



D-Day as it happened...

“What follows is taken from the official
WW2 Admiralty War Diary.

This recently digitised extract
details the events of 6 June 1944.

D-Day as it happened.....”

War Diary.

5.6.1944.

Tuesday.

SITUATION REPORT.Operation "Neptune"

1. Object: The object of Operation "Neptune" is to secure a lodgement on the Continent from which further offensive operations can be developed.

2. The Plan: (a) To assault on a five divisional front in landing ships and landing craft in the Bay of the Seine to the West of Havre.

(b) To complete the landing of the first 7 divisions on the second tide of D day and the first tide of D + 1 day.

(c) The initial objectives include the port of Cherbourg and the town of Caen.

The operation is a combined British and United States undertaking by all services of both nations.

The attack is being launched by a Western and an Eastern Task Force in adjacent sectors in the Bay of the Seine.

3. Own Forces:

(a) Western Task Force - U.S. First Army.

7th Corps - 4th Division Naval Force U. Assault at Varreville

5th "	- 2 R.C.T. of	}	"	"	O.	"	"	St. Laurent
	1st Division							
	1 R.C.T. of							
	29th Division							
5th "	- 1 R.C.T. of	}	"	"	B.	"	"	Follow-up Force O.
	1st Division							
	2 R.C.T. of							
	29th Division							

Note: Regimental Combat Team (R.C.T.) is the equivalent of a British Brigade.

(b) Eastern Task Force - British Second Army.

1st Corps { 3rd Division Naval Force S. Assault at Ouistreham.

" "	"	Canadian	"	"	J.	"	"	Courseulles.
		Division	"	"	G.	"	"	Asnelles
30th Corps	{	50th Division	"	"	"	"	"	
		22nd Armoured	"	"	"	"	"	
		Bde.	"	"	L.	"	"	Follow up.

(c) Seven Commandos of Force J and two Ranger Battalions of Force O are included in the assault.

(d) Airborne landings were to take place shortly before H hour behind the assault beaches on the flanks. An American Division was to land in the South East of the Cotentin Peninsula, near Carentan, and two British Brigades at Caen and the River Orne crossings.

(e) Warships. 165 Sloops, Escort Destroyers, Frigates, Corvettes and P.Cs. were allocated to the Assault Forces and early convoys.

(f) The assault is being supported by a Bombardment Force of 6 Battleships, 2 Monitors, 22 Cruisers, 2 Gunboats, 75 Fleet Destroyers and 16 Hunts. The majority of the destroyers were also to escort the assault convoys, joining their bombarding forces after passing the lowering positions.

(g) The approach was to be covered by 16 Destroyers and 50 Coastal Craft. Four A/S Support Groups are operating in the approaches to the Channel.

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4. Command.	
Supreme Commander Allied Expeditionary Force.	General Eisenhower.
Deputy Supreme Commander Allied Expeditionary Force	Air Chief Marshal Tedder.
Allied Naval Commander Allied Expeditionary Force	Admiral Ramsey.
Commander-in-Chief 21st Army Group	General Montgomery.
Air Commander-in-Chief A.E.Air Force	Air Chief Marshal Leigh-Mallory.
Eastern Task Force:	
Naval Commander (SCYLLA)	Rear Admiral Vian.
Commander Second Army	General Dempsey.
Commander Second Tactical Air Force	Air Marshal Coningham, R.A.F.
Naval Force G (BULOLO)	Commodore Douglas-Pennant.
Commander 50th Division	General Graham.
Naval Force J (MILARY)	Commodore G.N. Oliver.
Commander 3rd Canadian Division	General Keller.
Naval Force S (LARGS)	Rear-Admiral Talbot.
Commander 3rd Division	General Rennie.
Naval Force L (Follow-up)	Rear-Admiral Parry.
22nd Armoured Brigade and Overheads	
Western Task Force (C.T.F.122):	
Naval Commander (AUGUSTA)	Rear-Admiral Kirk U.S.N.
Commander First U.S. Army	General Simpson (U.S.)
Commander 9th U.S. Air Force	General Brereton (U.S.)
Naval Force O (ANCON) (C.T.F.124)	Rear-Admiral Hall U.S.N.
Commander 1st U.S. Division (1 Brigade)	General Huebner (U.S.)
Commander 29th U.S. Division (2 Brigade)	General Gerhardt (U.S.)
Naval Force U (BAYFIELD) (C.T.F.125)	Rear-Admiral Moon U.S.N.
Commander 4th U.S. Division	General Barton (U.S.)
Naval Force B (MALLEY) (C.T.F.126)	
Follow-up	Commodore Edger U.S.N.
Remainder 1st and 29th U.S. Division	

5. The Assault :

(a) The Assault and Follow-up Forces were preloaded and assembled on the South Coast between the Thames and the Bristol Channel.

(b) The five Assault Forces sailed from their assembly ports in daylight yesterday with the exception of Force U who sailed from Devon and Cornwall ports on the previous evening.

(c) Each British Assault Force was divided into some sixteen groups, each comprising 10 to 30 L.S.I., L.S.T., L.C.T. and minor landing craft.

The two U.S. Forces were divided into 4 groups each comprising a considerably larger number of ships.

(d) Groups proceeded to a departure area "Z" (15 miles South of the Nab Tower) and thence to latitude 50° 05' N., preceded by the Fleet Minesweeping Flotillas allocated to them.

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6. Timetable of the Assault:

H-10 hours	The leading minesweepers to cross the latitude of 50° 05' N. and precede each Assault Force across the suspected enemy minefield to the lowering positions which are 7 - 11 miles from the beaches. Ten channels to be swept and danned, two being allocated to each assault force.
H-6 to H-4 hours	Minesweepers to pass lowering positions.
H-4½ to H-3½ hours	U.S. Landing and Bombarding Ships to reach lowering positions.
H-2 hours	First British L.C.T. and British Bombarding Ships to arrive at lowering positions.
H-100 minutes	British Landing Ships to reach lowering positions.
H-30 to H hour	Bombardment by Warships, S.P. Artillery and L.C.T.(R). Support fire by support craft.
H-5 minutes	D.D. Tanks to beach, followed by L.C.T. (AVRE) for clearing beach obstructions.
H-H+50 minutes	L.C.V.F. and L.C.A. to beach carrying infantry (preceded by L.C.A.(HR)).
H+45 minutes (approx.)	First L.C.I.(L) to beach.
H+60 minutes	First L.C.T. (Vehicles and Self-propelled artillery) to land.
H+1 hour to H+3½ hours	L.C.T. and L.C.I.(L) to beach.

7. Commandos and Rangers:

Commandos and Rangers were sailed with the assault forces to carry out landings simultaneously as follows:

- (a) Five Commandos on the Eastern Flank to capture Quistreham and to destroy crossing of the River Orne.
- (b) One Commando West of Force J to "mop up".
- (c) One Commando West of Force G to capture Port en Bassin.
- (d) Two Ranger Battalions to secure Western Flank of Omaha assault area.

8. Follow-up Forces.

Force L (British) and Force B (U.S.) were sailed from the Thames and Bristol Channel respectively so as to arrive in time to unload on the second tide today.

Follow-up Forces comprise L.S.T., L.C.I.(L) and L.C.T. Force L to divide into five groups and Force B into three groups.

9. Diversions.

Three diversionary operations were being carried out by 32 H.D. M.Ls. and 6 Pinnaces, supported by air sorties, at the same time as the assaults. Troops were not to be landed. The threat was to be maintained by Radio Counter Measures, the use of smoke, and sonic warfare.

The object was to contain enemy reserves and to draw off enemy naval forces from the assault convoys.

Operation	Force	Location
"Glimmer"	16 H.D.M.L.	Boulogne on a 10 mile front.
"Taxable"	12 H.D.M.L.	Bruneval-Pecamp on a 14 mile front.
"Bigdrum"	4 H.D.M.L.	East of Barfleur.

Operation "Bigdrum" was intended to divert the attention of enemy Radar stations on the Cherbourg Peninsula from the assault forces.

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10. Composition of Assault and Follow-up Forces.

(a) The Assault and Follow-up Forces comprise a total of 2,154 landing ships and craft with a total lift of 159,595 personnel and 16,715 vehicles.

(b) The Ferry Service operating between the lowering position and the beaches comprises 1,147 Minor Landing craft and barges. In addition 220 L.C.T. (5) and (6) and 190 L.C.V.P. (U.S.), who took part in the assault, form part of the Ferry Service, thus making a grand total of 1,557 craft.

11. Bombarding Forces.

(a) Battleships and Cruisers proceeded to the Assault Area independently escorted by some destroyers and frigates, with attached minesweepers.

(b) Cruisers and above are organised into five forces. Bombarding Forces and destroyers are allocated to individual Assault Force Commanders as follows:-

Assault Force	Bombardment Force	Ship
Eastern Task Force:		
S	D	{ WARSPITE RAMILLIES MAURITIUS (C.S.2) ARETHUSA 10 Fleets
		PROBISHER DRAGON DANAE ROBERTS 3 Hunts
J	E	BELFAST (C.S.10) 7 Fleets
		DIADEM 4 Hunts
G	K	{ ORION AJAX D.S. FLORES 9 Fleets
		ARGONAUT EMERALD 4 Hunts
E.T.F. Reserve		
		RODNEY
		SIRIUS
Western Task Force:		
O	C	{ TEXAS (R.A. Bryant) ARKANSAS GLASGOW 9 U.S. destroyers
		P.S. MONTCALM (Flag) P.S. GEORGES LEYGUES 3 Hunts
U	A	{ NEVADA EREBUS TUSCALOOSA (R.A. Deyo) ENTERPRISE 8 U.S. destroyers
		QUINCY HAWKINS BLACK PRINCE D.S. SOEMBA
W.T.F. Reserve		
		AUGUSTA (N.C.W.T.F. Flag) 5 U.S. destroyers
		BELLONA

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12. Covering Forces.

