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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

MARCH 7 thru JULY 31

1942

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, July 31, 1942

I. Southwest Pacific

(a) Nine Japanese vessels including probably 4 DD and 5 merchantmen including a possible landing craft carrier were sighted in two convoys off Aubasi and Gona Mission between 0435Z and 0545Z, July 29, heading toward Gona.

The press quotation of a communique from Australia given in the 2nd paragraph of I(a) of this summary of July 30 is now confirmed by an official despatch reporting that 2 Catalinas attacked installations and barges at Gona on July 28, and 7 A-24's escorted by 7 Aircobras attacked a convoy nearing Gona, scoring one direct hit on a destroyer. The attacking planes were intercepted by at least 3 type zero fighters, one of which was possibly destroyed.

(b) Air reconnaissance over Rabaul Harbor on July 29 reported the presence of 4 warships, including 2 cruisers and 2 DD, 15 merchantmen, some 25 launches, and a number of flying boats. In Lat. 2°-40' S., Long. 150°-38' E. were seen 4 DD's, 1 gunboat, and a large barge.

(c) A reliable report of July 28 states that the reconstruction of Buka Airdrome has been completed. Troops and stores were seen on Sohana Island in Buka Passage. No enemy installations were found at Kessa, Buka Island but there were signs of fortifications at Kieta (Bougainville Isl., Solomons).

Several recent reports have indicated Japanese landings on Malaita Island. The most recent one of July 27 states that an enemy party was landed from destroyers and small craft at Coleridge Bay, and that the ships departed the following day.

(d) Reports have been received that Japanese forces occupied Ilwaki, Wetar Island (40 miles N.E. of Dili) on July 27.

(e) Three Japanese heavy bombers attacked Port Moresby on July 29. No damage or casualties were reported.

One type 97 Kawanishi flying boat attacked Horn Island on July 30.

An air raid on Thursday Island was reported on July 30, but no details have been received.

After a light raid on Port Darwin on July 28, a more powerful attack was made the following afternoon by 27 heavy bombers and 22 zero fighters. Our fighters succeeded in breaking up the formation and shooting down 7 bombers and 2 fighters with the loss of only 1 plane.

On July 30, 9 heavy bombers attacked Port Hedland (about 350 miles S.W. of Broome), inflicting minor damage.

A Japanese SS was seen on July 28 in Lat. 37°-25' S., Long. 150°-22' E.

II. Northwest Pacific:

Two Catalinas bombed the Kiska camp area July 29, inflicting considerable damage to newly-constructed buildings. Heavy AA fire was encountered

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but both planes returned safely.

A Catalina attacked the DD previously sighted off Segula Island, but with negative results. The same ship was subsequently attacked by one of our SS's, but no hit was scored.

In the reconnaissance over Kiska reported in this summary of July 30 the 17000 ton AP reported was today corrected to one 7000 ton AP.

III. Indian Ocean

The British SS BLACKHEATH, 4,637 tons, reported being attacked by an SS July 29 off Coconado (E. coast of India).

The American SS STEEL TRAVELER, 7056 tons, reported being under attack the same day in the same area.

A Hetherlands submarine reported sighting two cruisers described as being of the Takao class and 4 DD's on course 340°, speed 14 knots in a position about 30 miles west of Penang, July 29. A torpedo fired on this force missed its mark.

A. H. McCollum

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0600, July 30, 1942

I. Southwest Pacific:

(a) Six Japanese vessels of unspecified types have been sighted off Ambasi (S.E. New Guinea), indicating probability of further landings in this area. A few days ago a small force was landed here.

Although no official report on the subject has been received the press quotes a communique from Australia to the effect that allied bombers scored a direct hit on a Japanese destroyer off Gona Mission, (S.E. New Guinea), and when last observed the ship was on fire heading for shore.

Recent Japanese air reconnaissance of the D'Entrecasteaux Islands (off S.E. tip of New Guinea) is believed to be for the purpose of determining possible landing field and seaplane base sites.

(b) Four naval vessels, destroyers or larger, and 15 transports were sighted near Rabaul.

Allied reconnaissance of the Solomon Islands July 26-27 reported enemy barracks and other buildings in the Rekata Bay area, Santa Isabel Island.

(c) Three to five Japanese planes bombed the RAAF airdrome at Darwin on July 27-28, slightly damaging a searchlight station. One plane also reconnoitered Broome July 27.

An allied vessel enroute to Noumea from Brisbane with a large cargo of horses was torpedoed and sunk July 26 92 miles S.W. of Noumea.

The 2,197 ton British cargo ship COOLANA was shelled by a SS but not damaged, July 26 N.E. of Eden, Victoria.

(d) Recent allied air attacks on Koepang have encountered unusually heavy AA fire, indicating that enemy AA in that area have been reinforced.

(e) USS S-40 is reported to have scored one torpedo hit on a large transport similar to the Kinikawa Maru on July 10. The location of the attack is not given, but was probably in the Southern Solomons.

II. Reconnaissance of the Western Aleutians on July 29 revealed 2 landing boats in Holts Bay, Atta; 2 DD's with an unreported number of auxiliaries patrolling off the north side of Segula Island (25 miles east of Kiska); and one DD patrolling off Vega Head (S. tip of Kiska). The Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet also reported one cruiser, a 17,000-ton AP, 1 DD, and 4 small tankers at Kiska. Photographs taken over Kiska on July 20 show strong AA positions on North Head where two coast gun emplacements are believed to be under construction. A small pier has also been built at North Head.

7000 tons New

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(2) The Japanese Navy was alerted on the matter in 1942
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(5) ...

