

#21 -- JAPAN

2

~~SECRET~~

#21 -- JAPAN

MR Box 40

~~SECRET~~

NAVAL MESSAGE

NAVY DEPARTMENT

DRAFTER	EXTENSION NUMBER	ADDRESSEES	PRECEDENCE
FROM ALUSNA CHUNCKING	FOR ACTION	OPNAV	PRIORITY
RELEASED BY			RR ROUTINE
DATE 7 MAY 1942	INFORMATION		DEFERRED
TOR CODEROOM 171312			PRIORITY
DECODED BY RENNE			ROUTINE
PARAPHRASED BY HUTCHINSON			DEFERRED

INDICATE BY ASTERISK ADDRESSEES FOR WHICH MAIL DELIVERY IS SATISFACTORY.

ROUTED-FULTON

061450 NCR 2458

UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED THIS DISPATCH WILL BE TRANSMITTED WITH DEFERRED PRECEDENCE.

ORIGINATOR FILL IN DATE AND TIME	DATE	TIME	GCT
TEXT			

17 FRENCH VESSELS ANCHORED AT SAIGON REPORTED
 BYSINO AGENT RECENTLY TURNED OVER TO JAPS FOR
 TRANSPORTATION PURPOSES.

ACTION...16...

RECORD COPY...COMINCH...CNO...20 OP...20G...NAVAIDE...FILE...

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DOD D'R. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

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Make original only. Deliver to communication watch officer in person. (See Art. 76 (4) NAVREGS.)

SD12 CONFIDENTIAL

FROM STATE FOR OPNAV

FOLLOWING RECD FROM VICHY APR 27 12:44PM

DATED APR 27 NOON

[1942]

NO 617

(SECTION TWO ONLY)

WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED BY THE FOREIGN OFFICE OFFICIAL BY WHOM
THIS NOTE WAS DELIVERED THAT APPROXIMATELY 90,000 TONS OF
FRENCH MERCHANT SHIPPING WAS BEING TAKEN OVER BY NAVAL AUTHOR-
ITIES OF JAPAN AND THAT IT WAS HIS BELIEF THAT THE FRENCH AUTH-
ORITIES WOULD RETAIN THE REMAINING 10,000 TONS TO BE USED IN TRADE
ALONG THE COAST BETWEEN PORTS IN INDO-CHINA.

SGD LEAHY

TOD 417PM MAY 6 1942

16 act

2086

19/11 - Cominch - file

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State Dept. Letter AUG 29 1972
By J. Schenck Data

SECRET

NAVAL MESSAGE

NAVY DEPARTMENT

DRAFTER		EXTENSION NUMBER	ADDRESSEES	PRECEDENCE
FROM	CINCPAC	FOR ACTION	ALL TF COMS PACFLT	OP OP OP
RELEASED BY				ROUTINE
DATE	18 APRIL 1942			DEFERRED
FOR CODEROOM	0221 / 0203	INFORMATION	COMINCH (RDO WASH)	OP OP OP
DECODED BY	PORTER / BUSH			ROUTINE
PARAPHRASED BY				DEFERRED

INDICATE BY ASTERISK ADDRESSEES FOR WHICH MAIL DELIVERY IS SATISFACTORY.

180031 GCR 9734

UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED THIS DISPATCH WILL BE TRANSMITTED WITH DEFERRED PRECEDENCE.

ORIGINATOR FILL IN DATE AND TIME	DATE	TIME	GCT
TEXT			

ONLY FOR COMTASKFOR 16 AND COMINCH. FROM CINCPAC

JAP BROADCAST CONTACT REPORT PROBABLY QUOTE ENEMY AIR-
CRAFT UNQUOTE POSITION LONGITUDE 153-40 EAST LATITUDE
36-00 NORTH. TIME OF CONTACT 0820 MINUS NINE TIME.