(a) Distant cover outside the English Channel is being provided by C. in C. Home Fleet, C. in C. Western Approaches and C. in C. Plymouth.

(b) Cover within the English Channel but outside the Assault Area is being given by Fleet destroyers and Coastal Forces, 16 destroyers and 83 M.T.Bs. being allocated for this purpose.

(c) Coastal Command is providing further cover against U-Boats mainly in the Channel and its approaches, west of the line Portland-Casquets.

13. Minelaying.

Extensive minelaying operations have taken place in the last few weeks in preparation for "Neptune".

These were carried out by APOLLO, FLOVER, some M.T.B. and H.L. Flotillas, and by aircraft of Bomber Command.

14. Minesweeping.

10 Fleet Minesweeping Flotillas, each with 3 or 4 danlayers and 2 M.Ls. attached were to sweep 10 approach channels for the assault forces from 50° N. to the lowering positions.

Special channels were also to be swept ahead of the Bombarding Forces after these had passed the Approach Channels, by their attached fleet Minesweeper Flotillas.

A number of Motor M/S, B.Y.M.S., Y.M.S. Flotillas and 4 Groups of H.L. Trawlers are also engaged in supplementing the Fleet Minesweepers to sweep wide channels parallel to the beaches to provide safe anchorages and patrol areas.

15. Air Operations.

(a) The Royal Air Force, the 8th and 9th U.S. Army Air Forces and Coastal Command (including 7 F.A.A. Squadrons) are contributing a total of 861½ Squadrons, totalling 8,518 aircraft of all types.

(b) These aircraft are engaged in -

(i) Providing fighter protection for all assault groups and convoys.

(ii) A continuous fighter patrol over the cross-channel route and over the assault area.

(iii) Patrols by Coastal Command aircraft in S.W. and Eastern Approaches to the Channel to give early warning of, and protection from, enemy surface craft and U-Boats.

(iv) Providing close cover for coastal convoys off England, (by F.A.A. aircraft).

(v) Screening the flanks of the assault area by smoke laying.

(vi) Minelaying.

(vii) Air Spotting for Bombarding Ships.

(viii) Heavy air bombardment of enemy coastal batteries, beach defences, etc.

(c) The above figures do not include aircraft of Troop Carrier and Transport Commands, F.R.U. or F.R. aircraft.

16. Ancillary Operations.

Arrangements have been made as follows:-

(a) To lay ocean light buoys to mark swept channels across the Channel.

(b) To survey beaches, minor ports, wreck and anchorages with Survey Ships and Craft.

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- (c) To lay moorings for hauling off vessels that beach.
(d) Salvage vessels and Rescue Tugs arrive today in the Assault Area to deal with damaged ships and wrecks.

17. Number of British and Allied Ships engaged in the Operation.

	Total	U.S.	Other Allies
Battleships	6	5	
Cruisers	23	4	1 Polish 2 French
Destroyers (Fleets & Hunts)	104	34	4 Polish 2 Greek 5 Norwegian 1 French
Landing Ships & Craft	4021	About 1600	
Coastal Forces (M.T.Bs., M.Ls., P.Fs. & C.G.C.)	316	90	5 Dutch 10 Norwegian 8 French
Minesweepers	277	51	
Escort Vessels	162	19 (P.C.)	7 French
Monitors, Gunboats	4	-	2 Dutch (Gunboats)
Ancillary Forces (Tugs, Salvage, etc.)	334	About 100	9 Dutch 5 French
Merchant Vessels (M.T. Ships)	224	113	
Cosaters, etc.	1032	22	1 French 1 Dutch

Grand total of all Vessels - 6485.

18. Shortly before midnight last night Allied night bombers opened the assault and continued their attacks in very great strength until dawn.

The 82nd and 101st Airborne Divisions landed in the early hours of today according to plan, in the area between Havre and Cherbourg.

The operation of sweeping channels for the approach of the assault forces was completed shortly before dawn.

At 0600B today (half an hour before the landings of troops commenced) the wind in the Channel was west moderate, visibility 10-15 miles. The weather compelled a few L.C.T. to turn back.

The assault forces moved towards the beaches under cover of heavy bombardment from the bombardment forces (see para. 11).

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19. Shortly before the assault three enemy torpedo boats from Havre with armed trawlers in company attempted to interfere with the operation and were driven off with the loss of one trawler and a second severely damaged. At 2101B C. in C. Plymouth reported that between 1900 and 3000 five of our A/C had sighted seven U-Boats coming out of Brest and two more from St. Nazaire, and a force of six destroyers was sighted at 2120B steering N.E. off Ushant. No other movements by German Naval Units have been reported.

20. The casualties amongst Allied ships were as follows:-

WRESTLER mined or torpedoed in 49.36 N. 00.28 W. at about 0825B and was towed to Portsmouth.

GORRY (U.S. destroyer) sunk by gunfire from shore batteries this forenoon off the western beaches.

SVENNER (Norwegian destroyer) with an eastern bombing force sunk, probably by torpedo, about 12 miles west of Le Havre.

PHEASANT (U.S. minesweeper) struck a moored mine about 30 miles N.W. of Cap d'Antifer (no further details known).

M.T.B.248 sunk in collision.

Two British landing craft sunk.

U.S. L.S.T.981 mined in 180° Beachy Head 17 miles (no details known).

One merchant ship (SS. SAMBUT) was sunk in convoy E.T.1.1 by gunfire from Sangatte.

21. The landings were effected as planned. Opposition from coastal batteries was less than expected. Considerable opposition was, however, reported at O beach (U.S. landing, Eastern Task Force). By 2300B General Eisenhower reported that the Second British Army had established a substantial bridgehead.

22. The three diversionary operations (see para.9) were carried out successfully.

23. The follow-up forces I and B arrived in the assault area during the afternoon and the former commenced to land an Armoured Brigade (British).

24. The personnel ships, landing ships and craft which took part in the assault sailed for England during this afternoon to load for the build-up and take their places in the Shuttle Service. Two convoys of the ferry service turned back on account of the weather.

25. In the British sector, discharge on the beaches was interrupted this evening by the weather.

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Tuesday.SITUATION REPORTHome Commands - General3 enemy
destroyers
attacked.26. At 2020 R.P. Seafighters attacked 3 enemy
destroyers 30 miles south of Belle Ile and set
one on fire.North AtlanticStraits of
Gibraltar.27. A Blimp patrol was instituted in the Straits
of Gibraltar p.m. today.MediterraneanDisaffection
in Greek
Navy.28. C. in C. Med. reports that the Greek
destroyers MIADULES and THEMISTOCLES and the
submarine chaser KING GEORGE II have been purged
at Naples of disaffected Petty Officers and
ratings. In the former ship an additional 56
ratings left the ship in sympathy against the
orders of the Commanding Officer, and were taken
in custody.SS. ORION
(German)
sunk.29. SICKLE obtained a hit this morning on the
German SS. ORION (4798 tons) in Doro Channel and
considers she sank the ship. In the same convoy
there was a 400 ton ship, 2 E-Boats and 4 A/S
cruisers; one of these was possibly also hit.East IndiesS/MS.,
patrol
reports.30. TACTICIAN, TALLY HO and SPITEFUL have
returned from Far East patrol. The two former
each laid 12 mines successfully, TACTICIAN also
sank 2 junks and brought 6 Chinese in for inter-
rogation. SPITEFUL's patrol was blank except
for a brief but accurate bombardment of Govern-
ment House, Ross Island, Port Blair.

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TuesdayHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Situation Reports.First
landings

Communique No.1.
Under the Command of General Eisenhower Allied Naval Forces supported by strong air forces began landing Allied Armies this morning on the Northern coast of France.
(S.H.A.E.F., 060940 to Agwar).

Cositintrep
No.7.

061000B. Part 1, Land.
Period to 052400B. Intelligence. Unconfirmed report 2 Bn., 125 Pgr. at Colombelles 0770.
Operations. Allied Airborne troops landed on north coast of France in early hours of this morning according to plan. Their operations were followed by seaborne landings by Allied Forces astride the estuary of the Vire and as far east as the mouth of the Orne.
(Exfor Main, 061010B to Admty.).

Part two. Naval A.

Landing generally satisfactory. Opposition from coastal batteries less than expected. Follow up and building convoys moving according to plan.

E. Enemy light forces from Le Havre attempted to oppose our landing but were driven off with the loss of one trawler sunk and one damaged. Seven lines of mines so far reported in the assault area.

C. Casualties to our own forces.

One destroyer sunk by gunfire and one probably by torpedo. One destroyer mined but afloat. One L.S.T. mined off Hastings and a few L.C.T. returned owing to weather. Believed at least two minesweepers sunk or damaged but no further details.

D. Enemy intelligence. No major change.

(Ramsay, 061259B).

First
phase
reports.

P.R. sortie 16/413 1020B/5th June shows:-
Quistreham-Corseulles (State of beaches).
Main landing at Lion-Sur-Mer.
Eight craft at beach, approx. twelve standing off.
Along beach towards Quistreham six more craft showing no activity. Approx. 50 vehicles on beaches East of Lion, approx. one hundred at main landing point, and vehicles seen proceeding on roads towards inland area.
St. Aubin-Sur-Mer. Many buildings along sea front. One wrecked L.C.T. off shore. Landing west of St. Aubin partly covered by smoke screen. 6 craft at beach, one standing off, and approx. 40 vehicles on beach.
Bernieres. Smoke-screens.
Courseulles-Sur-Mer. Two craft at east beach, approx. 30 vehicles ashore, and some moving off. Seven craft at west beach, three lying off, and one swamped. Approx. eighty vehicles at beach and several moving off. Harbour apparently unoccupied. Town severely damaged and burning.
Main Landing at Ver-Sur-Mer. Approx. twenty five Landing Craft at beach, approx. ten standing off as well as many L.C.P. Several hundred vehicles on beach and many more visible inshore. Much damage from bombing amongst houses inshore from beach.