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, July 29, 1942

I. Southwest Pacific:

(a) Allied air attacks continue against the Buna area of S.E. New Guinea. Three B-26's unsuccessfully attacked a Japanese DD and a 7,000 ton AK off Buna on July 26, but other raids resulted in damage to Japanese ground installations. Five B-25's were intercepted near Buna July 26 by 15 Zero Fighters, one of which was destroyed. Two of our planes, however, were shot down in this engagement.

(b) Two Japanese SS's were sighted in the harbor at Kieta (E. coast of Bougainville) by an allied heavy bomber which made an unsuccessful attack on two enemy merchant vessels in this harbor.

(c) A single Japanese plane unsuccessfully attacked Port Moresby the night of July 27-28.

(d) An allied merchant ship was shelled by an enemy SS off Cape Howe (New South Wales) on July 27.

Another single engine Japanese flying boat attempted to bomb Townsville on July 27-28. It is believed to have been destroyed by AA fire.

A. H. McCollum.

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, July 28, 1942

I. Southwest Pacific:

(a) Newly established Japanese positions in the Buna area continue to be the focal point of Allied air operations. It appears that units of the Japanese force in the Buna area are attempting to advance across the Papuan Peninsula in the direction of Port Moresby.

(b) A Japanese camp was sighted July 26 at West Bank on the east coast of Malaita Coast (S.E. Solomons), and another on a small island in an estuary between Maramasike and Malaita.

Two Japanese cruisers and two destroyers were observed heading S. S. W. off Ranoa Island (midway between the N. W. end of Malaita and the S. E. end of Santa Isabel Islands).

(c) Darwin was again subjected to two night attacks July 26-27 by small Japanese air groups, but no damage or casualties were suffered. A single enemy flying boat, in an attempted night attack on Townsville, was driven off by our AA fire.

No new SS attacks on Allied shipping have been reported, but two Japanese SS's were sighted off the coast of New South Wales.

II. Pacific Coast:

An unidentified SS was sighted on the surface July 27 in the Georgia Strait (between Vancouver Island and the mainland) about 20 miles W. of Vancouver. It crash dived on the approach of RCAF planes.

III. Hawaiian Area:

Two Japanese submarines were sighted, one in Lat. 27° N, Long. 171° - 27' W; the other in Lat. 12°-55' N., Long. 160°-25' W.

A. H. McCollum

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0800, July 27, 1942

I. Southwest Pacific

(a) Three Japanese flying boats unsuccessfully attacked the dock area at Townsville, Queensland, and 4 or 5 bombers inflicted minor damage in attacks on July 24-25.

Japanese SS continue operations off the S.E. Australian coast. The British vessels COULBURN (2,367 tons) and WILLIAM MCARTHUR were damaged but not sunk by SS attacks south of Cape Everard, Victoria, July 24-25.

(b) In New Britain the Japanese have established an AA gun unit on Zungen Point, Wide Bay where a new radio D/F station is also believed to be located.

(c) In the Southern Solomons two Japanese encampments were sighted near the Maraisko Passage, S.E. end of Malaita Island (E. of Florida Island).

(d) It is reported that since the Japanese have brought fighter planes into the Buna area allied bombers, which fly over this area enroute to New Britain from Port Moresby, now require fighter escorts.

II. Alutians

The U.S. Army's Western Defense Command reports the possibility that Japanese scouts may be on Adak Island, Andreanof Group. The reason given for this opinion is that although U.S.S. GILLIS entered Kuluk Bay at night in a fog, the following day she was attacked by Japanese planes which flew directly to their target without preliminary scouting.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of OROO, July 26, 1942

I. Southwest Pacific

(a) Allied air attacks on the Buna-Gona area continued through July 23 - 24 on establishments ashore. An unconfirmed report from natives who deserted this area states that 600 Japanese and 400 Rabaul natives were landed from two merchantmen at Gona Mission (A total of 4 troop carrying vessels are believed to have entered this area). One of these two returned to Rabaul fully laden whereas the other left after being only half unloaded. They also reported having seen 9 AA guns in the vicinity of Gona.

The transport previously reported damaged in this area is now said to be lying on her side with her stern under water.

(b) On Guadalcanal Island (S. Solomons) an airfield site is reported being cleared at Tenaru, and a large field is nearing completion at Teters (8 miles E. of Tenaru). At Kukum 46 machine guns were observed on trucks and 2 others and 4 AA guns on the hill to the rear. 8 AA guns and 13 machine guns were also observed near the banks of the Kukum-Lunga River.

(c) Port Moresby again received an air attack on July 23 - 24 by 13 Japanese bombers escorted by 16 fighters. Very slight damage was sustained.

(d) Two Japanese submarines were sighted off New South Wales, one off Port Jackson, and another off Tathra Head on July 23.

(e) The Dutch steamer, TJINGARA, was torpedoed by an unidentified submarine 146 miles S.E. of Noumea.

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, July 25, 1942

I. Southwest Pacific

(a) Although visibility was poor air reconnaissance at 0530Z/23rd noted four ships in the northern part of Rabaul harbor. One type 97 fighter unsuccessfully tried to intercept.

(b) A small enemy patrol attacked an Allied outpost at Mubo (12 miles south of Salamaua) and were repulsed.

(c) Reports indicate that U. S. P-40's armed with 500 lb. bombs and flown by RAAF personnel are being employed as dive bombers in attacks on Japanese invasion forces in the Buna-Cona area (approximate Lat. 8-40 S., Long. 148-30 E.) It is of interest to note that this is the first instance of the employment of dive bombing by Allied air forces in the Southwest Pacific area except when such tactics have been used by U. S. Navy carrier based aircraft.

