according to press reports French warships at Dakar were attacked on Monday by a force of H.M. Ships. Unofficial reports state that the town was shelled by British Naval Forces.

GENERAL.

Royal Arsenal, Woolwich has been damaged by fire but details have not yet been reported.

Commander C.H. Brooks, R.A.N., has been appointed in command of the French Battleship "PARIS".

NEW CALEDONIA.

Colonel Denis, ex Governor, and his family will probably embark in "DUMONT D'URVILLE" today for passage to Saigon whence the French Sloop "ADMIRAL CHARNER" sailed on Friday, 20th September, for Noumea.

Military supporters of the Vichy Government at Noumea together with their families, numbering in all 130, are embarked in the French passenger vessel "PIERRE LOTI" (5,000 tons) for repatriation to Indo China.

AIR OPERATIONS.

Arrangements have been made for a flying boat from Port Moresby to proceed to Rabaul today. This flying boat and another operating from Tulagi and Vila will endeavour to locate and report French Sloop "ADMIRAL CHARNER" about Saturday, 28th September.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Monday, 23rd September, 1940.

To 0900 Tuesday, 24th September, 1940.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

Auxiliary A/S Vessel "YANDRA" commissioned at Sydney yesterday, Monday under Command of Lieutenant J.A. Taplin, R.A.N.R.

Auxiliary M/S Vessel "BERYL II" at Melbourne should have sailed for sweeping operations yesterday but developed Engine Defects which necessitate docking and will not be ready for sea until a.m. Thursday, 26th September.

Examination Vessel "ADELE" is expected to depart from Brisbane p.m. today Tuesday for Sydney.

"WARREGO" on completion of A/S Patrol with U.S.5 today will return Melbourne, refuel and be sailed on completion for Melbourne.

U.S.6. - "QUEEN MARY" expects to arrive Sydney Heads at 1400 tomorrow Wednesday. "ACQUITANIA" departed Bombay on Sunday 22nd September and expects to arrive Fremantle 0900 Monday, 30th September.

B.B.C. NEWS - Official British Announcement that General de Gaulle with a British and Free French Force has landed at Dakar. Unofficial reports state that the town was shelled by British Naval Forces.

"BATORY", "STRATHEDEN" and "ORCADES" sailed from Bombay Saturday 21st September escorted by H.M.A.S. "WESTRALIA" for Colombo. The three vessels have Service personnel and evades children from the United Kingdom.

GENERAL.

Commander C.H. Brooks, R.A.N., has been appointed in command of the French Battleship "PARIS".

"DUNES" arrives Fremantle today and should sail tomorrow for Bombay.

NAVAL CONTROL SERVICE.

An Armed Guard is being placed on board the Danish vessel "DANMARK" sailing from Sydney to the United Kingdom via the Cape.

ATLANTIC RAIDER.

According to an intercepted message the Cable ship "NORSEMAN" was attacked by a warship raider in a position off Bahia on the Brazilian coast 20th September.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Sunday, 22nd September.

To 0900 Monday, 23rd September, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

"PERTH" H.M.A. SHIPS. ag of F.O.C.A.S. arrived Fremantle 1030K yesterday escorting "U.S.5". She will leave today returning to "CANBERRA" departed Fremantle yesterday escorting Convoy U.S.5 to "U.S.5A" Colombo.

"CANBERRA" left Fremantle yesterday for Sydney direct flying flag of F.O.C.A.S. E.T.A. Sydney, Thursday, 26th September.

"WARREGO" intended to leave King George's Sound (Albany) early "MANOORA" departed King George's Sound yesterday for Fremantle.

"SWAN" arrived Westernport yesterday to proceed with working up Westernport programme.

"DURR" "WARREGO" on completion of A/S Patrol with U.S.5 today will return to Fremantle, refuel and be sailed on completion for Melbourne.

"BERMAGUI" estimated will not unlash until 5th October "ALFIE CAM" arrived Port Adelaide yesterday en route Fremantle.

"BERYL II" sails tomorrow Monday to sweep to seaward of Point Lonsdale daily in CONVOYS. with "GOORANGAI" returning to Williamstown to coal on Friday, 4th October. U.S.5. sailed from Fremantle yesterday for Aden via Colombo.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

TRANSPORTS.

H.M.S. "BATTERY", "STRATHEDEN" and "ORCADES" sailed from Bombay Saturday 21st September escorted by H.M.A.S. "WESTRALIA" for Colombo. The three vessels have Service personnel and evacuee children from the United Kingdom on board for Singapore and Australia.

H.M.S. "KEPT" series of 17th September including "DUNERA" arrives Fremantle today and should sail tomorrow for Bombay.

CONVOYS.

"U.S.5" arrived Fremantle today and should leave today for Aden via Colombo.

An Armed Guard is being placed on board the Danish vessel "DANMARK" sailing from Sydney to the United Kingdom via the Cape. Probable programme as follows:-

NAVAL CONTROL SERVICE.

Leave Sydney 20th September and Fremantle 7th October arriving Colombo 17th October. According to an intercepted message the Cable ship "NORSEMAN" was attacked by a warship raider in a position off Bahia on the Brazilian coast 20th September.

"U.S.6" Provisional programme as follows:-

Depart Sydney 18th October and Fremantle 23rd October, arriving Bombay 31st October. Escort arrangements as for "U.S.5A".

AIR OPERATIONS.

To provide cover for "U.S.5" five aircraft will search to a depth of 200 miles to the westward of Perth this Sunday afternoon.

One aircraft was expected to leave Pearce early this morning with the object of locating "DUNERA" to the southward of the

DAILY NARRATIVE.

OST SECRET.

To 0900 Sunday, 22nd September.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"PERTH" wearing flag of F.O.C.A.S. arrived Fremantle 1030K yesterday escorting "U.S.5". She will leave today returning to Sydney with moderate despatch to undertake the escort of "U.S.5A".

"CANBERRA" berthed at Fremantle 1030K yesterday and is expected to sail today escorting "U.S.5" to Colombo.

"WARREGO" intended to leave King George's Sound (Albany) early this morning to locate and escort "DUNERA" to Fremantle.

"SWAN" passed Gabo Island 1030K yesterday and should arrive Westernport this morning.

"DURRAWEEEN" is at 24 hours' notice for boiler cleaning at Port Melbourne.

"BERMAGUI" estimated will not unslip until 5th October owing to extensive renewal of shell plating.

"BERYL II" sails tomorrow Monday to sweep to seaward of Point Lonsdale daily in company with "GOORANGAI" returning to Williamstown to coal on Friday, 4th October.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "SUSSEX" is now resting on the bottom aft and the fire is under control.

H.M.S. "KENT" seriously damaged by an aerial torpedo on the night of 17th September has reached harbour. Two officers, including the Commander, and 30 ratings were killed.

CONVOYS.

"U.S.5". arrived Fremantle yesterday and should leave today for Aden via Colombo.

"U.S.5A". Commander Hobart has been appointed Commodore of this convoy. Probable programme as follows:-

Leave Sydney 29th September and Fremantle 7th October arriving Colombo 17th October. H.M.A.S. "PERTH" will escort to Colombo being relieved en route by H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" at a rendezvous to be arranged by A.C.N.B.

"U.S.6". Provisional programme as follows:-

Depart Sydney 16th October and Fremantle 23rd October, arriving Bombay 31st October. Escort arrangements as for "U.S.5A".

AIR OPERATIONS.

To provide cover for "U.S.5" five aircraft will search to a depth of 200 miles to the westward of Perth this Sunday afternoon.

One aircraft was expected to leave Pearce early this morning with the object of locating "DUNERA" to the southward of the

FRANCE THE AUSTRALIADAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Saturday, 21st September, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" is expected to arrive Fremantle early this morning and will escort U.S.5 on departure tomorrow Sunday.

H.M.A.S. "SWAN" departed Sydney at 1430 yesterday Friday and expects to arrive Westernport at 1100 tomorrow Sunday.

H.M.A.S. "MORESBY" proposes that Port Phillip shall be included in the itinerary of the next A/S training cruise, visiting Port Melbourne from the 11th/14th October inclusive.

H.M.A.S. "KANGAROO" it is intended to commission this ship on Friday 27th September, at Sydney.

OPERATIONS ABROAD.

H.M.S. "SUSSEX" is reported to have been bombed and set on fire during the early hours of Wednesday, 18th September. In the April Navy List Lieut.-Commander J. Plunkett-Cole is shown as serving in this ship.

H.M.S. "KENT" was either mined or torpedoed on the night of the 17th/18th and has been extensively damaged. This cruiser was probably operating in the Gulf of Sollum against Italian troop movements. (Vide Italian Press News).

H.M.A.S. "AUSTRALIA" is operating together with other cruisers, battleships etc., in the Dakar - Freetown Area where there is considerable activity on the part of Vichy controlled French Cruisers. It appears that "GLOIRE" has been damaged.

CONVOYS.

U.S.5 escorted by H.M.A.S. "PERTH" is expected to arrive at Fremantle before 1500 today Saturday and to depart under the escort of H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" at 1600 tomorrow Sunday.

U.S.5A consisting of the Dutch transports "NIEUW ZEELAND" and "JOHANN de WITT" will probably sail at the end of the month with 1800 Military Personnel for the Middle East.

AIR OPERATIONS.

Clearing searches and A/S patrols were provided today in West Australia to cover U.S.5 in the Cape Leeuwin vicinity. An unidentified ship reported in a position approximately 55 miles 300° from Rottnest Island is probably the British ship "CENTAUR" from Carnarvon to Fremantle.

A.I.R. FREIGHT SHIP.

"ZEALANDIA" departed from Darwin at 1600 yesterday Friday and expects to arrive Townsville p.m. Wednesday, 25th September.

FRENCH NEW CALEDONIA.

H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE" is remaining at Noumea until further orders at the request of the Governor, Monsieur Sautot.

OPERATIONS AUSTRALIA STATION.HOSPITAL SHIP

"MANUNDA" is still delayed at Sydney owing to a dispute regarding wages with the Engineers' Union. "MORSEBY" completed a training cruise.

"ENAN" will spend the first week of her working up programme at Westernport and should leave Sydney today.

CONVOY U.S.S.

"QUEEN MARY" departed Singapore Wednesday, 18th September with interned Enemy Aliens direct for Sydney at a speed of 26 knots expecting to arrive on Wednesday 25th September.

"MAUNITANIA" departs Bombay today and is due at Singapore on Wednesday 25th September for dry docking which is estimated to last for five days.

TRANSPORTS.

"ZEALANDIA" is expected to depart Darwin today with Army personnel for Sydney.

"DUNERA" sailed from Sydney, 16th September for Fremantle expecting to arrive Monday, 23rd September and departs for Bombay the next day.

U.K. EVACUEES.

"RATORY" is due at Fremantle 4th October with 477 children for Melbourne and Sydney.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "HOLDENNESS" an escort vessel of 900 tons was slightly damaged by an explosion believed a mine in the Thames Estuary, 16th September.

COLOMBO FORCE V., the raider searching force in the Indian Ocean now comprises H.M. Ships "NEPTUNE", "CAPE TOWN", "CERES", "ARAWA" and "DAUNTLESS".

H.M.A.S. "AUSTRALIA" with H.M.S. "CUMBERLAND" in company off the E.W. coast of Africa between Dakar and Freetown - reports being in touch with the enemy (French forces) last night.

The Netherlands Government has agreed to the use of Dutch Submarines for escort duties in the Indian Ocean extending to the African Coast and desires them to be employed in close co-operation with British Naval Authorities.

INDIAN OCEAN RAIDERS.

Perth DAILY NARRATIVE. intercepted a corrupt message considered to have been transmitted by the recently To 0900 Friday, 20th September, 1940. stating that she was being runned by a raider in a position 150 miles outside the Australia Station. "COMMISSAIRE HANEL" left Fremantle for Capetown 18th September. OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS

"MORESBY" arrived Sydney yesterday having completed a training cruise. disembarked from H.M.A.S. "AUSTRALIA" yesterday at Noumea and assumed the Governorship in the cause of "SWAN" will spend the first week of her working up programme at Westernport and should leave Sydney today.

CONVOY U.S.6.

"QUEEN MARY" departed Singapore Wednesday, 18th September with interned Enemy Aliens direct for Sydney at a speed of 28 knots expecting to arrive on Wednesday 25th September.

"MAURITANIA" departs Bombay today and is due at Singapore on Wednesday 25th September for dry docking which is estimated to last for five days.

TRANSPORTS.

"ZEALANDIA" is expected to depart Darwin today with Army personnel for Sydney.

"DUNERA" sailed from Sydney, 16th September for Fremantle expecting to arrive Monday, 23rd September and departs for Bombay the next day.

U.K. EVACUEES.

"BATORY" is due at Fremantle 4th October with 477 children for Melbourne and Sydney.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "HOLDERNESS" an escort vessel of 900 tons was slightly damaged by an explosion believed a mine in the Thames Estuary, 16th September.

COLOMBO FORCE V., the raider searching force in the Indian Ocean now comprises H.M. Ships "NEPTUNE", "CAPETOWN", "CERES", "ARAWA" and "DAUNTLESS".

H.M.A.S. "AUSTRALIA" with H.M.S. "CUMBERLAND" in company off the N.W. coast of Africa between Dakar and Freetown - reports being in touch with the enemy (French forces) last night.

The Netherlands Government has agreed to the use of Dutch Submarines for escort duties in the Indian Ocean extending to the African Coast and desires them to be employed in close co-operation with British Naval Authorities.

INDIAN OCEAN RAIDER.

Perth Radio at 0535K today intercepted a corrupt message considered to have been transmitted by the recently acquired French "COMMISSAIRE RAMEL" stating that she was being gunned by a raider in a position 130 miles outside the Australia Station. "COMMISSAIRE RAMEL" left Fremantle for Capetown 12th September.

H.M.A. SHIPS

FRENCH NEW CALEDONIA.

"CANBERRA" has been ordered to proceed so as to arrive M. Sautot disembarked from H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE" yesterday at Noumea and assumed the Governorship in the cause of General De Gaulle.

"WARRIOR" called from Fremantle 1800K yesterday to support air search for U.S.S. off Albany this afternoon. After calling at Albany on Saturday morning, she will endeavour to locate and escort "TUNERA" to Fremantle.

"ALFIE CAR" departed Melbourne yesterday for Adelaide en route to Fremantle.

"ADULE" arrived Townsville early yesterday morning and leaves for Brisbane today arriving Monday, 23rd September.

AUXILIARY VESSELS.

"YANDRA", a motor vessel of 1000 tons built in 1928, will commission at Sydney Monday next, 23rd September for Auxiliary A/S duties.

"WARRIOR" will probably leave Sydney tomorrow for Suva calling at Fremantle, Colombo and Aden.

AIR OPERATIONS.

To locate and provide clearing search ahead of U.S.S., an air search will be carried out this afternoon in West Australia by 5 aircraft from Pearce. A striking force of Wirraways is in readiness at Albany.

EVACUEES.

S.S. "TANDA" with evacuees from North China arrived Sydney yesterday afternoon.

RAIDER.

C.O. I.S. considers German tanker "WINNETOU" of 8000 tons which arrived Robe 29th August was in company with Tassan Sea raider from about 9th May until early in August.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

1 0900 Thursday, 19th September, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS

"CANBERRA" has been ordered to increase speed so as to arrive Fremantle 1000K Saturday, 21st September thus enabling personnel to vote at forthcoming Federal election.

"MANOORA" sailed from Fremantle 1600K yesterday to support air search for U.S.5 off Albany this afternoon. After calling at Albany on Saturday morning, she will endeavour to locate and escort "DUNERA" to Fremantle.

"ALFIE CAM" departed Melbourne yesterday for Adelaide en route to Fremantle.

"ADELE" arrived Townsville early yesterday morning and leaves for Brisbane today arriving Monday, 23rd September.

AUXILIARY VESSELS.

"YANDRA", a motor vessel of 1000 tons built in 1928, will commission at Sydney Monday next, 23rd September for Auxiliary A/S duties.

"MANGERA" will probably leave Sydney tomorrow for Suez calling at Fremantle, Colombo and Aden.

AIR OPERATIONS.

To locate and provide clearing search ahead of U.S.5., an air search will be carried out this afternoon in West Australia by 5 aircraft from Pearce. A striking force of Wirraways is in readiness at Albany.

EVACUEES.

S.S. "TANDA" with evacuees from North China arrived Sydney yesterday afternoon.

RAIDER.

C.O.I.S. considers German tanker "WINNETOU" of 8000 tons which arrived Kobe 29th August was in company with Tasman Sea raider from about 9th May until early in August.

A.I. S. FREIGHT SHIPS.

As 1800 Military Personnel will be available for embarkation to the Middle East about the end of September, it has been proposed to admiralty that they embark in "WINDS HILL" and "JONAS de BITT" as both ships will be ready about that time and both Coastal and Ocean Escorts can be arranged.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

1900 Wednesday, 18th September, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE" with tanker "NORDEN" in company departed Vila at 2100 Monday, 16th September for Noumea.

H.M.A.S. "WARREGO" arrived Fremantle at 2012 yesterday Tuesday.

H.M.A.S. "MORESBY" departed Brisbane at 0600 yesterday Tuesday and expects to arrive Sydney at 0600 tomorrow Thursday.

H.M.A.S. "ADELE" departed Cairns at 1800 Monday, 16th and expects to arrive Townsville for bunkers and stores at daylight today, Wednesday.

AUXILIARY M/S Vessels.

"ALFIE CAM" departs Port Melbourne at 0800 today Wednesday for Fremantle.

"ORARA" and "DURRAWEE" arrived Port Melbourne at 0645 yesterday Tuesday from the Bass Straits.

EXAMINATION VESSEL.

H.M.S. "WONGALA" arrived Port Adelaide 1811 yesterday Tuesday and will take over duties from the hired vessel "WARRAWEE".

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M. Ships "RESOLUTION" and "BARHAM" arrived Freetown Saturday, 14th September, and departed a.m. Sunday, 15th to rejoin Force "M".

H.M.A.S. "YARRA" on passage from Colombo is due at Aden today Wednesday.

H.M.A.S. "WESTRALIA" is due Bombay tomorrow Thursday.

H.M.S. "KANIMBLA" leaves Bombay today Wednesday escorting "ORCADES" and "BATORY" to Colombo.

H.M.S. "DUNDEE" - Escort Vessel (Captain O.M.F. Stokes, Ret.) had her stern blown off, when a U-boat attacked a convoy west of Hebrides on the night 14/15 September, and subsequently sank.

A.I. F. FREIGHT SHIPS.

As 1800 Military Personnel will be available for embarkation to the Middle East about the end of September, it has been proposed to Admiralty that they embark in "NIEUW ZEELAND" and "JOHANN de WITT" as both ships will be ready about that time and both Coastal and Ocean Escorts can be arranged.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Tuesday, 17th September, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS

"ADELAIDE" with "NORDEN" intended to sail from Vila at 2100K yesterday for Noumea.

"DOOMBA" arrived Port Melbourne yesterday morning.

"ORARA" and "DURRAWEEEN" arrived Port Melbourne this morning. "ORARA" will remain at 24 hours' notice for boiler cleaning.

"ADELE" was expected to leave Cairns last night for Townsville.

CONVOY U.S.5.

Escorted by H.M.A.S. "PERTH", U.S.5 passed Cape Otway at 1700K yesterday.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "ACHILLES" wearing the broad pendant of C.C.N.Z.S. departed Papeete Sept.15th for Rarotonga and Auckland expecting to arrive at the latter port 23rd September.

Dutch Submarines are now operating a raider patrol on the Sunda Strait and Mauritius route Eastward of Longitude 75° East.

H.M. Ships "ORION", "ILLUSTRIOUS", "VALIANT" and 8 destroyers left Alexandria 15th September to carry out a sweep of the Eastern Mediterranean Sea to the Southward of Crete and Korea.

GENERAL.

A description issued by the Admiralty of the raider which captured the recently scuttled "TROPIC SEA", states the vessel is identical with Hamburg America Line ships, of 7,000 tons, carries 1 aircraft, twin upper deck torpedo tubes either side and probably under water tubes. She was responsible for laying mines in South African waters 2nd May.

The late Governor of Tahiti and 18 Petsain supporters sailed for Vancouver in the British S.S. "LIMERICK" September 14th. The French "VILLE d'AMIENS" 7000 tons, has been taken over by the de Gaulle Government at Papeete and an Armed Guard from H.M.S. "ACHILLES" placed on board. She is expected to leave for Auckland 20th September.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Monday, 16th September, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS

"ADELAIDE" with "NORDEN" in company will sail from Vila so as to arrive Noumea early Thursday morning, 19th September.

"ORARA" } anchored in Waterloo Bay last night and will
 "DURRAWEE" } resume searching sweep in Bass Strait this morning.

"DOOMBA" entered Port Phillip 0400 this morning.

"BERMAGUI" docks at Sydney Wednesday, 18th September for repairs AT. estimated to take one week.

"ADELE" due Cairns 0900K this morning has asked permission to coal and proceed to Brisbane direct instead of calling at Townsville as originally intended.

AIR OPERATIONS.

CONVOY U.S.5.

"NIEUW HOLLAND" and "CHRISTIAN HUYGENS" having embarked troops at Port Melbourne yesterday proceeded to Bay anchorage during the afternoon. They passed through Port Phillip Heads at 0715K this morning and will rendezvous with Convoy at noon in Bass Strait.

AIR OPERATIONS.

Commencing at noon today seven aircraft from Laverton will carry out a diverging search between bearings of 170° and 280° from Cape Otway to a depth of 300 miles. Outer A/S air patrols ahead of the convoy have also been arranged.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" sailed from Colombo 1300K yesterday for Fremantle arriving Saturday next, 21st September. ✓

C. in C. China has asked the Dutch Authorities to allow 2 or 3 of their submarines now operating in the vicinity of Sunda Straits to co-operate with our forces in the search for enemy raider in Indian Ocean.

GENERAL.

Admiralty requests Engineer Officers be sent to United Kingdom as soon as possible for the new Destroyers to be manned by R.A.N. personnel.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Sunday, 15th September, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A.S. "SWAN" - R.A.C.A.S. has approved deferring departure from Sydney until a.m. Friday, 20th September.

H.M.A.S. "DOOMBA" - the present intention is that the proposed refit will commence after "SWAN" or "WARREGO" have completed working up, probably about mid October.

"DOOMBA" F.O.C.A.S. CONVOY U.S.5 and ESCORT.

H.M.A.S. "PERTH" departed Sydney at 1652 yesterday Saturday, escorting the troopships "INDRAPOERA" and "SLAMAT".

H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" departs from Colombo at 0230Z today Sunday and expects to arrive Fremantle at 0400Z Saturday, 21st September.

AIR OPERATIONS.

To provide cover for U.S.5 (S.3 and S.4) 5 Aircraft from Richmond carried out an air search to a depth of 250 miles to seaward off the New South Wales Coast yesterday Saturday - result Negative.

Three Aircraft from Richmond and 4 from Laverton will carry out searches off the Victorian Coast to a depth of 300 miles today Sunday.

Outer A.S. Patrols ahead of the Convoy have been arranged as required.

FREIGHT SHIP "ZEALANDIA"

Arrived at Darwin p.m. 12th September and on completion of disembarkation of Roadmakers and discharge of equipment will embark approximately 400 Military Personnel for Brisbane - Tentative sailing date Wednesday, 18th September. Aircraft to provide clearing Searches ahead and to seaward are to be arranged by A.C.H. Darwin and Port Moresby respectively.

RAIDER REPORT.

British ship "WANGANELLA" - A report from this ship, received at 1750 yesterday to the effect that she was being attacked by a disguised merchant ship raider, in a position approximately 70 miles east of Sydney, proved to be erroneous.

H.M.S. "HUNTER DE BERGUDA" (Capt. G.A.B. Mackins, R.N.V.R., D.S.O.) is proceeding to Montevideo for repairs.

GENERAL.

An Admiralty message states that a raider recently attempted to cancel a distress message made by a Merchant Vessel attacked. This is known by the difference in code and operating.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

The following reports for conspicuous interest
To 0900 Saturday, 14th September, 1940. are announced by the
Admiralty.

D.S.C. OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION. (Capt. "D" 10th Destroyer
Flotilla)

H.M.A. SHIPS

"PERTH" returned to Sydney yesterday from Patrol and departs
today escorting U.S.5.

"MORESBY" arrived Brisbane yesterday from exercising in Moreton
Bay. She will return to Sydney arriving Thursday,
19th September.

"DOOMBA" F.O.C.A.S. proposes should commence refit as soon as
practicable after Monday, 16th September.

"WYRALLAH" N.O.C.S. intends sailing for Jervis Bay on Wednesday,
18th September for working up exercises returning to
Sydney p.m. Friday, 27th September.

"WONGALA" sails this morning at 0930K for Adelaide to take up
duties as an Examination Vessel.

AUXILIARY VESSELS.

The following coastal vessels are to be examined
with a view to conversion as Minesweepers:-- "MIRANI" "MAIWARRA"
"DOEPAL" "GUNBAR" "BOPPLE" "TERKA" "TOLGA" and "TOORIE".

CONVOY U.S.5.

S.3 and S.4 sail today from Sydney for Fremantle.
A rendezvous will be effected in Bass Strait with S.1 and S.2 from
Melbourne on Monday.

It is intended that "CANBERRA" should relieve
"PERTH" of the escort of U.S.5 from Fremantle the anticipated
date of sailing being Sunday, 22nd September.

AIR OPERATIONS.

3 Richmond aircraft will carry out a search this
afternoon between Barrenjoey and Jervis Bay and outer A/S air
patrols will be established ahead of Convoy U.S.5 from 1600K to
1730K today.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "ATHERSTONE" (Cdr. H.W.S. Browning) on escort duty off the
North Foreland p.m. 11th September, was damaged by
bombs and is proceeding to harbour in tow.

H.M.S. "QUEEN OF BERMUDA" (Capt. G.A.B. Hawkins, M.V.O., D.S.C.)
is proceeding to Montevideo for repairs.

GENERAL.

An Admiralty message states that a raider recently
attempted to cancel a distress message made by a Merchant Vessel
attacked. This is known by the difference in note and operating.

The following awards for courageous enterprise and devotion to duty in recent engagements are announced by the Admiralty.

D.S.O. Captain H.M.L. Waller, R.A.N. (Capt. "D" 10th Destroyer Flotilla)

H.M.A. SHIPS

Commander J.C. Morrow, R.A.N. (Commanding H.M.A.S. "MANGORA" arrived Fremantle yesterday from patrol. "VOYAGER")

D.S.C. Lieutenant G.S. Corlett, R.N. (10th Flotilla A/S Officer).

yesterday and all three vessels at Waterloo Bay for the night. They will continue searching sweeps in Bass Strait this morning returning Melbourne tomorrow.

"ADELE" after leaving Darwin on Saturday last, 7th September, encountered bad weather and passed Thursday Island, distant 735', only yesterday afternoon. In accordance with programme, she is now proceeding Townsville en route to Sydney.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

Early yesterday morning 6 French Cruisers were approaching Gibraltar from the eastward. The Admiralty instructed F.O.C. Force "H" to prevent them - by force if necessary - from proceeding to Bay ports or Dakar which is under German influence but there was no objection to them going to Casablanca.

"DUNEDIN" } swing to existing emergency at Home have been withdrawn
"DESPATCH" } temporarily from A. & W.I. Station and are proceeding to the United Kingdom at best possible speed.

GENERAL.

Vice Admiral Sir Geoffrey Layton succeeded Sir Percy Noble in command of China Station on Thursday, 18th September.

Two 6 inch guns have been despatched from New Zealand for erection at Suva.

MOST SECRET.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

0800 Thursday, 12th

0900 Friday, 13th September, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS

"MANOORA" arrived Fremantle yesterday from patrol.

"DURRAWEN" joined "DOOMBA" and "ORARA" off Wilson's Promontory yesterday and all three vessels anchored in Waterloo Bay for the night. They will continue searching sweeps in Bass Strait this morning returning Melbourne tomorrow.

"ADELE" after leaving Darwin on Saturday last, 7th September, encountered bad weather and passed Thursday Island, distant 733', only yesterday afternoon. In accordance with programme, she is now proceeding Townsville en route to Sydney.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

Early yesterday morning 6 French Cruisers were approaching Gibraltar from the eastward. The Admiralty instructed F.O.C. Force "H" to prevent them - by force if necessary - from proceeding to Bay ports or Dakar which is under German influence but there was no objection to them going to Casablanca.