(34 Wing, 061510B to H.Q.T.A.F.)

/Colleville...

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First phase reports (Contd.) Colleville taken. Saint Laurent partially occupied. Crust seems to be broken. Considerable Mortar and Artillery fire falling on beaches. Foot elements of approximately 4 Regiments ashore. At last report no artillery or Anti-Aircraft ashore. Many stranded landing craft due to surf and obstacles which were not cleared initially. Destroyers giving close gunfire support. Above for Omaha. On Utah latest reports indicate good progress. No radio reports either airborne division. No hostile air attacks yet. (N.C.W.T.F., 061927B to A.N.C.X.F.).

Western area Following is re-encypherment of my 061840B. Addressed N.C.W.T.F. from A.N.C.X.F. for General Bradley from C. in C. 21st Army.
(1) No news from you since your Sitrep 0730 received here 1454.
(2) Am arriving over myself early tomorrow morning.
(3) Essential I have short report here Coma Most Immediate. (A.N.C.X.F., 061959B to N.C.W.T.F.).

G.2. Summary No.1. Landings appear to have achieved partial tactical surprise, particularly on east coast of Cotentin where enemy probably appreciated flooding of sufficient deterrent. Enemy coastal defences clearly overwhelmed by air and sea bombardments, for opposition from coastal batteries weak except at Ouistreham and Douvres. (S.H.A.E.F., 061200 to Troopers, Agwar).

Progress to 062200B Cositintrep No. 8, Part 1, Land. 061200B. Period to 061200B. Intelligence. Unconfirmed report P.W. from 192 P.G.R. U. 077/. 1 Bn. 736 Gr. at La Breche U.U. 0980 State 726 G.R. on left. 8 Coy. 916 Gr. T. 6591 and other elements 352 Inf. Div. at Mouvaines T 8986.
Operations. First U.S. Army. Inf. of 8 R.C.T. and one Bn. 22 R.C.T. of 4 Inf. Div. Landed by 1200 hrs. west of Vire Estuary East of estuary troops of 1 and 29 Inf. Divs. landed in face of considerable opposition. By 1200 hrs. Pointe Du Hoc Battery reported captured. 82 and 101 Airborne Divisions landed successfully S.E. of Cotentin Peninsula. Second British Army. All landings effected as planned and has established a substantial bridgehead. 30 Corps. 50 Div. assaulted at Le Hamel 8786 and north of Mont Fleury 9285. Opposition was less than anticipated and beach obstacles were successfully overcome only those on beach north of Mont Fleury proving a serious obstacle. The enemy in La Riviere 9386 and Le Hamel 8786 resisted strongly. Le Riviere 9386 was in our hands by approx. 1030 hrs. 231 Inf. Bde. contained enemy in Le Hamel and pushed on to Area Buhot 8684. 69 Inf. Bde. overcame opposition in La Reviere and reached their first objective PT 44 9184 - PT 529085 - Mouvaine 8985. 1 Corps 3 Cdn. Div. assaulted in area Courseulles-Sur-Mer 9785 and Berniere-Sur-Mer 9985. Beach clearance proceeded rapidly although shelling and mortar fire was encountered on beaches. By 1020

/ hours...

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Progress to 061200B (Contd.). hours first objective was reached and forward troops were on line 936862 to sea at 025846. By 1130 hours 7 Cdn. Inf. Bde. on right and 8 Cdn. Inf. Bde. on left were on general line 915612 to Tailville 004819. 3 British Div. assaulted west of Ouistreham. By 1050 hrs. the coast defence battery at Ouistreham was captured. 8 British Inf. Bde. pushed forward and reached area Colleville-Sur-Orne 0878. 6 Airborne Div. dropped as planned during night 5/6 June. By 0850 hours the Bridges at Benouville 0974 - Ranville 1074 and 1176 had been captured intact. H.Q. 5 Airborne Div. located at 105735 and there were indications that 3 Para. Bde. and 5 Para. Bde. were operating according to plan. (Safor Main, 062300B to Admty.).

Communicate No.2. Shortly before midnight on 5th June, Allied night bombers opened the assault. Their attacks in very great strength continued until dawn. Between 0630 and 0730 hours this morning, two Naval Task Forces, commanded by Rear Admiral Sir Philip Vian, K.B.E., D.S.O., flying his flag in SCYLLA (Captain T.M. Browning C.B.E., R.N.) and Rear Admiral Alan Goodrich Kirk, U.S.N. in U.S.S. AUGUSTA (Captain E.H. Jones, U.S.N.) launched their assault forces at enemy beaches. The Naval forces which had previously assembled under the overall command of Admiral Sir Bertram Ramsay, made their departure in fresh weather and were joined during the night by bombarding forces which had previously left northern waters. Channels had to be swept through the large enemy minefields. This operation was completed shortly before dawn and, while minesweeping flotillas continued to sweep towards the enemy coast, the entire Naval force followed down swept channels behind them towards their objectives. Shortly before the assault, three enemy torpedo boats with armed trawlers in company attempted to interfere with the operation and were promptly driven off. One enemy trawler was sunk and another severely damaged. The Assault Forces moved towards the beaches under cover of heavy bombardment from destroyers and other support craft, while heavier ships engaged enemy batteries which had already been subjected to bombardment from the air. Some of these were silenced. Allied Forces continued to engage other batteries. Landings were effected under cover of the air and naval bombardments, and airborne landings involving troop-carrying aircraft and gliders carrying large forces of troops were also made successfully at a number of points. Reports of operations so far show that our forces succeeded in their initial landings. Fighting continues.

Allied heavy, medium, light and fighter bombers continued the air-bombardment in very great strength throughout the day with attacks on gun emplacements, defensive works, and communications. Continuous fighter cover was maintained over the beaches and for some distance inland and over Naval operations in the Channel. Our night fighters played an equally important role in protecting shipping and troop carrier forces and in intruder operations. Allied R/C aircraft maintained

/ continuous...

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Communique No.2. (Contd.) continuous watch by day and night over shipping and ground forces. Our aircraft met with little enemy fighter opposition or anti-aircraft gunfire. Naval casualties were regarded as being very light, especially when the magnitude of the operation is taken into account. (S.H.A.E.F., 062350B to Agwar).

Assault Area Reports

Area "G" (Asnelles) Com. Force G. reports in part of his corrupt signal 060915.
(1) Longues battery neutralised.
(2) All S.P. Artillery landed.
(3) Beach exits established.
(4) Enemy tanks reported 50 miles to south.
(A.N.C.X.F., 061059B to N.C.E.T.P., N.C.W.T.P., Forces 8,0,U,F and G)

E.T.A. 0600B/7th. In view of traffic it has been impossible to make correct channel. G.M.3, J.M.3, and S.M.3 are all in channel 5, and will arrive in "Gold" area.
(ARMERIA, 062001B to Capt. Southbound Sailings, N.C.E.T.P.).

Due to a number of major landing craft being damaged by Teller mine supplies of the following are urgently required. Details.

(2) L.C.T. do not explode mines until going astern retracting from beach. In most cases engine rooms are flooded, holes are 2 to 3 feet across.
(3) In view of para.2. a number of craft will have to be towed to U.K.
(4) At present craft stranded are seriously hindering "build up".
(Com. Force "G", 062347B to A.N.C.X.F.).

Area "U" (Mercoeur) Sailing 061400B Convoy U.4. for Portland under command of C.T.U.125.5.1 in BARNETT, DICKMAN and EMPIRE GAUNTLET in company. Escort HOBSON (S.O.), SHUBRICK, U.S.C.G.C. 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21.
BARNETT and DICKMAN to Portland E.T.A. 2200.
EMPIRE GAUNTLET to Plymouth E.T.A. 07/0600. U.S.C.G.C. 8 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, leave convoy at Poole E.T.A. 06/1700. Casualties in BARNETT and DICKMAN. SHUBRICK and HOBSON return Portland for resupplying on completion escort duties and immediate return.
(C.T.F. 125, 061115B to C's. in C. Plymouth, Portsmouth, Portland).

Task Force operation completed. Have returned as ordered.
(S.O. Big Drum, 061337B to S.O. Force U).

/ Presence...

War Diary6.6.1944.
TuesdayHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Assault Area Reports

Presence of battery enfilading Utah Beach necessitates modification by 061810 and 061851 to 2nd T.A.F. Change air spot group 6 to read targets 5 16 and 16 able ENTERPRISE. Tent spotting aircraft to search Fontenay area for mobile battery.

(2) Pass to 2nd T.A.F. by other means.
(C.T.F. 125, 062241B to A.N.C.X.F..T.A.F.2.).

Area "J". A. BLUESKY 22.
(Courseulles) B. PRINCE HENRY, PRINCE DAVID, QUEEN EMMA, CLAN LAMONT, LLANGIBBY CASTLE, MONOWAL INVICTA, DOKE OF WELLINGTON, MECKLENBURG, BRIGADIER, DUKE OF ARGYLE, ISLE OF THANET, LAIRDS ISLE for the Solent
E.T.A. 2300B/6th.
C. CANTERBURY armed tug and LADY OF MAN for Portland, E.T.A. 0100B/7th.
D. ULSTER MONARCH and ST. HELLIER for Plymouth, E.T.A. 0500B/7th.
(Com. Force "J", 061510B to C's. in C. Portsmouth, Plymouth, Portland).

Have added STORK to escort of L.S.D.11 sailed from "Juno" area 2000B/6th.
(Capt. Northbound sailings, 062056B to C. in C. Portsmouth).

Group L.3. arrived at lowering position unmet. Will endeavour to lead L.S.T. to Rhino in areas.
(S.O. Convoy Escorts, 062355 to HILARY, U.S. L.S.T. 60).

Area "O" (St. Laurent) Desire fire on 7 Batteries believed vicinity Port En Bessin Enfilading Omaha Beaches. Request clearance if position your front line permits.
(Com. Force "O", 061810B to Com. Force "G").