II. Aleutian Area and other areas
Nothing to report.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0800, July 24, 1942

I. Southwest Pacific

(a) The Japanese force which effected a landing in the Buna area of S.E. New Guinea the night of July 21-22 has taken further punishment from allied bombing attacks.

By July 23, as a result of five separate allied air raids, a total of 3 AP were put out of action. These include the vessel previously reported sunk, another damaged on July 21-22, and the third, a 5,000 ton ship, received a direct hit 15 miles south of Buna at 1310 K, July 23 and was left burning.

Of the above air attacks three low level raids were made between 1115 and 1630 Z, July 23. In addition to the hit on the AP, fires were started from dumps hit between Gona and Buna. An AA battery was silenced near Gona Mission where 2-3" guns had been seen, and another was sighted $\frac{1}{2}$ mile to the westward.

The Japanese have nevertheless established positions in the vicinity of Gona Mission where it is estimated about 2,500 troops were landed. Another, smaller force was reported to have landed at Ambasi (about 30 miles N.W. of Buna). In the afternoon of July 22 Japanese cycle and foot patrols penetrated inland from Buna.

A study of the various reports indicates that the Japanese surface forces involved in these landing operations consisted of 2 CL, 4 DD, 4 AP. A report from Port Moresby states that the two cruisers were YUBARI, (probably flagship of Desron 6), and either TATSUTA or TENRYU (of Crudiv 18).

(b) Judging from a number of sightings reported on July 22, Japanese submarine activities off New South Wales have increased. It is reported that at least 3, and not over 5, SS are operating between Lat. 33°-03' S., Long. 152°-17' E. and Lat. 36°-55' S., Long. 150°-03' E. One SS sighted by aircraft was bombed with undetermined results. The British S.S. ALLARA, 3,279 tons, was torpedoed July 23 75 miles off Newcastle, but was successfully towed into port.

(c) Four Japanese fighters were reported over Port Moresby and one unidentified plane over Townsville on July 22.

(d) It is reported that the U.S.S. S-37 scored two torpedo hits on the KIYOKAWA MARU (XAV) on July 8 off Rabaul. No opinion is expressed on whether or not the ship sunk.

II. Northwest Pacific

(a) On July 22 eight U.S. bombers attacked Kiska, but cloudy weather prevented any observation of the results. No enemy AA fire or fighters were encountered during the attack.

(b) A more detailed report of the attack on U.S.S. GILLIS previously mentioned in this summary states that 13 bombs were dropped in three runs by planes in a V formation. One plane was forced out smoking badly and disappeared after the second run; another lagged, so that the last run was made by the leader alone. One dud struck about 10 feet from the bridge.

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(a) Japanese Landing Forces on July 21 made a sea landing in U.S. New Guinea in the vicinity of Buna District, near Buna (150 miles S.W. of Salamaua) from 1 APC, supported by one cruiser and 5 CP's, which shelled the settlement prior to the landing. Later the Japanese force retired to the north of Buna. An allied force opposed the landing, but on 21-22 and 23-24 attacked the enemy during all school hours. U.S. of Buna, 1st and 2nd Air Force were sent, and the other vessels were damaged. Subsequent flights of various size tanks to locate the enemy because of darkness.

(b) The U.S. vessel STELLER WIND (7,000 tons) was sunk by a Japanese U.S. on July 20 about 15 miles east of Buna (New South Wales). The U.S. vessel, U.S. Albatross, 1942 tons, was torpedoed and sunk on July 20 about 100 miles from Buna to Salamaua.

21. Bougainville Details

(a) Further interpretation of photographs recently taken over Buna reveal Japanese ground activity in the head of Buna District (N. of Buna Harbor), and new air gun emplacements on the ridge south and west of Buna Harbor (at head of Buna Harbor).

(b) Japanese bombers made a thorough reconnaissance of Buna Island on July 20.

22. Further Plans

(a) Japanese air reconnaissance over Buna Island (N. of Salamaua) on July 20 was reported.

(b) It is believed that Japanese are making reconnaissance studies in the approach to the Buna Harbor and apparently in launching a campaign against allied shipping in the area open to the sea and in the Buna Harbor.

23. U.S. Submarine SINKING

On June 25 U.S.S. STEVENSON with a 7,000 ton oil in a company of 20 ships moving north but failed to sink her. Several days elapsed the destination for three hours. On July 1 STEVENSON sank a large passenger vessel of at least 20,000 tons remaining the ASD DE JAMNEN near to a position of miles east of Buna (New Guinea) (N.W. Coast).

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0600, July 23, 1942

I. Southwest Pacific

(a) Japanese landing forces on July 21 made a new landing in S.E. New Guinea in the vicinity of Gona Mission, near Buna (150 miles S.E. of Salamoa) from 4 AP's, supported by one cruiser and 5 DD's, which shelled the settlement prior to the landing. Later the Japanese force retired to the north of Gona. No allied troops opposed the landing, but 1 B-17 and 5 B-26's attacked the enemy convoy off Ambasi (40 miles N.W. of Buna). 1 AP and 1 large barge were sunk, and two other vessels were damaged. Subsequent flights of bombers were unable to locate the convoy because of darkness.

(b) The U.S. vessel WILLIAM DAVES (7,100 tons) was sunk by a Japanese SS on July 22 about 15 miles east of Tathra (New South Wales). The Greek vessel, G.M. Livanos, 5482 tons, was torpedoed and sunk on July 20 while enroute from Adelaide to Melbourne.

II. Northwest Pacific

(a) Further interpretation of photographs recently taken over Kiska reveal Japanese ground activity at the head of Salmon Lagoon (N. of Kiska Harbor), and new AA gun emplacements on the ridges south and west of Trout Lagoon (at head of Kiska Harbor).