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WAR DEPARTMENT
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AMDI 6

filed 6402/1

DEG

CSWD

April 1, 1942

414 P. M.

INCOMING MESSAGE

From: London

To: Milid

No. 2295, April 1, 1942

On basis recent campaigns stheast Asia and other info
WC has reconsidered previous estimate of numbr Corps and
Army troops attached to Jap Inf Divs. Now considered pre-
vious estimate of twentyfive thou per div including Corps and
Army troops was overestimate. Therefore intend in future
to consider twenty thou for standard div including divs
proportion Corps and Army troops.

Exclusive Corps and Army troops now considered that
strength of three regimental divs is fifteen thou and of
four regimental divs twenty thou and further now believed
that only ten divs out of total seventy two are still on
four regt basis.

McClure

CM-IN-0258 (4/2/42)

Action Copy: G-2

Info. Copies: A-2
OPD
TAG
File

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OSD Letter, 5-3-72

DEC 15 1972

21

SECRET
COPY No.

36

THE MAKING OF AN EXACT COPY OF THIS MESSAGE IS FORBIDDEN

DRAFTER		EXTENSION NUMBER	ADDRESSEES	PRECEDENCE
FROM	XBNK COMNWSEAFRON	FOR ACTION	OPNAV	PRIORITY
RELEASED BY				ROUTINE
DATE	26 MARCH 1942	INFORMATION	COMWESTSEAFRON	DEFERRED
TOR CODEROOM	252230			PRIORITY
DECODED BY	KALAI DJIAN			ROUTINE
PARAPHRASED BY	LELAND			DEFERRED

INDICATE BY ASTERISK ADDRESSEES FOR WHICH MAIL DELIVERY IS SATISFACTORY.

ROUTED BY FULTON

251859 NCR 8465

UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED THIS DISPATCH WILL BE TRANSMITTED WITH DEFERRED PRECEDENCE.

ORIGINATOR FILL IN DATE AND TIME	DATE	TIME	GCT
TEXT			

YOUR 232233.

13TH NAVDIST BOARDING REPORTS INDICATE ONLY 2 SOVIET SHIPS ARRIVING FROM VLADIVOSTIK USED TSUSHIMA STRAITS ONE REPORTED ICE CONDITIONS IN PATERHOUSE STRAITS. OF LAST THREE SHIPS BOARDED 2 USED LAPEROUSE AND 1 TSUGARU STRAITS. NO APPARENT RESTRICTIONS BY ORANGE TO USE OF KURILE WATERS BY SOVIET SHIPS.

ACTION: 16.....

10.....COMINCH.....FILE.....

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DDO C.R. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

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NAVAL MESSAGE

NAVY DEPARTMENT

DRAFTER	EXTENSION NUMBER	ADDRESSEES	PRECEDENCE
FROM ALUGNA KOIUBYCHEV (BOULLARD)		OPNAV	PRIORITY
RELEASED BY			RRRRR
DATE 25 MARCH 1942			DEFERRED
TOR CODEROOM 1841/25			PRIORITY
DECODED BY NEUMEYER			ROUTINE
PARAPHRASED BY NEWHOUSE			DEFERRED

INDICATE BY ASTERISK ADDRESSEES FOR WHICH MAIL DELIVERY IS SATISFACTORY.

ALOUIN

242338 NCR 8352

UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED THIS DISPATCH WILL BE TRANSMITTED WITH DEFERRED PRECEDENCE.

ORIGINATOR FILL IN DATE AND TIME	DATE	TIME	GCT
-TEXT			

SOVIET NAVAL SOURCES CONFIRMED BY CAPT BOSWELL USA NOW VLADIVOSTOK
 STATE ROUTINGS MERSHIPS FOR PETROPAVLOVSK AND AMERICA NOW VIA
 7/ TSUSHIMA STRAITS AS LAPEROUSE AND TSUGARU FORBIDDEN. THESE STRAITS
 BELIEVED MINED X JAP PATROLS ARE STOPPING AND BOARDING ALL SOVIET
 SHIPS. SITUATION DESCRIBED AS TENSE IN SPITE APPARENT GOOD RELATIONS
 ASSUMED AFTER RENEWAL FISHING TREATY. CONSIDERED SIGNIFICANT THAT
 STATES COURIER NOT PERMITTED GO VLADIVOSTOK LAST WEEK BECAUSE OF
 QUOTE SNOWDRIFTS ON TRANS SIBERIANX .