"DUNEDIN" } owing to existing emergency at Home have been withdrawn
"DESPATCH" } temporarily from A. & W.I. Station and are proceeding to the United Kingdom at best possible speed.

TRANSPORT.

"DUNEDIN" has a number of machinery defects and is not expected to be ready to sail for Sydney till Monday 10th September instead of the date previously intended.

GENERAL.

Vice Admiral Sir Geoffrey Layton succeeded Sir Percy Noble in command of China Station on Thursday, 12th September.

Two 6 inch guns have been despatched from New Zealand for erection at Suva.

RAISER.

C. in C. East Indies states that a plane from a disguised Merchant Ship raider bombed the British "BENARTY" 10th September in a position East of Mauritius near the scene of the attack recently on "ATHEL KING".

GENERAL.

The Royal Victualling Yard at Deptford was hit by an H.E. bomb a.m. Monday, 9th September. Extensive damage resulted and some delay in the functioning of the Yard is anticipated.

British Ship "COPTIC" - the estimated cost of damage repairs, on account of the collision with H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE" on the 3rd September, is £10,100. An estimate for the time to be taken for the repairs is 32 working days exclusive of overtime.

AIR OPERATIONS.

An Air Search will be carried out today in West Australia by 4 Aircraft from Pearce. Aircraft will proceed to a maximum depth of 100 miles. H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" will take part in the operation.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Thursday, 12th September, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A.S. "PERTH" departed from Sydney at 0001 today Thursday, arrived Jervis Bay at 0600 today and will leave again at 0600 tomorrow Friday to carry out a firing before returning. E.T.A. Sydney 1500 tomorrow Friday.

H.M.A.S. "WARREGO" departed from Williamstown at 2055 yesterday, Wednesday and expects to arrive Fremantle 1900 Tuesday, 17th September.

H.M.A.S. "SWAN" the proposed programme provides for undocking p.m. tomorrow Friday, and on completion of trials etc. p.m. Monday, 16th September will depart for Port Phillip and expects to arrive p.m. Wednesday, 18th.

Aux. M/S Vessel "GOONAMBIE" arrived Brisbane 2140 yesterday Wednesday.

" " " "ALFIE CAM" proposes to sail on Wednesday 18th for Fremantle on completion of work on defects affecting seagoing efficiency.

EXAMINATION VESSELS.

"WONGALA" has been undergoing engine repairs and refit since arrival in Melbourne on 2nd August, moved to Williamstown yesterday and is expected to sail for Adelaide in the near future.

"FALIE" at present fitting out in Sydney is not expected to be completed before 27th September.

TRANSPORT.

"DUNERA" has a number of machinery defects and is not expected to be ready to sail from Sydney till Monday 16th September instead of the 13th as previously intended.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "GALATEA" (Vice Admiral Sir G. Fredrick Edward-Collins) whilst operating in the Thames Estuary on the night 9th/10th was slightly damaged by a mine which exploded close under the starboard bow.

RAIDER.

C. in C. East Indies states that a plane from a disguised Merchant Ship raider bombed the British "BENARTY" 10th September in a position East of Mauritius near the scene of the attack recently on "ATHEL KING".

GENERAL.

The Royal Victualling Yard at Deptford was hit by an H.E. bomb a.m. Monday, 9th September. Extensive damage resulted and some delay in the functioning of the Yard is anticipated.

British Ship "COPTIC" - the estimated cost of damage repairs, on account of the collision with H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE" on the 3rd September, is £10,100. An estimate for the time to be taken for the repairs is 32 working days exclusive of overtime.

AIR OPERATIONS.

An Air search will be carried out today in West Australia by 4 Aircraft from Pearce. Aircraft will proceed to a maximum depth of 150 miles. H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" will take part in the operation.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Wednesday, 11th September, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS

"WARREGO" is to sail for Fremantle today after completing with fuel at Williamstown and will come under the orders of R.A.C.A.S. on departure from Port Phillip.

"ALFIE CAM" from Sydney, entered Port Phillip this morning. She is on passage to join Group 66 M/S at Fremantle.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "GODETIA" was sunk in collision with the British "MARSA" 7th September off Rathlin Island. There were 8 survivors.

H.M.S. "STORK" (Commander A.C. Behague) was damaged by bombs and taken in tow 8th September.

H.M.S. "OLYMPUS" in dock at Malta was slightly damaged 7th September during an air raid. A tug and picket boats were sunk during the same raid.

French Sloop "DUMONT D'URVILLE" sailed yesterday from Noumea. It is rumoured she is to remain in New Caledonian waters.

U.S. 5.

S.1 and S.2 arrived at Melbourne yesterday morning.

The Javanese Stewards of S.3 and S.4 will probably refuse to sail from Sydney, taking a similar stand to the Stewards of S.1 and S.2. It is proposed that their duties on board should be carried out by the troops embarked.

TRANSPORTS.

"JOHAAN de WITT" and "NIEUW ZEELAND" carrying cargo only are expected to leave Sydney about Saturday 21st September for Fremantle then direct to Bombay.

"DUNERA" is expected to sail from Sydney on Friday, 13th September for Bombay via Fremantle.

GENERAL.

The Royal Naval College, Greenwich, has been damaged by bombs.

A Merchant Vessel, the name of which is uncertain was being shelled early yesterday morning 240 miles N.W. of Madeira. 21 of the crew of the scuttled "TROPIC SEA" were landed at Corunna by a fishing vessel.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

MOST SECRET.

SO 0903 MONDAY 9th SEPTEMBER, 1940.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

T 0900 Tuesday, 10th September, 1940.

H.M.A.S. "TAREBOO" departs Port Melbourne at 0800 today, Monday,
for exercise OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS

"DOOMBA")
"ORARA") Sailed from Port Melbourne yesterday afternoon to act
as "safety vessels" in Bass Strait during the flight
today of 11 Tiger Moths and 1 Anson from Laverton to
Launceston. They will then carry out searching sweeps
in Bass Strait returning to Melbourne Saturday, 14th
September.

"DURRAWEEEN" will leave Melbourne so as to join S.O. 20th M.S.F. in
"DOOMBA" off Wilson's Promontory on Thursday, 12th
September.

"BERMAGUI" departed Newcastle yesterday for Sydney.

NORWEGIAN TANKER "NORDEN" arrived Vila yesterday morning.

CONVOY U.S.5.

According to present arrangements S.3 and S.4,
escorted by H.M.A.S. "PERTH", will sail from Sydney on Saturday, 14th
September to rendezvous with S.1 and S.2 in Bass Strait at noon on
Monday, 16th September.

S.1 and S.2 entered Port Phillip Heads this morning.

RAIDERS.

"ATHEL KING", a British tanker of 9,500 tons, was shelled by a
disguised Merchant ship yesterday afternoon in a position
about 600 miles east of Mauritius.

Darwin reported last night that a Dutch airmail
pilot yesterday afternoon sighted a ship of between seven and ten
thousand tons which could not be identified on the plot. Its position
was about 80 miles South of Central Timor, course 080°. Aircraft
from Darwin will endeavour to locate the vessel this morning.

GENERAL.

Vice Admiral R.H.T. Raikes succeeded Vice Admiral
G.H. D'o Lyon in command of South Atlantic Station on Saturday, 7th
September.

A Naval War Signal Station has been established
at Caloundra Head (35' North of Brisbane).

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

TO 0900 MONDAY 9th SEPTEMBER, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A.S. "WARREGO" departs Port Melbourne at 0900 today, Monday, for exercises in Port Phillip.

H.M.A. SHIPS ABROAD.

"AUSTRALIA" sailed from Greenock a.m. Friday 6th September, and expects to arrive Freetown a.m. Saturday 14th September.

"YARRA" arrived Colombo 0627Z yesterday, Sunday.

CONVOY U.S.5.

Transport S.1. departed Sydney at 1901 yesterday Sunday, and expects to arrive Melbourne 1000 Tuesday 10th September.

Transport S.2. departed Sydney at 1330 yesterday Sunday, and expects to arrive Melbourne 0800 Tuesday 10th September.

GENERAL.

Commodore F.H. Pegram succeeded Rear Admiral Sir H.H. Harwood in Command of S.A. Division, A. & W.I. Squadron, South Atlantic Station, on Friday 6th September.

444 American Gruman F4F Single Seater Fighters are now being introduced into Naval Service and will be operated initially from Hatson.

A small number of Brewster Buffaloes are flying non-operationally from Naval Air Stations.

The British Ship "CITY OF ATHENS" entered Port Phillip late p.m. yesterday, Sunday, on account of serious leaks which developed in the forward D.B. Fuel Tank whilst on a voyage from Sydney to Port Pirie.

OTHER.

It is anticipated that the Japanese ship "MATSUYAMA" will arrive Sydney on Sunday 15th September.

The Japanese members of the crew of "MATSUYAMA" who were taken ashore yesterday. Should they not return to the ship today the ship will be called for Melbourne on Monday. There is no doubt that the Japanese crew of other vessels comprising U.S.S. is in evidence.

U.S. SHIPS.

The U.S. ship "MATSUYAMA" is expected to arrive Sydney on Sunday 15th September.

TO 0900 SUNDAY 8th SEPTEMBER, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"ADELAIDE" arrived Vila yesterday and will complete with fuel from the diverted Tanker "NORDEN" due to arrive tomorrow.

"WARREGO" probable sailing date from Melbourne is now Wednesday, 11th September for Fremantle. While working up attention will be given to attaining Anti-Submarine efficiency.

"SWAN" is not expected to leave Sydney for Melbourne earlier than Monday 16th September.

"ALFIE CAM" left Sydney yesterday for Melbourne en route Fremantle. E.T.A. Melbourne is 1600K Tuesday 10th September.

"GOONAMBEE" left Sydney yesterday for Brisbane to join Group 74 M/S.

"BERYL II" and "GOORANGAI" will sweep in the approaches to Port Phillip daily from tomorrow 9th September until Friday 13th September, on which date "GOORANGAI" returns to Williamstown to coal and "BERYL II" continues sweeping until Friday 20th September, returning Williamstown then to coal.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.A.S. "HOBART" escorting a convoy has again been bombed (6th September) with no resultant damage. The Naval Board have passed a message to this ship from H.M. Government in the U.K. expressing appreciation of invaluable services rendered in the evacuation of British Somaliland.

French Sloop "DUMONT D'URVILLE" is expected to leave Noumea shortly for Papeete. Should a British Warship be at the latter port it is possible that "DUMONT D'URVILLE" may attempt to obtain fuel at Hawaii.

EXAMINATION SERVICE.

"ADELE" left Darwin yesterday for Sydney via Townsville and Brisbane. E.T.A. Townsville Sunday 15th September.

"KING BAY" was commissioned at Fremantle 15th August.

CONVOYS.

U.S.4. It is anticipated will arrive Bombay on Sunday 15th September.

U.S.5. The Javanese members of the crew of "CHRISTIAAN HUYGENS" walked ashore yesterday. Should they not return by sailing time today the ship will be sailed for Melbourne without them. Unrest amongst the Javanese crews of other vessels comprising U.S.5. is in evidence.

U.K. EVACUEES.

"ORION", "STRATHEDEN" and "BATORY" left Capetown 31st August in a convoy due at Bombay 15th September en route Australia.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

TO 0900 SATURDAY 7th SEPTEMBER, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"WARREGO" after fuelling at Williamstown secured alongside Princes Pier, Port Melbourne, yesterday afternoon. F.O.C.A.S. desires "WARREGO" to be sailed for Fremantle so as to provide cover during passage of Convoy "U.S.5".

"KANGAROO" full power and gun trials were completed satisfactorily yesterday.

Auxiliary M/S Vessel "BERYL II" completes refit today and will resume sweeping in the approaches to Port Phillip on Monday.

Auxiliary M/S Vessel "SAMUEL BENBOW", commissioned at Sydney yesterday, will carry out working up practice at Broken Bay from Wednesday 11th until Tuesday 17th September.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "ACHILLES" flying broad pendant C.C.N.Z. departed Auckland yesterday for Tahiti.

H.M.A.S. "SYDNEY", together with H.M.S. "ORION", recently bombarded Scarpanto Island in the Dodecanese Group.

An immediate message originated early this morning by C. in C. South Atlantic gives the position of a raider, and orders H.M.S. "ENTERPRISE" (Captain J.C. Annesley, D.S.O.) to proceed with all despatch.

GENERAL.

A message from the Admiralty addressed to F.O.C., 3rd B.S. stresses the importance of getting United States Destroyers to U.K. with minimum delay. The first group of 8 vessels will probably sail from Halifax 14th September, followed a few days later by two more groups.

Captain J.W. Durnford, R.N. will take passage in "ORONTES" sailing from U.K. towards the end of this month.

Norwegian Motor Cargo Vessel "TROPIC SEA" of about 6000 tons which left Sydney on 8th June for Panama and was considered lost, was stopped by the British Submarine "TRUANT" 150 miles north west of Finisterre. "TROPIC SEA" was scuttled by the German prize crew who were picked up by a Sunderland Flying Boat.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

TO 0900 FRIDAY 6th SEPTEMBER, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A.S. "WARREGO" entered Port Phillip at 0700 today Friday and commences Working Up Practices in the Bay.

H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE" expects to arrive Vila at 0600 tomorrow Saturday and is to remain there and await further orders.

AUXILIARY M/S VESSELS.

"ALFIE CAM" departs Sydney tomorrow Saturday, and expects to arrive Fremantle about 25th September.

"KOROWA" is to be retained at Fremantle till after the departure of U.S.5.

"GOONAMBEE" subject to approval, will depart Sydney tomorrow Saturday, for Brisbane.

CONVOY AND ESCORT.

U.S.4 escorted by H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" departed Fremantle at 1355 yesterday, Thursday.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.A.S. "HOBART" escorting a convoy in the Red Sea reports that six unsuccessful attacks by aircraft were made between 0506Z and 0845Z yesterday Thursday : Four attacks were by single aircraft, one by three, and one by five.

H.M.S. "FIJI" has arrived in harbour.

TRANSPORTS.

"DUNERA" due at Sydney a.m. today is required by D.S.T. to proceed to Bombay where she will be at the disposal of P.S.T.O., as soon as possible after completion of discharge at Sydney.

N.C.S.

C. in C. China has cancelled his previous instruction prohibiting British and Allied ships sailing for French Indo China ports.

"ZEALANDIA" departed Sydney a.m. Wednesday 4th September, for Darwin.

French Ship "CAP TARIFA" sailed from Noumea Monday 2nd September, for Sydney.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

TO 0900 THURSDAY 5th SEPTEMBER, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"CANBERRA" escorting U.S.4 arrived Fremantle yesterday morning. She intends shifting to East Indies W/T Organisation 1200Z 8th September.

"ORARA" it is proposed should combine M/S duties with that of "safety ship" in the Eastern Bass Strait during the flight of 10 Tiger Moths and 1 Anson from Laverton to Launceston on Tuesday 10th September.

"ALFIE CAM" N.O.C.S. proposes should sail from Sydney for Fremantle on Saturday 7th September, calling at Melbourne and Adelaide, remaining 2 days at each port.

"KANGAROO" (Boom Working Vessel) Preliminary trials have been satisfactorily completed at Sydney.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "EXPRESS" mined 1st September, has arrived in harbour.

The New Zealand Government have decided to despatch H.M.S. "ACHILLES" to Papeete, leaving Auckland tomorrow Friday, and expecting to arrive 10th September.

AIR SEARCHES.

Yesterday's air search from Fremantle in connection with the unidentified vessel sighted in the S.W. area 3rd September, proved negative. A further search is being carried out today.

CONVOY U.S.4.

Arrived Fremantle yesterday morning, and it is expected will leave today for Bombay escorted by H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA".

EXAMINATION SERVICE.

"ADELE" from Darwin it is anticipated will arrive Sydney 27th September for refitting.

GENERAL.

The British Transport "DUNERA" left Melbourne p.m. yesterday and expects to arrive at Sydney with the remainder of the U.K. internees tomorrow morning.

C. in C. China has again discontinued the sailing of British and Allied ships to Indo China until the situation there clarifies.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

TO 0900 WEDNESDAY 4th SEPTEMBER, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"ADELAIDE", having been in collision with British Ship "COPTIC" about 160' south of Cape Moreton sustaining only slight damage and no casualties, arrived Brisbane 1700K yesterday. After fuelling (392 tons), "ADELAIDE" sailed at 2240K for Vila where she is due early Saturday morning, 7th September.

"MANOORA" proceeded to sea from Fremantle yesterday for patrol.

"CANBERRA", owing to adverse weather conditions will be unable to carry out full calibre firing today.

"DURRAWEE" arrived Melbourne and came under orders S.O. 20th M/S Flotilla yesterday.

H.M.S. "ACHILLES" was ordered yesterday by New Zealand Naval Board to reduce speed and she is now due Auckland p.m. tomorrow Thursday.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.A.S. "YARRA" visited Cocos Island yesterday en route to Colombo.

H.M.S. "FIJI" (Captain W.G. Benn) was torpedoed on 1st September to the westward of Outer Hebrides but is returning to harbour under her own steam.

H.M.S. "IVANHOE" (Commander S.H. Hadow) mined on 1st September was abandoned and sunk.

EVACUEES.

S.S. "TANDA" with evacuees from North China will call at Cairns to embark two Queensland Government representatives for Brisbane.

CONVOY "U.S.4".

As a result of an air search carried out yesterday from Albany to cover the approach of the convoy to Fremantle, an unidentified ship of about 7000 tons was sighted. Two attempts were made to identify her which failed owing to poor visibility.

Commencing 0615H this morning two aircraft will search from Rottnest Island on either side of expected approach of "U.S.4" and anti-submarine aircraft patrols will be carried out throughout the day. Another 4 aircraft are expected to attempt to locate and identify the ship referred to above.

ADMIRALTY.

To mark the first anniversary of the outbreak of war, the Board has addressed a felicitous message to all officers and men.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

TO 0900 TUESDAY 3rd SEPTEMBER, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE" departed Sydney at 0916 yesterday Monday, for Brisbane.

H.M.A.S. "WARREGO" departed Sydney at 0914 yesterday Monday, for Melbourne via Jervis Bay, and expects to arrive Port Phillip at 0700 ^{Tuesday} ~~Thursday~~ 5th September.

H.M.A.S. "MORESBY" departed Sydney at 1153 yesterday, Monday, for Moreton Bay.

H.M.S. "ACHILLES" departed Melbourne at 1800 yesterday, Monday, and expects to arrive at Auckland a.m. Thursday 5th September.

It is intended to dock the following ships at Sydney :-

Auxiliary A/S Vessel "YANDRA"	Thursday 5th September.
" M/S " "GOOLGWAI"	Monday 9th "
H.M.A.S. "SWAN"	Wednesday 11th "

Auxiliary M/S Vessel "BERMAGUI", subject to approval, will proceed from Newcastle on September 9th to Sydney, for the purpose of making good outstanding defects. The repairs will take approximately one week.

Auxiliary M/S Vessel "SAMUEL BENBOW" is to commission at Sydney on Friday 6th September.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "PARTHIAN" attacked 4 Italian Cruisers accompanied by 5 destroyers in a position approximately 150 miles east of Messina, and estimates that 2 hits were scored. The estimated speed at the time of the attack was 26 knots.

H.M.S. "ESK" (Lieutenant-Commander R.J.H. Couch) whilst operating in the vicinity of the Downs on the night 31st/1st was mined and sunk.

H.M.S. "EXPRESS" (Captain J.G. Bickford, D.S.C.) and H.M.S. "IVANHOE" (Commander P.H. Hadow) also operating in the vicinity of the Downs were both mined and are being towed back to harbour.

AIR OPERATIONS.

To provide cover for U.S.4 an Air Search from West Australia will be carried out today Tuesday.

GENERAL.

The New Zealand Government have concurred in the appointment of Captain R.H. Bevan, who is at present Director of Operations Divisions (Foreign), to relieve Commodore Horan, to date about October.

The British Ship "DUNERA" with internees for Melbourne and Sydney, entered Port Phillip at 0530 today Tuesday, and will berth at Port Melbourne about 0830.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

TO 0900 MONDAY 2nd SEPTEMBER, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"PERTH" arrived Sydney yesterday morning from patrol in connection with U.S.4. R.A.C.A.S. returned to Sydney yesterday by A.N.A. plane.

"ADELAIDE" sails from Sydney 0900K today for Brisbane proceeding at 20 knots. E.T.A. 1130K tomorrow Tuesday.

"MANOORA" intends leaving Fremantle tomorrow morning to patrol at 10 knots the S.W. area, returning to Fremantle 12th September.

"DOOMBA" commenced boiler cleaning yesterday at Port Melbourne, remaining at 4 hours notice for steam.

"DURRAWEEEN" anchored in Waterloo Bay yesterday owing to weather conditions. She left Sydney on Friday and was due Port Melbourne today.

"WYRALLAH" commissions at Sydney today as A/S M.S.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.A.S. "WESTRALIA" is proceeding to patrol on the Colombo-Cocos Island route providing support for "ARAWA" and "YARRA" due Colombo 8th September.

CONVOYS.

T.1 and T.2 will return to Sydney for further trooping service in U.S.6, when disembarkation of U.S.4 is effected at Bombay.

N.C.S.

C. in C. South Atlantic has instructed N.C.S.O's on his Station that ships may now be sailed to French Equatorial Africa and the French Cameroons.

C. in C. East Indies is permitting British and Allied ships to proceed to French ports in India.

Hospital Ship "MANUNDA" left Port Moresby 31st August, for Sydney with 14 Army and 5 Air Force invalid personnel.

GENERAL.

It has now been established that the D/F position of a German mobile unit thought to have been in the vicinity of Cocos Island was a "U" Boat in position N.W. of Ireland.

The British ship "TANDA" sailed from Hong Kong, 30th August, with 87 women and 83 children evacuees from North China to Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne.

50 ratings from "PERTH" will take part in the Citizens War Rally at Sydney tomorrow.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Sunday, 1st September.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"MORRESBY". arrived Sydney yesterday.

"DOOMBA" }
"ORARA" } berthed Port Melbourne 0300K this morning.

H.M.S. "ACHILLES" flying broad pennant C.C.N.Z., berthed Port Melbourne last night.

"GOORANGAI" from Group 54 tomorrow commences sweeping in the vicinity of the entrance to Port Phillip and returns to Williamstown on completion of the operation Friday, 13th September, to coal.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

The French Hospital Ships "SPHYNX" and "CANADA" are proceeding to the Clyde from Gibraltar to evacuate French evacuees.

Admiralty is making arrangements to refit H.M.A.S. "AUSTRALIA", probably at Fairfields, Glasgow.

CONVOY "U.S.4".

Convoy escorted by H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" passed Wilson's Promontory 1340K yesterday.

Air operations to provide cover for the convoy in Bass Strait and to investigate a light reported off the East Coast of King Island about midnight, 30th August, were carried out yesterday with negative results.

RAIDER.

An immediate signal received from C. in C. China gave a D/F bearing of a possible enemy raider in the vicinity of the Cocos Keeling Group at 0718K yesterday. This was followed by a signal from C.O.I.S. giving a D/F position 120 miles N.N.W. of the Islands at the same time.

GENERAL.

R.A.C.A.S., attended by a Staff Officer, arrived Melbourne in H.M.S. "ACHILLES" yesterday, and they will return to Sydney by air, leaving Essendon aerodrome at 1500K today.

Defence Department of India wish to place an order with the Naval Board for 4 "corvettes" to be included in our current programme and request completion dates.

Owing to their inability to provide Gunners (T) for "H" class Destroyers, Naval Board have requested the Admiralty to make officers available on loan.

Italian Ship "REMO", seized in prize, has been renamed "REYNELLA".

Hospital Ship "MANUNDA" arrived Port Moresby yesterday en route to Sydney.

S.S. "ARKABA", with coal and stores embarked, left Sydney for Brisbane yesterday en route to Darwin.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

TO 0900 SATURDAY 31st AUGUST, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A.S. "MORESBY" departed Sydney at 1558 Thursday 29th August for Jervis Bay.

Auxiliary M/S Vessel "DURRAWEE" departed Sydney 1138 yesterday Friday and expects to arrive Port Melbourne 1500 Monday 2nd September.

NEW ZEALAND.

H.M.S. "MONOWAI" commissioned at Auckland 0900 yesterday Friday. Captain V.P. McClintock, R.N. in command.

CONVOY U.S.4.

H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" escorting T.1. departed Sydney at 0630 yesterday Friday.

Air operations - to provide cover for the Convoy were carried out during the day with negative results and an A/S Patrol for T.1. was maintained till 1230. Further Air Searches and A/S Patrols will be carried out today.

GENERAL.

H.M. Hospital Ship "MANUNDA" expects to arrive Port Moresby today Saturday.

U.S. Fleet Destroyers.

The Admiralty give the following dates of completion as -

"HAMILER" (Leader)	November, 1941.
"WIPAC"	December, 1941.
"WASBOTH"	January, 1942.
"WICKHAM"	April, 1942.
"WICKHAM"	May, 1942.

These Destroyers are being manned by R.A.N. personnel. Their Leadership will be under the command of Captain R.A.N. who will be available as Captain (D).

U.S. FREIGHTERS.

"MORNINGSTAR" arrived Singapore 20th August.

TO 0900 FRIDAY 30th AUGUST, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"MANCOORA" arrived Fremantle yesterday morning from escort duty with "STRATHALLAN". The granting of leave to West Australians from today until 16th September is intended.

"KANGAROO" (Boom Gate Ship) Trials commenced yesterday and will continue until 26th September, which is the date of the "acceptance" trial.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "DUNVEGAN CASTLE" (Captain H. Ardill, Ret.) was twice torpedoed on the night of 27th/28th August, 120 miles west of Bloody Foreland (N.W. Coast of Ireland) and sank. 34 officers and 120 ratings are so far known to be safe.

A British submarine sank 2 enemy merchant vessels being escorted by a destroyer off the coast of Cyrenaica (Libia) 21st August.

CONVOYS.

The air search carried out yesterday for T.1. proved negative. An A/S patrol of 1 plane is operating ahead of T.1. from 0630K until 1230K today. 4 aircraft will operate today between Gabo Island and Kiama to a depth of 300' to seaward and 4 from Gabo Island to the south eastward for 300' for the protection of U.S.4.

U.S.4. is expected to arrive at Fremantle on Wednesday, 4th September, and it is anticipated arrival at Bombay will be Monday, 16th September. "CANBERRA" will be relieved of escort on Saturday, 14th September, and it is proposed she should then proceed to Colombo.

U.S.5. It is anticipated will leave Fremantle on Saturday, 21st September. Commander R.C. Garcia R.A.N. (Ret.) has been appointed Commodore of this Convoy to date 2nd September.

"N" Class Destroyers.

The Admiralty give the following dates of completion as :-

"NAPIER" (leader)	November, 1940.
"NIZAM"	December, 1940.
"NESTOR"	January, 1941.
"NORMAN"	April, 1941.
"NORSEMAN"	May, 1941.

These destroyers are being manned by R.A.N. personnel and Their Lordships enquire whether a Captain R.A.N. can be made available as Captain (D).

A.I.F. FREIGHTSHIP.

"STRATHALLAN" arrived Singapore 26th August.

EVACUEES.

British Ship "TANDA" is expected to leave Hong Kong today on her normal running with women and children from North China for Australia.

RAIDERS.

A German Communicate claims the sinking of the "BRITISH COMMANDER". A signal was intercepted 27th August believed to have been made by the raider cancelling the vessels distress signal.

DARWIN STORE SHIPS.

"ZEALANDIA" and "ARKABA" arrived Sydney yesterday.

SUSPICIOUS OBJECT REPORT.

An object resembling a mine in appearance, painted grey and without horns was reported submerged 15 to 20 ft. in clear water by a lookout on board the coastal vessel "BARALABA" yesterday, 6 1/2 miles from the coast in 28 fathoms, 54 miles north of Brisbane. A searching sweep was commenced at daylight today.

GENERAL.

The Governor of New Caledonia has sent a radio to the Vichy Government indicating his intention to leave the colony. Pressure would appear to have been exercised by his Ministers who threatened to resign were he to remain.

N.O.C.S. requests Naval Board approval for 50 ratings from "PERTH" and 50 from "ADELAIDE" to take part with Army and Air Force personnel in a ceremony in Martin Place, Sydney, 3rd September, to mark the 1st Anniversary of the War.

AIR SEARCH FOR I.I.

Commencing 1300 hours, 4 Hudson aircraft will search from Sydney between 084° and 140° to 1° South of 300°.

R.A.S.