(b) Japanese bombers made a thorough reconnaissance of Adak Island on July 20.

III. Indian Ocean

(a) Japanese air reconnaissance over Cocos Islands (S. of Sumatra) on July 20 was reported.

(b) It is believed that Japanese SS are making reconnaissance cruises in the approaches to the Persian Gulf preparatory to launching a campaign against allied shipping in that area similar to the one undertaken in the Mozambique Channel.

IV. U.S. Submarine activity

On June 25 U.S.S. STURGEON hit a 7,000 ton AK in a convoy of 10 ships moving north but failed to sink her. Escorts depth charged the submarine for three hours. On July 1 STURGEON sank a large passenger vessel of at least 10,000 tons resembling the RIO DE JANEIRO MARU in a position 65 miles west of Cape Bojedor, (N.W. Luzon).

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0800, July 22, 1942

I. Southwest Pacific

(a) Allied reconnaissance of the Bismarck Archipelago on July 20 sighted 5 large and 7 other merchantmen in Rabaul Harbor; three other large vessels were observed leaving the harbor. 2 - 4,000 ton merchant ships on a westerly course were observed in Talili Bay (W. of Rabaul on N. coast of New Britain). 2 CL's and 3 DD's and 2 AP's were also sighted off Cape Saint George (S. tip of New Ireland).

The Japanese have apparently made a new landing on Santa Isabel Island (Solomons) in the Tanabuli Bay area (S.E. extremity of island). A Japanese AP was reported in the Bay from July 13 to 16.

Enemy midget SS are now reported in the Solomons.

An AA gun position has been established at Tanavula Point (S. entrance to Sandfly Passage, Florida Isl.) and the Japanese are now operating a radio station on Makambo Island in Tulagi Harbor.

(b) Allied bombers attacked a Japanese convoy off N.E. Australia July 21, scoring direct hits on one enemy AP.

(c) The Greek S.S. George S. Livano was sunk by SS, presumably Japanese, on July 20 about 20 miles off Jervis Bay, New South Wales.

The U.S. cargo vessel Coast Farmer (3290 tons) was torpedoed and sunk July 21 about 35 miles off Jervis Bay.

II. Northwest Pacific

On July 20 two B-17's bombed the Kiska area, but results could not be observed. Japanese seaplanes intercepted, but failed to damage our planes.

III. Indian Ocean

The British vessel Indus (720 tons) enroute to Fremantle from Colombo reported being shelled by an enemy raider July 20 about 1500 miles W. of Fremantle.

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, July 21, 1942

I. Southwest Pacific:

On July 20 the Japanese resumed air operations against Port Moresby, when an attack by 26 heavy bombers and 15 Zero fighters inflicted light damage to Allied installations.

Reports have been received that additional Japanese reinforcements arrived at Salamoa July 16-17.

On July 17 the following Japanese vessels were sighted in W. New Guinea and adjacent waters: a 4,000 ton AK in Babo Harbor, a 3,000 ton AK on a reef off the East Coast of the Tanimbar Islands, a 1,000 ton vessel in Manokwari Roads (N.W. side of Geelvink Bay), a 12,000 ton AK off N.W. coast of New Guinea east of Geelvink Bay.

Latest native reports of enemy strength in the S. E. Solomon area reveal about 1600 troops on Florida Islands concentrated principally at Tulagi with smaller units at Gavutu and Halavo and outposts at Gole (E. end of Florida Isl.), and in the Sandfly Passage area (N.W. end of Florida Isl.). On Guadalcanal there are about 1200 infantry and aviation ground crews concentrated at Lunga with outposts at Taivu and in the Cape Hunter area (S.E. coast of Guadalcanal). It is now reported that a runway has been completed at Lunga.

II. North Pacific:

Reconnaissance over Kiska showed 2 CL and 2 DD. The latter were patrolling the entrance to the harbor. No batteries were noted on Orient Point.

USS GILLIS (AVD) found Adak Isl., Andreanof Group, untenable. She was repeatedly attacked by three 4-engine bombers. Patterns were described as good. This entire area is reported as well scouted by the Japanese.

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, July 20, 1942.

I. Southwest Pacific:

(a) USS SCULPIN is reported to have accomplished the following:

(1) On June 13 made 1 or 2 hits on a 4,000 ton Japanese merchantman on a southwesterly course in Palawan Passage.

(2) On June 14 hit an 8,000 ton tanker on a similar course and in the same general area.

(3) On June 18 made 1 hit on a 7,000 ton merchantman south of Cape Varella. The ship blew up and may have sunk.

(4) On July 7 made 1 hit on a 10,000 ton tanker headed north in Sibutu Pass. When last seen this tanker was afire.

It was estimated that of the above, 2 were sunk and 2 damaged.

(b) Allied air reconnaissance observed on July 18 large barracks near the airfield S.W. of Trinidad, Ceram Island.

Also observed near Geelvink Bay (N.E. New Guinea) was a landing strip under construction near the Moai River.

On the same day air reconnaissance over New Britain and the Solomons revealed:

At Rabaul - 2 1/2 cargo vessels and numerous small craft

At Hela, Florida Island - 4 small SS

At Malaguna - 3 warships, probably cruisers

Japanese activity was noted to continue on Guadalcanal Island.

II. North Pacific:

(a) USS GRUNNION is reported to have sunk 3 DD's at Kiska on July 15, but no details are yet known.

(b) A fishing boat reported a SS 20 miles west of Taft, Oregon on July 17; another was reported west of the Pribilof Islands on July 13.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0800, July 19, 1942

I. Aleutians

(a) The Japanese continue to improve their position and facilities at Kiska. Air reconnaissance on the 18th revealed that the old camp had been enlarged and a new camp had been set up west of South Head. Several large buildings have been erected at North Head. Another report states that the enemy are constructing a landing strip on Kiska.