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DOD D'R. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

DISTRIBUTION

ACTION: 16....

COMINCH...18/11 ..37...13...OPDO....01A...08...

FILE: 280P...

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242338 NCR 8352

27141

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NAVAL MESSAGE

NAVY DEPARTMENT

DRAFTER	EXTENSION NUMBER	ADDRESSEES	PRECEDENCE
FROM RDO HONOLULU	FOR ACTION	RDO WASHN.	PRIORITY
RELEASED BY			RRRRR ROUTINE
DATE 18 MARCH 1942			DEFERRED
TOR CODEROOM 0630	INFORMATION		PRIORITY
DECODED BY PHILLIPS			ROUTINE
PARAPHRASED BY HILL			DEFERRED

INDICATE BY ASTERISK ADDRESSEES FOR WHICH MAIL DELIVERY IS SATISFACTORY.

LT FULTON**180307 NCR 3779**

UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED THIS DISPATCH WILL BE TRANSMITTED WITH DEFERRED PRECEDENCE.

ORIGINATOR FILL IN DATE AND TIME	DATE	TIME	GCT
TEXT			

FROM CINCPAC ACTION COMINCH. THREE OF OUR SUBMARINES WHICH WERE
 MOVED TO PATROL AREA OF INDICATED CONCENTRATION NEAR BONINS
 ARE IN EXCELLENT POSITION TO INTERCEPT KAGA. CUTTLEFISH RETURNING
 FROM WESTERN PATROL HAD ONLY TWO OPPORTUNITIES BOTH MISSED.
 TUNA ALSO APPARENTLY HAS NOTHING TO REPORT FROM EAST CHINA SEA PATROL.
 NO DEVELOPEMENTS HERE.

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 DOD D'R. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

COMINCH.....ACTION
 FILE.

180307**SECRET**

21

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ISSUED BY THE INTELLIGENCE DIVISION
OFFICE OF CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
NAVY DEPARTMENT

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

Serial #36-42
(Start new series each year, i. e. 1-80, 2-80)

Monograph Index Guide No. 902-150
(To correspond with SUBJECT given below. See O. N. I. Index Guide.
Make separate report for each main title.)

From Op-16-P-2, ONI at Washington, D.C. Date March 16, 1942
(Ship, fleet, unit, district, office, station, or person)

Reference
(Directive, correspondence, previous related report, etc., if applicable)

Source	Various	Evaluation	Reliable "A"
(As official, personal observation, publications, press, conversation with—identify)			(As reliable, doubtful, unverified, etc.)

Subject	Japan	Navy	Policy	Building & Upkeep Programs
(Nation reported on)	(Main title as per Index guide)	(Subtitles)	(Make separate report for each title)	

BRIEF.—(Here enter careful summary of report, containing substance succinctly stated; include important facts, names, places, dates, etc.)

ESTIMATE OF JAPANESE NAVAL AND MERCHANT SHIPBUILDING FOR 1942

Summary:

Japanese warship construction has progressed steadily, in spite of the handicap of material shortages. During the past four years naval construction has more than doubled. Nevertheless, the maximum expected production for 1942 is only about 106,500 tons.

Merchant ship construction, on the other hand, has shrunk during the last four years to less than half of its former volume. It is probable that it will not exceed the modest figure of 200,000 gross tons of new merchant shipping built during 1942.