On Australia Station, the sailing of British or Allied ships for French colonial ports was suspended yesterday until further orders. French ships trading between Australia and New Caledonia and New Hebrides are exempted for the present.

GENERAL.

Ship "AMICAL", chartered from Adelaide Steamship Co., having 10,000 tons coal at Newcastle, is due Sydney tomorrow after unloading 200 tons coal machinery will probably sail for Darwin late tomorrow Friday.

Ship "MORONA" departed Fremantle yesterday and will berth Port Melbourne Tuesday, 3rd September. About 100 internees will be disembarked here and the remainder when the vessel reaches Sydney on Friday, 5th September.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

TO 0900 THURSDAY, 29th AUGUST, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"PERTH" wearing flag F.O.C.A.S. sailed from Sydney at 1340K for patrol in South Eastern area and will probably make contact with "U.S.4" before dark tomorrow.

F.O.C.A.S. intends to transfer at sea to H.M.S. "ACHILLES" on Saturday, 31st August, for passage to Melbourne, and "PERTH" will then return to Sydney arriving Sunday morning, 1st September.

"YARRA" departed Fremantle last night for Cocos Island and Colombo.

"MORESBY" departed Sydney yesterday for Jervis Bay, but returned last night with case suspected meningitis or concussion.

"DOOMBA") anchored in Waterloo Bay last night and will resume sweeping
"ORARA") operations today.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "ACHILLES" having turned over escort of "U.S.4" to "CANBERRA" and embarked F.O.C.A.S. at sea on 31st August, it is proposed she should proceed to Melbourne arriving Port Phillip p.m. the same day. On completion of staff discussion in Melbourne, "ACHILLES" will return direct to New Zealand.

CONVOY "U.S.4".

Transports T.2., T.3., and T.4., escorted by H.M.S. "ACHILLES" sailed from New Zealand yesterday.

AIR SEARCH FOR T.1.

Commencing 1300K today, 6 Hudson aircraft will search from Sydney between 064° and 168° to a depth of 300'.

N.C.S.

On Australia Station, the sailing of British or Allied Ships for French colonial ports was suspended yesterday until further orders. French ships trading between Australia and New Caledonia and New Hebrides are excepted for the present.

GENERAL.

S.S. "ARKABA", chartered from Adelaide Steamship Co., having loaded 3,400 tons coal at Newcastle, is due Sydney p.m. today and after embarking 200 tons road machinery will probably sail for Darwin late tomorrow Friday.

"DUNERA" departed Fremantle yesterday and will berth Port Melbourne Tuesday, 3rd September. About 550 internees will be disembarked here and the remainder when the vessel reaches Sydney on Friday, 6th September.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

TO 0900 WEDNESDAY, 28th AUGUST, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" intends to depart Sydney, Friday 30th August.

H.M.A. Ships "DOOMBA" and "ORARA" departed Port Melbourne at 1400 yesterday, Tuesday, to carry out Searching Sweeps in the Bass Strait and will return to Melbourne, Saturday, 31st August.

H.M.A. Aux. M/S Vessel "DURRAWEE" is being despatched from Sydney on Friday 30th August, for Melbourne.

H.M.S. "ACHILLES" expects to enter Port Phillip at 0530 Sunday, 1st September, and arrive Port Melbourne at 0915, subsequently returning to New Zealand direct.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "ROYAL SOVEREIGN" is at Aden.

The British Ship "BRITISH COMMANDER" reported being attacked by an Enemy Raider a.m. yesterday, Tuesday, in a position approximately 250 miles due south of Madagascar.

CONVOYS AND TRANSPORTS.

H.M.S. "ACHILLES" departed Wellington for Lyttleton, p.m. yesterday, Tuesday, and later sailed from Lyttleton escorting transport "ORCADES".
Australian W/T Organisation will be assumed at 0930K Friday, 30th August.

"T.1." expects to depart Sydney at 0630 Friday 30th.

U.S.E. - "INDRAPOERA" is recommended as being the most suitable ship for the Commodore of Convoy and his staff.

INTERNEES.

British Ship "DUNERA" arrived Fremantle p.m. yesterday, Tuesday, carrying Germans 2343, Italians 200.

GENERAL.

Commander H.J. Buchanan and a Lieutenant R.A.N. were mentioned in Despatches, in the London Gazette dated 16th August, for Good Service in the withdrawal of the Allied Armies from Beaches at Dunkirk.

The Port of Sydney can meet degaussing requirements equivalent to complete degaussing of 20 ships per month, using private firms only. The possibility of increasing on this figure is being investigated.

N.C.S.

The sailing of French Ships from British ports for Indo-China is not to be allowed.

TO 0900 TUESDAY, 27th AUGUST, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"MORESBY" - Proposed A/S training cruise is as follows :-

Depart Sydney tomorrow, Wednesday 28th August, for exercise at Jervis Bay, returning to Sydney, Monday 2nd September. Leave Sydney again for exercise at Moreton Bay on Friday, 13th September, arriving Brisbane, Monday 16th September, and returning to Sydney, Thursday 19th September.

"KOALA" returned to Darwin from exercise on Sunday, 25th August.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "PENZANCE" (Escort Vessel of 1025 tons) (Commander A.J. Wavish) on escort duty was sunk 700 miles west of North Irish Channel, probably by submarine, 24th August.

H.M. Ships "ACHERON" (Lieutenant-Commander R.W.F. Northcott) and "BULLDOG" (Lieutenant-Commander J.S.M. Richardson) were both damaged at Portsmouth dockyard during an air raid, 24th August. There was some damage to dockyard buildings but no vital targets hit.

1 enemy Destroyer, 1 enemy Depot Ship and 2 enemy Submarines were sunk by torpedoes during an attack by our Fleet Air Arm on 23rd August.

H.M.S. "MORETON BAY" arrived Simonstown Sunday 25th August, from Singapore.

ATLANTIC RAIDER.

Survivors of the Norwegian tanker "BEAULIEU" have been landed at Gibraltar. The vessel was sunk 4th August, in the Western Atlantic by a surface raider who opened fire at 5 cables in darkness without warning.

TASMAN RAIDER SEARCHES.

An air search from Rabaul carried out yesterday proved negative.

DARWIN STORE SHIPS.

S.S. "ARKABA" has been chartered to take about 2000 tons of coal and a quantity of road making material from Sydney and Brisbane to Darwin. She is at present at Newcastle.

"ZEALANDIA" arrived Melbourne this morning with the last of the Hong Kong evacuees, and leaves again today for Sydney to take Roadmakers and equipment to Darwin.

GENERAL.

The French Admiralty has ordered that in future every ship irrespective of nationality is to be authorized by Germany before sailing from ports in France and French colonies. French Senior

Naval Officers are to take steps to prevent the sailing of ships until authorization is given.

The High Commissioner of the Western Pacific arrived at Vila on board the Royal Colonial ship "VITI", August 25th, and is continuing to Noumea to confer with the French Governor. He has requested permission to complete the passage to Noumea by Empire Flying Boat which cannot be granted until permission is obtained for it to land at Noumea.

After paying a brief visit to Cocas Island on 3rd September, she expects to arrive Colombo, Sunday 8th September, for service under C. in C. East Indies. This programme will be delayed owing to late arrival of A/S done.

"MONROE"
"WILSON"
"ST. GILES"

On completion of A/S patrols returned to Sydney yesterday. "MONROE" was operating about 70° to the northward of Newcastle on Wednesday, 21st August, (when proceeding Brisbane to Sydney), detected hydrophone effect characteristic of a submarine motor when charging batteries. At the time this was thought to be due to internal interference but the operator now states it may have been a submarine.

"WILSON" is remaining on A/S patrol off Sydney, and can either vessel from Sydney at immediate notice in Watson's Bay.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

R.N.A.S. "AUSTRALIA"
R.N.S. "NORFOLK"

evidently operating under orders C. in C. Home Fleet, have been warned by the Admiralty that their position was reported by a U-boat at 0830K yesterday.

New Zealand Naval Board has advised us that R.N.S. "WILLIAM" will not proceed to Sydney for exercises after escorting "O.S. 4" across Tasmán, but it is not clear whether she will visit Melbourne as was intended.

Several confusing "immediate" messages addressed to C.C.F.F. only from New Zealand Naval Board referring to a raid were interpreted last night. New Zealand ultimately received a message to A.C.F.F. stating that, according to intercepts, the American tanker R.S. "HARMA" of 7000 tons was attacked yesterday by gunfire in Mexican waters.

MOVEMENTS.

"ZEALANDIA" departed Sydney yesterday for Melbourne and on arrival early tomorrow morning will discharge the last of the Hong Kong evacuees.

On completion of this duty "ZEALANDIA" - still under charter - will sail from Sydney for Darwin about 21st August after embarking 170 road constructors and 150 Service personnel, together with 8000 tons road making stores and equipment.

"SUCHAN DE WIT" having disembarked overseas arrived Sydney from Melbourne on Saturday last. She will now be defensively equipped, degassed and fitted out for service as a transport in Survey "U.S.S."

GENERAL.

According to reliable information received by British Staff at Washington, the main American Fleet will remain in the Pacific (South) unless there is a decided change in the

TO 0900 MONDAY 26th AUGUST.

"YARRA" with 20 invalids embarked, will probably sail from Darwin tomorrow for Port Moresby to pick up nine evacuees, thence to Sydney without delay.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

By Admiralty direction the National Days of our Allies H.M.A. SHIPS.

"YARRA" intended to sail from Fremantle at 1730K Wednesday next, 28th August. After paying a brief visit to Cocos Island on 3rd September, she expects to arrive Colombo, Sunday 8th September, for service under C. in C. East Indies. This programme will be delayed owing to late arrival of A/S dome.

"MORESBY" } On completion of A/S patrols returned to Sydney yesterday.
"HEROS" } "MORESBY" when operating about 70' to the northward of
"ST. GILES" } Newcastle on Wednesday, 21st August, (when proceeding Brisbane to Sydney), detected hydrophone effect characteristic of a submarine motor when charging batteries. At the time this was thought to be due to internal interference but the operator now states it may have been a submarine.

"BINGERA" is remaining on A/S patrol off Sydney, and one other vessel from Group 51 is at immediate notice in Watson's Bay.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.A.S. "AUSTRALIA" } evidently operating under orders C. in C. Home
H.M.S. "NORFOLK" } Fleet, have been warned by the Admiralty that their position was reported by a U-boat at 0930K yesterday.

New Zealand Naval Board has advised us that H.M.S. "ACHILLES" will not proceed to Sydney for exercises after escorting "U.S.4" across Tasman, but it is not clear whether she will visit Melbourne as was intended.

Several confusing "immediate" messages addressed to C.C.N.Z. only from New Zealand Naval Board referring to a raider were intercepted last night. New Zealand ultimately repeated a message to A.C.N.B. stating that, according to intercepts, the American tanker R.J. "HANNA" of 7000 tons was attacked yesterday by gunfire in Mexican waters.

EVACUEES.

"ZEALANDIA" departed Sydney yesterday for Melbourne and on arrival early tomorrow morning will discharge the last of the Hong Kong evacuees.

On completion of this duty "ZEALANDIA" - still under charter - will sail from Sydney for Darwin about 31st August after embarking 170 road constructors and 150 Service personnel, together with 2000 tons road making stores and equipment.

"JOHANN DE WITT" having disembarked evacuees arrived Sydney from Melbourne on Saturday last. She will now be defensively equipped, degaussed and fitted out for service as a transport in Convoy "U.S.5".

GENERAL.

According to reliable information received by British Naval Attache at Washington, the main American Fleet will remain at Pearl Harbour (Honolulu) unless there is a decided change in the situation in U.K.

TO 0900 SUNDAY, 25th AUGUST, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

S. "PERTH" arrived Sydney at 1730 yesterday, Saturday, from patrol.

H.M.A.S. "YARRA" arrived Fremantle 1000 Friday, 23rd August. As it was found impracticable to freight the new A/S dome by air from Sydney, it was forwarded by passenger train and should arrive Fremantle a.m. Wednesday 28th. Sailing will be delayed as necessary to fit the dome after arrival.

Auxiliary A/S Vessel "ST. GILES" departed Sydney at 1345 yesterday Saturday, for patrol.

R.A.F.A. "KURUMBA" arrived Fremantle at 1400 yesterday Saturday.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "HOSTILE" (Commander J.P. Wright) was mined and sunk in the Mediterranean a.m. Friday 23rd. The survivors were taken on board "MOHAWK".

H.M.S. "ACHILLES" arrived Auckland a.m. Friday 23rd, and after fuelling departed again yesterday, Saturday, for patrol.

AIR OPERATIONS.

An Air Search from Tulagi will be carried out today, Sunday, commencing at 0600.

An Air Search from Rabaul will be carried out tomorrow, Monday, commencing at 1000.

An extended Y Search by Flying Boat Awarua will be carried out today, Sunday, datum Cape Maria Van Diemen, to a depth of 160 miles.

TRANSPORTS.

C.C.S. reports that "INDRAPOERA" can carry a total of 1000. "NIEUW HOLLAND" " " " " " 970.

The expected completion date of the former vessel is 9th September, and of the latter vessel, 6th September.

EVACUEES.

"ZEALANDIA" arrived Sydney at 1440 yesterday, Saturday.

GENERAL.

Sailings from Auckland were resumed yesterday, Saturday.

Hospital Ship "MANUNDA" arrived Darwin p.m. yesterday, Saturday.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

TO 0900 SATURDAY, 24th AUGUST, 1940.

The sailing of merchant shipping in the Tasman Sea was resumed yesterday.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

The Admiralty states that the R.N. Benevolent Trust is ready to give immediate assistance to ratings and marines whose H.M.A. SHIPS. are damaged by war operations.

"CANBERRA" is now expected to undock p.m. Thursday, 29th August.

"YARRA" - Sailing is deferred owing to fracture in heavy weather of her Asdic Dome. A spare one to be fitted by ship's staff is being flown from Sydney to Fremantle today.

"MORESBY" is carrying out anti-submarine patrol off Sydney today.

"ST. GILES", "HEROS" and "BINGERA" (Group 51) are carrying out an anti-submarine patrol today from Port Kembla to Newcastle.

AUXILIARY VESSELS.

Approximate commissioning dates have been given as follows -
"WYRALLAH" 2nd September. "YANDRA" 16 September. "KYBRA" 30th September.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

"Natel" report states that a channel Convoy was shelled from France 19 miles distant and bombed 22nd August, but no hits were registered.

H.M.S. "BRIDGEWATER" is taking representatives of General de Gaulle to Lagos.

French Sloop "DUMONT D'URVILLE" arrived at Noumea yesterday from Papeete.

AIR SEARCHES.

The result of yesterday's air search was negative. A further search was commenced this morning. In connection with the anti-submarine patrol off the New South Wales coast, a Hudson took off from Richmond at 0600K today investigating the report of indications of the presence of a submarine off Port MacQuarrie, Thursday, 22nd September.

EVACUEES.

"ZEALANDIA" is expected off Gellibrand Light at 0600K Tuesday, 27th August.

U.S.4.

"PERTH" will be available to relieve "ACHILLES" of escort of U.S.4. in mid Tasman. Enquiries are being made regarding the previously arranged visit of "ACHILLES" to Melbourne.

"ORCADES" will be escorted from Bombay to Freetown by H.M.S. "ARAWA" which is at the disposal of C. in C. East Indies until required at Bombay about 15th September. 300 New Zealand Forestry personnel will be on board.

TO 0800 FRIDAY, 23rd AUGUST GENERAL.

The sailing of merchant shipping in the Tasman Sea was resumed yesterday.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

The Admiralty states that the R.N. Benevolent Trust is read to give immediate assistance to ratings and marines whose property or homes are damaged by war operations.

"YARRA" will remain on patrol returning to Sydney for fuel when necessary.

"YARRA" will sail from Fremantle for Colombo on Saturday, 24th August, for service under C. in C. East Indies.

"RORESEV" from Worston Bay } arrived Sydney }
" GROUP 51 " Newcastle } yesterday afternoon.

"WARREBO" commissioned 0900 yesterday under command of Commander Wheatley, R.A.N.

AIR SEARCHES.

Results of R.A.A.F. and New Zealand air searches yesterday were negative. Between 1400 and 1500K H.M.A.S. "PERTH" was located by two aircraft 200 miles east of Gabo Island.

Commencing at 0830K this morning, 13 Hudson aircraft from Sydney, Montague Island and Cape Howe will search to a depth of 200 miles from N.S.W. Coast between bearings 045° from Sydney and 180° from Cape Howe.

EVACUEES.

"ZEPHYRUS", the last of the evacuee ships to leave Manila, departed Brisbane for Sydney where she is due tomorrow afternoon.

"JOHANN DE WITT", with 89 evacuees for disembarkation arrived Port Melbourne this morning.

A.I.M. FREIGHTSHIP.

"STRATHALLAN" will be escorted by S.M.S. "CAPETOWN" from Penang area to Bombay.

ARRIVALS.

"WARRIOR OF JAPAN" and "WARRIOR" arrived Wellington A.M. Tuesday.

"WARRIOR" - the expected date of arrival at Sydney is Sunday, 1st September.

ARRIVALS.

The allocation from medical and sporting stores at Duru of 2.47 has been approved by Admiralty.

ARRIVALS.

"WARRIOR" arrived Brisbane p.m. yesterday, Wednesday.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

TO 0900 FRIDAY, 23rd AUGUST.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

M.A. SHIPS.

"PERTH" will remain on patrol returning to Sydney for fuel when necessary.

"YARRA" will sail from Fremantle for Colombo on Saturday, 24th August, for service under C. in C. East Indies.

"MORESBY" from Moreton Bay } arrived Sydney
Group 51 " Newcastle } yesterday afternoon.

"WARREGO" commissioned 0900 yesterday under command of Commander Wheatley, R.A.N.

AIR SEARCHES.

Results of R.A.A.F. and New Zealand air searches yesterday were negative. Between 1400 and 1500 H.M.A.S. "PERTH" was located by two aircraft 200 miles east of Gabo Island.

Commencing at 0830K this morning, 13 Hudson aircraft from Sydney, Montague Island and Cape Howe will search to a depth of 300 miles from N.S.W. Coast between bearings 048° from Sydney and 180° from Cape Howe.

EVACUEES.

"ZEALANDIA", the last of the evacuee ships to leave Manila, departed Brisbane for Sydney where she is due tomorrow afternoon.

"JOHANN DE WITT", with 89 evacuees for disembarkation arrived Port Melbourne this morning.

A.I.F. FREIGHTSHIP.

"STRATHALLAN" will be escorted by H.M.S. "CAPETOWN" from Penang area to Bombay.

H.M.S. "CIMBERLAND" departs Singapore a.m. tomorrow, Friday, for patrol and is to arrive Fremantle on Friday, 6th September.

TRANSPORTS.

H.M.S. - "EXPRESS OF JAPAN" and "ORCADES" arrived Wellington a.m. Tuesday, 20th August, the latter ship departing the same day for Lyttleton.

"ZEALANDIA" - the expected date of arrival at Sydney is Sunday, 1st September.

GENERAL.

The allocation from Auckland and mounting ashore at Suva of 2-8" guns has been approved by Admiralty.

EVACUEES.

"ZEALANDIA" arrived Brisbane p.m. yesterday, Wednesday.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

TO 0900 THURSDAY, 22nd AUGUST, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

S. "CANBERRA" expected date of undocking 28th August.

H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE" is to remain at 48 hours notice for steam until completion of refit.

H.M.A. SHIPS ABROAD.

On Friday, 9th August, H.M.A.S. "HOBART" reported to S.N.O. Red Sea that as the Army were hard pressed for Anti Tank weapons, the 3 Pounder Hotchkiss together with a gun's crew of one P.O. and two A.B's. had been landed and sent up to the front line. It is regretted that the gun's crew are reported missing, believed killed as a result of operations on the 15th August.

RAIDER IN TASMAN.

No further signals have been received from the British Ship "TURAKINA".

The French Ship "NOTOU" is still overdue at Noumea since 18th August.

H.M.A.S. "PERTH" and H.M.S. "ACHILLES" are both on patrol.

Sailings to New Zealand will be resumed tomorrow Friday, unless further information of the Enemy Raider is received.

Yesterday, Wednesday, Air Searches were carried out from New Zealand by Flying Boats and Land Plane. Flying boats will operate again today.

Air Searches - Commencing at 1200 today, Thursday, with the object of locating the Enemy Raider -

(1) Five Hudsons will carry out a diverging search from South Head to a depth of 300 miles.

(2) Five Hudsons will carry out a diverging search from Cape Howe to a depth of 300 miles.

All aircraft to return to datum by nightfall.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "CUMBERLAND" departs Simonstown a.m. tomorrow, Friday, for patrol and is to arrive Freetown on Friday, 6th September.

TRANSPORTS.

U.S.4. - "EMPRESS OF JAPAN" and "ORCADES" arrived Wellington a.m. Tuesday, 20th August, the latter ship departing the same day for Lyttleton.

"NIEUW ZEELAND" - the expected date of arrival at Sydney is Sunday, 1st September.

GENERAL.

The allocation from Auckland and mounting ashore at Suva of 2-6" guns has been approved by Admiralty.

EVACUEES.

"ZEALANDIA" arrived Brisbane p.m. yesterday, Wednesday.

To 0900 WEDNESDAY 21st AUGUST, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"PERTH" departed Sydney 2115K yesterday and is carrying out a sweep in the Western Tasman Sea in an attempt to locate the Enemy Raider reported by S.S. "TURAKINA" yesterday, and then returns to provide cover in the S.E. area.

"CANBERRA" is expected to undock Wednesday next, 28th August.

"MORESBY" departed Moreton Bay yesterday morning for Sydney and should arrive on Friday 23rd August.

"KOALA" departed Darwin yesterday morning to carry out local defence exercises.

N.C.C.S. considers that the report of mines off Sydney was false, and that the objects sighted were possibly fishermen's buoys. The area has been thoroughly swept with negative results.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "ACHILLES" departed Wellington 2135K yesterday on patrol in the Tasman Sea in support of an air search being carried out today from New Zealand to locate the Raider.

H.M.S. "ARAWA" is due Singapore today.

H.M.A.S. "HOBART" provided demolition parties ashore at Berbera prior to the evacuation and later bombarded the port. She was again unsuccessfully attacked by enemy aircraft.

CONVOY U.S.4.

Is now intended to depart from New Zealand on Wednesday 28th August.

EVACUEES.

"JOHANN DE WITT" arrived Sydney yesterday from Brisbane. She is expected to arrive Melbourne on Friday morning, 23rd August.

N.C.S.

The Norwegian Shipping and Trade Mission have agreed that all their ships shall accept the same rules as British Vessels regarding the visiting of French possessions overseas.

The French S.S. "NOTOU" which left Newcastle for Noumea and should have arrived 17th August, has apparently not answered W/T calls and is causing some concern to the owners at Noumea. Unsettled weather recently experienced on this route may be the cause of the late arrival of this low powered vessel, but it is equally possible that she has been intercepted by the "TURAKINA" raider.

D.E.M.S.

The weekly armament report of 19th August gives the total number of ships armed as :-

A.M.C's	5
Fast Liners and D.E.M.S.	174
War Auxiliary Vessels	21
Merchant Vessels degaussed	30.

AUSTRALIAN PATROL VESSELS.

The Admiralty would like the horse power in A.P.V's to be increased to 2000 should this be possible without delaying production.

RAIDER.

The New Zealand Shipping Company's "TURAKINA", a vessel of 9700 tons 14 knots which left Sydney 17th August, and was due today at Wellington, sent out a raider message at 1703K yesterday in position 38° 27' S. 167° 35' E. about 260 miles N.W. of Farewell Spit, stating that she was being gunned. The Naval Board ordered Harman D/F Station to set watch on German Raider Series "A", despatched H.M.A.S. "PERTH" to sweep and provide cover in the S.E. area, and stopped the sailing of Merchant Vessels from Australian ports to New Zealand.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

TO 0900 TUESDAY 20th AUGUST, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"CANBERRA", if no further defects are found, estimates repairs to "A" brackets can be completed by Wednesday, 28th August.

"MANOORA" escorting Freightship "STRATHALLAN" to Sunda Strait, sailed from Fremantle early this morning and expects to enter East Indies Station 0700K Friday, 23rd August.

"ADELAIDE" at Sydney will be docked Thursday, 22nd August.

"ST. GILES") Group 51 Auxiliary A/S Vessels arrived Newcastle
"HEROS") from Sydney.
"BINGERA")

"KOALA" will take part in local defence exercises between Darwin and Cape Londonderry from 20th August to 28th August inclusive.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.A.S. "HOBART" on the night of Sunday, 18th August, was attacked by three aircraft at Berbera. Eight bombs were dropped, the nearest falling within 15 yards of the ship, but there was no damage or casualties.

It was announced by the B.B.C. this morning that our forces have been withdrawn from British Somaliland.

French Sloop "DUMONT D'URVILLE" is at New Caledonia.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 MONDAY 19th AUGUST, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

Auxiliary M/S Vessels "ORARA" and "DOOMBA" having been ordered to return to Melbourne, entered Port Phillip at 0333 today, Monday, and arrived Port Melbourne at 0700.

As the Air and Surface Searches for reported mines off Sydney proved negative, also the interrogation of the officers of S.S. "PERIOD" on arrival at Newcastle produced vague and indefinite reports, the Port of Sydney was re-opened and all operations on account of this report were discontinued.

Hospital Ship "MANUNDA" departed from Sydney at 1600 Saturday, 17th August, and expects to arrive Darwin a.m. Saturday, 24th August.

EVACUEES.

"JOHANN DE WITT" departed Brisbane at 1445 yesterday Sunday, and expects to arrive Sydney at 0630 Tuesday 20th August. Evacuees for disembarkation are Sydney 182, Melbourne 89.

"ZEALANDIA" expects to arrive Brisbane Wednesday 21st August.

AIR OPERATIONS.

An Air Search will be made in West Australia today, Monday, to provide cover for A.I.F. Freightsip "STRATHALLAN".

A.I.F. FREIGHTSHIP.

"STRATHALLAN" escorted by H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" arrives Fremantle 1930 today, Monday.

GENERAL.

The B.B.C. 0745 Broadcast gave the number of enemy planes brought down during raids on Sunday as 86 - our losses 16, from which 8 Pilots are safe.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Sunday, 18th August, 1940.

"BLANAI" arrives OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS

"PERTH" intends to sail from Sydney at 1100K today on Patrol to search for possible enemy minelayer.

"CANBERRA" arrived Sydney yesterday morning from Fremantle.

"YARRA" departed Port Melbourne yesterday afternoon and expects to arrive at Fremantle 0600K Friday, 23rd August.

"GOORANGAI" sails from Port Melbourne tomorrow 19th August to sweep in the vicinity of Point Lonsdale returning to Williamstown on Friday, 30th August.

"ORARA" and "DOOMBA" departed Port Melbourne 0100K today and are proceeding to Port Jackson with all despatch in connection with the reported objects resembling mines S.E. of Sydney. They expect to arrive 0700K Tuesday, 20th August.

"NAMBUCCA", "ALFIE CAM", "DURRAWEEEN", "TONGKOL", "GOOLGWAI" and "ST. GILES" departed Sydney this morning to sweep the area where mines have been reported.

H.M.S. "ACHILLES" after relief by "CANBERRA" of the escort of U.S.4. will arrive Melbourne, 27th August, leaving for Sydney p.m. 29th August and arriving 31st August. It is

proposed to exercise with "PERTH" for 4 days and depart from Sydney 5th September.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "ARAWA" will not now proceed to Fremantle to escort "STRATHNAVER" as New Zealand Forestry troops intended for that vessel will embark in U.S.4.

H.M.A.S. "HOBART" and H.M.S. "KIMBERLEY" were bombed 15th August in Berbera Harbour but no damage was sustained.

U.S.4.

"ORCADES" departed Sydney yesterday for Wellington and expects to arrive daylight Tuesday 20th August. She will later proceed to Lyttleton.

"EMPRESS of JAPAN" departed Sydney yesterday for Wellington expecting to arrive 0300K Tuesday, 20th August.

U.S.5.

"INDRAPOERA" is expected to arrive Sydney tomorrow for fitting out as a transport.

TRANSPORTS.

Dutch "NIEUW ZEELAND" was taken over at Singapore 15th August and should arrive Sydney 1st September for fitting out as a Transport.

TO 2200, SATURDAY, 17th AUGUST. EVACUEES.

"SLAMAT" arrived Sydney yesterday from Brisbane.

INTERNEES.

R.N.A. SHIPS.

It is intended to send 280 internees from Malaya to Australia in W.I. Sydney 0700K this morning.