(b) The following ships were sighted at Kiska on the 18th: 1 cruiser, 3 DD, 1 AP, 2 large patrol planes, and 2 or 3 landing boats. 5 Japanese seaplanes intercepted an attack group of B 24's which delivered a fruitless attack on enemy shipping at Kiska.

(c) The master of the Soviet steamer FELIX DZERJINSKY stated that at 0528H/17th in Lat. 53-21 N., Long. 160-12 W a large Japanese submarine surfaced about 400 yards astern of his ship and opened fire with two deck guns estimated as 5 inch. In all a total of 15 to 20 shots were fired but no hits were made. The submarine submerged upon approach of a U.S. Navy patrol plane which dropped two depth bombs with undetermined results.

(d) The U.S.S. KANE picked up 12 survivors of the American S.S. ARCATA which was sunk by shell fire from a Japanese submarine about 2000 E 14th in Lat. 53-35 N., Long. 157-30 W.

II. Southwest Pacific

(a) The Japanese continue minor improvement of facilities in the New Guinea-Solomon Island area.

(b) A relatively large concentration of cargo vessels were noted in the vicinity of Rabaul on the 16th. Vessels sighted as follows:

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------|
| (1) In the Harbor | 19 cargo ships |
| (2) At wharves | 5 " " |
| (3) | 3 warships |

At 2357H/16th 5 B-17 delivered an attack on the shipping and harbor works at Rabaul. The enemy failed to intercept and hits were scored in the target area - extent of damage undetermined.

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(c) Several fast unidentified ships (very probably Japanese) were sighted on course 070° T in Lat. 3°-10 S., Long. 150°-45 E.

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, July 18, 1942.

I. Southwest Pacific:

(a) Native reports are quoted to the effect that the Japanese are planning an expedition to Toeal (Kai Islands) around the end of July. This is one of the groups in the eastern Banda Sea recently occupied by N.E.I. and Australian units.

(b) Information from the same sources states that the Japanese strength at Fak Fak (W. part of Dutch New Guinea) is limited to 66 troops and two patrol vessels.

(c) According to Vichy sources, the Japanese have transformed Singapore into a "military territory" with intensive work (including the use of Allied prisoners) being pushed on the construction of fortifications.

(d) Further reports on Japanese activities in the Solomon Islands indicate that at Kukum (N. coast of Guadalcanal at Lunga Roads) a large wharf is under construction, and trucks and tractors have been unloaded from AP's anchored in the roadstead. 40 tents were seen to have been erected at Tengeru, Lunga and Kukum and AA guns established. The grass plains have been burned off but no actual construction on runways for the prospective airfield has yet been started.

II. Northwest Pacific:

The U.S. 2,722-ton cargo ship ARCATÁ was shelled and sunk by a Japanese submarine about 340 miles E by S of Dutch Harbor on July 15.

The Soviet Diesel cargo ship FELIX DZERJINSKY of 3,767 tons, reported being shelled July 17 by an SS about 240 miles E by S of Dutch Harbor.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, July 17, 1942

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I.

Southwest Pacific

(a) Photographs taken over the Rabaul area July 13 reveal:

In Rabaul Harbor 1 CL, 1 minelayer, 8 other vessels probably of merchant types, 6 flying boats, 5 seaplanes.

At Lakunai: 12 fighters and 4 bombers.

At Venakuman:

13 bombers and 2 fighters. It was also noted that a new dispersal bay had been completed and that 6 buildings were destroyed, presumably as the result of previous Allied air attacks.

An enemy force of one 10,000 ton and one 2,000 ton AK accompanied by a small MTR was sighted July 14, about 40 miles off the S. coast of New Britain on a 130° course.

Air reconnaissance of Guadalcanal Island July 14 reported 4 vessels resembling cruisers at anchor off Lunga. 2 seaplanes are reported on a continuous daylight patrol in this area.

15. Japanese destroyer was sighted off East Cape, New Ireland on July

(b) A Japanese SS is reported to be in the vicinity of the Sydney Heads and Newcastle.

II. China

According to latest reports from Chinese intelligence sources, the Japanese force which drove from Iahai to Hanchow (32nd Div.) has embarked in over 50 AP's and sailed from Hanchow for an unknown destination, presumably to the south. It is also reported that on July 9 ten Japanese vessels sailed westward from Hailow (H. coast of Hainan Island).

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, July 16, 1942

I. Southwest Pacific:

(a) Japanese activity has been reported in the following New Britain-Solomon Is. locations: Bougainville Island, Gasmata, Lorengau and Madang.

(b) A Japanese submarine was attacked off Bulari Passage, New Caledonia on July 15. Another was sighted in Lat. 5°-27' S., Long. 159°-46' E. on July 13.

(c) Between July 10 and 14, the following islands in the Gilbert Group have been under Japanese air reconnaissance. Maiana, Beru, Kuria, Abemama, Nonouti, Ocean. The Gilbert and Ellice Islands, including Ocean and Nauru have been under almost continuous air observation since July 1.

II. Northwest Pacific:

(a) On July 13 two Japanese naval vessels of unidentified type were observed 10 miles s.w. of Kiska. Two submarines were also observed in the northern approach to Amchitka Pass on July 12. A U. S. submarine engaged an ASASHIO Class DD in a position 35 miles, 315° from Sirius Pt., Kiska. Three torpedoes were fired, one exploded 10 yds. astern of the DD which, nevertheless, continued her depth-charge attack, and then headed for Kiska.