Casualty evacuation report convoy X.K.R.X. Details.
(C.T.F. 124, 062012B to F.O.I.C. Portland).

0913. Opposition Omaha Beach considerable. If required can U.S. Forces be accepted through "Jig" and "King". Most immediate N.C.E.T.F. pass to G.O.C. 21st A.G.
(Main 2nd Army, 062100B to H.Q. 2nd Army).

Direct BRISSENDEN escort OCEANWAY in Portland. Remainder of escort await further orders.
(C.T.F. 124, 062123 to WENSLEYDALB).

Sail Portland escorted by BRISSENDEN.
(C.T.F. 124, 062301B to OCEANWAY).

Area "S" Intend Ramp should proceed in VERSATILE at 1400 tomorrow. Route T.56, arriving at "Sword" area at 1830.
(A.N.O.X.F., 061930B to C. in C. Portsmouth).

War Diary6.6.1944.
TuesdayHQMS COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Bombarding ForcesEastern
Task
Force.

As soon as destroyers complete initial bombardment at H hours send one division to act under the orders of C.S.2. (N.C.E.T.F., 060631B to Capt. D.23.).

On turning north in 049 degs. 32' N. 000 degs. 15' W. eastern convoy at 1410 RODNEY was engaged by 6 inch battery. 2 rounds 16 inch were fired in reply into Area 4631 using Radar range Cluff. Jamming was experienced on 600 k/cs. Radar signals were heard on 526 m/cs and jammed. (RODNEY, 061503B to C.S.2.).

My 1455. On arrival spotting groups 1 and 2 and 4 being flown continuously. This is maximum effort available. Allocate as necessary Eastern Assault Force. (A.N.C.X.P., 061803B to N.C.E.T.F.).

RAMILLIES and ROBERTS escorted by SERAPIS and VERULAM are to sail now to re-ammunition at Portsmouth by channel. S. S.O.A. 9½ knots, E.T.A. 0530/7th. (N.C.E.T.F. 061915B to C. in C. Portsmouth, RAMILLIES).

Request RODNEY and SIRIUS be sailed to point of arrival at 0900/7th. (N.C.E.T.F., 061935B to A.N.C.X.P.).

Invoice "Juno" will be flown continuously until dusk arriving Assault area 0530/7th. This is maximum effort available. Task Force Cdr. Sub. Allot Group to Assault Force, who should then detail ships for each period. This also answers N.C.E.T.F.'s. 061918. (A.N.C.E.F., 062155B to All Bombarding ships).

Request you will sail RODNEY and SIRIUS to be at point of arrival at 0900 tomorrow. O.N.Y. 13 para. three refers. Escorts RION and WESTCOTT. (A.N.C.X.P., 062231 to C. in C. Portsmouth).

ROBERTS has provisionally condemned both 15 inch guns, right gun stated to have fractured, left gun defect not stated. (C.S.2, 062234B to C. in C. Portsmouth).

Raise steam and be ready to pass Gate at 0300/7th. Escorts detailed BLEASDALE and RION, latter if available. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 062259B to RODNEY, SIRIUS).

Western
Task Force.

Desire Air Spot Groups for tomorrow briefed as follows H Group six targets eight A eight and two

/ TUSCALOOSA...

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TuesdayHOME COMBANDSOperation "Neptune"Bombarding Forces.Western
Task Force
(Contd.)

TUSCALOOSA. Group 8 targets eleven A12, B17
A QUINCY 7B Group 8 targets 14 A 17 and 12 A
NEVADA. Imperative that one group be briefed
for tactical use as required by Mobile Batteries.
(C.T.F. 12.5, 061810B to A.N.C.X.P.).

Request permission to proceed Portsmouth not
exceeding 8 knots owing to insecurity of 6 ft.
gun and cradle. What escort 161 985 please.
Am waiting near M. buoy position.
(EREBUS, 061900B to N.C.W.T.P.).

O'BRIEN and BARTON replace CARMICK and SATTERLEE
respectively fire support force "O".
(N.C.W.T.P., 062211B to U.S. L.C.I.(L) 503).

Covering OperationsPatrols
from
Portsmouth.

On Portsmouth one para. 38.
Cover night 6th/7th June in accordance with
Appendix One.

Unit A 3 M.T.Bs. 675 (S.O.) 689.

Unit A 4 M.T.Bs. 690 (S.O.) 694.

Unit A 5 M.T.Bs. 450 (S.O.) 454.

Unit A6 M.T.Bs. 448 (S.O.) 478. Unit C M.T.Bs. 673 (S.O.) 677,
717. Unit D M.T.Bs. 738 (S.O. 739, 742.

Cancel Unit B.

Amend position Unit C to 000 degs. Cap de la Hague 7 miles with
freedom in areas Z 128 and Z 122.

(C. in C. Portsmouth, 061346B and 061554B).

Patrols from Plymouth Patrol orders night 6th/7th on Plymouth 5, Section
1, Appendix 1, para.1.(A) Force 27. BLYSKAWICA (S.O.), ESKIMO, PIORUN
and JAVELIN and 37th Sub. division comprisingTARTAR and ASHANTI. To comprise Force 27 under orders of D,
10 in TARTAR from time of joining.

(B) (1) 37th Sub division at 1800B today.

(D) Till 2300E/6 between (AA) 49 degs. 30' N. 6 degs. 00' W.
and (BB) 49 degs. 30' N. 5 degs. 13' W.

From 2350/6 till 0500/7 between (CC) 49 degs. 10' N. 6 degs.

00' W. and (DD) 49 degs. 10' N. 5 degs. 00' W. From 0550/7 till

further orders. Between (AA) and (FF) 49 degs. 30' N. 5 degs.
00' W.(H) 37th Sub division and 20th division are to R/V at (BB) at
2100B today and are to man patrol lines as in (D) alone. Object

To cover shipping in channel and Cornish coast against Narviks.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 061350B to D.F.10).

Cancel my 061756B.

(2) 37th Sub division and 20th Division forming Force 27 are to
carry out patrol laid down in my 061350B.

(C. in C. Plymouth, 062040B to D.F.10).

/ On...

War Diary6.6.1944.
TuesdayHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Covering Operations

Patrols from Plymouth (Contd.)

On Plymouth 5 Section 2 para.3. S.U.P.S.
(A) Southern half Z.238 Northern half Z.239.
(B) South or west of above area but not within three miles of known minefields.
(C) Crossing 49 degs. 10' N. not earlier than 0530/7th and searching eastern half of area first.
(D) Five U-boats sighted off Ushant outward bound at 1650/6th, attention is called to my 061350.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 062303 to E.G.12.).

O.N. Plymouth 5, Section 2, para. 3. S.U.P.S.
(A) Z.233 and Z.229.
(B) South or East of above area.
(C) 18 knots to patrol area.
(D) See para. (D) and last part of para. (C) of my 062303.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 062309 to E.G.14).

Eastern night Channel report 6th/7th June.

O.N. One para.52 (B).
(1) OPPORTUNE Z.5, ORWELL Z.7, OBEDIENT Z.8, SAVAGE Z.9, West, TROLLOPE Z.12 East, THORNBOROUGH Z.13 east.
(2) Coastal force unit. F.N. One. 2 M.L. 2 One, F.N.2, 3 M.T.Bs. Z.2, F.O. One, 3 M.T.Bs. Z.3, F.O.2, 3 M.T.Bs. Z.6, F.Y.2, 2 M.T.Bs. Z.12, east, P.Y.3, 3 M.T.Bs. Z.12, West, F.Y.4, 2 M.T.Bs., Z.11 south, P.Y.5, 3 M.T.Bs. Z.10, F.X.2, 2 M.T.Bs. Z.13 east, F.X.3, 3 M.T.Bs. Z.13 West.
(3) WELLINGTON crossing over patrol 050 degs. 03' N. 000 degs. 43' E. to 050 degs. 15' N. 001 degs. 15' E.
(C. in C. Portsmouth, 061853B to Ships Area C).

Wellington
(aircraft)Minesweeping

Proceeding to (9sea) with ASTRAL. Propose complete clearance of Channel 78 with favourable tide (?to) Aga buoy tomorrow on western edge channel 8 L position (FF) at 1200.
(2) (9All) mines swept and detonated on Western edge of Channel 7 close to Dan buoy. Further mines expected. (?Dan buoys) missing in several positions.
(M/s 7, 061835B to M/s 9, N.C.E.T.F.A.).

Your 062200. Search W.B.56 in area west of Channel one beginning first light 7th June.
(C.T.F. 125, 062321B to C.T.U. 125.9.2).

Enemy Action

Surface ships. 3 destroyers bearing 072 degs. distant 9 miles. / course...

War Diary6.5.1944.
TuesdayHOME COMMANDSOperation Neptune "Enemy ActionSurface
ships
(Contd.)

course 210 degs. My position is 49 degs. 24' N.
00 degs. 14' W.
(SCYLLA, 060557B to Portsmouth).
Send M.T.Bs. to report to me.
(SCYLLA, 060610B to N.C.T.F., E.T.P., C.S.10).

Patrol forthwith as follows:

SAVAGE Z 9 W. ORWELL Z 9 N. OPPORTUNE Z 8 N.
OBEDIENT Z 7. Message 0557 from SCYLLA refers.
(F.O.C. Dover, 060835B to SAVAGE, ORWELL,
OPPORTUNE, OBEDIENT).

Destroyers
and U/boats
off Brest.