"WORSBY" arrived Brisbane NAVAL CONTROL SERVICE. Harvey Bay.

R.A.F. STATION. The C. in C. South Atlantic is considering the advisability of routing shipping close to the South American Coast between the River Plate and Pernambuco in view of raider activity, on his Station there being at present 7 vessels presumed lost.

REPORTED MINES.

R.N.S. "ACHILLES" Suspicious objects, possibly mines were reported 20 miles S.E. of Sydney Heads yesterday by the coastal vessel "PERIOD" and later about 7 miles North of this position by S.S. "TURAKINA". Search of this area by 6 Auxiliary minesweepers from Sydney commenced at daylight this morning and Mercantile sailings from the Port have been suspended. "ORARA" and "DOOMBA" will arrive on Tuesday from Melbourne to carry out further sweeping. Air searches from Richmond and Laverton are taking place today covering the S.E. area with a view to locating a possible enemy minelayer.. "PERTH" has sailed to co-operate, and her aircraft is assisting in search for mines. ton yesterday.

N.Z.N.B. reports the sweeping of another mine near the searched channel approaching Auckland. 3 mines have previously been accounted for in this area.

"ANAKEA" anchored off Collibrand early this morning and will berth Station Pier, Port Melbourne, at 1000K.

RAIDER.

C. in C. East Indies, considers that as the Norwegian Ship "TALLEYRAND" is overdue Capetown from Fremantle, since 9th August, it may indicate raider has proceeded eastward south about Australia, or to the westward via the Cape in an endeavour to reach Germany. The latter appreciation is considered the more likely.

GENERAL.

Admiralty states there is definite evidence that enemy are using torpedo dropping aircraft and two attacks have been carried out this month.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

TO 0900. SATURDAY, 17th AUGUST.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"CANBERRA" was due Sydney 0700K this morning.

"MORESBY" arrived Brisbane yesterday from Hervey Bay.

R.A.F.A. "KURUMBA" departed Williamstown yesterday for Fremantle arriving a.m. Sunday, 25th August.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "ACHILLES" arrived Wellington yesterday.

H.M.S. "ARAWA" will not proceed to Fremantle as was intended.

CONVOY "U.S.4".

Captain H.W. Hudson, R.N., appointed Commodore of Convoy, will subsequently take command of H.M.A.S. "WESTRALIA".

T.2. ("MAURETANIA") arrived Wellington yesterday.

EVACUEES.

"AWATEA" anchored off Gellibrand early this morning and will berth Station Pier, Port Melbourne, at 1000K.

RAIDER.

C. in C. East Indies, considers that as the Norwegian Ship "TALLEYRAND" is overdue Capetown from Fremantle, since 9th August, it may indicate raider has proceeded eastward south about Australia, or to the westward via the Cape in an endeavour to reach Germany. The latter appreciation is considered the more likely.

GENERAL.

Admiralty states there is definite evidence that enemy are using torpedo dropping aircraft and two attacks have been carried out this month.

To 0900 FRIDAY, 16th AUGUST, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.S. "ADELAIDE" at present refitting at Sydney and at 48 hours notice for steam, may be required to come to 8 hours notice by Friday 23rd August.

Auxiliary A/S Vessels "BINGERA" and "ST. GILES" will operate from Newcastle from Monday 19th until Thursday 22nd August.

Auxiliary M/S Vessel "ALFIE CAM" is unlikely to arrive Fremantle from Sydney earlier than Monday 2nd September. D.N.O. W.A. has proposed in these circumstances "KOROWA" be retained at Fremantle until after the departure of U.S.4.

R.A.F.A. "KURUMBA" arrived Williamstown at 1300 yesterday, Thursday.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "ARAWA" - The Commodore-in-Charge, Hong Kong, has advised the E.T.A. Fremantle as 0800 Monday 26th August.

N.Z. Auxiliary M/S Vessels swept up and destroyed one mine yesterday, Thursday, in a position 11 miles 122° from Cuvies Island light at the outer end of the Southern swept channel through Colville Channel, Hauraki Gulf.

H.M.A.S. "HOBART" arrived 'Berbera' p.m. Wednesday 14th August.

HOSPITAL SHIP.

"MANUNDA" is to be sailed from Sydney for Darwin tomorrow, Saturday, and will later proceed to Port Moresby before returning to Sydney. (Rumours of crew trouble have not been confirmed officially).

A.I.F. FREIGHTSHIP.

"STRATHALLAN" departed from Adelaide at 1800 yesterday, Thursday, escorted by H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" and expects to arrive Fremantle 1930 Monday, 19th August.

U.S.4.

Captain H.W. Hudson, R.N., arrives Sydney a.m. today by train from Melbourne, and will proceed to Wellington in T.4. ("EMPRESS OF JAPAN") for duty as Commodore of the Convoy.

T.4. arrived Sydney at 0640 today Friday.

New Zealand Naval Board has requested that T.3. ("ORCADES") proceed to Lyttleton. The Orient S.N. Co. Ltd. have reason to consider the harbour unsafe for this ship and have requested that the visit be cancelled.

DUTCH TRANSPORTS.

Managing Agents for the Dutch ships taken over as transports have been appointed as follows :-

British India S.N. Co. Ltd.

"NIEUW ZEELAND"
"NIEUW HOLLAND"

P. & O. S.N. Co. Ltd.

"SLAMAT"
"INDRAPOERA"

The Orient S.N. Co. Ltd.

"CHRISTIAAN HUYGENS"
"JOHANN DE WITT"

EVACUEES.

"INDRAPOERA" arrived Port Melbourne yesterday and berthed after some delay.
Disembarkation of evacuees was completed during the night and the ship sailed for Sydney at 0735 today, Friday.

"SLAMAT" is expected to arrive Sydney at 0600 tomorrow, Saturday.

"AWATEA" is expected to arrive Melbourne at 2200 today Friday, the number for disembarkation is 425.

GENERAL.

Commander Newcomb will visit F.N.D. today, Friday, for the purpose of selecting A /S Ratings.

French Ship "COMMISSAIRE RAMEL" - Difficulty is being experienced with the crew who appear to be intimidated.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

TO 0900 THURSDAY 15th AUGUST.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A.S. "YARRA" is to be sailed on Saturday 17th August for Fremantle.

AUXILIARY VESSELS.

R.A.F.A. "KURUMBA" entered Port Phillip this morning.

"GOONAMBEE" will carry out working up practice at Broken Bay from tomorrow 16th August until Wednesday 21st August.

N.O.C.S. states that "KIANGA" and "NARANI" have been examined and are considered suitable for conversion to M/S vessels.

OPERATIONS - ABROAD.

H.M.S. "ACHILLES" flying broad pendant of C.C.N.Z.S. left Auckland yesterday, destination unstated.

H.M. Ships "SCIMITAR" "SKATE" and "WINDSOR" were damaged in recent air raids. The casualties amongst the three were only 1 killed and 15 wounded. The Floating Dock at Portland was damaged, 1 oil tank set on fire and another damaged.

2 Bombs fell in R.N. Barracks, and one on the football ground at Plymouth, 3 killed and 2 wounded.

H.M.A.S. "WESTRALIA" was docked for cleaning and painting at Colombo, 10th August, and will be ready for sea tomorrow 16th August.

D.E.M.S.

The Weekly Armament statement of 12th August, gives the total number of ships armed as :-

A.M.C's	...	5
Fast Liners and D.E.M.S.		170
War Auxiliary Vessels.		21
Merchant Vessels degaussed		26

All Norwegian ships are now given equal priority with British and Dutch ships concerning the provision of defensive equipment, paravanes and degaussing.

U.S.4 AND 5.

U.S.4. will proceed direct to Bombay from Fremantle, and U.S.5. to Suez via Colombo from Fremantle.

"AQUITANIA" arrived Sydney this morning from Fremantle.

Unrest amongst the Chinese and Javanese crews of the 4 Dutch ships comprising U.S.5. is reported, there being a possibility of their refusing to sail unless the ships proceed to Singapore to embark new crews.

A.I.F. FREIGHTSHIP.

"STRATHALLAN" arrived at Adelaide this morning escorted by "MANOORA".

EVACUEES.

"SLAMAT" arrived Brisbane yesterday from Manila.

"AWATEA" arrived Sydney last night from Brisbane.

N.C.S.

Norwegian "TALLEYRAND" which was due at Capetown 9th August, and left Fremantle 25th July, has not arrived.

Norwegian "EIDANGER" from Port Piri to Singapore, considered to have been sunk by a raider in the Indian Ocean, the Admiralty states has arrived at San Pedro (U.S.A.)

'Ship Warrants' for the purpose of obtaining bunkers and using the facilities of British Ports, are to be issued to non British Ship Owners who undertake that their vessels shall not sail for or from ports in Europe, Spanish International Morocco, Spanish and Portuguese Atlantic Islands and Turkey.

GENERAL.

F.N.D. is to provide 200 officers and men to line the streets today, in conjunction with the Army and Air Force taking part in the State Funeral for the victims of the air crash at Canberra on Tuesday.

Germany and Italy are said to be manufacturing small torpedo tubes for the use of "E" boats or launched from shore. They are claimed to be effective against minefields and A/S nets.

Tc-900 WEDNESDAY, 14th AUGUST.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"CANBERRA" arrived Fremantle from Capetown 0900 yesterday, and after fuelling sailed at 1830 for Sydney. Steaming at 26 knots, her E.T.A. is 0700K Saturday, 17th August.

"MANOORA" departed Port Melbourne 1330K yesterday to escort A.I.F. Freightship "STRATHALLAN" to Adelaide and Fremantle, thence to Sunda Strait.

"ORARA" after exercising in Port Phillip yesterday, returned to "YARRA" Port Melbourne.

R.A.F.A. "KURUMBA" on arrival Williamstown tomorrow morning, will discharge oil fuel into Naval tanks, and then proceed to Fremantle so as to arrive by Sunday, 28th August.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.I.S. "HINDUSTAN" has landed 3-pdr. guns without crews to assist in the defence of Berbera (British Somaliland).

CONVOY "U.S.4".

Commodore of Convoy, Captain H.W. Hudson, R.N. and Staff, will take passage in "EMPRESS OF JAPAN" from Sydney to Wellington. He will report at Navy Office this morning.

New Zealand Naval Board has concurred in Naval Board's proposals regarding trans-Tasman escort arrangements, namely "ACHILLES" escorts "U.S.4" to rendezvous in Bass Strait, and "CANBERRA" thereafter.

A.I.F. FREIGHTSHIP.

R.M.S. "STRATHALLAN" departed Port Melbourne 1545K yesterday. Calling at Adelaide, Fremantle, Singapore, Colombo and Bombay, she will proceed to U.K. via the Cape. Total Services personnel embarked amount to 1007, comprising about 300 Air Force for Singapore, and 680 Military personnel for Middle East and U.K., and the balance Naval Officers and ratings for Mediterranean. 4 Hudson aircraft for Singapore are also embarked.

AIR OPERATIONS.

An air search to cover "STRATHALLAN" on passage to Adelaide is being carried out this morning to the southward of Kangaroo Island, by 2 Laverton planes operating from Mount Gambier.

EVACUEES.

"INDRAPOERA" departed Sydney yesterday, and is due Melbourne 1000K tomorrow.

"JOHANN DE WITT" departed Thursday Island yesterday, for Brisbane, arriving Sunday, 18th August.

"AWATEA" departed Brisbane yesterday: E.T.A. Sydney 1700K today, Wednesday.

"TANDA" will leave Shanghai about 26th August, with a number of Military families for passage to Australia.

GENERAL.

When an R.A.A.F. Hudson plane crashed near Canberra yesterday, 4 people including three Federal Cabinet Ministers and the Chief of the General Staff were killed. A message of condolence has been sent by Naval Board to the widow of Mr. G.A. Street, Minister for the Army, who at one time was Minister for the Navy.

American observers are to be embarked in ships attached to Home and Mediterranean Fleets and Force "H". A Lieutenant-Commander, U.S.N., has already been appointed and is leaving U.K. on 20th August to join one of H.M. Ships in the Mediterranean.

On several occasions Japanese merchant ships when passing H.M.S. "DANAE" in the China Sea made a succession of "V's" by W/T with no apparent object. C.O.I.S. wishes to be informed if similar instances have been observed by H.M. Ships.

Consequent upon Admiral Decoux's appointment as G.G. of Indo-China, Captain Berenger from French cruiser "LAMOTTE-PICQUET" has been appointed by French Admiralty to take command of French Force in Far East.

A.I.F. FREIGHTERS.

"STRAHALAN" arrived Port Melbourne at 0845 yesterday, Sunday, having been escorted from Sydney by H.M.A.S. "DANAE", and will depart for Singapore via Adelaide and Fremantle, p.m. today, Tuesday. Ocean Report to Banda Strait will be provided by "DANAE".

EXAMINATION SERVICE.

"ADELPHI" - It is proposed to sail the Examination Vessel "ADELPHI" on the 7th September. This should enable her to reach Sydney on the 17th September, where she will be taken in hand for refitting. Examination notices will be carried out by H.M.A.S. "DANAE".

STARRA.

"STARRA" arrived Sydney 2.00 p.m. today, Sunday.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 TUESDAY, 13th AUGUST, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A.S. "PERTH" arrived Sydney at 1603 yesterday, Monday.

H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE" arrived Sydney at 1250 yesterday, Monday, and is at 48 hours notice for steam during her refit. If "PERTH" joins Trans-Tasman Ocean Escort U.S.4., notice will be reduced to 8 hours.

H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" is expected to berth at Fremantle at 0915 today, Tuesday. Her fuel requirements are 2,700 tons.

H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" arrived Port Melbourne at 0915 yesterday, Monday, and will depart p.m. today, Tuesday.

H.M.A.S. "YARRA" berthed at Williamstown at 1452 yesterday, Monday.

R.A.F.A. "KURUMBA" departed Sydney 1635 yesterday, Monday, and expects to arrive Williamstown at 0700 Thursday, 15th August.

A.I.F. FREIGHTSHIP.

R.M.S. "STRATHALLAN" arrived Port Melbourne at 0945 yesterday, Monday, having been escorted from Sydney by H.M.A.S. "MANOORA", and will depart for Singapore via Adelaide and Fremantle, p.m. today, Tuesday. Ocean Escort to Sunda Strait will be provided by "MANOORA".

EXAMINATION SERVICE.

Darwin - It is proposed to sail the Examination Vessel "ADELE" on the 7th September. This should enable her to reach Sydney on the 27th September, where she will be taken in hand for refitting. Examination duties will be carried out by H.M.A.S. "KOOKABURRA".

EVACUEES.

"INDRAPOERA" arrived Sydney at 0600 today Tuesday.

To 0900 MONDAY, 12th AUGUST, 1940.

OPERATIONS ABROAD.

H.M.S. "TRANSYLVANIA" (Captain F.N. Miles (Ret.)) was sunk by mine or torpedo N.E. of Bloody Foreland, 10th August.

N.C.S.

2 British Merchant Vessels, one of which is the "TESTBANK" (Andrew Weir) 5000 tons, have been in collision in the middle of the South Atlantic Ocean. Both are badly damaged and require assistance.

It is presumed that 120 lives were lost in the British India liner "MOHAMED ALI EL-KEBIR" torpedoed 250' West of Malin Head 7th August. She is a vessel of 7527 tons engaged in Trooping and there were 740 survivors.

EVACUEES.

"INDRAPOERA" arrived Brisbane yesterday and later sailed for Sydney expecting to arrive Tuesday, 13th August.

"SLAMAT" left Thursday Island on Saturday, and is due Brisbane Thursday, 15th August.

"AWATEA" passed Cairns on Saturday, en route Brisbane, expecting to arrive tomorrow morning.

A.I.F. FREIGHT SHIPS.

"STRATHALLAN" berthed at Port Melbourne this morning.

AUXILIARY MINESWEEPERS.

"KOROWA" on arrival at Port Melbourne from Fremantle is to join Group 58.

"ALFIE CAM" on reaching satisfactory minesweeping standard is to proceed to Fremantle and join Group 66, and "DURRAWEEEN" will join Group 58 at Port Melbourne.

It is under consideration to requisition two vessels for conversion to Auxiliary M/S. An examination of the following vessels is being made in this respect :- "KIANGA", "NARANI", "TIRKA", "TOLGA", "TOORIE" and "COBAKI".

CONVOYS U.S.4 AND 5.

U.S.4. is to comprise "MAURITANIA", "EMPRESS OF JAPAN" and "ORCADES" from New Zealand and "AQUITANIA" from Sydney.

U.S.5. will be Dutch ships "CHRISTIAAN HUYGENS", "INDRAPOERA", "SLAMAT" and "NIEUW HOLLAND" with Australian troops only.

To 0900 Sunday, 11th August.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A.SHIPS.

"PERTH" wearing flag of F.O.C.A.S. departed Sydney yesterday for patrol and, with "ADELAIDE" in company, will return tomorrow forenoon on completion of full calibre firing by both ships.

"CANBERRA" having entered Australia Station came under administration of R.A.C.A.S. yesterday. On arrival Fremantle Tuesday morning, 13th August, she will complete with fuel and proceed direct to Sydney.

"ADELAIDE" passed Cape Otway yesterday morning and is due Sydney about 1100K tomorrow on completion full calibre firing.

"YARRA" arrived Port Melbourne yesterday from exercises in Port Phillip.

"KOOKABURRA" returned to Darwin yesterday after acting as safety ship during flight of No.8 Squadron R.A.A.F. to Singapore.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.SHIPS.

"ROYAL SOVEREIGN" will probably sail from Suez tomorrow for West Africa, docking at Durban on or about 30th August en route.

"CALEDON" is to replace "CERES" in Red Sea Force and the latter will then join "COLOMBO" at Mombasa where both ships will be based.

H.M.A.S. "HOBART" landed yesterday 3-pdr. Hotchkiss and crew of 3 men to assist the Army in the Defence of an unstated place, possibly BERBERA in British Somaliland.

TRANSPORTS.

W.2 ("MAURETANIA") departed Fremantle 0900K yesterday and is proceeding at 23 knots direct to Wellington, arriving a.m. Friday, 16th August.

W.3 ("AQUITANIA") departed Fremantle 1415K yesterday for Sydney arriving a.m. Thursday, 15th August.

A.I.F. FREIGHTSHIP.

"STRATHALLAN", escorted by H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" departed Sydney yesterday afternoon for Melbourne due noon tomorrow.

EVACUEES.

"ZEALANDIA" departed Manila yesterday for Brisbane arriving 21st August.

"AWATEA" will call at Cairns today and should reach Brisbane Tuesday next, 13th August.

AIR OPERATIONS.

From 0730 until 1030 today three aircraft from Laverton will search 200 miles to Southward of Gabo Island.

From 1000 to 1400 four aircraft from Richmond will search 180 miles to seaward of Southern N.S.W. coast and attempt to intercept H.M.A.S. "PERTH".

RAIDERS.

Master Norwegian Vessel "SOLOR" on arrival Capetown reported that on 21st July in a position 4°10' South, 84°10'E. he sighted a boat, apparently damaged by shell fire, belonging to the British Ship "KEMMERDINE" overdue Rangoon since 18th July. This position is close to that in which British Ship "CITY OF BAGDAD" was shelled on 11th July.

Reported that on 1st July a German raider captured the Dutch Vessel "KERTOSOMO" (9,000 tons) on passage from Curacao to Freetown and sent her into Lorient (about 200 miles S.E. of Brest) with armed guard on 18th July.

GENERAL.

C.in C. East Indies has signalled a time table for Bombay - Aden - Suez convoys every 15 days.

U.K. Government proposes to place an order for the manufacture in Australia of half a million H.V.2-pdr. cartridges.

"DUNERA" with 3,000 internees from U.K. departed Capetown 9th August for Fremantle due 26th August.

NAVY.

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RAIDERS.RAIDERS.

The Interstate Collier "WILLIAM WASTON" (R.M.S. 211) on 4th July touched the rocks in the vicinity of the Solby Lighthouse at Newcastle and went out on fire at 01:01 today, Saturday. About 20 minutes later she refloated and should have berthed at Newcastle with the aid of a tug early this morning. Reports indicate that the wreck is not extensive.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 SATURDAY 10th AUGUST, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A.S. "GOONAMBEE" was commissioned at Sydney at 0800 yesterday, Friday.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "KANIMBLA" arrived Colombo a.m. yesterday, Friday.

AIR OPERATIONS.

Air searches commencing at 1400 today, Saturday, will be carried out off the New South Wales coast and the S.E. Corner (Cape Howe) to a depth of 200 miles for the purpose of providing cover for A.I.F. Freightship "STRATHALLAN".

In Western Australia in the Cape Leeuwin vicinity, an air search to a depth of 150 miles will also be carried out. The search is to commence at 1000 and to be to the depth of 150 miles. The object is to find any Enemy Raider.

ENEMY RAIDER.

It is possible that a raider entered the Indian Ocean from the Red Sea, passing Perim during the night 1st/2nd August.

EVACUEES.

250 evacuees for Melbourne in the Dutch Ship "CHRISTIAAN HUYGENS" due at Sydney at 1000 today, Saturday, are to remain onboard and will be transferred to "Indrapoera" for onward passage after her arrival on the 13th July.

TRANSPORTS.

The Dutch Ship "CHRISTIAAN HUYGENS" is to remain at Sydney where she will be fitted out.

GENERAL.

The Interstate Collier "WILLIAM McARTHUR" (R.W. Miller & Co.) touched the rocks in the vicinity of the Nobby Lighthouse at Newcastle and sent out an S.O.S. at 0144 today, Saturday. About 20 minutes later she refloated and should have berthed at Newcastle with the aid of a tug early this morning. Reports indicate that the damage is not extensive.

To 0900 FRIDAY, 9th AUGUST, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.S. "MORESBY" arrived Hervey Bay yesterday morning.

AUXILIARY VESSELS.

The following approximate commissioning dates have been given by N.O.C.S. :-

"WYRALLAH"	26th August
"YANDRA"	9th September
"KYBRA"	16th September
"GOONAMBEE"	9th August
"SAMUEL BENBOW"	23rd August.

R.A.F.A. "KURUMBA" sails from Sydney on Monday 12th August, for Williamstown, and after discharging 3000 tons of oil, proceeds to Fremantle, arriving Sunday 25th August.

OPERATIONS - ABROAD.

H.M.A.S. "HOBART" reported yesterday having been attacked by Italian fighter planes apparently operating from Zeila (British Somaliland), recently evacuated by the British forces. When the attack was over "HOBART" flew off her "Walrus", which dive bombed Zeila residency now believed to be a military headquarters. 2 bombs were dropped within 40 yards, and other targets machine gunned. The "Walrus" returned safely.

H.M. Ships, Submarines and Aircraft may now sink on sight any Merchant ships within 30 miles of the Libyan Coast, and any Italian ships within 30 miles of any Italian territory in the Mediterranean.

The Admiralty announce that steps are being taken to counter recent successful attacks on convoys resulting in rather severe losses off the North-West of Ireland.

CONVOY U.S.4.

"MAURETANIA" arrived Fremantle yesterday, and after completing with oil and effecting repairs to Gyra Compass, will sail for Wellington direct, probably daylight tomorrow, Saturday.

EVACUEES.

"CHRISTIAAN HUYGENS" departed Brisbane yesterday and expects to arrive Sydney 0600K tomorrow, Saturday.

"JOHANN DE WITT" sailed from Manila, 6th August, and is due Thursday Island Tuesday 13th August, and Brisbane Saturday, 17th August.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 THURSDAY, 8th AUGUST, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"ORARA" arrived Port Melbourne yesterday, having landed a cot case at Westernport earlier in the day.

"DOOMBA" arrived Port Melbourne 0600K this morning.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "ALCANTARA" having completed repairs at Rio de Janeiro after the recent action with enemy raider, is patrolling in South Atlantic.

There are indications that two raiders are operating in South Atlantic.

GENERAL.

Admiralty would prefer to call the Australian M/S-A/S vessels now under construction "Australian Minesweepers" (short title A.M.S.), instead of Australian Patrol Vessels as suggested by Naval Board.

Commander R.F. Nichols and Lieutenant-Commander Dixon, on loan to R.A.N., are embarked in Naval Freightship "STRATHEDEN" which sailed from Liverpool 6th August, in Convoy "W.S.2".

Freightship "ULYSSES" with 5 A/S officers and 135 Army personnel embarked, sailed from Port Phillip yesterday for Capetown and U.K.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

5 0900 WEDNESDAY 7th AUGUST, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. Ships "PERTH" and "ADELAIDE" will rendezvous in position approx. 75' East of Twofold Bay at 1600 Sunday 11th August. Battle Practice Target representing damaged enemy 8 inch cruiser is to be in position at 1001 Monday 12th, which both cruisers are to engage simultaneously from widely separated bearings, firing 12 rounds per gun.

H.M.A.S. "KOOKABURRA" departed Darwin at 1600 yesterday Tuesday, to act as safety ship for No. 8 Squadron, R.A.A.F.

H.M.A.S. "ORARA" arrived Westernport at 0600 today Wednesday, for the purpose of landing one cot case.

AIR OPERATIONS.

Air reconnaissance will probably be arranged off the Southern New South Wales coast, p.m. Saturday 10th August, and between Gabo and Wilson's Promontory on Sunday 11th August, to provide cover for A.I.F. Freightship "STRATHALLAN".

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "KANIMBLA" is due Colombo Friday 9th August.

H.M.S. "MORETON BAY" departed Singapore p.m. Monday 5th August, for Capetown.

H.M.A.S. "PARRAMATTA" is on patrol off Perim.

EVACUEES.

"ZEALANDIA" arrived Manila p.m. yesterday Tuesday.

TRANSPORTS.

"ORUNGAL" was handed back to Owners at 1200 yesterday Tuesday.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Tuesday, 6th August, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"ADELAIDE" sails from Fremantle today for Sydney direct, expecting to arrive Monday 12th August.

"YARRA" departed Port Melbourne yesterday for exercise in Port Phillip Bay.

"MORESBY" departed Sydney yesterday for Hervey Bay.

"DURRAWEE" left Sydney yesterday for Broken Bay to work up.

OPERATIONS ABROAD.

H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" expects to arrive Fremantle on Tuesday, 13th ^{August} ~~May~~.

H.M.A.S. "HOBART" after grounding carried out a full power trial and maintained 26 knots for 16 hours with normal results.

H.M.S. "KANIMBLA" is to proceed to Colombo from Singapore.

EVACUEES.

"SLAMAT" left Manila 4th August for Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne.

"AWATEA" departed Manila yesterday and is due at Brisbane, Tuesday 13th August. She was delayed "Pratique" on arrival for several hours owing to the crew not being in possession of vaccination certificates. The whole crew were vaccinated by the Quarantine authorities. The same procedure will apply to "ZEALANDIA" arriving Manila probably tomorrow.

Convoy W.S.2 which sailed from England yesterday for Egypt via the Cape, includes "ORION" with 200 troops and 1100 children, "STRATHEDEN" with 300 Naval ratings and 400 children, and "BATORY" with 600 troops and 600 children. These 3 ships are bound for India, Saingapore and Australia.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

T 00 MONDAY, 5th AUGUST.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

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

"CANBERRA" sailed from Simonstown yesterday for Fremantle - speed of advance 24 knots.

"CALEDON") are to be transferred from Mediterranean to East Indies
"CAPETOWN") Station.

"MORETON BAY" will depart Singapore today for Capetown, thence in all probability to Freetown.

N.C.S.

Danish Vessel "WESTRALIA", delayed at Sydney owing to engine defects, was expected to sail for Melbourne early this morning with a guard of one officer and 6 men on board.

EVACUEES.

In spite of press reports to the contrary, it appears from an intercepted message that large numbers of children are being evacuated from U.K. to Canada by ships in convoy.

Dutch Ship "CHRISTIAAN HUYGENS" passed Thursday Island yesterday morning and should reach Brisbane, Thursday August 8th.

Handwritten initials/signature

DAILY NARRATIVE.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

MOST SECRET.

To 0800 SATURDAY, 3rd AUGUST, 1940.

To 0900 Sunday 4th August, 1940.

OPERATIONS AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.S. "MORESBY" arrived Sydney at 0700 yesterday, Saturday.

H.M.A. SHIPS ABROAD.

H.M.A.S. "HOBART" on Friday 2nd August during a severe squall at Berbera (British Somaliland) dragged her anchors and grounded on the edge of a sandbank, remained fast for 6½ hours then refloated.

The report states that there is no damage and ship is proceeding to Aden.

TRANSPORTS.