I. Japanese Warships under Construction

December 7, 1941

Type	Name	Tonnage	Due to Complete	% Completed	% Completed
				Dec. 7, 1941	Mar. 16, 1942
BB	YAMATO (KII)	35,000	Dec. 1941	98%	100%
BB	OWARI (?)	45,000	June 1942	86%	94%
BB	TAKAMATSU (?)	35,000	Feb. 1943	71%	77%
BB/CA	TSUGARU	19,800	April 1942	90%	98%
BB/CA	CHICHIBU	19,800	Dec. 1943	43%	50%
BB/CA	Job #8	19,800	Dec. 1943	43%	50%
BB/CA	KISHU (?)	14,000	May 1942	90%	98%
BB/CA	(?)	14,000	July 1942	80%	88%

All battleship and pocket battleship tonnages are tentative. While they are based on the best information on hand, more reliable reports may point to a revision either upwards or downwards.

CV	KASHIWARA	27,500	Dec. 1942	75%	83%
CV	IZUMO	27,500	April 1943	55%	61%

Distribution By Originator

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Op-1	Op-1-1	5 A-B-C-D-E-F-X F-1, F-2, F-3, F-4, F-5, F-6, F-7, F-8, F-9, F-10, F-11, B-3, B-4, B-5, B-6, B-7, B-8					Monograph	Acid Press	Budget	Gen'l. Exp'd	Sec. Nav. Off. Inven.		
W. College	M. L. D.	H. O.	Nav.	Ord.	Y. & D.	Sta. 3	S. & A.	M. & S.	Aero.	U. S. M. C.	C. in C. Acad.	C. in C. Pac.	C. in C. A. F.
NAVAL ATT		Op-10-11	Op-12	Op-13	Op-14	Op-20	Op-21	Op-22	Op-23	Op-30	Op-31	Com. Rel. For.	Com. Sec. For.
F. A. T. U.	State	Commerce	Maritime Com.	Civil Aero Auth.	F. B. I.	N. R. L.	NAVAL ATT War Prod. Bd.		B. E. W.	JIC	C. O. I.		

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OSD Letter, 5-3-72

DEC 15 1972

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16-15407

Type	Name	Tonnage	Due to Complete	% Completed Dec. 7, 1941	% Completed Mar. 16, 1942
CL	-----	6,000	Sept. 1942	67%	77%
CL	-----	6,000	March 1943	50%	60%
CL	-----	6,000	Sept. 1943	33%	43%

(The appearance of 3 CL in 1940-41 leads to the assumption that this class of warship has come back into favor with the Japanese, and that similar ships are under construction. The dates given are based on past rates of building.)

DD	TANIKAZE	1,500	Dec. 1941	98%	100%
DD	-----	1,500	Dec. 1941	96%	100%
DD	-----	1,500	Feb. 1942	92%	100%
DD	-----	1,500	April 1942	83%	96%
DD	-----	1,500	July 1942	71%	84%
DD	-----	1,500	Sept. 1942	63%	75%
DD	-----	1,500	Nov. 1942	54%	67%
SS	I - 13	2,180	June 1942	83%	91%
SS	I - 14	2,180	Aug. 1942	78%	86%
SS	I - 21	2,180	Oct. 1942	72%	80%
SS	I - 25	2,180	Dec. 1942	67%	75%
SS	I - 26	2,180	Feb. 1943	61%	69%
SS	I - 27	2,180	April 1943	55%	63%
SS	I - 28	2,180	June 1943	50%	58%
SS	I - 30	2,180	1942-43	60% (?)	68% (?)
SS	I - 31	2,180	1942-43	60% (?)	68%
SS	I - 32	2,180	1942-43	60% (?)	68%
SS	I - 33	2,180	1942-43	60% (?)	68%

II. Survey of Japanese Warship Construction, 1931-1942

in Standard Tons

(Pro-rated over the building period, so that a 10,000 ton BB requiring 4 years to build would be assigned 10,000 tons during each of the four years of building.)