A/C reports indicate 3 Narvik left Gironde
River northbound today.
(2) Force 27 consisting of 20th division is to
leave vicinity of (AA) and proceed to pass
through (GG) 048 degs. 20' N. 005 degs. 01' W.
at 2230B today and thence 124 degs. 25 knots.
(3) On crossing 005 degs. W. Force 27 steer to pass through
(HH) 205 degs. Penmarch Light 7 when if nothing sighted retire
at N.S. 270 degs. as far as 005 degs. W. then 315 degs. to 007
degs. W., thence 000 degs.
(4) 37th sub division is to act in close support of Force 27
and is to join at (GG) at 230 if practical.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 061756B to D.P.10).
6 Torpedo Boats, 5 submarines, bearing 090 degs., distance
5 miles, course 270 degs. position 48.18 N. 05.22 W.
(A/C, 235 Sqn, 061850B to 19 Group).
P.C.S. of 6 enemy vessels 48 degs. 26' N. 05 degs. 14' W.
course 340 degs. speed 0 knots. (sic.).
(A/C NOJ46, 061930 to 19 Group).
5 enemy destroyers escorting 2 U/boats which have
submerged.
(A/C 53 Sqn, 061935 to 19 Group).
Six destroyers bearing 090 degs. distance 5 miles course
260 degs. position 48 degs. 21' N. 05 degs. 23' W.
(A/C 235 Sqn., 061937B to 19 Group).
Six unknown vessels position 48 degs. 27' N. 05 degs. 09'
W., course 330 degs. speed 12 knots.
(A/C 206 Sqn., 061951B to 19 Group).
Six Destroyers line ahead, course 035 degs. speed 12 knots,
position 48 degs. 23' N. 05 degs. 10' W. 0.20 continue patrol.
(A/C 206 Sqn., to 19 Group, T.O.R. 062106).
My 1920. 6 Destroyers previously reported position 48
degs. 26' N. 05 degs. 04' W., course 060 degs. speed 10 knots.
(A/C NOJ46, 062120B to 19 Group).
My 1959. Enemy previously reported position 48 degs. 32'
N. 04 degs. 47' W. course 060 degs. speed 12 knots.
(A/C, RPD 54, 062139 to 19 Group).

U/boats
from Brest
and St.
Nazaire

Nevstrep 5 aircraft have sighted 7 S/Ms. coming
out of Brest and 2 more from St. Nazaire between
1900 and 2000/6th. Convoy's moving according to
plan.
(C. in C. Plymouth, 062104B to A.N.C.X.F.).

/ Circled...

War Diary.6.6.1944.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.Operation "Neptune".Enemy Action.

U-Boats from Brest and St. Nazaire. (Contd.)
 Circling patches of oil fluorescent visible position 48 degs. 45' N. 05 degs. 24' W. Continued patrol.
 (A/C 206 Sqdn. 062201B to 19 Group.)

Allied Air Activity.

Cositintrep 7 part 3, air. Summary for period sunrise to 2100 hours/5th June. Total sorties 1596. Summary of targets and details of operations.
 Enemy operations. 1 E/A Holland area G.F.T. (H.Q.A.E.A. 061300B to S.H.A.E.F.)

Cositintrep 8, part 3, air. Summary for period 2100/5th to sunrise 6th June. Total sorties 2145. Summary of targets and missions. Details. Dropping and glider operations carried out with good to excellent results. 1140 para-troop carriers, 147 tugs, and 147 gliders participated.
 Enemy Operations. 60 fighters and fighter bomber sorties over and near the battle area.
 (A.E.A.F. 062359B to S.H.A.E.F.)

Movements.

Force "Regulator". E.T.F. 860/3 para. 3 force "Regulator" sailed. (C. in C.Portsmouth 061427B to N.C.E.T.F.)

(corrupt group) E.T.A. Needles 2100 (corrupt group) (ships in company) PRINCE LEOPOLD, PRINCE BAUDOUIN, BEN-MY-CHREZ, AMSTERDAM, PRINCESSMAUD. (Origin 061658B to C. in C.Portsmouth, (R) S.O. Force J.)

Intend to sail BAULENOR at 2230B/6th with Cdr. 21st Army Group.

2. Routed P.T. 56 to Juno Mike Beach. E.T.A. 0500B/7th. (C. in C.Portsmouth 061756B to N.C.E.T.F.)

Arrived Portsmouth 1000B. Anchored in 210 degs 11.5 cables from Lee on Solent Tower, awaiting further instructions.
 (ROCKAWAY 061802B to Comnavy.)

/21st...

War Diary6.6.1944.
TuesdayHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"MovementsG.O.C.
21st Army
Group.

(1) General Montgomery in PAULKNOR will close AUGUSTA on arrival at 0600B tomorrow, afterwards proceeding to "Juno" section M beach.

(2) General Montgomery wishes you to inform General Bradley.
(A.N.C.X.F., 062220 to N.C.W.T.P.).Ramsay and
EisenhowerA.N.C.X.F. accompanied by Supreme Commander in APOLLO will visit western and eastern assault areas in that order arriving about 1130 tomorrow and returning to Portsmouth p.m.
(A.N.C.X.F., 062227B to N.C.W.T.P., N.C.E.T.P.).CasualtiesL.S.T.981
mined.
SAMBUT
(Convoy
E.T.M.1)
sunk.U.S. L.S.T.981 mined in 85 degs. Beachy Head 17 miles. Tugs are going to her assistance.
(P.O.C. Dover, 060551B to Cdre. Force L.).
At 0035 U.S. L.S.T.981 loaded with Serial 3786 was mined in 50 degs. 43' N. 00 degs. 39.5' E. Engines out of action and is now being towed to Portsmouth by Tug LADY BRASSIEY.
At 1205 convoy E.T.M.1 was shelled when passing Dover.Two two-gun salvos were fired from Noires Mottes battery+ first salvo hit SS. SAMBUT setting her on fire. She was abandoned and finally sunk in 51 degs. 08.6' N. 1 deg. 33.2' E. Approximately 430 survivors. Total number on board stated to have been 580.
E.T.P. 1 two hours ahead of station was turned back in order to allow smoke layers to replenish with C.S.A. In spite of the convoy being strung out an extremely effective screen by escorts and aircraft was made when passing Dover at 1640. No shelling took place. No damage. All other convoys passed without incident. No interference to movement of shipping by enemy surface craft during past 23 hours.
(V.A. Dover, 062001B to A.N.C.X.F.). + Sangatte.WRESTLER
mined.Request assistance for WRESTLER mined in 049 degs. 36' N. 000 degs. 28' W. Dan Layers FARNE, STERIGEL standing by.
(W/S 7, 060823B to N.C.E.T.P. A.).OSPREY
damagedG. OSPREY mined or torpedoed 50.12.9 N. 01 20.4 W. at 051759B. Crew removed. Salvage tug BANNOCK has in tow.
(C.T. 125.9.3, 060905B to KINGPIN).L.C.T.(A) 2428
damaged.L.C.T.(A) 2428 capsized whilst under tow was stopped by gunfire. All crew and army personnel saved and on board tug.
(JAUNTY, 061100B to Force "J").

War Diary6.6.1944.
TuesdayHOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Casualties

- L.C.T.2423 damaged. Following from L.C.T.2423 begins:- Anchor presumed in 140 degs. (12 or 45)' N. 0 degs. 19' W. Main engine broken, fuel-tank full of water, hopes to reach 49 degs. 26' N. 0 degs. 16' W. Request instruction. Ends.
T.O.O. 061310.
(N.O.I.C. Newhaven, 061505B to N.C.T.F., B.T.F.).
- M.T.B.248 Regret to report M.T.B.248 sunk in position 50.02 N. 00.01 W. as a result of collision damage. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 061537).
- L.C.M.1229 sunk. L.C.M. 1229, F Squadron, Force "J" sunk. Crew saved.
(Poole, 061730 to K.C.W.T.F.).
- L.C.T.2426 (sunk) Following is repetition my 061555B passed at 061630B. Begins: Landing Craft Tank 2426 sunk in 049 degs. 59' 30" N. 000 degs. 27' 30" W. Resuming Patrol. Ends.
(ONSLAUGHT, 062155B to C. in C. Portsmouth).
- M.L.473 M.L.473 holed striking wreckage. Intend to detach to Portsmouth with M.L.345 as escort. (M/S 31, 062220B to N.C.W.T.F.. Force "O").
- In order to utilise superior repair facilities at Penarth, Falmouth, Plymouth, request extensively damaged ships and craft returning U.K. be routed to Western most practicable port.
(C.T.F.127, 062239B to N.C.W.T.F.).

Salvage

Ramp. The Dutch Schuyts have broken down and proved ineffective for the raising of Phoenix Units, 7 effective pumping sets remain with no spares. It is considered that further sets should be produced as soon as possible.
(A.N.C.X.F., 061851B to Admy.).

War Diary.

6.6.1944.

Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Shipping

Convoy (B) 137 and 144 Escort Groups. (C) E.T.A.
 E.B.C.2Z. 0700/8th. (D) Parliament JG.
 (E) For Omaha - EASTWOOD, ISAAC KMGIC(Y), EMPIRE
 SEDGE, EMPIRE STRAIT, ERICA, PANO, GLANTON,
 JOSEWYN, JUTA, KATOWICE, KRAKOW, KYLOE, NEWLANDS,
 LYSLAND, WESTBURN, ZEELAND, AARO, AVANCE, Y tanker 23, Y tanker
 40, Y tanker 41.
 For Utah - GRASLIN, KORDICKI, TOMSK, CIRCE II, CLAUDIUS MAGNUM,
 DALEWOOD, Y tankers 25 and 26.
 (A.N.C.X.F., 060750B to N.C.E.T.P., N.C.W.T.P., P.O. Force S,
 P.O. Force U, P.O. Force U, Admty., Far Shore Shuttle Control,
 Cdre. Force J, Cdre. Force G.)

Convoy (B) GARTH, MEYNELL, GAMBELIA, CHARLOCK.
 E.T.M.1. (C) 0800B/7th E.T.A. (D) Sharp, 7L.
 (E) Juno - SAMARK, SAMPHILL, CAMPEP, SAMBUT,
 SAMINVER, SAMVERN, SAMMONT, SAMOS, SAMNEVA, SAMDEL,
 SAMEONA, SAMAROVSK, Gold, Sword, 9 L.C.I.(L).
 (A.N.C.X.F., 061041B to N.C.E.T.P., N.C.W.T.P., P.O. Force S,
 P.O. Force O, P.O. Force U, Cdre. Force J, Cdre. Force G.)
 My 061041B*. Following also for Sword - L.S.T.152, 153,
 164, 415, 430 and one L.C.I.(L).
 (A.N.C.X.F., 062210B.)
 * E.T.M.1.