"W.2" departed Colombo p.m. Friday 2nd August. E.T.A. Fremantle

1900 Thursday 8th August.

"W.3" departed Colombo p.m. Saturday 3rd August. E.T.A. Fremantle

1900 Friday 9th August.

INTERNEES.

"ORUNGAL" arrived Sydney at 0942 yesterday, Saturday, from Rabaul and Salamaua with 76 Internees and Guard.

N.C.S.

Ex Danish Ship "WESTRALIA" departed Sydney p.m. yesterday for Melbourne under an Armed Guard. Her crew consists of 9 British, 16 Danes and 6 other foreign Nationalities.

GENERAL.

H.M.S. "SANDHURST" sunk as the result of bombing at Dover last week has been refloated and is proceeding for repairs.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 SATURDAY, 3rd AUGUST, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"PERTH" wearing flag of F.O.C.A.S. arrived Sydney yesterday.

"YARRA" arrived Port Melbourne last night.

"WARREGO" assuming the commissioning date as being 22nd August, the proposed working up programme is to leave Sydney on Monday, 2nd September, for Jervis Bay, and to leave there 4th September for Port Melbourne, arriving Friday 6th September.

"DURRAWEEEN" is intended to carry out "working up" practice at Broken Bay from Monday 5th August, until Sunday 11th August.

"DOOMBA" and "ORARA" departed Port Melbourne last night and passed through Port Phillip Heads at 0128 this morning, en route Wilson's Promontory.

"ALFIE CAM" arrived Sydney yesterday from working up at Broken Bay.

OPERATIONS - ABROAD.

H.M.S. "ALCANTARA" arrived Rio de Janeiro 1st August, and repairs were taken in hand.

A.I.F. FREIGHT SHIPS.

"STRATHALLAN"- Revised programme is to leave Sydney Saturday 10th August, Melbourne Tuesday 13th, Adelaide Thursday 15th, and Fremantle Monday 19th August.

GENERAL.

S.S. "SILVERSANDAL" reports having heard on 25th July, the "attacked by submarine" signal in the vicinity of the Japanese Mandated Marianas Islands. A Washington press report of 4th July states that an aircraft sighted a large submarine off the Pacific entrance to the Panama Canal, and a U.S.A. Assistant Naval Attache adds to this report that information gathered from a Japanese Naval Officer by a friend discloses that 2 German submarines were shortly expected in the Japanese Mandated Caroline Islands, a group to the southward of the Marianas.

To 1900 FRIDAY, 2nd AUGUST, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"ADELAIDE" - exigencies of the Service permitting, will probably sail from Fremantle Tuesday next, 6th August, and proceed direct to Sydney to undergo 14 day refit and give long leave.

"MANOORA" will come under operational orders of F.O.C.A.S. when H.M.A.S. "PERTH" reaches Sydney at 1100K today.

"DOOMBA") depart Port Melbourne p.m. today for sweeping exercises off
"ORARA") Wilson's Promontory, returning 7th August.

"WONGALA" arrived Williamstown yesterday afternoon to complete engine repairs before resuming her passage to Adelaide.

"YARRA" arrived Port Phillip 0630K this morning.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "ALCANTARA" was expected to reach Rio de Janeiro 31st August to effect repairs after the recent action with enemy raider.

H.M.S. "WHITSHED" (Commander E.R. Condor) was mined off Harwich on 31st July but reached harbour stern first. Casualties, 5 dead, 8 missing and 15 wounded.

From intercepted messages there appears to have been considerable activity in the Mediterranean on Wednesday last, and apparently Algiers aerodrome was to have been bombed.

TRANSPORTS.

"NORUNGAL" departed Brisbane yesterday and expects to arrive Sydney at noon tomorrow when she will revert to coastal trade.

EVACUEES.

M.V. "INDRAPOERA", the second of the 4 Dutch vessels bringing evacuees to Australia, sailed from Manila yesterday for Brisbane, arriving 12th August, calling Thursday Island and Cairns en route.

GENERAL.

Duke of Windsor and party were expected to depart from Lisbon in the American liner "EXCALIBUR" yesterday for Bermuda, whence they will tranship for the Bahamas where the Duke will take up his appointment as Governor-General.

In order to avoid confusion, a proposal has been made to the Admiralty that A/S-M/S vessels now under construction in Australia should be known as Australian Patrol Vessels (Short Title A.P.V.). The names submitted for the first ten vessels now building on Admiralty account have been approved.

Ex-Italian Submarine "GALILEO GALILEI", captured in the Red Sea and taken into Aden by the Armed Trawler "MOONSTONE" soon after Italy commenced hostilities, has been renamed "JUAN FERNANDEZ".

To 0900 THURSDAY, 1st AUGUST, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A.S. "PERTH" departed Port Phillip at 1516 yesterday Wednesday, for Sydney.

H.M.A.S. "YARRA" departed Sydney at 2305 Tuesday, 30th July, for Port Phillip.

H.M.A. SHIPS ABROAD.

H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" - Examination in dry dock at Simonstown of the Port "A" Bracket revealed that the tail shaft has worn through the shaft liner and is bearing on the "A" Bracket casing. Temporary measures have been taken to enable return to Australia at earliest possible date where full repairs will be carried out.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "ALCANTARA" reports that her armament was unimpaired as a result of the action. Loss of speed was due to being holed on the waterline in the Engine Room resulting in flooding. In addition there were two large holes above the waterline and considerable minor damage. The enemy used shrapnel extensively.

H.M.S. "ACHILLES" arrived Auckland 0830 yesterday Wednesday.

H.M.S. "DELIGHT" (Commander M. Fogg Elliot) was bombed and sunk off Portland p.m. Monday, 29th July. The attack was made by 16 aircraft. It is believed that 147 survivors have been landed.

H.M.S. "SANDHURST" has again been damaged by bombs.

H.M. Yacht "GULGER" (Lieutenant C.V. Brammel, R.N.R.) was bombed and sunk in Dover Harbour.

N.C.S.

Ex Danish Ship "WESTRALIA" is to be defensively equipped, degaussed, and if time permits, bow protection gear fitted at Sydney. In view of the crew trouble which has taken place an Armed Guard will be embarked before sailing.

GENERAL.

The evacuation of Service families from the Middle East to India and subsequently to Africa is again under consideration.

RAIDERS.

The British Ship "DOMINGO DE LANINAGA" was attacked at 1130Z yesterday, Wednesday, in position 5° 26' S. 18° 6' W. No details as to the attacker's identity are available.

To 0900 WEDNESDAY, 31st JULY, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"PERTH", "DOOMBA" and "ORARA" - departed Port Melbourne yesterday morning for exercises in Port Phillip.

"DOOMBA" - returned to Port Melbourne 1825K yesterday and commenced boiler cleaning being at 4 hours notice.

"WARREGO" - Acceptance trials have been arranged for 21st August, which if satisfactory, commissioning will take place 22nd August.

"YARRA" expects to arrive Port Phillip 0530K Friday, 2nd August.

"BATHURST" will be launched at Cockatoo Island tomorrow, 1st August.

"WONGALA" is still at Apollo Bay, temporary repairs will not be completed until tonight.

"MORESBY" arrived Jervis Bay 1800K yesterday.

Auxiliary Vessels.

"DURRAWEEEN" was commissioned yesterday at Sydney.

"GOONAMBEEN" - fitting out is further delayed.

OPERATIONS - ABROAD.

H.M.A.S. "PARRAMATTA" is due at Aden today.

H.M.A.S. "SYDNEY" is to take part today with H.M. Ships "NEPTUNE" and "ORION" in an operation which is being carried out by Force "H" and a battleship force escorted by 8 destroyers.

H.M.S. "ALCANTARA" has 3 holes in ship's side, as the result of her action, and will need 4 days for repairs.

Further to enemy air attacks on Dover :-

H.M.S. "SANDHURST" (Captain J. Fawcett, Retd.) was damaged and is resting on the bottom. No casualties sustained.

H.M.S. "WREN" (Commander H.T. Armstrong) was sunk on patrol, 4 of 6 officers and 99 men were saved.

H.M.S. "MONTROSE" (Commander C.R.L. Parry) was damaged on patrol. No casualties.

H.M.S. "WALPOLE" (Lieutenant-Commander H.G. Bownam) damaged in Dover by near miss. No casualties.

H.M.S. "TEDWORTH" (Lieutenant-Commander J.W. Stride) received slight damage and some casualties off the North Foreland.

EVACUEES.

Dutch ships "INDRAPOERA", "SLAMAT" and "JOHANN DE WITT" are due at Manila, today, 3rd and 4th August, respectively.

"ZEALAN LA" - The Pilot disembarking at Thursday Island reported that owing to inferior coal, a speed of only 12 knots could be maintained.

GENERAL.

The Weekly Armament Statement issued by D.O.T.M. to 29th July, gives vessels already armed as :-

A.M.C's.	5
Fast liners and D.E.M.S.	167
War Auxiliary Vessels	19
Merchant Vessels degaussed	24

The Director of Engineering (Naval) will arrive Sydney by train today.

REMARKS ON SYDNEY.

... by Captain J.C. ...
... about 400 miles west of ...
... of 15,000 ...
... in the engine ...
... fire control ...
... 10 knots ...
... 12 knots ...
... signals ...

... off the east coast of England ...
... damage to a number of ...
... Dover ...
... of ...

... arrived ...
... for Auckland, Sunday, 20th ...
... to be ...
... today for examination ...

REMARKS ON ...

... reported to leave Fremantle 20th August for Singapore and ...
... will be escorted to Sunda Strait by ...
... after which Dutch patrols will provide cover.

REMARKS

... the first of the 2 Dutch vessels ...
... sailed from ...
... arrive Thursday Island, 4th August, ...
... before proceeding to Brisbane ...

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 TUESDAY, 30th JULY.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"PERTH" will sail from Port Phillip about noon tomorrow and arrive Sydney 1100K Friday, 2nd August.

"MORESBY" departed Sydney this morning for Jervis Bay and training cruise.

"WONGALA" on passage from Sydney to Adelaide anchored Apollo Bay yesterday forenoon with engines disabled. Having effected temporary repairs she is proceeding to Williamstown to complete repairs.

"KOOKABURRA" is required to act as safety ship during flight of No. 8 Squadron, R.A.A.F., from Darwin to Singapore on 8th August.

"BINGERA" subject to Naval Board approval will be docked at Sydney, 1st August.

R.A.F.A. "KURUMBA" arrived Sydney yesterday for refit and docking.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "ALCANTARA", an A.M.C. of 22,000 tons commanded by Captain J.G. Ingham, R.N. (Retd.), engaged an enemy raider about 400 miles east of Rio de Janeiro on Sunday, 28th July. The action, opened at a range of 16,000 yards, lasted for an hour during which "ALCANTARA" was holed in the engine room, necessitating a reduction of speed to 10 knots. Her fire control circuit and aerial were secured by the second salvo from the enemy. The raider was last seen steering south at 15 knots, but the damage - if any - sustained by her is not disclosed. From intercepted signals it would appear that H.M. Ships "CUMBERLAND" and "DORSETSHIRE" are proceeding to investigate.

Enemy air attacks over Dover and off the east coast of England on 27th July caused considerable damage to a number of H.M. Ships. Included in the casualties is H.M.S. "CODRINGTON" sunk at Dover. She was commanded by Captain G.E. Creasy who was in command of H.M.S. "GRENVILLE" when lost some months ago.

H.M.S. "ACHILLES" arrived NUKUALOFA and sailed for Auckland, Sunday, 28th July.

H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" is to be docked at Simonstown today for examination of port outer shaft bracket.

A.I.F. FREIGHT SHIP.

"STRATHALLAN" expected to leave Fremantle 20th August for Singapore and Bombay, will be escorted to Sunda Strait by H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" after which Dutch patrols will provide cover.

EVACUEES.

V. "CHRISTIAAN HUYGENS", the first of the 4 Dutch vessels bringing evacuees to Australia, sailed from Manila yesterday and is due to arrive Thursday Island, 4th August, where a pilot will be embarked before proceeding to Brisbane, calling at Cairns en route.

GENERAL.

Admiralty has diverted mails for H.M. Ships "KANIMBLA" and "MOLAYON BAY" to Colombo, and those for "ARAWA" to Singapore. C. in C., China, requests we do likewise.

H.M.A.S. "PINTA" departs Port Melbourne a.m. Tuesday, 30th July, for ...
arrives Sydney ...

H.M.A.S. auxiliary s/s "DONNER" and "GRASS" will depart from Port Melbourne at 1000 tomorrow Tuesday. ...

H.M.A.S. "MANTON" arrived Fremantle at 1000 yesterday, Sunday, after having accepted "DONNER" to rendezvous with "KANIMBLA".

OPERATIONS - CHINA.

H.M.A.S. "MANTON" arrived Melbourne a.m. yesterday, Sunday.

H.M. s/s "MANTON" "MANTON" and "MANTON" are being withdrawn from the China Station. As a first step they will proceed to the East Indian Station.

H.M.A.S. "MANTON" has been at Hainan (near the border of the Cantonese under Chinese control) for some considerable time and to have left yesterday, Sunday. All British and British controlled shipping was to leave prior to her departure. The situation does not appear to have deteriorated sufficiently to warrant the evacuation of British subjects.

REVENUE.

The Royal Packet Navigation Co., Sydney, (N.S.W.) have been appointed General Agents for the 5 Dutch ships belonging to the Dutch Government.

INSPECTION.

D.S.V. has agreed that the inspection of the Dutch ships with a view to their suitability as transports shall be carried out as suggested, viz. -

- "CHRISTIANE HUYSSON"
 - "MANTON"
 - "MANTON"
 - "MANTON"
- } at Sydney
- "MANTON" at Adelaide

subject to their being satisfactory conversion is to be carried out in Australia.

A report is requested if it is considered that the inspection could be completed by next August.

OTHER COLONIES.

At Adelaide the s/s "MANTON" has apparently deteriorated and the ...

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To 0900 MONDAY 29th JULY, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A.S. "PERTH" departs Port Melbourne a.m. Tuesday, 30th July, for exercise in Port Phillip, anchoring on completion. Departs Port Phillip p.m. Wednesday, 31st July, arrives Sydney a.m. Friday, 2nd August.

H.M.A. Auxiliary M/S Vessels "DOOMBA" and "ORARA" will depart from Port Melbourne at 0900 tomorrow Tuesday. R.A.C.A.S. and Staff will embark in "DOOMBA" prior to her departure on completion of inspection he will transfer to "PERTH" for whom these Auxiliary Vessels will act as targets for torpedo firing. Subsequently "DOOMBA" will be taken in tow by "PERTH".

H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE" arrived Fremantle at 1952 yesterday, Sunday, after having escorted "ORONTES" to rendezvous with "KANIMBLA".

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" arrived Simonstown a.m. yesterday, Sunday.

H.M. Ships "KANIMBLA" "MORETONBAY" and "ARAWA" are being withdrawn from the China Station. As a first step they will proceed to the East Indies Station.

H.M.S. "DRAGON" has been at Duala (near the border of the Cameroons under British Mandate) for some considerable time was to have left yesterday, Sunday. All British and British controlled shipping was to leave prior to her departure. The situation does not appear to have deteriorated sufficiently to warrant the evacuation of British subjects.

EVACUEES.

The Royal Packet Navigation Co. Sydney, (K.P.M.) have been appointed Owners Agents for the 4 Dutch ships bringing evacuees from Manila.

TRANSPORTS.

D.S.T. has agreed that the inspection of the Dutch ships with a view to their suitability as Transports shall be carried out as suggested, viz. -

"CHRISTIAAN HUYGENS"	}	at Sydney
"INDRAPOERA"		
"SLAMAT"		
"JOHANN DE WITT"		at Adelaide

subject to their being satisfactory conversion is to be carried out in Australia.

A report is requested if it is considered that the inspection could be completed by 23rd August.

FRENCH COLONIES.

At Madagascar the situation has apparently deteriorated and the 20 mile restriction on British ships approaching the island has been re-imposed.

No British, French, Allied or Chartered Ship is to be sailed for a French Colonial Port in the South Atlantic Station. Ships intercepted proceeding to or from these ports are to be sent in to British ports under Armed Guard.

In the Society Islands, at Papeete, the situation has also deteriorated and the last message received stated that the Governor was closing the British Consulate in accordance with an order from Vichy. The British ship "WAIRUNA" scheduled to call at Papeete will be detained at Suva for further instructions. The British ship "HAURAKAI" was given permission to visit Papeete by S.O.(I) Esquimalt, who has requested S.O.(I) Wellington to arrange for her diversion if considered desirable.

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MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Sunday, 28th July, 1940.

OPERATIONS AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS:

- "PERTH": Wearing flag of F.O.C.A.S., berthed at Port Melbourne 1600K yesterday. She will carry out sub-calibre firing on Tuesday, 30th July.
- "YARRA": Propose sailing from Sydney for Port Phillip Tuesday, 30th July. Working up programme includes sub-calibre firing 2nd to 5th August. Full calibre firing 7th, 9th and 12th August.
- "ORARA": Secured at Port Melbourne 0710K yesterday.
- "GOORANGAI": Returned to Williamstown 1600K yesterday with a fractured intermediate pressure valve spindle.
- "WARREGO": Full power trial completed satisfactorily; estimated speed 17.7 knots with no undue vibration.

OPERATIONS ABROAD.

- H.M. SHIPS "BRILLIANT" AND "BOREAS": Were damaged by bombs after repelling an attack on convoy by 9 "E" boats.

TRANSPORTS.

- "ORUNGAL": Due at Sydney about 4th August, will be dismantled and re-enter the coastal trade.

EVACUEES.

- "ZEALANDIA": Departed Bowen 0300K yesterday for Manila. E.T.A. 5th August.

GENERAL.

Admiralty Message C.R. instructs that Merchant Vessels shall erect an emergency aerial entirely apart from the main aerial in view of the concentration on the part of enemy raiders to destroy the means of sending out an S.O.S. when attacked.

OVERDUE VESSEL.

The Norwegian "EIDANGER" from Port Pirie is overdue at Singapore since 22nd July.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

TO 0900 SATURDAY, 27th July.

GENERAL.

Admiralty OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION. "corvette" will be launched on 1st August and named "BATHURST".

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"PERTH" Departed Adelaide 0930K yesterday and will berth Princes Pier 1600K today.

"MANOORA" will be at 48 hours notice during refit. Docks at Cockatoo Monday, 5th August.

R.A.F.A. "KURUMBA", on passage to Sydney passed Otway yesterday afternoon. On completion of refit and having been degaussed, she will be sailed so as to arrive Fremantle Sunday, 28th August.

"WONGALA" on passage to Fremantle was reported off Wilson's Promontory early this morning.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

The forces operating under C. in C. Mediterranean and S.C. Force "H" have been re-organized. The new aircraft carrier "ILLUSTRIOUS" (23,000 tons) is included in C. in C's force and "HOOD" has apparently been withdrawn from Mediterranean and replaced in Force "H" by "RENOWN".

H.M.S. "ACHILLES" departed Suva yesterday for Nukualofa in the Tonga group of islands.

AUXILIARY VESSELS.

"MANUNDA" will be completed for service as a hospital ship on Wednesday, 31st July. Advice is anticipated from the Army as to the destination of this vessel.

"GOONAMBLE" } commissioning has been deferred from today until
"DURRAWEEEN" } Tuesday next, 30th July.

"ALFIE GAM" commissioned at Sydney on 22nd July for service as an Auxiliary M/S vessel will commence working up at Broken Bay today.

"GOORANGAI" completed refit at Melbourne on Thursday last and "VERYL II" was taken in hand yesterday.

TRANSPORTS.

"ORUNGAL" Departed Rabaul July 25th for Salamaua arriving tomorrow morning whence she will sail for Brisbane arriving Friday, August 2nd.

A.I.F. FREIGHTSHIP.

"STRATHALLAN'S" programme has been delayed by three days. She will now leave Fremantle, escorted by H.M.A.S. "MANOORA", on Tuesday, 20th August for Singapore and Bombay arriving 2nd September.

EVACUEES.

"ZEALANDIA" was expected to leave Bowen P.M. yesterday arriving Manila 5th August.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

2.

To 0200 FRIDAY 26th JULY, 1949.

GENERAL.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

Admiralty has been informed that the first "corvette" will be launched on 1st August and named "BATHURST".

H.M.A.S. "SWAN" arrived Sydney 0700 yesterday Thursday.

H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" will depart Sydney p.m. Saturday 10th August to escort A.I.F. Freight Ship "STRATHALLAN".

H.M.A.S. "PERTH" expects to arrive Port Phillip at 1300 tomorrow Saturday, and berth Port Melbourne at 1600.

H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" arrived Sydney at 1730 yesterday Thursday.

H.M.A.S. "SWAN" It is R.A.C.A.S.'s intention to inspect this vessel on Tuesday 28th July, if opportunity offers.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "DORSETSHIRE" has intercepted the Portuguese ship "COLONIAL" which sailed from Pernambuco on 22nd July, and removed Tranquillo Bianchi the Italian Consul at Bella Horizonte 20° 1' S. 44° 17' W. (Brazil - approx. N.W. from Rio de Janeiro).

GENERAL.

To mitigate the hardships caused to personnel serving abroad, brought about by the discontinuance of the Air Mail services, a scheme which provides for the forwarding of personal telegrams to officers and men of H.M. Ships abroad has been introduced and will come into operation in the U.K. on the 28th July.

H.C.S.

French Ship "COMMISSAIRE RENAI" has been requisitioned at Sava and sailed yesterday for Sydney via Vila, under an Armed Guard from H.M.S. "ACHILLES".

British Ship "RAIFON" due Sava, 30th July, en route to Papete is to be detained until a guarantee is obtained that the ship will be released after the discharge of her cargo.

Ex-Italian Ship "REMO" arrived Sydney at 1700 yesterday Thursday.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 FRIDAY 26th JULY, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A.S. "SWAN" arrived Sydney 0700 yesterday Thursday.

H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" will depart Sydney p.m. Saturday 10th August to escort A.I.F. Freight Ship "STRATHALLAN".

H.M.A.S. "PERTH" expects to arrive Port Phillip at 1300 tomorrow Saturday, and berth Port Melbourne at 1600.

H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" arrived Sydney at 1730 yesterday Thursday.

H.M.A.S. "DOOMBA" It is R.A.C.A.S.'s intention to inspect this vessel on Tuesday 30th July, if opportunity offers.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "DORSETSHIRE" has intercepted the Portuguese ship "COLONIAL" which sailed from Pernambuco on 22nd July, and removed Tranquillo Bianchi the Italian Consul at Bella Horizonte 20° 1' S. 44° 17' W. (Brazil - approx. N.N.W. from Rio de Janeiro).

GENERAL.

To mitigate the hardships caused to personnel serving abroad, brought about by the discontinuance of the Air Mail services, a scheme which provides for the forwarding of personal telegrams to officers and men of H.M. Ships abroad has been introduced and will come into operation in the U.K. on the 29th July.

N.C.S.

French Ship "COMMISSAIRE RAMAL" has been requisitioned at Suva and sailed yesterday for Sydney via Vila, under an Armed Guard from H.M.S. "ACHILLES".

British Ship "WAIRUNA" due Suva, 30th July, en route to Papeete is to be detained until a guarantee is obtained that the ship will be released after the discharge of her cargo.

Ex-Italian Ship "REMO" arrived Sydney at 1700 yesterday Thursday.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 THURSDAY 25th JULY, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"SWAN" passed Gabo Island 1116K yesterday en route Sydney.

"PERTH" arrived Port Adelaide 0930K yesterday and leaves for Port Melbourne tomorrow.

"ADELAIDE" arrived Fremantle yesterday, and left again at 1533K escorting A.I.F. Freight Ship "ORONTES".

"ORARA" departed Sydney yesterday for Port Phillip, E.T.A. 0530 Saturday, 27th July.

"DOOMBA" is carrying out a searching sweep today off Point Lonsdale, and returns to Melbourne on completion.

OPERATIONS ABROAD.

H.M.A.S. "HOBART" in the Red Sea, 21st July, was unsuccessfully attacked by aircraft.

H.M.S. "DIOMEDE" is investigating a report that part of the crew of "KING JOHN" recently sunk by a raider off the West Indies, have landed at Sombrero Island.

A patrol consisting of H.M. Ships "DORSETSHIRE" and "DELHI" has been established in the vicinity of the Portuguese Cape Verde Islands, with the object of preventing any enemy attempt to land a force from Europe or North Africa, and provide some protection for British Merchant Vessels bunkering at St. Vincent.

H.M.S. "MILFORD" is attempting to intercept the Portuguese Vessel "COLONIAL" from Pernambuco to Lisbon with the Italian Consul at Bella Horizonte on board.

A.I.F. FREIGHT SHIPS.

"ORONTES" arrived and left Fremantle yesterday for Singapore, E.T.A. a.m. 30th July.

TRANSPORTS.

"ORUNGAL" arrived Rabaul yesterday. Shifting to No. 2 wharf for water is delayed awaiting abatement of strong S.E. winds.

CONVOY U.S.4.

It is probable that Convoy U.S.4 will leave Sydney on Friday 23rd August, for India, and H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" will form the Indian Ocean Escort.

GENERAL.

H.M.A.S. "KOALA" has developed boiler defects. Local facilities being inadequate to effect permanent repairs, N.O.I.C. Darwin requests consideration be given to despatch of necessary labour and equipment from South.

Captain P. Thomas, R.N., N.O.I.C. Port Darwin, intends to leave on Sunday, 28th July, by air, and visit Navy Office on Monday.

The following R.N. appointments have been announced -

Admiral of the Fleet, Sir R. Keyes, to be Director of Combined Operations.

The Earl of Cork and Orrey, to be F.O. Commanding Shetland Islands.

Vice Admiral Binney, to be F.O. Commanding Orkneys.

Vice Admiral Tovey, to be V.A. Commanding Light Forces, and 2nd in command of the Mediterranean Fleet.

Rear Admiral Renouf, to be F.O.C. 7th Cruiser Squadron.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

TO 0900 WEDNESDAY, 24th JULY.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"MANOORA" will carry out full calibre firing off Sydney before entering harbour tomorrow Thursday afternoon.

"DOOMBA" } departed Port Melbourne yesterday morning for gunnery school
firings in Port Phillip. On completion, "SWAN" proceeded
"SWAN" } to Sydney for long refit and "DOOMBA" returned to Port
Melbourne.

"MORESBY" N.O.C.S. has submitted a programme for A/S training cruise commencing Tuesday, 30th July.

"WONGALA" departed Sydney yesterday for Adelaide, arriving a.m. Tuesday, 30th July, for service as examination vessel.

"WARREGO"- Preliminary trials carried out yesterday were reported satisfactory with the exception of slight vibration in starboard turbine.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "ACHILLES" wearing broad pennant of C.C.N.Z.S. arrived Suva yesterday.

H.M.S. "BEAGLE" has sustained slight damage from air attacks off Dover and Portland on successive days.

AUXILIARY VESSELS.

The trawlers "DURRAWEE" and "GOONAMBEE" requisitioned at Sydney 27th and 28th June, respectively, are to be commissioned for service as auxiliary M/S vessels on Saturday next, 27th July.

HONG KONG EVACUEES.

"EMPRESS OF JAPAN" is expected to sail from Hong Kong, 6th August, for Sydney direct, thence to New Zealand to embark troops for convoy "U.S.4". In addition to evacuees, it is proposed this vessel should embark about 2000 tons of baggage for storage at Sydney pending shipment to final destination.

"AWATEA" on passage from New Zealand to Manila expects to arrive Cape Moreton, 1500K tomorrow, to pick up Torres Strait pilot.

"ZEALANDIA" was expected to leave Bowen yesterday for Manila, but may be delayed pending settlement of a demand made by the crew for extra pay.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 TUESDAY 23rd JULY, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A.S. "SWAN" - E.T.A. Sydney 0530 Thursday 25th.

Auxiliary M/S Vessel "ALFIE CAM" commissioned at Sydney 0800 yesterday, Monday.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "BRAZEN" (Lieutenant-Commander Sir Michael Culme-Seymour) was hit during bombing of convoy near Dover, and later sank.

The Italian Cruiser "GIOVANNI DELLE BANDE NERE" which escaped from H.M.A.S. "SYDNEY" and was thought to be making for Tobruk, was not seen when aircraft attacked on the night of 19th/20th July.

EVACUEES.

"ZEALANDIA" should complete with stores at Bowen and sail a.m. today, Tuesday, for Manila.

TRANSPORTS.

"STRATHMORE" departed Freetown a.m. Sunday 21st for U.K.