Year	Capital Ships	Aircraft Carriers	Cruisers	Destroyers	Submarines	Misc.	Total
1931	-----	-----	10,600	5,500	2,900	3,100	22,100
1932	-----	3,500	10,500	3,800	2,500	700	21,000
1933	-----	3,600	10,600	3,600	2,900	9,900	30,600
1934	-----	-----	11,200	3,800	5,000	10,200	30,200
1935	-----	3,300	9,700	6,800	4,800	19,800	43,400
1936	-----	3,300	9,200	9,500	5,500	15,600	43,100
1937	10,000	6,800	10,500	9,200	8,000	18,000	48,100
1938	20,000	14,300	10,500	9,000	10,000	14,000	77,800
1939	28,000 *	16,300	10,500	9,000	11,000	10,000	84,800
1940	44,000 *	18,000	10,000	10,000	13,000	8,000	103,000
1941	45,000 *	22,500	8,000	9,000	14,000	8,000	106,500

III. Maximum Expected Production, 1942

(Based on above figures, and ships known or believed to be building)

1942 45,000 ** 20,000 ** 9,000 ** 9,000 ** 15,000 ** 8,000 ** 106,000 **

* Note: If the pocket battleships prove to be large battleships, these figures may have to be increased about 50% - 60%.

** Note: Repairs to damaged warships may cut down the total capacity to build.

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- 2 OSD Letter, 5-8-72

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IV. 1942 CONSTRUCTION POSSIBILITIES
(Merchant Shipping)

A lag in commercial shipbuilding became noticeable in Japan during 1939 when merchant shipbuilding of vessels over 1000 tons gross dipped considerably under 400,000 tons. This decline is estimated to have continued sharply through 1940 and 1941, due principally to the following factors:

1. Serious shortage of labor due to younger men in the industry being called into service or being transferred to naval dockyards.
2. Shortage of electric power.
3. Diversion of steel and other raw and finished essentials to munitions, naval construction, and other military purposes.
4. Increased construction time because of difficulty in securing proper supplies of material and labor during various stages of construction. It has been estimated that on standard freighters the time required for construction had doubled.
5. Slow production of all goods needed for shipbuilding.
6. Diversion during 1941 of building supplies, labor and facilities to repairs. The extreme need for bottoms during 1938, 1939, and 1940, as a result of increased nearseas trade and the China "Incident", prohibited lay-ups for repairs with a resultant depreciation of the condition of merchantmen. It has now become necessary that required repairs be made on a large scale. Further, it is reported that repairs will now take approximately three times longer than in normal years.

Taking into consideration a continuation of the above factors and of an increased demand on facilities, material and labor for repair of both naval and war vessels damaged incidental to the present war, it is estimated that Japanese yards will be able to produce approximately 200,000 gross tons of new merchant shipping (over 1000 tons gross) during 1942.

At the beginning of 1942, approximately fifty vessels with a gross tonnage of 250,000 were estimated to be under varying degrees of construction. This list was made up from various sources, of varying degrees of reliability. The total was made up as follows:

TYPE	NO. of VESSELS	GROSS TONNAGE
Tankers	7	63,000
Combination Vessels	13	82,000
Freighters	30	105,000
	50	250,000