Convoy Sailed. (B) Escort nil. (C) E.T.A. X.1 Buoy
 L.1. 0530/5. (D) Armadillo GH.

Name of ship	Destination
GLENGARIFF	Sword
MARCEL	Sword
WESTLAND	Sword
MONKSTONE	Sword
SIGNALITY	Juno
POLYGLEN	Gold
APPROIORITY	Gold
NORTHGATE	Gold
SCHELDE (Tug)	-
JAUNTY (Tug)	-
L.C.I.(L) 244	-

(C. in C. Portsmouth Turco, 061100B to A.N.C.X.F.)

Convoy (A) Sailed. (B) Escorts - LARK, CRANE,
 E.T.P.1. FORESTER, KITE, QUORN, TYLER, SKYMOUR.
 E.W.1. (C) E.T.A. 0700B D plus 1. (D) Codeword:
 Ganyade. Radio Group TJ.
 (E) (1) (2)
 LANCASHIRE (Odre.) Juno
 CITY OF CANTERBURY Gold
 DEVONSHIRE Juno
 CHESHIRE Juno
 LEOPOLDVILLE Gold
 WORCESTERSHIRE Juno
 NEURALIA Gold
 CAMERONIA Gold
 NEW BEDFORD Omaha
 BATAVIER TWO Gold

War Diary.6.6.1944.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Shipping

Convoy E.T.P.1. (Contd.) (G) Routed CH.11 to E.A.3 Buoy thence by KT.56. (H) AMBITIOUS at Portsmouth. (Cdre. Southend, 061104B and 061933B, 061950B to A.N.C.X.F.) MY 061950B. LEOPOLDVILLE, WORCESTERSHIRE, NEURALIA, CAMERONIA, NEW BEDFORD, BATAVIER II will stage St. Helens continuing at E.W.P.1, E.T.A. 0730/8th. (A.N.C.X.F., 062253B.)

Convoy G.M. 3. Convoy G.M.3 returned owing to bad weather. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 061155B to N.C.E.T.P., (R) S.O. Force G.)

Return destinations. Pass to N.C.S.Os. It is important that Masters of merchant vessels and coasters engaged in "Overlord" that are returning to the U.K. should be informed of their return destinations before sailing.

(2) If there is any doubt as to the return destination of a ship reference should be made to A.N.C.X.F.

(3) Ships unallocated or going into reserve on return should be directed to Solent for orders.

(D.T.D., 061318B to C. in C. Nore, C. in C. Portsmouth, C. in C. Plymouth, Info. A.N.C.X.F.)

Convoy E.W.C.1A. (A) Sailed E.N.C.1A. (? E.W.C.1A intended). (B) 136 E.G. KEPPEL (S.O.) (C) E.T.A. 0600B/7th. (D) Hogilly SF. For Omaha - MOELFRE ROSE, CREW-HILL, ERNA, ROCKLEASE. For Utah - GEM, HAWAREN BRIDGE, CUSHENDUN, STUART QUEEN, WALLACE ROSE, A.S.I.S. DONAGHMORE, Mooring Force A, Tugs ST.247, 248, 759, 761. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 061358B, 061805B to M.C.E.T.P., N.C.W.T.P., F.Os. Force S, Force O, Force U, Cdre. Force J, Cdre. Force G.)

Convoy E.B.M.3. (A) Sailed E.B.M.3. (B) 106th E.G. and 141st E.G. (C) E.T.A. 0800B/7th. (D) Decision 5A. For Omaha - LOUIS KOSSUTH, CLINTON KELLY, HELLAS, JOHN HAY. For Utah - CHARLES G. JONES, CHARLES I. POSTON, COLLIS P. HUNTINGDON, EUGENE O'DONNELL, WEBB MILLER, ABIEL FOSTER, AMOS G. THROOP, CHARLES MORGAN, CLARA BARTON, ENOCH TRAIN, JOSIAH F. LIPPINSCOTT, THOMAS B. ROBERTSON. For Gold - GEORGE W. WOODWARD. (A.N.C.X.F., 061442.)

Convoys E.M. 2, E.B.F.1. Request you sail 2 U.S. Coast Guard Cutters to E.B.M.2 at 2 Buoy 0001 D + 1 and 3 cutters to join E.B.F.1 at 2 Buoy 0250 D + 1. Cutters are to report to S.O. of Escort Group. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 061442B to N.O.I.C. Poole.)

/Convoy ...

War Diary.

6.6.1944.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Shipping

Convoy E.W.C.1B.	(A) Sailed E.W.C.1B. 131st S.G.	(B) Escort (FERNIE S.O.)	(C) E.T.A. 0600/7th.	(D) Intone KM.
	YEWGLIN	Gold		
	TEESWOOD	Gold		
	KYLECASTLE	Gold		
	LEOVILLE	Gold		
	YEWPAK	Gold		
	DURWARD	Gold		
	CALACUM	Gold		
	IPSWICH TRADER	Gold		
	VESTMANROD	June		
	EBRIX	June		
	SOUTHPORT	June		
	ERID MARY	June		
	KYLE QUREN	June		
	KENRIX	June		
	TORQUAY	June		
	STADIUM II	June		
	GLADONIA	Sword		
	AVANVILLE	Sword		
	KYLEGORM	Sword		
	HOLBURN HEAD	Sword		
	DUNVEGAN HEAD	Sword		
	ROCKVILLE	Sword		
	1 A.S.I.S.	W.T.F.		
	5 Eagle ships	W.T.F.		
	12 B/D vessels	W.T.F.		
	3 Salvage vessels	W.T.F.		
	6 U.S.S.T.O.	W.T.F.		
	(C. in C. Portsmouth Turco, 061602, 061955B amended 061928.)			

Convoy E.T.C. 22.	(A) Sailed E.T.C.22.	(B) Escorts EKINS (S.O.)	(C) E.T.A. 0600B D + 2.	(D) Codeword Nominal.
	(E) (1)	(2)		
	ASA ELDRIDGE (Cdre.)	Gold		
	GATESHEAD	Sword		
	GLAMIS	June		
	BARON RUTHVEN	Gold		
	ANTIQUITY	Sword		
	ARIDITY	Gold		
	DEEMOUNT	Sword		
	TOLSTA HEAD	June		
	CRAGSIDE	Gold		
	JELLICOE ROSE	Gold		
	EMPIRE AUDREY	Omaha		
	EMPIRE COAST	Utah		
	ARDGRYPE	N.N.		
	CHARLES TREADWELL	N.N.		
	ASHANTI	N.N.		
	ZUIDERHAVEN (Du.)	N.N.		
	BRACKENFIELD	N.N.		
	DUNGRANGE	N.N.		
	FLATDUSE	N.N.		
	THE VICEROY	N.N.		
	ASTERIA	N.N.		

War Diary.

6.6.1944.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDSOperation "Neptune"Shipping

Convoy	BUCKLAW	N.N.
E.T.C. 89.	BOSTON TRADER	N.N.
(Contd.)	ORTOLAN	N.N.
	HERBERT W. WALKER	N.N.
	FAGERBERG (Nor.)	V.
	WILNO (Pol.)	N.E.
	EMPIRE DWELLER	N.N.
	CHANT 69	Sword

(G) Routed CH.11 to E.A.3 Buoy thence by KU.78.
 (H) COLWITH FORCE and CHANT 7 did not sail, EMPIRE LAD, P.T.42,
 COMMERCIAL to Shoreham.
 (Cdre. i/c Southend, 061829B.)

Have added H.M.S. STORK to escort of L.S.D.11
 sailed from Junc area 2000/6th.
 (Capt. N.S., 062056B.)

Convoy	(B) 113th E.G. plus SPRAGGE and STOCKHAM.	
E.B.P.2.	(C) 0800B/6th. (D) Passiv PB.	
	Name of ship	Destination in France
		by sectors
	EXCHEQUER	Omaha
	EXPLORER	Utah
	MARINE RAVEN	Omaha
	EXCELSIOR	Utah
	BIENVILLA	Utah
	(P.O.I.C. Cardiff, 062115B.)	

S.B.1. B.B.1 sailed from Littlehampton at 2100B/6th.
 E.T.A. 0800B/7th.
 (N.O.I.C. Newhaven, 062232B to N.C.R.T.F.)

Diversions

Operation. Carry out operation in accordance with ON
 Plymouth 7, sections 1 and 11 tonight.
 (2) R.M.Ls. are to pass Gate at 1700/6th, S.O.
 in R.M.L. 532.
 (N.O.I.C. Dartmouth, 061158B to R.M.L. 532, 523,
 523, 497.)

Operations "Taxable" & "Glimmer". My 052030 and 061650. All craft returned to
 harbour. Operation "Taxable" completed.
 (N.O.I.C. Newhaven, 061358B to V.A. Dover.)
 Operation "Glimmer". My 051950. Operation
 completed. All craft returned to harbour.
 (N.O.I.C. Newhaven, 061410B to V.A. Dover.)
 My 062001. Operations "Glimmer" and "Taxable"
 went according to plan.
 (V.A. Dover, 062308B to A.N.C.X.F.)

/Operations ...

War Diary.

5.6.1944.
Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS

Operation "Neptune"

Diversions

Operations
"Frog" and
"Deer".

Neither operation "Frog" nor "Deer" will take
place.
(N.C.E.T.F., 062125B to PRINS ALBERT, 1918.)

War Diary.6.6.1944.
Tuesday.HOME COMMANDS.General.Policy.Biscay
Fishing
Craft.

Fishing craft along the French coast between Ushant and the Gironde are causing severe inconvenience to night air patrols. Request steps may be taken to warn them to keep clear of the area. (C. in C.Plymouth 061321B to Admty.)