The Commodore-in-Charge, Hong Kong, suggests to D.S.T. that the inspection of the four Dutch ships, "JOHAN de VITT", "CHRISTIAAN HUYGENS", "SLAMAT" and "INDRAPOERA" is carried out in Australia as the U.S. Authorities will not permit officers to land there.

EXAMINATION SERVICE.

"FALIE" arrived Sydney 1515 yesterday, Monday, and will be fitted out for duty at that port.

GENERAL.

The French liner "ILE de FRANCE" has been requisitioned at Singapore.

To 0900 Monday 22nd July, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" expects to arrive Sydney p.m. Thursday 25th July, and proposes granting leave until 12th August.

R.A. 'A. "REMO" entered Port Phillip Heads at 0636 this morning.

H.M.A.S. "SWAN" is to arrive Sydney, Thursday 25th July, and is to be taken in hand for long refit on Monday 29th July.

OPERATIONS ABROAD.

H.M.S. "ACHILLES" departed Auckland 0110K yesterday for Suva.

H.M.S. "HECTOR" arrived Colombo Saturday 20th July, from Fremantle.

H.M. Ships "ILLUSTRIOUS" and "FIJI" are returning to the Clyde presumably after working up.

TRANSPORTS.

Dutch sister ships "NIEUW ZEALAND" and "NIEUW HOLLAND" 11,060 tons 15 knots, due Sydney today and 5th August, respectively, are to be inspected regarding suitability for conversion to Troop Transports. Dutch ships "SLAMAT" 11,636 tons 17 knots, "INDRAPOERA" 10,825 tons 17 knots, "CHRISTIAAN HUYGENS" 16,287 tons 17 knots, and "JOHAN de WITT" 10,474 tons 16 knots, at present requisitioned to bring evacuees from Manila to Australia are also likely to be required as Troop Transports and will be inspected at Manila.

EVACUEES.

New Zealand S.S. "AWATEA" 13,482 tons 22 knots, is added to the list of vessels to be used for the purpose of bringing the Hong Kong evacuees from Manila to Australia.

H.M.A.S. "SYDNEY" ACTION.

A brief account of the action between H.M.A.S. "SYDNEY" accompanied by Destroyers "HAVOCK", "HASTY", "HERO" and "ILEX" and the Italian cruisers "BARTHOLOMEO COLLIONI" and "ALBERICO da BARBIANO" was furnished by C. in C. Mediterranean as follows :-

"SYDNEY" scored tactical hit in machinery of "BARTHOLOMEO COLLIONI" who soon stopped and was 'finished off' by torpedoes from the Destroyers scoring 2 hits. "SYDNEY" chased "ALBERICO da BARBIANO" for 1½ hours exhausting all her ammunition and scoring some hits which however were not sufficiently effective to prevent an escape. 545 survivors of "BARTHOLOMEO COLLIONI" were rescued by the Destroyers which were bombed returning to Alexandria, "HAVOCK" being holed by near miss in No. 2 boiler room but maintained 20 knots. In recognition of this successful action, Captain John A. Collins, R.A.N., Commanding H.M.A.S. "SYDNEY" has been appointed a Companion of the most honourable Order of the Bath.

RAIDERS.

A D/F fix from Penang and Awarua at 0042Z 20th July, placed a German mobile unit in a position about 660 miles south of Colombo and 240 miles west of the Fremantle-Colombo track.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

MOST SECRET.

To 0900 Sunday, 21st July.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. Ships.

"PERTH" escorting freight ship "ORONTES" arrived Adelaide yesterday morning and both ships sailed at 1516K in continuation of programmes.

"MANOORA" on passage to Sydney passed Thursday Island yesterday afternoon.

"ORARA" will commence a series of trials to-morrow and sail for Melbourne at noon Wednesday, 24th July.

"SWAN" is to commence refit at Sydney Monday, 29th July.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "NELSON" and 4 Destroyers have been withdrawn from Force "H" operating in Mediterranean.

H.M.A.S. "SYDNEY" there were no casualties in British Ships engaged in the action off Crete.

H.M.S. "KANIMBLA". will rendezvous with freight ship "ORONTES" and take over escort from H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE" at 1500K Friday, 26th July.

ENEMY RAIDERS.

"CITY OF BAGHDAD", an Ellerman Ship of about 7,500 tons is believed to have been shelled by a raider or "U" boat near the Equator in Indian Ocean on 11th July.

A message has been broadcast to all British Merchant Vessels warning them disguised raiders are probably operating in Atlantic and Indian Oceans.

EVACUEES.

British Ship "EMPRESS OF JAPAN" will arrive Manilla about 8th August from Hong Kong to assist with the evacuation to Australia and will then proceed Wellington, arriving about 28th August to embark troops for Convoy "U.S.4".

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 SATURDAY 20th JULY. 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

R.F.A. "KURUMBA" departed Fremantle 1400 yesterday Friday, and expects to arrive Sydney, Monday 29th July.

H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE" departed Fremantle at 0615 today Saturday for patrol.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

H.M.A.S. "SYDNEY" SUNK THE ITALIAN CRUISER "BARTHOLOMEO COLLEONI" IN AN ACTION N.W. OF CRETE A.M. YESTERDAY FRIDAY.

H.M.S. "ACHILLES" departed Wellington a.m. Thursday, 18th July, for Auckland.

H.M.S. "IMOGEN" has probably sunk as a result of a collision with H.M.S. "GLASGOW" on Tuesday, 16th July.

An Armed German ship about 9000 tons is reported to have sunk the British Ships "KING JOHN" (5288 tons built 1928) and "DAVISIAN" (6433 tons built 1923) in positions 20° N. 60° W. and 18° N. 54° 30' W. respectively, about the 13th July.

H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" left Simonstown yesterday to patrol the southern half of the Cape/Freetown trade route, with the object of providing protection against an attack by enemy raider.

TRANSPORTS.

"ZEALANDIA" - Commodore-in-Charge, Hong Kong, confirms that this ship is required to proceed to Manila to embark evacuees.

GENERAL.

A /S and M/S Vessels under construction for the Admiralty will be classified Minesweepers, which term covers auxiliary minesweepers built as such.

Trawler Type fitted for minesweeping proper are described as Trawlers M/S.

Corvettes only applies to vessels of Flower Class, whale catcher type, Guilemot Class, H.M.S. King Fisher Class, and H.M.S. P.C.74.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 FRIDAY 19th JULY, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A.S. "PERTH" - Escorting "ORONTES" departed Port Melbourne at 1700K yesterday for Adelaide E.T.A. 0700K Saturday, 20th July. She will not berth alongside, but carry out exercises in St. Vincent Gulf or anchor at Glenelg. On completion of escort duties "PERTH" returns to Adelaide on Wednesday, 24th July, and departs Friday, 26th, arriving Port Phillip Saturday 27th, leaving again on Monday, 29th, and arriving at Sydney on Wednesday 31st July.

R.A.F.A. "KURUMBA" - Is shortly to sail from Fremantle for Sydney where docking and refit will take place.

OPERATIONS ABROAD.

H.M.S. "IMOGEN" (Commander C.L. Firth) and H.M.S. "GLASGOW" (Commodore F.H. Pegram) collided in the North Sea in fog 16th July. The fate of "IMOGEN" and part of the crew is uncertain, although 10 officers and 125 men have been rescued from her by "GLASGOW".

TRANSPORTS.

"ORUNGAL" - Left Darwin 17th July for Rabaul expecting to arrive 23rd July.

EVACUEES.

"ZEALANDIA" - Now completing with fuel and stores at Bowen and Townsville has been offered to C. in C. Hong Kong, for the purpose of transporting evacuees from Manila to Australia in conjunction with the 4 Dutch ships already arranged.

The first 3 ships leaving Manila with evacuees from Hong Kong on board will call at Cairns to embark a liaison officer and then proceed to Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne. The 4th will make Fremantle the first port of call and Adelaide following.

INTELLIGENCE.

From a French source graded B.3. it is reported that 6 submarines recently completed at Vladivostock of which 4 are manned by Germans, will shortly cruise to the Mariana and Caroline Islands (Japanese).

CORVETTES.

The Naval Board have requested Admiralty approval for the following names to be given the ten Corvettes now building in Australia :-

"BATHURST", "LISMORE", "COULBURN", "BALLARAT", "BENDIGO",
"CAIRNS", "TOOWOOMBA", "KALGOORLIE", "BURNIE", "GLENELG".

GENERAL.

H.M.A.S. "BERMAGUI" sustained a broken hawse pipe in collision with a wharf at Newcastle and is unfitted for sea.

0900 THURSDAY, 18th JULY.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"MANOORA" has been instructed to proceed Sydney. On arrival - situation permitting - she will undergo 14 day refit and give long leave.

"ORARA" on completion of refit about 23rd July will sail for Melbourne.

AUXILIARY VESSELS.

Spencers Gulf Transport Company Vessel "PALIE" (213 tons) requisitioned at Adelaide was despatched yesterday for Sydney where she will be fitted out for examination vessel, replacing the present vessel, namely "Captain Cook II".

"ALFIE CAM" is to be commissioned at Sydney on Monday, 22nd July, for service as an auxiliary M/S vessel.

EVACUEES.

Troopship.

"ZEALANDIA" is proceeding Townsville to await orders. Subject to Commonwealth Government approval, she will be despatched to Manila to embark some of the evacuees.

Commodore, Hong Kong, has informed Australia and New Zealand Naval Boards that shipping is required to lift about 1300 evacuees at Manila in addition to 1674 coming to Australia in 4 Dutch vessels. Apparently New Zealand wish to avoid the commitment as they have asked if we can provide the requisite shipping.

GENERAL.

British crews from Portsmouth are to man the French Cruiser "LEOPARD" (2126 tons completed in 1927 armed with 5-5.1" guns), also three French escort and 6 Despatch vessels and 9 submarine chasers.

All French merchant vessels in U.K. ports are to be requisitioned and placed under British Flag for the duration of the war. Their crews may elect to serve under British conditions or be repatriated to France.

Since some of the officers and the majority of the crew of Danish Vessel "WESTRALIA" now at Sydney have declined to sign on unless the vessel is kept clear of war zone, it has been decided by Department of Commerce to employ her as a collier between Newcastle and Melbourne for approximately a fortnight. Present crew is willing to sign on for this period, meanwhile efforts will be made to secure a fresh complement of officers and men.

Commander Wheatley, R.A.N., is to command H.M.A.S. "WARREGO" due to commission 29th July.

To 0000 Wednesday 17th July, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A.S. "PERTH" arrived Port Melbourne at 0730 today, Wednesday.

H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" departed Darwin at 1030 yesterday, Tuesday, for patrol and exercise.

H.M.A.S. "WARREGO" completed Basin Trial satisfactorily yesterday, Tuesday.

H.M.A. Ships "DOOMBA" and "SWAN" entered Port Phillip at 0338 today Wednesday, and berthed at Port Melbourne and Williamstown, respectively, at 0730.

Auxiliary M/S Vessel "ALFIE CAM". - The proposed commissioning date is Monday, 22nd July.

Auxiliary M/S Vessel "ORARA". - Refit and trials will not be completed before Tuesday, 23rd July, as on examination in dock further defects have been found.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "ESPERANCE BAY" arrived Devonport on the 15th July after having been damaged by bombs.

H.M.S. "HAWKINS" since last self refit in March, 1940, has steamed 31,000 miles and been under weigh 187 days out of the last 200 days.

H.M.A.S. "WESTRALIA" arrived Bombay p.m. Monday, 15th July.

Troopships.

"ZEALANDIA" departed Thursday Island at 0855 yesterday, Tuesday, and has sufficient coal for the passage to Newcastle.

"ORONTES" arrived Port Melbourne at 0745 today, Wednesday.

GENERAL.

French Warships formally commissioned as H.M. Ships will be described as F.S. " ".

Lieutenant-Commander St. Aubyn who is proceeding from New Zealand to Singapore to take up the appointment as S.O.(I) will arrive Sydney in "MAUNGANUI" on Tuesday, 23rd July, and will proceed to Melbourne for the purpose of visiting Navy Office.

EVACUEES.

Four Dutch ships have been provided for the evacuation of 1674 persons from Manila, who had previously been evacuated from Hong Kong. The Commodore-in-Charge, Hong Kong, requests the Commonwealth Government's decision regarding the destination of these ships.

To 0900 TUESDAY, 16th JULY, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A.S. "PERTH". - Departed Sydney wearing flag of F.O.C.A.S. at 1000K yesterday for firings and to escort A.I.F. Freight Ship "ORONTES" to Melbourne. Her estimated time of berthing is 0700 tomorrow at Port Melbourne.

R.A.F.A. "REMO" - Departed Fremantle yesterday and expects to arrive Melbourne on Monday, 22nd July.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" - Returned to Simonstown yesterday after escorting A.I.F. Freight Ship "STRATHMORE".

H.M.A.S. "KANIMBLA" - Left Singapore yesterday for Penang.

H.M.S. "HECTOR" - Arrived Cocos Island 14th July en route Colombo.

A.I.F. FREIGHT SHIPS.

"ORONTES" - Left Sydney yesterday for Melbourne E.T.A. 0430K tomorrow 17th.

"STRATHALLAN" - is intended to leave Fremantle about 17th August for Singapore, Bombay and U.K. with Service personnel.

OVERDUE NORWEGIAN VESSEL.

Norwegian "TIRANNA" which was defensively equipped in Australia and carried a cargo mostly consisting of A.I.F. stores for the Middle East, was due at Mombasa 16th June. Wireless calls have not been answered and the Admiralty now state that there is no information concerning her.

INTERNEES.

"DUNERA" sailed from Liverpool 11th July with 2639 German and Italian internees and a guard of 7 officers and 309 other ranks on Board. Her expected date of arrival at Fremantle is 19th August, and Sydney 27th August.

SABOTAGE.

S.S. "MAHANA" (Shaw Saville Line) loading in Australian ports for U.K., reports that the magazine door was forced at Townsville, 1 rifle and 200 rounds of ammunition being stolen. Searches were made on board by police and Customs at Townsville and Gladstone with negative results.

RAIDER.

The Admiralty considers that a disguised German raider was possibly operating off the West Coast of Ireland about 11th July.

FRENCH ITEMS.

French personnel under Admiral Muselier will shortly be organised and man certain French ships now in British ports. Special facilities to acquire British nationality will be afforded to volunteers.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 MONDAY, 15th JULY.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"PERTH" escorting A.I.F. Freight Ship "ORONTES" is expected to sail from Sydney this afternoon and will berth Port Melbourne about 0700K Wednesday, 17th July.

"DOOMBA" } proceeded into Waterloo Bay yesterday afternoon and
"SWAN" } will resume sweeping operations off Wilson's Promontory
this morning.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.A.S. "VAMPIRE" reports the death on July 11th of her Gunner (T), Mr. John H. Endicott, R.N., from wounds received in action.

GENERAL.

4 Dutch vessels in Java are available to transport 2000 evacuees from Manila to Australia. It is probable Australia and New Zealand will be asked to provide shipping to transport the balance of up to 1500 women and children.

U.S.S. "MONTEREY", with the American Minister Designate to Australia embarked, has left Auckland and is due Sydney daylight Wednesday, 17th July.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

00 SUNDAY 14th JULY, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" is to remain in Darwin vicinity for the present, exercising with the local Defences if desired by N.O.I.C.

H.M.A.S. "YARRA" - Magazine and Fire Control Equipment Tests will be carried out on the 26th and 27th July.
The programme proposed by C.S.T. provides for two weeks working up practice in Port Phillip, commencing Wednesday, 31st July.

H.M.A.S. "WARREGO" - The following trials have been arranged in connection with the Gunnery Equipment :-

Magazines, Hoists and Mountings	19th July
Fire Control	23rd and 24th July.
Gun Trials	25th July.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" departed Simonstown a.m. Friday, 12th July, and will return to that port a.m. Monday 15th July, having escorted A.I.F. Freight Ship "STRATHMORE" for the first 36 hours of her passage. This latter ship is expected to arrive Freetown a.m. Thursday, 20th July.

H.M.S. "ESCORT" (Lieutenant-Commander J. Bostock) was torpedoed and subsequently sank in the Western Mediterranean on the 11th July.

Submarine Tender "WARRIOR II" (Captain A.E. Johnston, R.N. Retd) was bombed and sunk south-east of Portland Bell a.m. 11th July.

TRANSPORTS.

"ZEALANDIA" departed Darwin 1430 yesterday Saturday, and expects to arrive Thursday Island 0030 Tuesday, 16th July.

"ORUNGAL" The following are the particulars of persons to be embarked:-

At Rabaul	90 Recruits	34 Internees
" Salamaua	-	42 "
	<u>90</u>	<u>76</u>

Total 166

The recruits will disembark at Brisbane with the exception of 17 required for Guard Duties.

EX-ITALIAN SHIP

"REMO" was released by the Prize Court on Friday, 12th July, commissioned as a R.A.F.A. yesterday, Saturday, and will sail for Melbourne tomorrow, Monday.

A.I.F. FREIGHT SHIP

"ORONTES" will depart Sydney at 1600 tomorrow Monday.

N.

In future no neutral vessel in which either the Master, Chief Engineer, Chief Officer or W/T operator is of enemy nationality, is to be sailed in convoy.

HONG KONG EVACUEES.

The Commodore-in-Charge, Hong Kong, has asked if assistance from Australia can be given to convey upward 3000 women and children from Manila to Australia as no suitable shipping is available locally.

T-30 900 SATURDAY 13th JULY, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"YARRA" - N.O.C.S. proposes to dock on Monday 22nd July.

"DOOMBA" & "SWAN" - Anchored in Waterloo Bay last night. They return to Melbourne Tuesday, 16th July, on completion of sweeping in the vicinity of Wilsons Promontory.

"GOORANGAI" - completes refit today and resumes daily searching sweeps in company with "BERYL II" in the approaches to Port Phillip on Monday, 15th July.

"BERYL II" - D.N.O. Victoria proposes should return to Williamstown on Friday, 19th July, and commence refit on Monday, 22nd July.

"WONGALA" - Commissions at Sydney, Monday, 15th July. After completing trials etc. she is to sail for Adelaide, Tuesday, 23rd July, to replace "WARRAWEE" as Examination Vessel.

TRANSPORTS.

"ZEALANDIA" - Is expected to leave Darwin today for Newcastle and Sydney.

GENERAL.

The British Consul at Papeete believes that a Japanese warship is in the vicinity of Tahiti.

1 0900 FRIDAY, 18th JULY.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"DOOMBA") departed Port Melbourne yesterday afternoon for sweeping
"SWAN") operations off Wilson's Promontory.

"YARRA" will sail from Sydney so as to arrive Port Phillip Wednesday, 31st July. Full calibre L/A and H/A firings will be carried during the first week in August.

"MANOORA" having embarked fuel and water at Darwin and made good minor defects will be ready for sea p.m. Sunday next, 14th July.

H.M.A.S. "PARRAMATTA" arrived Colombo 1730K Wednesday, 10th July.
H.M.S. "FOXGLOVE" has been towed to Portsmouth after being bombed and severely damaged on 9th July.

20th Cruiser Squadron, which includes H.M.A.S. "SYDNEY", was heavily bombed between Crete and Cyrenicia on 8th July. H.M.S. "GLOUCESTER" sustained severe casualties and her Captain (probably Captain F. Garside) was killed.

H.M.S. "WARSPITE" in the engagement between British and Italian forces on Tuesday obtained 1 hit on a battleship at extreme range.

TRANSPORTS AND ESCORTS.

"STRATHMORE" escorted by H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" arrived Capetown yesterday.

"ORUNGAL" escorted by H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" arrived Darwin yesterday.
"ORUNGAL", having discharged Military personnel and stores, will fuel and water to capacity and then proceed to Rabaul and Salamaua calling Saturday, 20th July, and Monday, 22nd July, respectively, to embark passengers for passage to Brisbane and/or Sydney, as follows :-

From Rabaul 34 alien internees and 86 Army recruits including guards. From Salamaua 42 internees.

"ZEALANDIA" will return to Sydney after disembarking troops at Darwin.

GENERAL.

Flying boat "AWARUA" arrived Auckland safely at 1230K yesterday whereupon "WAIRUNA" and "PORT TAIRANGA" were instructed by Naval Board to resume their voyages.

Lightkeeper Cape Borda yesterday afternoon reported a submarine periscope distant 3 miles. This is considered most improbable.

From an Admiralty intercept, it appears that French officers and men who are unwilling to serve in their own ships are to be allowed to join the Royal Navy for hostilities only and will be liable for general service under Naval Discipline Act.

"Gibraltarians" at Casablanca on the Atlantic coast of Morocco are to be evacuated to U.K.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

10900 THURSDAY 11th JULY, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE" proceeds from Fremantle to patrol the approaches thereto, p.m. today Thursday.

H.M.S. "HECTOR" en route from Fremantle expects to arrive Colombo a.m. Sunday 21 st July.

TRANSPORTS AND ESCORT.

"ZEALANDIA" arrived Darwin 1015 yesterday Wednesday.

"ORUNGAL" escorted by H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" expects to arrive Darwin 2100K today, Thursday.

DUTCH EAST INDIES.

The Dutch Authorities in London report that minefields have been partly laid at TARAKAN (Dutch Borneo) BALIK PAPAN (Dutch Borneo) and SOVRABAYA (Java) the Western Entrance.

GENERAL.

In certain destroyers, No. 3 mounting for the 4.7 is to be removed, each side of the platform extended to the ship's side and 2-2 pdr. Pom-Poms mounted thereon. H.M.A.S. "STUART" is in this category.

Trans-Tasman Flying Boat "AWARUA" on way to New Zealand reports losing height in position (35° 25' S. 161° 10' E. and asks that merchant ships listen on 600 meters for further signals. Two ships "WAIRUNA" (knots) and "PORT TAIRANGA" (10 knots) should be in the vicinity of this position and have been ordered to keep W/T lookout and break wireless silence if necessary. Later information is that a speed of 150 knots and a height of 5000 feet had been gained and "AWARUA" was proceeding to New Zealand.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Wednesday, 10th July, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A.S. "BERYL II" sailed from Williamstown at 0800K today to resume sweeping in the vicinity of the entrance to Port Phillip.

H.M.S. "HECTOR" departed Fremantle yesterday afternoon for Colombo.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

H.M. Submarine "SHARK" is overdue (Lieutenant P.M. Buckley)

H.M. Submarine (Lieut.Cdr. H.D. Dymott)
"OLYMPUS" whilst in dock at Malta suffered a direct hit during a bombing attack 7th July. Repairs estimated will take 4 months.

FRENCH A.M.C. "CARAIBE" has been demilitarised at Mombassa and the crew landed.

TROOP AND A.I.F. FREIGHT SHIPS.

"ORUNGAL" escorted by H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" left Thursday Island yesterday. E.T.A. Darwin 2100K tomorrow 11th July.

"ORONTES" is delayed by cargo requirements and is expected now to leave Sydney p.m. Monday, 15th July for Singapore and Bombay via Fremantle.

FRENCH COLONIAL SHIPPING.

The Naval Board has informed Admiralty that British, Allied and French ships regularly engaged in island trade are being allowed to proceed to French Pacific Colonial Ports.

C. in C. China informs Admiralty he has allowed French Coastal Shipping to resume normal trade on China Station and British shipping detained in Indo China has in consequence been released.

GENERAL.

Lieut.-Cdr. Gatacre R.A.N. has been appointed to "RODNEY" additional, 8th July and on transfer of Flag.

The Dutch Naval Authorities at London report that the laying of minefields in N.E.I. is progressing.

of Cruisers
Light Cruisers
Destroyers
T.A.'s
Submarines
Aircraft Carriers
Naval Airships

811
100

Submarines operational for 5.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Tuesday, 9th July, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS

"SWAN" has proposed to P.O.C.A.S. that on completion of sweeping operations off Wilsons Promontory on Tuesday, 16th July she should proceed to Sydney to have Clarkson boiler replaced. About 24 hours would be required for fitting.

"BERYL II" returned to Williamstown yesterday. Her boiler and auxiliary machinery will be inspected today with a view to effecting necessary repairs at an early date.

"HEROS") are being considered for towing one section of
"St. GILES") floating dock from Newcastle to Darwin.

TROOP SHIPS.

"ORUNCAL" arrived Thursday Island yesterday from Port Moresby whence she will be escorted to Darwin by H.M.A.S. "MANOORA".

"ZEALANDIA" escorted by H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" should have arrived Darwin 1500K yesterday.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

A "Most Immediate" message originated by C. in C. South Atlantic late last night warns our forces operating off Dakar, which include H.M.A.S. "AUSTRALIA", that French submarines have been ordered to attack British ships wherever they may be encountered.

Force "H" left Gibraltar yesterday for the Eastern Mediterranean.

STATE OF FRENCH NAVY, 6th JULY, 1940.

<u>CLASS.</u>	<u>IMMOBILIZED</u> (Including Alexandria & Malta)	<u>AT LARGE</u>
Battleships	3	3 (1 damaged and 2 partially complete.)
8" Cruisers	3	4
6" Cruisers	1	9
Light Cruisers	3	24
Destroyers	5	18
T.B.'s.	6	6
Submarines	9	61
Aircraft Carriers	Nil	2
Miscellaneous	193	32

Submarines unaccounted for 8.

GENERAL.

Norwegian ship "ACADIA" arrived Fremantle yesterday and after embarking armed guard of 1 Lieutenant and 10 men sailed for Colombo.

British and Allied ships are now permitted to leave Australia for French Pacific Islands.

Italian Consular Staff from Australia and New Zealand left Brisbane in "KAMO MARU" on 6th July for Yokohama.

An aircraft pool of 16 planes is to be established at Trincomalee for Fleet Air Arm requirements.

Commander C.H. Brooks, R.A.N. has been appointed in command of French Destroyer "MISTRAL" (1300 tons, completed 1926) to date 6th July.

French submarines submerged or unescorted on the surface are to be treated as hostile.

H.M.S. "WHIRLWIND" (Lieut.-Commander J.M. Rodgers) has been sunk by torpedo.

The French force at Dakar is composed of "MISTRAL", 3 Light Cruisers, H.M.C.'s (which are not to be attached) and possibly submarines.

INFORMATION AND ESCORT.

"MISTRAL" escorted by H.M.A.S. "MASCOT" passed Thursday Island at 1400 yesterday.

"MASCOT" departed Port Moresby yesterday and expects to arrive Thursday Island today where she will remain until H.M.A.S. "MASCOT" returns tomorrow to escort her to Darwin.

REGISTRATION SERVICE.

"MASCOT" will dock at Sydney N.S.W. tomorrow Tuesday and Commission on Monday, 15th as Registration Vessel for Australia.

RECENT SHIPPING.

"MASCOT" in accordance with her R.T.A. made by R.T. should have arrived Fremantle a.m. yesterday, but has not yet shown up. An air search yesterday located a vessel in the vicinity of the Lesueur which may possibly be "MASCOT" and if so should arrive Fremantle about 1100 today.

MOST SECRET.

To

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Monday, 8th July, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE" arrived Fremantle 1244 yesterday, Sunday, from patrol.

H.M.S. "HECTOR" arrived Fremantle 0213 yesterday, Sunday.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

The Commanding Officer, H.M.S. "HERMES" (Captain F.E.P. Hutton, R.N.) has been selected to take charge of operations against French ships at Dakar and has been appointed Acting Rear Admiral until further orders.

The force under his orders comprises "DORSETSHIRE" "AUSTRALIA" and "MILFORD".

The French Force at Dakar is composed of "RICHELIEU", 2 Light Cruisers, A.M.C.'s (which are not to be attached) and possibly submarines.

TRANSPORT AND ESCORT.

"ZEALANDIA" escorted by H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" passed Thursday Island at 1400 yesterday.

"ORUNGAL" departed Port Moresby yesterday and expects to arrive Thursday Island today where she will remain until H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" returns tomorrow to escort her to Darwin.

EXAMINATION SERVICE.

"WONGALA" will dock at Sydney p.m. tomorrow Tuesday and Commission on Monday, 15th as Examination Vessel for Adelaide.

NORWEGIAN SHIPPING.

"ACADIA" in accordance with her E.T.A. made by W/T should have arrived Fremantle a.m. yesterday, but has not yet shown up. An air search yesterday located a vessel in the vicinity of the Leeuwin which may possibly be "ACADIA" and if so should arrive Fremantle about 1200 today.

SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To O. O. SUNDAY, 7th JULY, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION

H.M.A. SHIPS

"DOOMBA" and "SWAN" will carry out searching sweeps off Wilsons Promontory commencing Thursday 11th July and returning to Melbourne Tuesday 16th July.