(b) Teachers of the Bureau of Indian Affairs who were evacuated from Atka Island on June 12 have stated that between 3,000 and 4,000 Japanese troops were landed on Kiska Island, and that a portable metal landing field was under construction on the northern side of Kiska Harbor. They also affirmed that a landing had been effected on the western side of Kanaga Island on June 9.

Evacuees from St. Paul, Pribilof Islands, who departed that island on June 16 stated that at no time were any Japanese planes sighted.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0800, July 15, 1942

I. Southwest Pacific

As a result of aerial reconnaissance July 12 - 13, the following sightings of enemy planes and vessels are reported:

- At Lee - 24 fighters; one bomber.
- At Rabaul - Two flying boats in harbor; two to four bombers on Vunakansu aerodrome; one medium size war vessel and seven AP's.
- At Guadalcanal - One cruiser and one DD off Kakoom.
- Near the Ontong Java Islands (about 170 miles N. of Santa Isabel Island) - One unidentified SS.

Six large enemy vessels and 10 planes are reported to have arrived at Bekata Bay (Santa Isabel Island) where three Japanese war vessels and one AP are already at anchor.

II. Northwest Pacific

(a) Photographs taken July 11 show 1 cruiser and 1 destroyer off Little Sitkin Island. A gun emplacement, probably 3", was noted on this island.

(b) A partly garbled message states that an enemy submarine fired at a merchantman in Lat. 53° 14' N., Long. 157° 45' W. (about 310 miles east of Dutch Harbor). U.S. planes have been ordered out to investigate and attack the submarine.

(c) A Japanese landing field is reported to be located on the southern tip of Paramushiro Island in Lat. 50° 01' N., Long. 155° 24' E., where are now based a number of type 97 heavy bombers.

An anchorage located 2 miles to the westward of this field is used by Japanese merchant ships.

A radio station is located at Koktanzaki on the northern end of Shimushu Island (Lat. 50° 52' N., Long. 156° 29' E.)

III. Captured documents have shown the aircraft allowance of KIYOKAWA MARU (XAV) to be:

- 6 Mitsubishi type 0 VOS
- 2 Nakajima type 95 seaplanes
- 5 Aichi type 0 float planes, including one of this type built by the Hiro Naval Aircraft Factory. This new type is possibly a fighter seaplane of which there have been other reports.

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(a) Japanese transport in company with three warships returned to the island, Solomons) on July 5, leading to capture of the Japanese occupation of this island.

(b) It is reported that Japanese troops from 3 warships landed at Dala (Bougainville Island, Solomons) on July 3.

(c) Japanese planes reconnoitered the Blue area (New Guinea) on July 12.

(d) Allied air reconnaissance of July 12 reported:

1. Two - two flying boats in the harbor and a small number of planes on the airfield.

2. Unidentified - two motor launchers at anchor off large with small launches proceeding to shore; two small sampans overboard, and one other vessel between large and small.

3. Fisher Island (N. of New Ireland) - a 1,000 ton oil vessel east of Fisher Island, and a 5,000 ton vessel apparently beached on the E. side of Fisher Island.

II. Indian Ocean

(a) It is reported that 2 Japanese SS are operating in the Indian Ocean between 10° and 20° S. and two more between 20° and 30° S. west of 110° E. It is believed that four more SS are due to arrive about July 15.

(b) The British 1,115-ton cargo ship *Stirling* is reported to have been captured by the Japanese July 12 in position 17°-18' S, 87°-00' E.

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, July 14, 1942

I. Southwest Pacific:

(a) Latives report that a Japanese transport in company with three warships returned to Rekata Bay (Santa Isabel Island, Solomons) on July 9, tending to confirm the earlier report of the Japanese occupation of this island.

(b) It is reported that Japanese troops from 5 warships landed at Kieta (Bougainville Island, Solomons) on July 3.

(c) Japanese planes reconnoitered the Buna area (New Guinea) on July 12.

(d) Allied air reconnaissance of July 12 reported:

At Jaa - two flying boats in the harbor and a small number of planes on the airfield.

At Guadalcanal - two medium sized AK's at anchor off Lunga with small launches proceeding to shore; two small seaplane overhead, and one other vessel between Lunga and Tulagi.

At Tabar Islands

(N. of New Ireland) - a 4,000 ton AK anchored east of Simberi Island, and a 5,000 ton vessel apparently beached on the N. side of Simberi Island.

II. Indian Ocean:

(a) It is reported that 2 Japanese SS are operating in the Mozambique Channel between 15° and 20° S. and two more between 24° and 29° S. west of 37° E. It is believed that four more SS are due to arrive about July 14.

(b) The British 7,113-ton cargo ship HAURAKI is reported to have been captured by the Japanese July 12 in position 17°-32' S, 80°-25' E.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0800, July 13, 1942

I. Southwest Pacific:

(a) It is believed that Japanese forces have landed at Rekata Bay, Santa Isabel Island, Solomon Group (N.W. of Guadalcanal Island.) On July 10, 1 DD escorting 3 AP were sighted on a northerly course in a position north of Guadalcanal.

(b) A Japanese patrol bomber machine gunned Beru Island (S. Gilbert Islands), setting fire to a native house located a few yards from the radio station and departed at 0007Z, July 11 to the northward. The implication in this report is that the bomber was attempting to destroy the radio station. The plane's departure in a northerly direction suggests the probability that it is based at Makin (N. Gilbert Islands), under Japanese occupation.

(c) Japanese bombers escorted by fighters raided Port Moresby on both July 10 and 11 without causing any material damage. An indication of Japanese increased air strength is seen in a report that on July 11 6 B-17's enroute to attack Rabaul were intercepted 100 miles north of Buna by type O fighters. It appears from this that the Japanese are now attempting to prevent allied planes from reaching Rabaul.