Warning is being issued by B.B.C. broadcast, and it is hoped leaflets will shortly be available. Your 061321 refers.

2. Some fishing vessels may not be in possession of W/T apparatus, and aircraft are not deliberately to attack these craft unless identified as hostile.

3. Such additional warning measures as are considered necessary, i.e., firing in water in near vicinity, dropping leaflets, etc., may be taken.
(Admty. 061528B to C. in C.Plymouth.)

Operations.Coastal
Force
Patrols.(C. in C.Plymouth 061316B.)
(C. in C.Portsmouth 061357B.)
(F.O.C.Dover 061425B.)Enemy Air Activity.A/C over
Jan Mayen.

Following from Jan Mayen. Aircraft heard east of island 0415 probably flying east. Partially foggy. (A.C.I.C. 061130B.)

Enemy Intelligence.Straits
of Dover.Enemy shipping plotted by Radar in Strait of Dover from 0900/6 till 0900/6. Nil.
(V.A.Dover 061128B.)

3 destroyers.

Position, course and speed of enemy 3 destroyers 46° 14' N. 3° 27' W. 1433 (remainder missed).
(A/C 404 Sqn. 062029B to 19 Group.)U-Boats.

U/B report.

S.E.C. H.X.P. 293. German submarine transmitted B barred twice 2301Z, 2304Z, bearing 290° on series 7 group 3 position 052° 58' N. 017° 07' W. 184°. (S.O.C.4 062306Z to G. in C.W.A.)

Casualties & Defects.M.V. CHANT
53 (tanker)My 052225 vessel sunk in 020° 62 H Buoy 2.5 miles.
(F.O.Humber 061035.)
re Tug SCOTSMAN departed to salvage CHANT 53.

/MARINA...

War Diary.

5.6.1944.

Tuesday.

HOME COMMANDS.

Casualties & Defects - Contd.

MARINA.

M.L. MARINA has been sunk by collision with U.S.N. Craft. Report follows in due course. Request M.F.V. or similar vessel may be sent to replace her, as a craft is urgently needed for transfer of pilots. No suitable vessels are available locally. (S.O.L.C. Portland O61855B to Admty.)

War Diary.

6.6.1944.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONSNorth AtlanticU/B
contact.

Despatch 061055 which begins: "2 planes returning from search made simultaneous disappearing Radar contact 052140Z 37.52 N. 15.57 W. Pilot and Radioman report sonobuoys gave definite propeller noises wire recorder failed. At 060330Z during search 2 white lights sighted 18 miles apart 24 miles south-west of original contact in area previously covered. Aircraft circled one twice without being able identify when both disappeared. Now conducting search and continuous hold down unless otherwise directed propose if necessary follow up contact to vicinity 41 N. 14 W."
(C. in C. Lant, 081456Z to Cominch, C.T.F.62, Admty., F.O.C. Gibraltar, C. in C. Med. and Commsesfron, C.T.G. 22.2.)

Voyage of
Spanish
ships to
India.

Your 091850 May, Admty. have no objections to voyage by Spanish ship to Cochin and Madras but not to Karachi, Vizagapatam, Calcutta or Bombay.
(2) As, however, we cannot agree to passage through Mediterranean for some time, suggest voyage be postponed or alternatively vessel should proceed via Cape.
(A.C.N.S.(F), 062008 to N.A. Madrid.)

Spanish
Fishing
Vessels.

FY3BE ships your 011930. Route as follows - (to Bay Bulls).
(Admty., 062056R to B.N.A. Madrid, Info. F.O.G. M.A., N.B.E.Q., Connv.)

T.O. 22.2
(BOGUE's
Group).

Do not proceed beyond 40 N. when east of 20 W. Your 061055 on conclusion operations against present contacts you are assigned area 43 to 48 N. and 20 to 30 W. keep interested parties accurately advised of your position and intentions. Comnavzor pass to S. B.N.O. Azores.
(Cinlant Admin. Office, 062159Z to C.T.G.22.2, (2) Cominch, Comnavzor, C. in C. W.A., C.T.G.22.5, Admty., F.O.G.M.A.)

Navicerts
for Swiss
ships.

Owing to congestion of Swiss goods in French ports ship navicerts are to be issued to Swiss and Swiss Chartered ships only as far as Barcelona.
(2) This does not apply to Red Cross and Relief ships.
(D.E.W.D., 062354B to C.C.S.O. Gibraltar, Info. C. in C. Med.)

War Diary.6.6.1944.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONSSouth AtlanticEDMUNDO,
suspicious
behaviour.Following is a repetition of my 051236Z* addressed
as above, begins:Portuguese ship EDMUNDO sailed Leixoes 12th May
E.T.A. Luanda 27th May, 3 times closed convoy
O.S.75 on 16th May in 24.53 N. 16.24 W. and was
chased off. Her speed to this position was 11knots but she arrived Luanda on 31st May indicating subsequent
speed of 8½ knots if she remained on correct route. Suggest
circumstances warrant suspicion. Ends.(Freetown C.C.O., 060841Z to Admty.)*Previously received
undecypherable.Freetown,
repair base
torpedo
depot.Following is repetition of my 051237Z June begins.
"Admty. (R) Cdre. in Charge from F.O.C.W.Af.
Request instructions whether the need for a
repair base? torpedo depot still exists at
Freetown. With the impending departure of
destroyers no torpedo carrying escort vessels will
remain in this command.(2) If torpedo repair base is not required propose that
PHILOCTETES takes her torpedoes and all spare torpedo gear home
with her and that work on proposed depot should cease. A.L.C.S.
in C. 05661/43/80A of 16th February 1944 and *A.M. 011731A May
refers". Ends.

(F.O.C.W.Af., 051132Z to Admty.)

* Previously received undecypherable.

6.6.1944.
Tuesday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONSMediterranean

Employment of Yugoslav Navy. It is likely that new Royal Yugoslav Govt. will issue express instruction to officers and men of R.Y.N. that they are -

(a) to carry out all orders of C. in C. Med., and

(b) to operate in the Adriatic in support of Partisan forces if so ordered by C. in C. Med.

(2) If such orders are given Foreign Office are disposed to recommend employment of Yugoslav ships as follows:-

(a) ships already in hands of R.Y.N. to be employed in Adriatic with crews who volunteer for this service;

(b) if there is surplus of volunteers for ships in (a), R.Y.N. to be allowed to take over as many ex-Yugoslav ships in Italy for service in Adriatic as will absorb surplus;

(c) remaining ships in Italy not manned under (b) to be turned over to Tito;

(d) R.Y.N. personnel who refuse to serve in support of Tito to be employed outside Adriatic either in existing ships or ashore in whatever manner you think fit.

(3) All ships manned by R.Y.N. crews would fly Royal Yugoslav flag.

(4) Risk of incidents between R.Y.N. ships and Tito forces is appreciated and Foreign Office would propose to obtain assurance from Tito that his forces would respect R.Y.N. ships acting in their support.

(5) Above is tentative for your personal information as political arrangements are not complete. It would assist Foreign Office, however, if you could say how far above suggestions are practicable and what ships you could bring into active service assuming a good number of R.Y.N. personnel volunteered for service in Adriatic. Any estimate you can make of number likely to volunteer would also be valuable.

(V.C.N.S., 060200B to C. in C. Med.)

Disaffection in Greek Navy. Following recent developments in Greek Navy:-

(1) MIAOULES has been purged at Naples of 26 ratings, including 4 P.Os. This action was taken at request of C.O. in compliance with orders issued by Greek C. in C. An additional 55 ratings left the ship in sympathy despite contrary orders from C.O. These two groups are segregated, and being sent to Alexandria. Until relief arrive MIAOULES is not fully operational.

(2) 33 ratings have been removed from THEMISTOCLES, and are being sent to Alexandria.

(3) 3 P.Os. and 11 ratings have been discharged without incident from KING GEORGE II, and will be sent to Alexandria.

(C. in C. Med., 060928.)

UNIVERSAL. Intend sailing (P.57) UNIVERSAL to Maddalena at 1300/8th, 2, S. Route, &c. (Cdre. Algeria, 061102B.)

CURIE. Intend sailing (P.57) CURIE to Maddalena at 1300/7th June. (8), (3) Route, &c. (Cdre. Algeria, 061154B.)

100

6.6.1944.

Tuesday.War Diary.FOREIGN STATIONSMediterranean - Contd.

I.R.C.C. Spanish Under Secretariat Mercantile Marine state
ships. while all Spanish vessels likely to be employed
by I.R.C.C. have radio sets and operators able to
broadcast on 500 kc/s frequency, in most cases
the sets on ships are too weak to emit signals
audible in Gibraltar during daylight if made from South French
region. They ask if arrangements could be made for signals to
be picked up by stations in Corsica and/or Sardinia as otherwise
the value of the six hourly message would be almost worthless.
Your 202218 May, para. 2 refers.
(B.N.A. Madrid, 061230B to Admty., Info. F.O.G.M.A., C. in C.
Med., B.N.A. Lisbon.)

C.U., O.T., Conour Cominch 032047. will provide.
U.G.F. (1) Jammer Escort. (2) British A/A Cruiser if
convoys. feasible. (3) Air cover in Mediterranean.
(4) Logistics. Alteration U.G.F. convoy
schedule by one or two days may be required at
later date to avoid coinciding K.M.F. due to
berthing limitations Naples.

Co-ordinating with Pet section a plan based on tankers loaded
and destined approx. as follows is feasible.
Two Naples 80 Octane. Two Algiers split. Two Oran split.
One Bizerta split. Two Cesa unspecified. Two Taranto 100
Octane. Five days turnaround at Naples. Tankers for Cesa
Oran, Algiers and Bizerta may carry planes to be off loaded in
Cesa. Then with Zed Escort to destination of wet cargo. For
present U.S. Escorts will be assigned in that British Escorts
not available. Assume U.G.F. convoys will continue to be
escorted to Naples from U.S. Only Mediterranean Escort
involved will be that for tankers onward routed to Mediterranean
from Cesa to discharge wet cargo C.M.B.F. and C.N.O. Assign-
ment of tankers to Taranto is to be predicated on use of Task
Force Escort passing through Messina Straits.
(Comesvaw, 061436B to Cominch.)