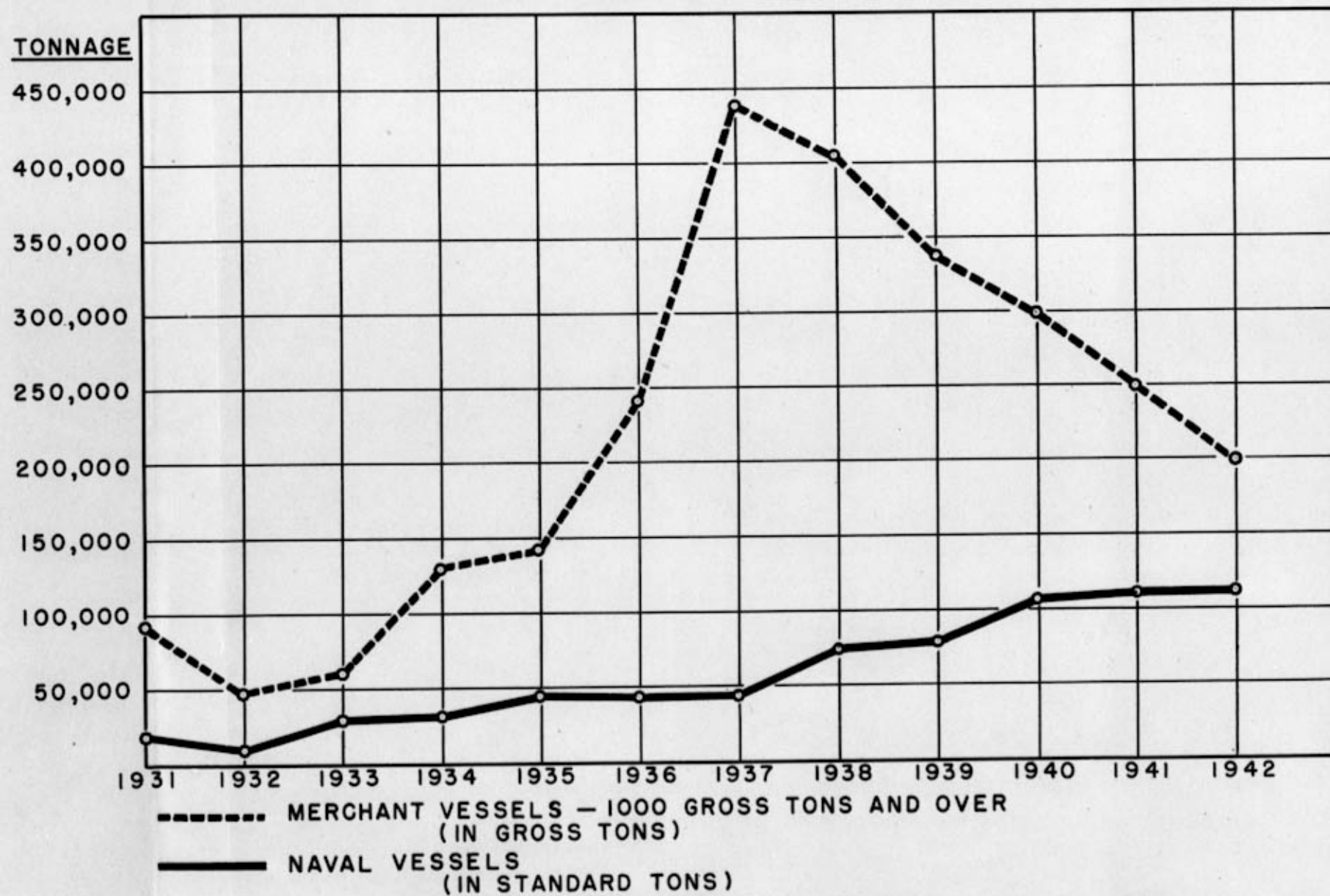
Several of these vessels will undoubtedly be completed as naval auxiliaries.

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Reports indicate that tankers and ore-carrying vessels will be stressed in Japan's future construction program, as a result of the strategic importance and shortage of these types. Four or five tankers of about 9,000 gross tons, one of 18,000 gross tons (probably a whaler-tanker), and several small tankers were believed to have been laid down during 1941, and presently to be under course for construction.

SHIP CONSTRUCTION - JAPAN



NAVAL MESSAGE

NAVY DEPARTMENT 385

DRAFTER	EXTENSION NUMBER	ADDRESSEES	PRECEDENCE
ALUGNA CHUCKING		OPNAV	RRR PRIORITY
FROM	FOR ACTION		ROUTINE
RELEASED BY			DEFERRED
DATE	FOR INFORMATION		PRIORITY
TOR CODER ROOM			ROUTINE
DECODED BY			DEFERRED
PARAPHRASED BY			