(d) Natives who have escaped from Rabaul report that the Japanese have no tanks in that area, and that the Lakunai airfield has been enlarged.

II. Northwest Pacific:

(a) The latest estimate of Japanese naval strength in the Western Aleutians follows:

At Kiska: 2 or 3 cruisers, 4 DD, 2 auxiliaries
6 seaplanes and 3 patrol planes
In the Attu area: 2 to 4 DD, 3 AV and IAV and 1 or more auxiliaries.

(b) USS GATO on July 12, sighted a large ship similar to KAMIKAWA MARU in Lat. 47° N., Long. 161°-23 E. Escorting destroyers depth charged the submarine after the big ship evaded attack on a southwesterly course.

USS TRIGGER sighted 1 AK 15 miles NE of Holtz Bay, Attu Island at 1520Z, July 11. During a surface chase of this vessel the submarine sighted 2 DD, possibly of the SHIGURE class, patrolling in column.

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(c) 3 Army bombers bombed a cruiser in Kiska Harbor on July 11 with indefinite results. Also they observed 1 DD, 3 barge type vessels and 6 4-engine patrol seaplanes in the harbor. They were opposed by single float monoplanes which were reported to be very fast, maneuverable and heavily armed. One unidentified warship whose length was estimated at 300-500 feet was sighted 10 miles S.W. of Kiska.

III. Pacific Coast:

The U.S. tanker Victor H. Kelly reported being unsuccessfully attacked by torpedo July 11 about 60 miles N.W. of Cape Blanco, Oregon.

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Summary as of 0800, July 12, 1942I. Southwest Pacific:

(a) Three Japanese transports escorted by one destroyer on a northerly course were sighted by allied air reconnaissance in Lat. $8^{\circ} - 38' S$, Long. $160^{\circ} E$ at 0215Z, July 10. From this report it appears that this force was returning north after having landed men and supplies at Guadalcanal Island, Solomons group where there has been considerable recent activity.

II. North Pacific:

(a) No new developments have been noted.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0600, July 11, 1942

I. Aleutians

(a) About 0200Z/10 July a submarine made an unsuccessful torpedo attack on the U.S.C.G. McLane off Cape Decision (near southern entrance of Chatham Straits just west of Sitka, Alaska). The McLane made a depth charge attack with undetermined results and is continuing the search assisted by planes.

(b) A submarine periscope, presumably Japanese, was reported seen about 8 miles off Cape Morgan (S.W. end of Akutan Island).

(c) Except for the above no enemy forces were contacted in the Aleutian area during the last 24 hours and the impression is gained that the enemy forces at Kiska and Attu have not been augmented.

II. Mid-Pacific Area

(a) The USS THRESHER upon return from patrol in the Truk area reports sinking an aircraft tender and damaging a tanker. The submarine was heavily depth-charged, the enemy making contact at 300 feet apparently by the use of magnetic sweeps and grappling hooks. Attention is invited to the fact that this is the first report of magnetic sweeping equipment being used by the Japanese. Due to the circumstances under which the report must have been made, it should be accepted with reserve pending further information.

(b) A submarine, presumably Japanese, was sighted 20 miles West of Pago Pago, Samoa.

III. Southwest Pacific

(a) On 10 July the Japanese raided Port Moresby using 21 bombers escorted by 8 fighters. 2 enemy bombers were shot down.

(b) Enemy land forces at Salamoa are reported as having been reinforced by 300 to 400 troops transferred from Lae.

(c) Allied planes raided Dilli, Timor on 9 July inflicting damage on shore installations.

(d) One enemy submarine is reported to be operating off the coast of New South Wales between Sydney and Newcastle.

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(b) Reconnaissance activities on the surface level of Submarine 11... At Wake (42 miles S. of Iwojima) a small Japanese Submarine... was observed on July 6 with a quantity of landing... material. It was believed to have been launched at Wake and to... at Wake (5 miles S. of Iwojima). Considerable wreckage was also found... in the vicinity of Iwojima. Evidence for a possible airfield was seen in... on July 6.

(c) On Sunday, July 6 there were sighted 1 B-29, 7 B-24, and... a number of aircraft.

II. Summary

On July 6 a U.S. submarine believed to be sighted about 20 miles... near Chikagojima Island, Iwojima, but no surface targets were present. On... July 7 no enemy surface targets were noted at Agaña.

J. S. McCallum

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Office of the Chief of Naval Operations
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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, July 10, 1942

I. Southwest Pacific:

(a) Since July 1, Japanese air reconnaissance over the Gilbert and Ellice Islands has increased markedly. In the Ellice Group the following have been under observation: Funafuti, Nukufetau, Nui, Nanumea; in the Gilberts, the following: Nauru, Ocean, Kuria, Abemama, Nonouti, Maiana and Tarawa.

(b) Consolidation continues on the northern coast of Guadalcanal Island. At Taivu (22 miles E. of Lunga) a small Japanese force landed from an auxiliary sailing vessel on July 4 with a quantity of building material. AA guns are believed to have been installed at Taivu and at Kokoom (12 miles E. of Lunga). Considerable equipment was also landed at Makile (6 miles E. of Lunga). A stores dump has been noted in the vicinity of Lunga. Clearing for a possible airfield was seen in Coconut Grove on July 8.

(c) At Rabaul on July 8 there were sighted 1 CL, 3 DD, 7 AP, and a number of aircraft.

II. Aleutians:

On July 6 a U.S. submarine believed she sighted about 20 tents near Chickagof Village, Attu, but no surface forces were present. On July 7 no enemy surface forces were noted at Agattu.