"BERYL II" tomorrow commences sweeping in the vicinity of the entrance to Port Phillip and returns to Williamstown on completion Friday 12th July.

"GOORANGAI" was docked in Hobsons Bay Dock yesterday morning.

H.M.S. "HECTOR" is expected to arrive Fremantle today.

TROOP SHIPS AND ESCORT

"ZEALANDIA", escorted by H.M.A.S. "MANGORA" passed Archer Point at 0805K yesterday en route Darwin, E.T.A. Torres Strait 1600K today.

"ORUNGAL" Arrived Port Moresby 0845K yesterday.

GENERAL

Admiralty states D.G. coils will give satisfactory compensation when fitted inside. The hull and equipment is in future to be fitted in this manner except in capital ships.

The New Zealand Naval Board is enquiring as to the possibility of an officer undergoing a course in Australia embracing Minesweeping, counter measures to magnetic mines, paravanes, depth charges etc.

U.S. SHIP "MONTGOMERY". Navy Office Wellington advises is expected to call at Auckland with the American Minister Designate to Australia on board 14th July and arrive Sydney 17th July.

FRENCH ITEMS

The French Admiralty warns that British ships will be attacked without warning inside of 20 miles of the coast of France or French Colonial possessions where French submarines may be operating. The British Consul at Papeete reports that the French sloop "DUMONT D'URVILLE" sailed yesterday for outlying islands and he has received official assurance that she will not leave territorial waters of French Oceania without informing him. The Chief of the Naval Staff of New Zealand is giving an assurance that no action will be taken against her while the situation remains as at present.

French and British ships at Alexandria opened fire on raiding Italian aircraft 4th July.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Saturday, 6th July, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS

"YARRA" is expected to carry out gun equipment trials 26th July and complete refit at Sydney the following day.

"KOALA" returned to Darwin yesterday having acted as safety ship during flight of No.1 Squadron R.A.A.F. from Darwin to Singapore.

AUXILIARY VESSELS.

N.O.C.S. proposes "BONGALA" should commission at Sydney Monday, 15th July, for service as Examination Vessel at Adelaide.

A.I.F. FREIGHT SHIPS.

"ORONTES" and "STRATHALLAN" with troops embarked will probably leave Sydney for Singapore on 13th July and 24th July respectively, calling at Melbourne and Fremantle.

"PERTH" in each case will escort to 128°E and "ADELAIDE" from 128°E to limits of Australia Station whence C. in C. China has been asked if onward escort will be provided.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.A.S. "WESTRALIA" arrived Colombo yesterday afternoon.

H.M.S. "ACHILLES" arrived Wellington yesterday.

Cane Agullas minefield. Eight mines have been swept up and 3 others observed to explode.

GENERAL.

Of 1292 Germans and Italians onboard "ARANDORA STAR" when torpedoed, 706 perished.

A vessel suspected of being a disguised raider was sighted in a position about 500' N.E. of Auckland on 14th June.

No reply has yet been received from N.Z.N.B. to our enquiry as to whether S.S. "MONTEREY", conveying American Minister designate to Australia, will call at Auckland on present voyage.

An order for the manufacture of 1000 mines in Australia is confirmed by the Admiralty provided the cost is in accordance with arrangements made between Commonwealth Government and Ministry of Supply in the United Kingdom.

Owing to acute shortage of reserves, the two Walrus aircraft cannot be released from Singapore for despatch to Australia.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900, Thursday, 4th July, 1940.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "KANIMBLA" wearing flag of C. in C. China arrived at Singapore 2nd July.

H.M.S. "ACHILLES" left Auckland for Wellington this morning.

FRENCH FLEET.

Action against vessels of the French Fleet is being taken at Oran and Alexandria to ensure that they do not fall into enemy hands intact. According to a recent "Natel" the Oran force consists of 4 battleships, 1 Cruiser, 7 Light Cruisers, 2 Destroyers and 4 submarines. The Alexandria force 1 Battleship, 2 Cruisers and 4 Light Cruisers. Similar action against "JEAN BART" at Casablanca and "RICHELIEU" at Dakar will probably follow.

The support for the Bordeaux Government increases and anti British feeling in North Africa ports is marked.

C. in C. French Naval Forces in the Far East has issued orders stopping hostilities between French Naval Forces and the enemy but declares decision to defend Indo China against all aggression.

DANISH VESSELS.

Discontent has developed amongst the crew of the Danish "Westralia" now proceeding to Sydney from Melbourne. Naval Board approval has been given to place an armed guard on board the Danish "Panama" proceeding to Capetown and U.K. via Fremantle from Sydney owing to the crew being considered unreliable.

GENERAL.

One direct hit and possibly another on a submarine is reported by the British vessels "BARON ERSKIN" and "BARON NEWLANDS" in company during an attack off Algiers 26th June.

It is reported that during an air attack on Hamburg 17th June a German Naval vessel just launched was hit and sunk in harbour.

A report graded C.3 from Wellington N.Z. states that a resident is convinced that an object sighted on the S.E. Coast of the South Island was a submarine which later submerged.

The Trawler "SAMUEL BENBON" owned by Cam & Son Sydney was requisitioned yesterday and will be fitted out as an M/S Vessel.

SUSPICIOUS VESSELS.

N.O.I.C. Newcastle reported this morning that 2 suspicious vessels had been sighted from the Manning River apparently sounding. An investigation is proceeding.

"SCHARNHORST"

The Admiralty reports "SCHARNHORST" in dry dock was attacked by heavy bombers and crews are satisfied their bombs reached target. A large fire was observed at a distance of 80 miles.

TOP SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Wednesday, 3rd July, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS

"SWAN") were reported sweeping off Wilson's Promontory yesterday.
"DOOMBA")

"KOALA" sailed from Darwin yesterday to act as safety ship during flight of No.1 Squadron R.A.A.F. which is expected to leave Darwin, today for Singapore.

AUXILIARY VESSELS.

S.S. "YANDRA" of 990 tons arrived Sydney yesterday from Adelaide to be fitted for service as an Auxiliary A/S vessel.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

The total number of Italian submarines sunk, including 4 destroyed in eastern Mediterranean last week, is eleven. C.in C. East Indies has now confirmed that Italian submarine "MACALLE" of 800 tons completed in 1936 hit a reef and sank and the "PERLA" of the same class was found beached after attack by depth charges. The latter was grounded and is considered to be either a total loss or will be out of action for at least a month. According to our information, 3 Italian submarines remain in the Red Sea.

GENERAL.

Italian ship "REMO" at Fremantle has not yet been released by the Prize Court and will probably not be commissioned as a Fleet Auxiliary before Monday next, 8th July.

Danish vessel "PANAMA" is due to leave Sydney on Friday next for U.K. calling Fremantle and Capetown. Since the reliability of the crew is doubtful, N.O.C.S. proposes that she should be sailed with an armed guard on board.

Norwegian vessel "ACADIA" which left Melbourne for Colombo direct on Sunday, 30th June has been ordered by N.B. to call at Fremantle for revised orders and to report her E.T.A. by W/T. This vessel has a quantity of valuable Naval and Military cargo onboard as had the "TIRANNA" now 17 days overdue at Mombasa. Since uncertainty regarding the loyalty of Norwegian Masters exists, it has been decided to place an armed guard onboard "ACADIA" at Fremantle.

United Ship Services Pty.Ltd. has offered to salve "CERBERUS" at a cost of £250 on the basis of no cure no pay.

Portland was bombed by 5 aircraft on the night of 30th June. Eighteen bombs were dropped but no damage done.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Tuesday, 2nd July, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A.S. "PERTH" arrived Sydney 1121 yesterday, Monday.

H.M.S. "HECTOR" entered Port Phillip at 1100 yesterday Monday, for the purpose of landing a Junior Engineer Officer for discharge to hospital, and departed at 1600 for Fremantle, where she expects to arrive at 1600 Sunday 7th July.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

The Flag of S.O. Red Sea Force was transferred to H.M.S. "LUCIA" on 29th June with an office ashore at Aden.

H.M.S. "ORPHEUS" (Commander C.J. Blake) is now considered lost.

CONVOY AND ESCORT.

H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" with transports "ZEALANDIA" and "ORUNGAL" arrived Moreton Bay p.m. yesterday and departed at 0210 today Tuesday for Townsville where "ZEALANDIA" and "MANOORA" are expected to arrive at 1100, Thursday, 4th July.

GENERAL.

The Norwegian ship "TIRANNA" has been called by Colombo, Mauritius and Mombasa for 48 hours without result.

A draft of 240 proceeds to Bombay on the 13th July in "ORONTES" thence to Port Said and will relieve personnel in the "V" and "W" destroyers, after which the latter will proceed to the U.K. and form part complements of the new destroyers "NERISSA" and "NIZAM", the balance to complete the crews will be drafted direct from Australia at a later date.

ALL OPERATIONS.

The search arranged yesterday to provide cover for the Tranships "ZEALANDIA" and "ORUNGAL" as passage to Brisbane will take place during the day.

ALL OPERATIONS.

The following predictions were made over last night-

SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Monday 1st July, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS

"ADELAIDE" returned to Fremantle last night from patrol.

"PERTH" is due to arrive Sydney 0900K today after completing a full calibre shoot.

"SWAN" and "DOOMBA" anchored last night in Sealers Cove.

H.M.S. "HECTOR" en route Fremantle and East Indies Station passed Wilsons Promontory 0225K today.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

The 7th Cruiser Squadron (includes H.M.A.S. "SYDNEY") on Saturday sank one of three Italian Destroyers (1073 tons) during a long range running action in the Mediterranean.

H.M. Yacht "WHITE BEAR" claims to have sunk a German submarine.

Three more Italian submarines have been sunk by British Destroyers.

The French Submarine "PROTEE" (1384 tons 1930) has joined our forces at Alexandria.

ENEMY MINES.

N.Z.N.B. reports to Admiralty that the mine in Colville channel was cut by S.S. "WAIOTIRA" (12,813 tons Shaw Savill and Albion) on her maiden voyage and that an additional two mines in this channel have been swept up. This brings the total to six mines located in the approaches to Auckland.

OVERDUE NORWEGIAN VESSEL.

Norwegian ship "TIRANNA" which left Melbourne 30th May with Government stores on board was due Mombassa 16th June and has not yet arrived.

AIR OPERATIONS.

The search arranged yesterday to provide cover for the Troopships "ZEALANDIA" and "ORUNGAL" on passage to Brisbane did not take place owing to fog.

R.A.N. PROMOTIONS.

The following promotions were made known last night:-

2.

Commander to Captain -
H.M.L. Waller (H.M.A.S. "STUART" Capt.(D) 10th Destroyer
Flotilla.)

Lieutenant-Commander to Commander -
H.M. Burrell (Director Operations Division Naval Staff.)
J.C. Morrow (Commanding H.M.A.S. "VOYAGER")

Lieutenant-Commander (E) to Commander (E)
E.A. Good (H.M.A.S. "PERTH")

Pay. Lieut.-Commander to Paymaster Commander -
C.H. Blacklock (H.M.A.S. "PENGUIN").

Arrived Fremantle from ... and sailed again for patrol

Departed Fremantle 1900K yesterday for Colombo
(S.V.L. 10th July) for service under ... in G. East Indies.

grounded yesterday and is now adrift near the Depot
A crane is required for salvage, assistance will be sought
from Melbourne Harbour Trust tomorrow.

SHIP TRAFFIC

"MALINDIA" and "MORIAL" escorted by H.M.A.S. "MORONA" cleared
and of except channel Sydney 1800K yesterday having carried out
gun and P.V. trials on the way out. They expect to reach outer
and except channel at Brisbane 1000K tomorrow which will result in
their late arrival.

AIR OPERATIONS

An air search was carried out yesterday to provide cover for
"MORONA" and another search by 3 Dakotas will commence 0930K
today.

Commencing 0930K this morning 4 aircraft from Canberra will carry
out a search to provide cover for transport "MALINDIA" and
"MORIAL" on passage from Sydney to Brisbane.

REMARKS OVER THE

G. in G. South Atlantic was instructed yesterday to maintain a close
watch on Dakar as it is essential French battleship "RICHELIEU" should
be detected and shadowed.
E.L. Submarine "GEM" and "GEMINI" are both overdue. The former
is considered lost and the latter failed to return to harbour on
25th June and has not answered signals since that date.

GENERAL

The practice of painting dipping lashing marks on engined ships is to
be discontinued and existing markings removed.
Italian Government has stated it will not use poison gases or
bacteria for warfare purposes.
Mentoring half yearly provisions will be prescribed by W/O from
1st July at 1000K tomorrow morning.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

0900 Sunday, 30th June.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION

H.M.A. SHIPS.

"PERU" wearing flag F.O.C.A.S. departed Westernport yesterday afternoon and is due to arrive Sydney 0900K tomorrow Monday.

"CANBERRA", escorting "STRATHMORE" with 403 troops embarked sailed from Fremantle 1000K yesterday for Capetown. (E.T.A. 2100K 11th July) for service under C. in C. South Atlantic.

"CANBERRA"'s seagull has been damaged but temporary repairs will enable aircraft to fly and land on water in an emergency.

"ADELAIDE" arrived Fremantle from and sailed again for patrol yesterday.

"PARRAMATTA", departed Fremantle 1900K yesterday for Colombo (E.T.A. 0200K 10th July) for service under C. in C. East Indies.

"CARBERUS" grounded yesterday and is now submerged near the Depot Jetty. A crane is required for salvage, : assistance will be sought from Melbourne Harbour Trust tomorrow.

TROOP TRANSPORTS.

"ZEALANDIA" and "ORUNGAL" escorted by H.M.A.S. "MANOCORA" cleared end of swept channel Sydney 1830K yesterday having carried out gun and P.V. trials on the way out. They expect to reach outer end swept channel at Brisbane 1030K tomorrow which will result in their late arrival.

AIR OPERATIONS

An air search was carried out yesterday to provide cover for "STRATHMORE" and another search by 3 Hudsons will commence 0930K today.

Commencing 0930K this morning 4 aircraft from Canberra will carry out a search to provide cover for troopships "ZEALANDIA" and "ORUNGAL" on passage from Sydney to Brisbane.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

C. in C. South Atlantic was instructed yesterday to maintain a close watch on Dakar as it is essential French battleship "RICH LIEU" should be detected and shadowed.

H.M. Submarines "ODIN" and "ORPHEUS" are both overdue. The former is considered lost and the latter failed to return to harbour on 26th June and has not answered signals ordering return.

GENERAL

The practice of painting distinguishing marks on degaussed ships is to be discontinued and existing markings removed.

Italian Government has stated it will not use poison gases or bacteria for warfare purposes.

Admiralty half yearly promotions will be promulgated by W/T from Rugby at 0400K tomorrow morning.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

NO T SECRET.

10 0900 SATURDAY 29TH JUNE, 1940.

OPERATIONS AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A.S. "PERTH" departed Port Melbourne at 0900 yesterday and after exercising in Port Phillip cleared the Heads at 1534 for Westernport and arrived there at 1645 the same day.

H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" arrived Fremantle yesterday, Friday.

H.M.A. SHIPS "DOOMBA" and "SWAN" departed from Port Melbourne at 1430 and 0845 respectively, yesterday and at 1850 cleared Port Phillip in company to carry out sweeping operations in the Bass Straits.

H.M.S. "HECTOR," enters the Australia Station at 1130 today, Saturday.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "DORSETSHIRE" sighted the French Battleship "RICHELIEU" 10 miles from Dakar at 0600Z yesterday, Friday.

H.M. SHIPS "HOOD" and "ARK ROYAL" have been ordered to return to Gibraltar.

H.M.S. "ACHILLES" arrived Auckland yesterday, Friday, after having visited Kermadec Island.

TRANSPORTS.

"STRATHMORE" arrived Fremantle at 1440 yesterday, Friday, escorted by H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA."

"ZEALANDIA") will leave Sydney at 1600 today, Saturday, and expect
"ORUNGAL") to arrive Moreton Bay at 0800 Monday, 1st July.

AUXILIARY VESSELS.

"KING BAY" is to be fitted out without delay at Fremantle to replace the existing E.V. at that port.

"YANDRA" sailed from Adelaide yesterday and expects to arrive Sydney on Tuesday, 2nd July, where fitting out as an A/S vessel will take place.

Trawler "COONAMBEE" (C. Cam & Sons) was requisitioned at Sydney yesterday and will be fitted out as an M/S vessel.

M.V. "WYRALLAH" was requisitioned at Sydney yesterday and will be fitted out as an A/S Vessel.

The trawlers "ALFIE CAM" (Cam & Sons) and "DURAWEEEN" (Red Funnel) were requisitioned at Sydney on the 22nd and 27th June, respectively, as Auxiliary M/S Vessels.

GENERAL.

British magnetic mines have been laid off the Norwegian, German and Dutch Coasts.

Commodore Wilde will be made available by the Admiralty for the next fast convoy.

An Italian ship "REMO" is expected to be released by the Prize Court about the 2nd July and is expected to sail for Melbourne within 48 hours of her release. The Blue Ensign will be worn during the passage.

Auxiliary M/S Vessel "ORARA" will not complete her refit at Sydney before 15th July owing to further defects found in the boilers, hull and machinery.

AIR OPERATIONS.

An Air Search in Western Australia to provide cover for A.I.F. Freight ship "STRATHMORE" was carried out yesterday with negative results and another search will commence at 1000 today, Saturday, to provide cover on the ship's departure.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS:

H.M.S. "VICTOR" is proceeding direct to Fremantle from Wellington and expects to arrive 7th July on passage to serve on the East Indies Station.

H.M.S. "UNSCUTTED" has been ordered to search shadowing French "Michelien" and search for her "HALBORN".

R.A.F. "Bentley" "FRASER" was cut in halves in collision with H.M.S. "GALCOTT" while searching for a French water vessel.

British submarines attacked a convoy off Stavanger June 25th one ship believed to have been sunk.

SPECIAL DESTROYERS.

The 4 Swedish Destroyers recently taken into custody by the British Navy have been released as a result of Swedish representations and in view of probable German counter action.

FRENCH FLEET.

Reports show that spirits and intentions vary from urgent desire to "fight on", to despondency and desire to obey orders of French Government. The long period of uncertainty is having a bad effect on officers and men, the latter are frightened for their families. Efforts to land ships to the enemy appear probable. Admiral Gooch at Alexandria was refused permission to sail and appeared thankful. Discipline and morale of crews is considered doubtful.

CONVOY.

Convoy B.C.F. left Table Bay for Freetown and is due 1st July. "WATERBURY" is included in this convoy which is escorted by H.M.S. "SOUTHSEA".

AIR OPERATIONS.

A coastal search between Lakes Entrance and Cape Otway will again be carried out today. Yesterday's search in the same area proved negative.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0000 Friday, 28th June, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS

"PERTH" leaves Port Melbourne 0900K today to carry out G. & T. firings arriving Westernport on completion p.m. today.

"ADELAIDE" left Fremantle yesterday for exercise and patrol.

"DOOMBA" and "SWAN" on completion of exercises today are to carry out searching sweeps in the vicinity of Wilsons Promontory and central Bass Strait.

"CANBERRA" escorting "STRATHMORE" expects to arrive alongside at Fremantle 1430K today.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "HECTOR" is proceeding direct to Fremantle from Wellington and expects to arrive 7th July on passage to serve on the East Indies Station.

H.M.S. "DORSETSHIRE" has been ordered to cease shadowing French "Richelieu" and search for her "WALRUS".

H.M.C. Destroyer "FRASER" was cut in halves in collision with H.M.S. "CALCUTTA" while searching for a French motor vessel.

British Submarines attacked a convoy off Stavanger June 25th one ship believed to have been sunk.

SWEDISH DESTROYERS.

The 4 Swedish Destroyers recently taken into custody by the British Navy have been released as a result of Swedish representations and in view of probable German counter action.

FRENCH FLEET.

Reports show that spirits and intentions vary from urgent desire to "Fight on", to despondency and desire to obey orders of French Government. The long period of uncertainty is having a bad effect on officers and men, the former are frightened for their families. Refusal to hand ships to the enemy appear probable. Admiral Godoy at Alexandria was refused permission to sail and appeared thankful. Discipline and morale of crews is considered doubtful.

CONVOY.

Convoy B.C.F. left Table Bay for Freetown and is due 3rd July, "STRATHEDEN" is included in this convoy which is escorted by H.M.A.S. "AUSTRALIA".

AIR OPERATIONS.

A coastal search between Lakes Entrance and Cape Otway will again be carried out today. Yesterday's search in the same area proved negative.

SECRET

2.

GENERAL.

A Dutch report states that 18 cruisers and possibly an aircraft carrier are near Palao, an island belonging to the Japanese Mandated Caroline Group.

The seized Italian "REMO" at Fremantle is to be commissioned as a R.A.F.A. flying the blue ensign and will be despatched to Melbourne when released by the Prize Court early in July.

The Danish M.V. "PANAMA" has experienced trouble with the Danish deck hands who do not wish to sail into a dangerous area or in a ship equipped with a gun. The D.G. cable was found to be cut on Wednesday. She carries a valuable cargo destined for a U.K. port via the Panama Canal.

Coastal navigation lights in New Caledonia have been extinguished since 12th June.

The Trawler "DURRAWERN" owned by the Red Funnel Trawlers Pty.Ltd. Sydney was requisitioned yesterday at Sydney.

"DORNEY" at Sydney will give 10 days' leave, inclusive of travelling time, to main body of ship's company commencing p.m. today. During this period ship will be at 48 hours' notice.

"BARBARATTA" arrived Fremantle 1740K yesterday and will sail for Colombo tomorrow for service under E. 10 G. East Indies.

"MILCAL" and "MILCAL" are to be docked at Sydney on Thursday, 4th July.

"ADAMA" is required to act as safety ship during flight of No. 1 Squadron R.A.A.F., consisting of 18 Mustangs, from Darwin to Singapore. She is to be called up as to reach a position about 200 miles west of Darwin by dawn on Monday, 1st July when the first aircraft is expected to leave.

TROOP TRANSPORTS.

"MALINDIA" and "ORONGAL" requisitioned and now fitting out in Sydney will sail for Darwin with troops embarked at noon on Saturday next escorted by R.S.A.S. "WANDORA". Transports and ocean escort will arrive Brisbane 0600K Monday, 1st July and after embarking more troops will sail at 1800K the same day. "MALINDIA" will sail at Townsville and "ORONGAL" at Port Moresby en passage to their ultimate destination.

AIR OPERATIONS.

A coastal search from Cape Stuy to Lakes Entrance was carried out yesterday by two aircraft with negative results. A similar search in the opposite direction has been arranged for today commencing at 0800K.

SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Thursday, 27th June, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS

"PERTH" wearing Flag of F.O.C.A.S. intends to carry out following programme:-

a.m. Friday 28th June Sail from Port Melbourne for G. & T. firings in Port Phillip.

p.m. " " Arrive Westernport.

p.m. Saturday, 29th June, Leave Westernport.

a.m. Monday, 1st July Full Calibre firings off Port Jackson and arrive Sydney.

"MORESBY" at Sydney will give 10 days' leave, inclusive of travelling time, to main body of ship's company commencing p.m. today. During this period ship will be at 48 hours' notice.

"PARRAMATTA" arrived Fremantle 1740K yesterday and will sail for Colombo tomorrow for service under C. in C. East Indies.

"HEROS"
"St. GILES") are to be docked at Sydney on Thursday, 4th July.

"KOALA" is required to act as safety ship during flight of No.1 Squadron R.A.A.F., consisting of 12 Hudsons, from Darwin to Singapore. She is to be sailed so as to reach a position about 200 miles west of Darwin by dawn on Monday, 1st July when the first aircraft is expected to leave.

TROOP TRANSPORTS.

"ZEALANDIA" and "ORUNGAL" requisitioned and now fitting out in Sydney will sail for Darwin with troops embarked a noon on Saturday next escorted by H.M.A.S. "MANOORA". Transports and ocean escort will arrive Brisbane 0600K Monday, 1st July and after embarking more troops will sail at 1800K the same day. "ZEALANDIA" will call at Townsville and "ORUNGAL" at Port Moresby on passage to their ultimate destination.

AIR OPERATIONS.

A coastal search from Cape Otway to Lakes Entrance was carried out yesterday by two aircraft with negative results. A similar search in the opposite direction has been arranged for today commencing at 0900K.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "DORSETSHIRE" at 0230K this morning made the following signal to the Admiralty:- "RICHELIEU" informs me that she is en route to Dakar". "DORSETSHIRE" has now been ordered to shadow only.

H.M. SHIPS "HOOD", "ARK ROYAL" and 5 Destroyers are proceeding with despatch to Canary Islands presumably to deal with "RICHELIEU" if necessary.

H.M.S. "ALBATROSS" with C. in C. South Atlantic embarked was expected to arrive Dakar yesterday.

Searching operations having been completed in the channel, the port of Auckland (New Zealand) is now open to shipping.

R.N.A.S. "ADRIAN" intends to proceed on patrol from Fremantle a.m. Thursday and to return a.m. Friday.

R.N.A.S. "DAPHNE" expects to arrive Fremantle at 1:30 today Wednesday and after embarking stores on "STRATTON" which should be completed on Friday 25th June is to sail for Colombo for service under the orders of C. in C. East Indies.

R.N.A.S. "ANTHONY" departed from Fremantle at 2215 yesterday Tuesday and expects to arrive Colombo a.m. Friday 27th July.

R.N.A.S. "WILSON" returns from patrol and arrived Sydney at 0800 today Wednesday.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

R.N.S. "KARIBU" embarked the Commander-in-Chief China Station p.m. yesterday Tuesday at Hong Kong and is expected to arrive Singapore on Saturday 28th June.

R.N.S. "RECTOR" is expected to arrive Wellington at 1800 today Wednesday. Whilst the Admiralty have agreed to the temporary retention of this ship on the New Zealand Station, Their Lordships desire early consideration the question of her release in view of the re-allocation of Imperial R.N.C.'s.

R.N.S. "TRANTON" (Commander S.T. Dowler R.N.) sustained serious damage by explosion, now beached at Pevy, probable total loss.

R.N.S. "PATRIOT" damaged by explosion on June 23rd off Bombay - it is hoped to get ship into harbour.

MINI MINE, another mine was swept and destroyed off Corwar Island at the entrance to the Colville Channel, Beaufort Gulf yesterday.

R.N.C.'s

The total equipped to 15th June, 1940, 1941-

A.N.C.'s	1
Fast Liners and T.E.N.E.	107
For Aux. Vessels	18
Be Coured	

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Wednesday, 26th June, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A.S. "PERTH" on completion of Air operations yesterday was ordered to return to Port Melbourne and entered Port Phillip at 0503 today Wednesday.

H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" on completion of Air Operations yesterday was ordered to return to Sydney.

H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE" intends to proceed on patrol from Fremantle a.m. Thursday and to return a.m. Friday.

H.M.A.S. "PARRAMATTA" expects to arrive Fremantle at 1400 today Wednesday and after embarking stores ex "STRATHMORE" which should be completed on Friday 28th June is to sail for Colombo for service under the orders of C. in C. East Indies.

H.M.A.S. "WESTRALIA" departed from Fremantle at 2315 yesterday Tuesday and expects to arrive Colombo a.m. Friday 5th July.

H.M.A.S. "MORESBY" returns from patrol and arrived Sydney at 0800 today Wednesday.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "KANIMBLA" embarked the Commander-in-Chief China Station p.m. yesterday Tuesday at Hong Kong and is expected to arrive Singapore on Saturday 29th June.

H.M.S. "HECTOR" is expected to arrive Wellington at 1200 today, Wednesday. Whilst the Admiralty have agreed to the temporary retention of this ship on the New Zealand Station, Their Lordships desire early consideration of the question of her release in view of the re-allocation of Imperial A.M.C.'s.

H.M.S. "KHARTOUM" (Commander D.T. Dowler R.N.) sustained serious damage by explosion, now beached at Perim, probable total loss.

R.I.N. "PATHAN" damaged by explosion on June 23rd off Bombay - it is hoped to get ship into harbour.

ENEMY MINES, another mine was swept and destroyed off Curweir Island at the entrance to the Colville Channel, Haurakai Gulf yesterday.

D.E.M.S.

The total equipped to 24th June, 1940, is:-

A.M.C.'s	5
Fast Liners and D.E.M.S.	157
War Aux. Vessels	18
De Gaussed	19

AIR OPERATION.