90 AIRMAIL BY AIRTEL ADDRESSEES 21 0315 11000000 Satisfactory.

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ORIGINATOR FILL IN DATE AND TIME DATE TIME GCT
TEXT

REPORT FROM JAP SOURCES RECEIVED BY CHINESE WHICH THEY CLAIM TO BE RELIABLE SAY THAT ONE 45,000 TON BATTLE SHIP PLUS ANOTHER OF 35,000 WERE COMPLETED FIVE DAYS PRIOR TO OUTBREAK OF WAR AND ARE NOW IN SERVICE. THIS IS PARAPHRASE OF MY 200245. THEY DISCOUNT OUR REPORTS THAT THE NIPPON IS SEAPLANE CARRIER AND THINK SHE IS ONE OF ABOVE THE OTHER BEING NAMED TAKA MATSU. ONE MORE OF EACH ABOVE SIZES DUE SERVICE SHORTLY PROBABLY NAZEDOW ARIANKIT. SINOS INSIST INFO IS CORRECT BUT ADMIT UNCERTAINTY OF NAMES.

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16.....ACTION

COMINCH.....10/11.....38.....

FILES: 200P.....GENL.

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87141

Make original only. Deliver to communication watch officer in person. (See Art. 76 (4) NAVREGS.)

NAVAL MESSAGE

NAVY DEPARTMENT

DRAFTER	EXTENSION NUMBER	ADDRESS	PRECEDENCE
FROM <u>COMINCH</u>	FOR ACTION	CINCPAC COMSOWESTPAC COMDR ABDAFLOAT (CINCAF) COMANZACFOR COMSOFESTPAC	PRIORITY ROUTINE DEFERRED
RELEASED BY <u>S. WILKINSON</u>		INFORMATION	COM NWSF COM WSF COM PANAMA SF COM HAWAIIAN SF COM 11 COM 16 SPENAVO
DATE <u>15 FEB 1942</u>			
TOR CODEROOM <u>2120/0005</u>			
DECODED BY <u>EGGEMAN/</u>			
PARAPHRASED BY <u>CLUNT</u>			PRIORITY ROUTINE DEFERRED

INDICATE BY ASTERISK ADDRESSEES FOR WHICH MAIL DELIVERY IS SATISFACTORY.

152130 CCR 236

UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED THIS DISPATCH WILL BE TRANSMITTED WITH DEFERRED PRECEDENCE.

ORIGINATOR FILL IN DATE AND TIME	DATE	TIME	GCT
TEXT			

ORANGE INTELLIGENCE NO. 13 INFORMATIVE OF TRENDS IN NEW DEVELOPMENTS AS NOTED BY ONI X IN PRESENT ATTACK DIRECTED

PALEMBANG AREA NOTE THAT LARGE CONVOYS NOW ARE DIVIDED UP INTO SMALLER GROUPS X RECENT MENTION PEMARI NOW BELIEVED

REFERS TO LOCATION THAT NAME IN STARING BAY WHERE WERE SIGHTED 3 CRUISERS 9 DD AND 7 AUXILIARIES X SOME INDICATION NOW OF SS

OPERATING NEW BRITIAN X SS NOW ACTIVE IN CONJUNCTION AIRCRAFT TO NORTH AND EAST OF JALUIT X TOKYO NAVAL GENERAL STAFF HAS

ASSIGNED ABBREVIATED DESIGNATORS IN CODE TO FOLLOWING LOCATIONS WHICH SUGGEST HOPE OF CONTROLLING SEA LANES TO OCEANIA

BY ULTIMATE OCCUPATION OF KEY POINTS THESE ISLANDS QUOTE ALEUTIAN MARQUESAS COOK SOCIETY LOYALTY NEW CALEDONIA AND

SCATTERED ISLANDS REACHING EASTWARD TO TUAMOTU ARCHIPELAGO X THERE IS A CONTINUAL STREAM OF SMALL AIR UNITS BEING FERRIED

SOUTH TO OPERATION AREAS X BOMBERS TAKE ROUTE JAPAN VIA LOOCHOOS TO TAKAO TO MANILA TO LEGASPI TO DAVAO

ORIGINATOR

OP-16, F-2

F-1

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OSD Letter, 5-3-78

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1.1 Chinese Estimate of Japanese Air Strength

No. 3619

From: Magruder Mission Chungking
to War Dept.