Enemy (A) Appreciate probable enemy intentions my
ship. 061320 not to submarines.
(1) Speed 8 knots via Steno pass probably via
Purni (corrupt group) but possibly via Cape Papas
then via Portolego west of Kos, Piskopi to

Rhodes.

(2) May possibly enter Porto and sail later for Rhodes.
(3) Estimate arriving or passing Porto between 2300/6th and
0200/7th.
(F.O.L.E.M., 061628C to Capt. (S) 1st, S.O. Force 51, (R) M.T.B.
315, P.224, P.73, 309, SICKLE, VOX.)

SICKLE, (1) At 1140 in Doro Channel obtained one hit on
patrol ORION considered sunk.
report. Also in convoy - one 400 ton ship as EMS craft
2 E-Boats, 4 A/S csiques one other possible hit.
(2) Proceeding Kassendra area.
(SICKLE, 061957B to S.I.)

/Situation ...

War Diary.6.6.1944.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONSMediterranean - Contd.

Situation Report No. 373. Night 29th/30th May coastal force operating south of Peljesac Peninsula had inconclusive engagement with 4 I-Boats. 2 estimated damaged. Later same force was attacked by enemy aircraft and suffered slight casualties.

(2) TERPSICHORE and TUSCAN with available coastal force covered landing by Partisan and Allied forces on Brac Island night 1st/2nd June. The operation was successful, forces were withdrawn on 4th June and during the night 4th/5th June. Destroyers and coastal forces continued to provide cover throughout the operation and withdrawal but encountered no enemy.

(3) Night 4th/5th June TROUBRIDGE and BLEAN carried out sweep to Southern Approach to Quarnero Gulf and shelled Lussimpiccolo without incident. Slight opposition from shore battery.

(4) 6 enemy aircraft carried out suspected torpedo attack on Gibraltar night 4th/5th June no damage to shipping but detached Mole was damaged from seaward. Port was closed but reopened p.m./5th June.

(C. in C. Med., 062155.)

War Diary.

6.6.1944.
Tuesday.FOREIGN STATIONS.East Indies.

China, 29 May. On the Yangtze River 8 P.40n attacked a weekly gunboat and probably sank it. summary. (C. in C.India No T.O.O.)

U/B dis- No. 50 areas A. B. E. and F. believed clear of positions. U-Boats - scale of air escort W. Areas C. and D. up to 3 U-Boats are unfixed believed to be off the east coast of Africa and probably moving towards Gulf of Aden approaches. Scale of air escort pending further evidence - X area G no fresh information but a U-Boat may be in area. Scale of air escort X. (C. in C.E.F. 060324Z.)

TACTICIAN, TALLY HO, SPITEFUL, patrol reports. TACTICIAN Six Far East Patrol.
2. 12 mines laid successfully.
3. Two Junks sunk by gunfire and eight Chinese captured and brought into Trinco for interrogation.
4. TALLY HO Five Far East Patrol.
5. Successfully laid 12 mines. Remsinder of patrol blank.
6. SPITEFUL First Far East Patrol.
7. Patrol blank except for brief but accurate bombardment of Government House, Ross Island, 7Port Blair.
(C. in C.E.F. 060651Z.)

Troop move- For the present it is probable that escorts rather ments in than shipping will be the limiting factor for troop Indian Ocean. and personnel movements in the Indian Ocean.
2. To assist planning both in London and India, following procedure is suggested:-
A. C. in C.E.F. to signal to all concerned a list of routine personnel convoys between Suez and Bombay, Kilindini and Cape and between Bombay and Persian Gulf, giving dates of departure relative to the K.M.F. cycle, speed of convoy, and max. number of ships which can be accepted.
B. P.S.T.Os. and Army Movements Officers then to be told by D. of S.T. and War Office that all personnel moves must be arranged so as to fall into these routine convoys unless an exceptionally high priority can be justified.
C. To enable C. in C.E.F. to balance the priorities of moves proposed other than routine, Admty. in consultation with War Office and D. of S.T. to signal in broad terms the priority of such moves
3. Para. 2C above would not commit you to escort any particular convoy or ship rather than another, but would be intended purely to assist you in your decisions.
4. Request your remarks.
5. War Office and D. of S.T. have been consulted and agree.
(D.O.D.P. 061702B to C. in C.E.F.)

War Diary6.6.1944
TuesdayFOREIGN STATIONSAmerica and West Indies

- U.C.24. Your 051925. First ship detached at 060845Z in 38.41 N. 54.24 W. Speeds in order given your message 15, 14.5, 15, 14.5, 15, 15, 15, 14, 15, 15.5. W.X. 4390 4253.
(C.T.G. 21.8, 061043 to Com. 10th Fleet C. & R.)
- U-Boat Dispositions. Estimates.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 061330, Cominch, 061545Z)
- U.G.S. G.U.S. Convoys. Sail U.G.S. convoys 2 days later commencing with U.G.S. 46 departing New York 21st June and departing Norfolk 24 June. G.U.S. convoys will be sailed 1 day later from Port Said commencing with G.U.S. 44 on 24th June estimated arrivals Norfolk Unchanged.
(Com. 10th Fleet C. & R. 061600Z to Comeastseafrom)
- GALT attack on contact. Corrupt signal.
(GALT, 062015Z) see 070350Z (corrected copy)
- U-Boat sunk 16th March. in Gib. Straits. Your 052354. Concur except consider Catalina seven should receive minor credit because of tracking assistance but no attack made.
(Cominch, 062045Z) / preliminary assessment of U-Boat encounter.
- L.23. Movement from Halifax to Digby. Arrangements.
(Cominch, 062055Z)
- SS. IRISH ALDER. IRISH ALDER in 39 N. 50° W reports bunker shortage and request permission to proceed direct, which has been granted. This is but another instance of the situation pointed out in my 212009 February. There is no purpose in routing neutral vessel along standard routes when such vessels sail with obviously insufficient bunkers, and are consequently forced to cut across convoy tracks or be towed in. Request appropriate action may be taken.
(N.S.H.Q. Ottawa, 062057Z to Admty.)
/ N.T. in W.D. asked for 8 June.

War Diary6.6.1944
TuesdayFOREIGN STATIONSAustralia and New Zealand

Pacific Operations Summary. My 302139. Summary Pacific operations for week ending 3 June. These summaries will normally be sent on Tuesdays.

Central Pacific. Land based A/C continued daily strikes against Japanese positions in Marshalls and Eastern Carolines.

North Pacific. In 4 missions Aleutian based Army and Navy A/C bombed Paramushiro Shimushu v Matsuwa and Shimushira in the Kuriles and Mitchell bombers conducted shipping strikes in the same area sinking 1 small auxiliary vessel and damaging another. No planes were lost.

South and Southwest Pacific. Army, Navy and Marine A/C attacked enemy bases in New Britain New Ireland and Northern Solomons Islands daily. At Aitape Hollandia and Wake no change and Sarmi Airfield not yet captured but extensive ground patrolling continues and M.T.B's were active in harassing shipping and shore line targets. U.S. reinforcements have been landed on Biak, Owi and Wocendi Islands were occupied on 2 June without opposition. Japanese counter attacks on Biak repulsed and slow progress is being made toward Mokmer Airfield against strong enemy resistance. U.S. destroyers shelled airfield area and sank several enemy barges east of Soenek on 1 June. About 15 Jap planes attacked our naval forces and positions at Soenek slightly damaging 1 destroyer.

Ref. 302139. This is the first of a series of weekly reports summarising operations in the Pacific. Summary for week ending 27th May, 1944.

(Cominch, 061823) / N.T. in W.D. asked for 8th June.

U-Boat incidents. (A) Panamanian PILLORY torpedoed sunk 18-26 N. 67-17 W. 051810. P.B.M. Radar contact followed by sighting of surfaced U-Boat course 245 speed 8 attacked 18-12 N. 67-35 W. 060550 A/A fire encountered.

(B) Bogue A/C Radar and Sonic buoy contacts 37.52 N. 15.57 W. 052146.

(C) H.M.C.S. GALT attacked U-Boat contact 41.34 N. 64.28 W. about 051650. All times Z.

(Cominch, 062056Z) / Position was subsequently amended to 41.24 N. 64.28 W.

Digest 869. June 5th. Paras 14 to 18 cover South Pacific Forces. Early hours unknown number enemy torpedo bombers ineffectively attacked Allied Warships East of

Biak Island.

(11) Night 4th-5th M.T.Bs destroyed 3 Enemy barges Wewak-Broken Water Bay Arts. (12)

(17) M.T.B's with Catalinas co-operating strafed enemy shore positions East and Southeast Bougainville night 4th-5th starting small fires.

(18) Same night similar craft shelled shore positions Central West Coast New Ireland. Others shelling East Coast saw single enemy floatplane near Namatani but nil attack encountered.

(G.R.Q. S.W.P.A. 050740Z)

War Diary6.6.1944.
TuesdayU-BOAT CAMPAIGN

S/M. attack and sighting summary. Para.A. (1) A/C P/172 sighted U/boat at 2246Z/5 in 45 degs. 35' N. 08 degs. 19' W.
(2) A/C J/228 sighted U/boat at 2330Z/5th in 45 degs. 33' N. 08 degs. 56' W.
Para.B. A/C P/172 obtained A.S.V. contact at 2201Z/5 in 46 degs. 00' N. 07 degs. 29' W.
Para.C. A/C M/110 sighted possible U/boat at 1436Z/5 in 45 degs. 00' N. 10 degs. 00' W.
(D.D.I.C. 061103B).

U/boat dispositions. Estimates. (D.D.I.C. 061416B, 061434B).

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