Searches carried out yesterday in Gabo and Otway Areas produced negative results. Commencing today at 0900 there will be a search parallel to the coast 40 miles off shore from Cape Otway to Lakes Entrance.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

GENERAL. having carried out sweeping operations in the vicinity of Cape Otway with C.C.S. reports that Sydney No.1 Loop has been repaired. working and are completing with success.

The French Battleship "RICHELIEU" has arrived at Dakar - A later signal orders H.M.S. "DORSETSHIRE" to shadow "RICHELIEU". French Merchant Ships encountered at sea in the North Atlantic are to be sent into a British Port under Guard.

R.N.S. Squadron departed Auckland yesterday for the Kermadec Islands.

R.N.S. "HURON" departed Auckland yesterday for patrol of the Eastern Approaches to Cook Strait. She will not proceed to the East Indies station as was intended.

Increasing U Boat activity is reported and it is estimated that 15 are operating between the Shetlands and Canary Islands.

From intercepted messages it is gathered that a French sloop and a submarine are still maintaining a patrol on the North Atlantic Station.

Four new Swedish Destroyers bound from Italy to Sweden have been taken by the British into protective custody. The Swedish Government has protested and claim that the German Admiralty gave an assurance not to molest their passage.

A British Cruiser and 1 French Battleship bombarded Berdia East June with good results. Woodcock and Woodcock scored 3 hits on a German Battle Cruiser East June.

The Floating Dock at Malta has been sunk.

ITALIAN SUBMARINES.

"LUIGI GIANNI" 1947 tons built 1918 was sunk by sailing 20th June, there being 51 survivors.

"EVADELLISTA TORRECELLI" 1251 tons built 1916 Newcastle was sunk by gunfire 21st June there being 20 survivors.

There is good evidence that another has hit a reef and sunk in deep water. This would bring the total lost to R.N.C. this morning announced that 7 Italian U B had been sunk to date.

EXPLOSION OFF CAPE OTWAY.

Searches yesterday failed to establish any indication of an unusual occurrence in the vicinity of Cape Otway and the report explosion heard on Sunday night remains unexplained.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Tuesday, 25th June, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS "DOOMBA" and "SWAN" having carried out sweeping operations in the vicinity of Cape Otway with negative results arrived at Port Melbourne this morning and are completing with bunkers.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "ACHILLES" flying broad pendant of Commodore Commanding N.Z. Squadron departed Auckland yesterday for the Kermadec Islands.

H.M.S. "HECTOR" departed Auckland yesterday for patrol of the Eastern Approaches to Cook Strait. She will not proceed to the East Indies Station as was intended.

Increasing U Boat activity is reported and it is estimated that 15 are operating between the Shetlands and Canary Islands.

From Intercepted Messages it is gathered that 2 French sloops and a submarine are still maintaining a patrol on the North Atlantic Station.

Four new Swedish Destroyers bound from Italy to Sweden have been taken by the British into protective custody. The Swedish Government has protested and claim that the German Admiralty gave an assurance not to molest their passage.

3 British Cruisers and 1 French Battleship bombarded Bardia 21st June with good results. Hudsons and Beauforts scored 2 hits on a German Battle Cruiser 21st June.

The Floating Dock at Malta has been sunk.

ITALIAN SUBMARINES.

"LUGI GALVANI" 1247 tons built 1938 was sunk by ramming 20th June, there being 31 survivors.

"EVANGELISTA TORRECELLI" 1231 tons built 1934 Minelayer was sunk by gunfire 21st June there being 60 survivors.

There is good evidence that another has hit a reef and sunk in deep water. This would bring the total lost to 4. B.B.C. this morning announced that 7 Italian U Boats had been sunk to date.

EXPLOSION OFF CAPE OTWAY.

Searches yesterday failed to establish any indication of an unusual occurrence in the vicinity of Cape Otway and the report explosion heard on Sunday night remains unexplained.

AIR OPERATIONS.

Yesterday's air searches proved negative. Further searches are being carried out this morning to a depth of 150 miles to seaward in East and West Bass Strait.

A.I.F. FREIGHT SHIPS.

"STRATHMORE" sailed from Adelaide 0038K this morning and is due at Fremantle 0700K 28th June.

GENERAL.

Lieutenant-Commander W. Brooks, R.A.N. (Emerg.) Commanding H.M.A.S. "KOOKABURRA" at Darwin has been discharged to hospital suffering from Tropical neurasthenia.

A.I.F. FREIGHT SHIP.

"STRATHMORE" arrived Adelaide 0800K this morning and will sail for Fremantle when ordered by Naval Board.

EXPLOSION OFF CAPE OTWAY.

Shore Signal Station Cape Otway reported last night that at 1900K a loud explosion was heard at the Station from South Eastward. Since there is a possibility of mines being laid in Bass Strait area, precautions were at once taken as follows:- "DORSET" and "GARD", anchored at Apollo Bay, were ordered by N.S. to investigate at daylight this morning and report result. 4 aircraft from Laverton will investigate area South East of Otway this morning. Merchant Vessels "MULGRA" and "MORNING", both of which should have been in the vicinity of Cape Otway about 1900K, were ordered to break W/T silence and report if an explosion was heard. "MULGRA", sighted by Otway at 1800K, reported she had heard no explosion and it is probable "MORNING" heard anything as she did not pass Otway until 0200K this morning.

AIR OPERATIONS.

Air searches, with negative results, were carried out yesterday with the object of locating a possible wreckage. The searches will be carried out today, one in the Cape Otway area by 4 aircraft with a depth of 150 miles to seaward and the other in the Cape Everard area by 2 aircraft extending for 150 miles seaward.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Monday, 24th June, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS

"PERTH" having escorted freight ship "STRATHMORE" to 140°E probably parted company about 1600K yesterday and should now be patrolling Western Bass Strait area.

"CANBERRA" departed Port Phillip 1220K yesterday for H.A. firing and to escort "STRATHMORE" from the vicinity of St. Vincent Gulf to Fremantle. She will leave Fremantle on Friday, 28th June escorting "STRATHMORE" (with 918 troops embarked) to Capetown arriving about 11th July. "CANBERRA" will then remain under orders of C. in C. South Africa.

"MORESBY" departed Sydney 0430K this morning to patrol between Port Kembla and Newcastle outside 100 fathom line.

"MANOORA" departed Sydney 1530K yesterday to patrol between Gabo and Flinders Island outside 100 fathom line.

A.I.F. FREIGHT SHIP.

"STRATHMORE" arrived Adelaide 0600K this morning and will sail for Fremantle when ordered by Naval Board.

EXPLOSION OFF CAPE OTWAY.

Shore Signal Station Cape Otway reported last night that at 1902K a loud explosion was heard at the Station from South Eastward. Since there is a possibility of mines being laid in Bass Strait area, precautions were at once taken as follows:- "DOOMBA" and "SWAN", anchored at Apollo Bay, were ordered by N.B. to investigate at daylight this morning and report result. 4 aircraft from Laverton will investigate area South East of Otway this morning. Merchant Vessels "MULCRA" and "CORINDA", both of which should have been in the vicinity of Cape Otway about 1900K, were ordered to break W/T silence and report if an explosion was heard. "MULCRA", sighted by Otway at 1950K, reported she had heard no explosion and it is improbable "CORINDA" heard anything as she did not pass Otway until 0430K this morning.

AIR OPERATIONS.

Air searches, with negative results, were carried out yesterday with the object of locating a possible minelayer. Two searches will be carried out today, one in the Cape Otway area by 4 aircraft will extend for 250' to seaward and the other in the Cape Everard area by 3 aircraft extending for 150' to seaward.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "HECTOR"s" departure from Auckland is postponed for the present.

The Italian Submarine captured and taken into Aden by H.M. Trawler "MOONSTONE" was the "GALILEO GALILEI" of about 1000 tons completed in 1934.

GENERAL.

Trawler "ALPIE CAM" was requisitioned in Sydney yesterday and will be fitted out for service as an Auxiliary M/S vessel.

Another mine, making four in all, was discovered yesterday in a position about 70' from where S.S. "NIAGARA" was sunk.

By D/F bearings yesterday a German mobile unit was considered to be in a position about half way between New Zealand and Cape Horn.

C. in C. China has advised that British merchant ships on China Station should now maintain a 6 day bunker reserve.

AD. P. VENTURES.

The British ship "STRATHMORE" sailed from Port Melbourne at 2300 yesterday for Adelaide and will be escorted part of the way by R.N.S. "SWAN".

TRANSIT.

The Australian Coastal ships "SALAMITA" and "MORWELL" have been requisitioned at Sydney and will be fitted as troop carriers.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

R.N.S. "ALYON" (Commander W.E. Evans, R.N.) reports having attacked a hostile cruiser 80 miles north of Trobriand and scored one hit.

R.N.S. "PARTIAN" (Lieut.-Commander W.G. Stirling) reports sinking one Italian U-boat off Libya p.m. 20th June also having attacked at Beirut the Italian "S.M. GIORGIO" (a "S.M. GIORGIO" - Coast defence ship) without success.

A.R.C. message states that R.N. Trawler "MOONSTONE" has captured and escorted into Aden an Italian U-boat.

Te 20 Sunday 23rd June, 1940.

OPERATIONS AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A.S. "PERTH" arrived Port Melbourne at 0803 yesterday, Saturday, and departed at 2100 for escort duties and patrol.

H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" anchored off Queenscliff at 2259 yesterday, Saturday, and intends to sail at 1100 today Sunday to carry out an H.A. Firing, sleeve target is being provided by Laverton at 1400. On completion of firing "CANBERRA" proceeds on patrol and later will escort freight ship "STRATHMORE" from the vicinity of St. Vincent Gulf to Fremantle.

H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" arrived at Sydney at 1001 yesterday, Saturday, and reports she will have completed with stores and be ready to proceed at 1200 today, Sunday.

H.M.A. SHIPS "DOOMBA" and "SWAN" returned to Apollo Bay at 1711 yesterday, Saturday.

AIR OPERATIONS.

An Air search, with negative results, was carried out yesterday for the purpose of locating a possible minelayer. Further operations will be carried out today, Sunday, one in the Cape Otway area commencing at 0800, one in the Cape Everard area commencing at 0830, both operations will extend for 150 miles to seaward and in each case three searching aircraft will be used. A third search will be carried out between Cape Northumberland and Cape Nelson commencing at 0900 in which four aircraft will be used.

A.I.F. FREIGHTSHIP.

The British ship "STRATHMORE" sailed from Port Melbourne at 2300 yesterday for Adelaide and will be escorted part of the way by H.M.A.S. "PERTH."

TRANSPORTS.

The Australian Coastal ships "ZEALANDIA" and "ORUNGAL" have been requisitioned at Sydney and will be fitted as troop carriers.

OPERATIONS - OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "CLYDE" (Commander W.E. Banks, R.N.) reports having attacked a battle cruiser 60 miles north of Trondheim and scored one hit.

H.M.S. "PARTHIAN" (Lieut.-Commander M.G. Rimmington) reports sinking one Italian U-Boat off Libya p.m. 20th June also having attacked at Tobruk the Italian "SAN GIORALDIS" (? "SAN GIORGIO" - Coast Defence ship) without success.

A B.B.C. message states that H.M. Trawler "MOONBEAM" has captured and escorted into Aden an Italian U-Boat.

"STRATHMORE" escorted by H.M.A.S. "PERTH" arrived Adelaide yesterday morning.

"STRATHMORE" berthed at Port Melbourne this morning and reports boxing crew of German U-Boat on board.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Saturday, 22nd June, 1940.

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS

"PARRAMATTA" departed Investigator Strait after sweeping yesterday and expects to arrive Fremantle 0900K
23rd June.
28th

"MORESBY" proposes to make good defects and grant 10 days' leave at Sydney commencing Wednesday, 26th June being at 48 hours' notice during the period.

"PERTH" escorting "STRATHMORE" entered Port Phillip 0322K today.

"CANBERRA" left Sydney 1320K yesterday for Port Phillip and will probably carry out H.A. Firings tomorrow off Port Phillip.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

H.M.S. "GRAMPUS" (Submarine) Lt.Cdr. C.A. Rowe, is reported overdue.

British Expeditionary Force landed in U.K. from France numbered 99,472 by noon 19th June.

The following French Warships have arrived at British Ports:-
"LEOPARD" (Light Cruiser) "COUP" (Submarine)
3 Destroyers, 3 Escort Vessels, 2 Sloops, Several Armed Trawlers, 3 Control Vessels, 1 Gunboat, 8 Chasseurs, 6 Torpedo Boats, 2 Mine Layers, 1 Despatch Vessel, several Minesweepers, 1 Patrol Craft and the "EMILE BERTIN" (Cruiser Minelayer) has arrived at Halifax.

"MONARCH of BERMUDA" left the Clyde yesterday with the word "Diplomat" painted on her sides bound for Lisbon carrying Italian Diplomats returning to Italy.

Periodical Air Reconnaissance has been instituted around the coast of New Zealand owing to the recent discovery of mines in Hauraki Gulf.

C. in C. Mediterranean reports that mines laid by enemy submarines have all been well outside the 100 fathom line and it is suspected may be in as much as 200 fathoms of water.

A.I.F. FREIGHT SHIPS.

"STRATHEDEN" escorted by H.M.A.S. "AUSTRALIA" arrived Capetown yesterday morning.

"STRATHMORE" berthed at Port Melbourne this morning and reports having cases of German Measles on board.

GENERAL.

The following coastal vessels have been requisitioned and will be despatched to Sydney to be fitted out as A/S vessels:-

"YANDRA"

"KYBRA"

"WYANGARIE" or "WYRALLAH"

An interview is being given today by the Naval Staff to Capt. Williams of the United Stevedoring Co. who considers it possible to produce diving equipment capable of operating in depths of 60 fathoms as enquired for by the New Zealand Naval Board in connection with salvage work on R.M.S. "NIAGARA".

Many Light buoys off the Dutch coast are reported to be again working.

Air operations were carried out yesterday between C. Schanck and Wilsons Promontory for the purpose of locating possible vessels approaching the coast and intending to lay mines.

A.I.F. FREIGHT SHIPS.

"STRAIGHTON", escorted by M.S.A.S. "PETER", sailed from Sydney at 1700K yesterday for Port Phillip.

"RESEARCH" departed Port Phillip for Geelong at 1800K yesterday. Steaming at 18 knots, she should have cleared the 100 fathom line about 2100K last night.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

FRANCE BATTLESHIPS "PARIS" left Cherbourg and arrived Plymouth 19th June.

"COUBERT" left Brest 18th June for Plymouth arriving 20th June.

"MICHALIN" and "JAN" have left Brest for Dakar (French West Africa) and Casablanca (Morocco) respectively. These ships armed with 6 15-inch guns have recently been completed.

According to an intercepted message from S.S.S. Red Sea addressed to C. in C. East Indies, aircraft from S.S.A.S. "BRIST" took part in Fleet Air operations on 17th June when a wireless hut was destroyed.

GENERAL.

The Press announced this morning that the third contingent ("B.S.S.") of the A.I.F. and New Zealand troops had arrived U.S. after a voyage via the Cape of Good Hope.

4 trawlers are to be requisitioned and fitted out at Sydney forthwith for service as auxiliary U/S vessels.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

"U" Boats are not operating on trade routes in To 0900 Friday, 21st June, 1940. on a large scale, some as far out as 0170

OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS

3-inch cruiser reported off Norvik on 17th June
"PERTH" wearing flag of F.O.C.A.S. escorting Freight Ship "STRATHMORE" departed Sydney 1700K yesterday. "PERTH" is due to arrive Port Melbourne 2215K tonight. are always to be referred to as "Italian 'U' Boats".
"CANBERRA", delayed by a few hours so as to allow further time for completion of Degaussing arrangements, will sail from Sydney at 1500K today.

"MORESBY" arrived Sydney yesterday morning from Moreton Bay.

"PARRAMATTA" has been instructed by N.B. to continue sweeping operations in Investigator Channel today before proceeding to Fremantle.

"BERMAGUI") Group 77 Auxiliary M/S vessels departed Sydney for
"UKI") Newcastle yesterday.

"BERYL II" departed Port Phillip at 1300K yesterday to sweep the approaches ahead of Freight Ship "DOMINION MONARCH".

A.I.F. FREIGHT SHIPS.

"STRATHMORE", escorted by H.M.A.S. "PERTH", sailed from Sydney at 1700K yesterday for Port Phillip.

"DOMINION MONARCH" departed Port Phillip for Capetown at 1600K yesterday. Steaming at 19 knots, she should have cleared the 100 fathom line about 2130K last night.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

FRENCH BATTLESHIPS "PARIS" left Cherbourg and arrived Plymouth 19th June.

"COURBET" left Brest 18th June for Plymouth arriving 20th June.

"RICHELIEU" and "JEAN BART" have left Brest for Dakar (French West Africa) and Casablanca (Morocco) respectively. These ships armed with 8 15-inch have recently been completed.

According to an intercepted message from S.N.O. Red Sea addressed to C. in C. East Indies, aircraft from H.M.A.S. "HOBART" took part in Fleet Air Arm operations on 19th June when a wireless hut was destroyed.

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4 trawlers are to be requisitioned and fitted out at Sydney forthwith for service as auxiliary M/S vessels.

"U" Boats are now operating on trade routes in Atlantic and Western Approaches on a large scale, some as far out as 017° West. 20th June, 1940.

8-inch cruiser reported off Narvik on 17th June has been identified as German cruiser "NURNBERG".

By Admiralty direction Italian submarines are always to be referred to as "Italian 'U' Boats". 130 yesterday, Wednesday and expects to arrive Fremantle at 1100 Wednesday, 26th June.

H.M.A.S. "WANDORA" departed from Townsville at 0838 yesterday Wednesday and expects to arrive Sydney at 0945 Friday, 29th June.

H.M.A. Ships "SPAN" and "MOONRA" have been ordered to proceed with all despatch to the vicinity of Cape Steady and carry out searching sweeps in that area.

MR. M/S Vessel "WENYI II" departed from Williston at 0830 yesterday, Wednesday escorting the launch "CERBERUS" to Westport. On her return today she has been ordered to sweep ahead of "DOMINION MONARCH" when this vessel leaves Port Phillip Heads p.m. today.

NAVAL CONTROL SERVICE.

Following on the report of the enemy minefield in the Hauraki Gulf which resulted in the loss of the British ship "NIAGARA" all vessels on the Australia Station are to be routed outside the 100 fathom line. There are certain minor modifications to this order when the passages between ports are only a short distance.

A.I.F. FREIGHT SHIPS.

The sailing of "STRATHMORE" and her escort H.M.A.S. "PETER" from Sydney has been postponed on account of the possibility of mines. The Air Operations arranged to provide cover have also been postponed.

"DOMINION MONARCH" will sail from Port Melbourne about 1800 today, Thursday.

ENEMY MINEFIELD.

The sinking of "NIAGARA" in the Hauraki Gulf by a mine and the subsequent sweeping operations have so far resulted in the sweeping and sinking of two mines reported to be of German manufacture.

For the present overseas vessels are not allowed to leave the ports of Wellington, Lyttelton and Auckland and all passenger traffic to these ports has been prohibited.

GENERAL.

The New Zealand Naval Board has inquired if there is available in Australia diving equipment suitable for working

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Thursday, 20th June, 1940.

Instructions have been given to Reporting Officers, H.M.A.'s, Naval Attaches and S.O. (I's) in New Britain Territories OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION. Held by them with the exception of inter-departmental and Government Telegrams.

H.M.A.S. "PARRAMATTA" departed from Adelaide at 2130 yesterday, Wednesday and expects to arrive Fremantle at 1100 Wednesday, 26th June.

H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" departed from Townsville at 0832 yesterday Wednesday and expects to arrive Sydney at 0945 Friday, 22nd June.

H.M.A. Ships "SWAN" and "DOOMBA" have been ordered to proceed with all despatch to the vicinity of Cape Otway and carry out searching sweeps in that area.

Aux. M/S Vessel "BERYL II" departed from Williamstown at 0920 yesterday, Wednesday escorting the launch "CERBERUS" to Westernport. On her return today she has been ordered to sweep ahead of "DOMINION MONARCH" when this vessel leaves Port Phillip Heads p.m. today.

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DAILY NARRATIVE.

2.

To 0800 Wednesday, 19th June, 1940.

in 60 fathoms.

Instructions have been given to Reporting Officers, C.S.A.'s, Naval Attaches and S.O.(I's) in Non British Territories to destroy all Cyphers and Codes held by them with the exception of Inter-Departmental and Government Telegraph Codes.

"~~XXXXXXXX~~" arrived Townsville yesterday morning, landed the crew and passengers of the Italian "ROMOLO" with the exception of 7 destitute females and also the port crew of the American "ADMIRAL WILEY". "YANCOORA" has been ordered to proceed to Sydney as convenient.

"~~XXXXXXXX~~" left Herston Bay yesterday morning for Sydney E.T.A. 0615 tomorrow Thursday.

"~~XXXXXXXX~~" reports she will be ready to proceed at 1200K today.

"~~XXXXXXXX~~" and "~~XXXXXX~~" left Port Adelaide yesterday evening for Port Phillip sweeping en route. E.T.A. 1000K Friday 21st June.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

The whole of the B.E.F. has been withdrawn from France through Brest, St. Malo and St. Nazaire.

Two British and one Norwegian merchant vessels were torpedoed in homeward bound convoys in the Western approaches June 15th.

Two Norwegian merchant vessels were sunk by submarine off Aden June 16th.

Eight Officers and three hundred ratings were saved from the torpedoed M.M.S. "ANDANIA".

Further raids on Malta are reported with little success.

GENERAL.

Lieut.-Comdr. Briggs, R.N., M.O.I.C. Thursday Island was relieved by Lieut.-Comdr. Boulton R.A.N.R. 17th June.

Merchant ships of all Nationalities are warned that as French Broadcasting Stations are now under German control they should disregard any messages or instructions issued by such stations.

French Merchant Ships met at sea are being instructed to proceed to the nearest British Port if not already bound for one. Australian Customs Authorities are withholding clearance from French ships 4 of which are now in Australian ports.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Wednesday, 19th June, 1940.

E.O.S.

R.M.S. "NIAGARA" of 13,415 tons built in 1913 and owned by the
OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A. SHIPS

sent out a distress message this morning stating that her engines were disabled and No. 2 hold full of water
"MANOORA" arrived Townsville yesterday morning, landed the crew and passengers of the Italian "ROMOLO" with the exception of 7 destitute females and also the part crew of the American "ADMIRAL WILEY". "MANOORA" has been ordered to proceed to Sydney as convenient.

"MORESBY" left Moreton Bay yesterday morning for Sydney E.T.A. 0615K tomorrow Thursday.

"PARRAMATTA" reports she will be ready to proceed at 1200K today.

"DOOMBA" and "SWAN" left Port Adelaide yesterday evening for Port Phillip sweeping en route. E.T.A. 1000K Friday 21st June.

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French Merchant Ships met at sea are being instructed to proceed to the nearest British Port if not already bound for one. Australian Customs Authorities are withholding clearances from French ships 4 of which are now in Australian ports.

DAILY NARRATIVE.S.O.S.

R.M.S. "NIAGARA" of 13,415 tons built in 1913 and owned by the Canadian Australasian Line employed on the "All Red" Route between Australia, New Zealand and Canada, sent out a distress message this morning stating that her engines were disabled and No. 2 hold full of water as the result of an explosion in No. 2 hatch and the vessel rapidly sinking. She left Auckland last night about 10 p.m. and was in a position about 60 miles from the port and 6 miles from Maro Liri Island. Her cargo included bullion to the value of £2,000,000. The S.S. "PORT CAMPBELL" was expected to make contact at 0630K today. A later message from Navy Office Wellington announced the sinking of "NIAGARA" by explosion the origin of which is not yet known. A depth of between 60 and 70 fathoms of water exists in the position given.

arranged with
R.M.A.S. "PERIN" between Brunen Bay and Ullasilla.

R.M.A.S. "SPLASH" arrived at Fremantle yesterday, Monday, 17th June.

R.M.A.S. "BERYL II" is escorting launch R.M.A.S. "CAMPBELL" from Williamstown to Flinders today, parting company off Hanns Inlet, and returning to Port Phillip.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

The Admiralty state that U.S.S. has arrived in the United Kingdom.

R.M.S. "GLORIOUS" is stated by survivors to have been sunk by enemy cruisers armed with 8 inch and 6 inch guns, which outranged her. Fire was opened at 80,000 yards and the 3rd salvo hit, preventing aircraft flying off.

R.M.S. "ACASTA" is believed to have scored one hit before she was sunk.

The Armed Merchant Cruiser "ANDANIA" was torpedoed and sunk South-east of Reykjavik.

A damaged Italian submarine is reported at Creta, and another one was probably damaged by three destroyers off Alexandria.

Genoa has been successfully bombed by the Fleet Air Arm.

Enemy minelaying off Channel ports is being satisfactorily dealt with.

GENERAL.

The Admiralty much appreciate the valuable suggestion of the Commonwealth Government that R.M.A.S. Ships "SERRAVALLE" and "PASCALIA" should be placed forthwith at their disposal to be followed by R.M.A.S. "YARU" about the end of July. They will probably be employed on the East Indies Station.

MOST SECRET.

The Belgian Government has instructed all Belgian ships bound for DAILY NARRATIVE direct to a United Kingdom port.

To 0900 Tuesday, 18th June, 1940.

The Netherlands East Indies Government have been ordered by the Netherlands Government in London to observe neutrality. The Dutch Naval C. in C. is perplexed by this decision and foresees countless complications in Naval and shipping OPERATIONS - AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" will sail for Jervis Bay on Thursday, 20th June, carrying out main engine partial repair trials while on passage. Director test will be carried out there, and she will leave early on the 22nd June so as to provide cover for the S.S. "STRATHMORE" while she is on passage from Melbourne to Adelaide.

H.M.A.S. "PERTH" is escorting S.S. "STRATHMORE" from Sydney to Melbourne, leaving Sydney on Wednesday, 19th June, 1940. An air search has been arranged with H.M.A.S. "PERTH" between Broken Bay and Ulladulla.

H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE" arrived at Fremantle yesterday, Monday, 17th June.

H.M.A.S. "BERYL II" is escorting launch H.M.A.S. "CERBERUS" from Williamstown to Flinders today, parting company off Hanns Inlet, and returning to Port Phillip.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

The Admiralty state that U.S.3 has arrived in the United Kingdom.

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Enemy minelaying off Channel ports is being satisfactorily dealt with.

GENERAL.

The Admiralty much appreciate the valuable suggestion of the Commonwealth Government that H.M.A. Ships "WESTRALIA" and "PARRAMATTA" should be placed forthwith at their disposal to be followed by H.M.A.S. "YARRA" about the end of July. They will probably be employed on the East Indies Station.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

2.

To 0900 Monday, 17th June, 1943.

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N.E.A. The Netherlands East Indies Government have been ordered by the Netherlands Government in London to observe neutrality. The Dutch Naval C. in C. is perplexed by this decision and foresees countless complications in Naval and shipping matters. Y, Sunday, for Fremantle.

REMARKABLE OCCURRENCES.

H.M.A.S. "VOYAGER" (Lieut-Commander J.C. Morrow) killed a submarine off Alexandria on the night of Thursday, 13th June.

H.M.A.S. "AUSTRALIA" departed from Durban a.m. yesterday, Sunday, to rendezvous with and escort the A.I.F. Freighter "STRATHMORE".

H.M.S. "RECTOR" will be leaving the New Zealand Station, presumably in the near future.

GENERAL.

The Admiralty indicate that certain highly confidential scientific information regarding Degaussing, Magnetic Mine-sweeping and Anti-Submarine Detection should be made available to the Commonwealth and suggest that Dr. David Milton Myers may be suitable and if so that he should be accredited to the Admiralty.

An intercept from Navy Office, Wellington, contains information that the New Zealand A.N.C., H.M.S. "MONOWAI" which has been in hand since October, 1939, may be delayed a further five weeks if the fitting out of M/S vessels is taken in hand. The date of completion is not given. Consideration is being given to mounting the guns of the second A.N.C. ashore at Suva.

MOST SECRET.

DAILY NARRATIVE.

To 0900 Monday, 17th June, 1940.

OPERATIONS. AUSTRALIA STATION.

H.M.A.S. "MANOCRA" expects to arrive Townsville daybreak Tuesday, 18th June.

H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE" departed from Geraldton at 1900 yesterday, Sunday, for Fremantle.

OPERATIONS OVERSEAS.

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H.M.A.S. "AUSTRALIA" departed from Durban a.m. yesterday, Sunday, to rendezvous with and escort the A.I.F. Freightship "STRATHEDEN".

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