Time Filed at Source: Feb. 13, 1942.

T.O.R. - M.I.D. Feb. 12, 1942.

T.O.R. - O.N.I. 141030

During the preceding 2 years the Japanese Air Force has undergone tremendous expansion, according to the Chinese General Staff. The total strength indicated below is claimed to represent first line aircraft only, with maybe twice and at the least half this number as a reserve (1). Chinese Intelligence declares that careful appraisal of papers secured chiefly from crashed planes (2) but also obtained from various other sources has provided the following estimate of the Japanese Air Force. The planes which were the principal sources of the information crashed either in central Fukien Province on November 12, 1941 or in Foochow on December 18, 1941.

Intelligence Summary 25 - February 11, 1942.

<u>Area</u>	<u>Air Forces</u>	<u>Army Aircraft</u>	<u>Naval Aircraft</u>
	3		4
South Pacific	4th Army	828	350
Japan)			
Sea of)	1st Army	816	2447
Japan)			4
Manchuria)			
and)	2nd Army	1296	-----
Korea)	5th Army		
China	3rd Army	510	1
Total		3450	2798
		Grand Total	6248

Number of Naval Ships carrying Naval Aircraft *

	<u>Sea of Japan</u>	<u>South Pacific</u>
Aircraft carriers	7	2
Second class cruisers	12	11
First class cruisers	10	2
Seaplane tenders	3	2
Battleships	8	2

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The Naval air forces include 38 squadrons in the Sea of Japan and 4 squadrons in the South Pacific.

According to Chinese Intelligence, the data for Japanese naval aircraft are thought not to be so accurate, nor complete as for the Army.

MAGRUDER

G-2 Comment:

1. This Division accepts with reserve certain statements emanating from the above source. But not for such reason alone does this Section reject the above estimate.

The grand total, not including reserves is 6248 aircraft a figure considerably in excess of the 5094 aircraft at present credited to the German Air Force operational strength. When one considers the relative engineering, designing, manufacturing and training facilities of the two nations it is most difficult to reconcile these totals.

Therefore, and for other reasons shown below, the MID estimate of 2860 not operating aircraft in squadrons, is retained. Please refer to I.B. No. 37 of January 15, 1942, and comments thereto.

2. It is presumed that name plates and data cards citing manufacturing dates and serial numbers are referred to. Such practice can be quite misleading.

3. Although the text reads "4th Army Air Force" no such organization is known to exist. Nor do these locations correspond to known locations of ground armies. It is believed that Air Division is the term meant.

4. This figure appears fantastic in view of the vastly extended Naval Force. Considering established strength for the vessels enumerated we would have:

a. Sea of Japan.

(1)	7 carriers (a)	44 aircraft each	328
(2)	3 tenders (a)	15 aircraft each	45
(3)	8 battleships (a)	3 aircraft each	24
(4)	24 cruisers (a)	4 aircraft each	<u>96</u>

493

Plus 30% reserve

148

Total ship-based aircraft

641

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OSD Letter, 5-8-72

DEC 15 1972

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Correction 3619

Correction of Page 3, ONI #3619. Disregard all previous information on this page as received on the original report.

This leaves a total of 1806 aircraft in 38 squadrons, or 47-1/2 planes per squadron, which is not probable.

b. South Pacific

(1) 2 carriers (a)	44 aircraft each	88
(2) 2 tenders (a)	15 aircraft each	30
(3) 2 battleships (a)	3 aircraft each	6
(4) 13 cruisers (a)	4 aircraft each	52
		<hr/>
		176
	30% reserve	53
	Total ship-based aircraft	229

This leaves a total of 121 aircraft in 4 squadrons, or 30 per squadron, which is not probable.

5. Concur.

* This does not account for 2 aircraft carriers, 7 seaplane tenders, 4 cruisers and 12 miscellaneous vessels carrying aircraft.

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