A. H. McCollum

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Office of the Chief of Naval Operations
WASHINGTONJAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0800, July 9, 1942I. Southwest Pacific:

Reports indicate that additional landings have been made on the north coast of Guadalcanal Island in the vicinity of Domaia (about 15 miles E by N from Lunga). In the waters between the north coast of Guadalcanal Island and Florida Island 2 cruisers, 6 DD, 4 other warships and 2 AP were reported sighted on July 7. An allied bomber attack on this shipping was made on July 7. Direct hits were said to have been scored on motor torpedo boats.

II. Aleutians:

Five heavy U.S. bombers reached Kiska Harbor on July 7, but were intercepted by three Japanese seaplanes, one of which was believed to have been shot down. The following vessels were reported in the harbor:

1 BB or CA
2 CL
4 DD
2 AP or AK

III. Indian Ocean:

On July 7 the U.S. cargo vessel Express was torpedoed and sunk off the coast of Mozambique, presumably by a Japanese submarine.

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of OROO, July 8, 1942.

I. Aleutians:

- (a) Further U.S. submarine activities in this area follow:

At 0530Z, July 4, USS FINBACK sighted a Japanese force consisting of one transport and a Chiyoda class seaplane tender escorted by 3 DD in a position south of North Head, Kiska heading eastward at speed 20 knots. The following day, July 5, no Japanese forces were observed off the south coast of Kiska in Vega Bay.

At 0315Z, July 6, USS FINBACK attacked 2 DD in a position 7 miles S.E. of Vega Point, Kiska, and probably sank one of the two, a Minekaze class DD. She was undamaged by a subsequent depth charge attack.

The heavy cruiser which was reported sighted on July 7 in Paragraph I (b) of this summary of July 7 is now stated to have been a destroyer which USS GROWLER unsuccessfully attacked, and thereafter was heavily depth charged.

- (b) A steamer has reported sighting a periscope at 0115Z, July 7 in Lat. 55° 26' N, Long. 134° W.

II. Southwest Pacific:

(a) Japanese forces continue considerable activity in the Tulagi - Guadalcanal area, principally around Lunga (N. Guadalcanal). On July 6 there were observed in this area 4 cruisers, 4 DD, 5 small patrol vessels, 4 large merchantmen, about 6 MTB, and at least 4 VPB flying boats. Late reports indicate the ship sunk off Sandfly Passage on June 22 reported to be a Light Cruiser is probably a 2,000 ton merchant vessel thought to have been carrying troops at the time of the sinking.

(b) Three new jetties were observed to have been constructed at Lae, (E. New Guinea) since June 26.

(c) Evidence continues of Japanese submarines in the Tasman Sea, one 5 miles off Sydney, and another in Lat. 36° 50' S, Long 161° 15' E on July 6.

(d) Japanese air reconnaissance was again noted over Nauru Isl. both on July 4 and 5.

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, July 7, 1942

I. Aleutians:

(a) Additional information received on the recent U. S. submarine attacks on Japanese destroyers follows:

USS Growler made her attack at 1800Z, July 4. The three destroyers which were hit were anchored in Reynard Cove, 4 miles N.N.E. of Kiska Harbor. Distant observation indicated that two were sunk and the third was on fire.

USS Triton made her attack on an Asashio class destroyer on patrol duty at 0340Z, July 5 off Cape Sabak, S.E. tip of Agattu. The destroyer was reported sunk.

(b) On July 6 a U. S. plane sighted 2DD close inshore to the eastward of North Cape, Little Kiska, and 2DD in the South Pass. A heavy scum of oil was noted in the harbor. On July 7 at 0200Z a U.S. submarine sighted one Japanese heavy cruiser near McArthur Reef (off Kiska) on course 090°. It was believed that it had passed through Rat Inland Pass.

II. Southwest Pacific:

(a) Allied bombers continue a vigorous offensive against Japanese positions in the Lae-Salamoa area (E. New Guinea), and the Japanese have resumed heavy raids against the Port Moresby area.

(b) On July 3, a Japanese freighter, escorted by two ships described as light cruisers, and two flying boats departed from Tulagi, heading northwest. Two war vessels and five flying boats were observed at anchor off Makile (N. coast of Guadalcanal Is.) where gear was being unloaded. Further enemy activity was also reported at Taivu (N. coast of Guadalcanal).

(c) A U.S. submarine is reported to have sunk a 2,000 ton Japanese cargo ship 5 miles S. of Sandfly Pass (N.W. end of Florida Isl.).

(d) An Allied air patrol on July 3 reported a Japanese submarine off the west coast of New Caledonia.

III. Mid-Pacific:

An unidentified SS, believed to be Japanese was sighted by a plane on June 30 about 500 miles N.E. of Honolulu.

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IV. Waters off S.E. Asia:

Two U.S. submarines returning from patrol in the South China Sea report the sinking of 2 AO, and 2 AK between May 29 and June 12.

V. Indian Ocean:

It is reported that only one submarine, presumably Japanese, is now known to be in the Mozambique Channel, and that no raiders are believed in these waters.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, July 6, 1942

I. Aleutians:

(a) In addition to the casualties reported inflicted by U.S.S. GROWLER in this summary of July 5, a U.S. submarine reported sinking a Japanese destroyer at Agattu on July 5.

(b) It is reported that mines may have been laid at the entrance into Kiska Harbor.

(c) Photographs taken during the air reconnaissance reported in this summary of July 5 have made certain modifications on units sighted:

At Attu - no surface craft.

At Agattu - 2 AP, 1 AO, 4 DD

At Kiska - Reconnaissance obscured in part, but 3 VP, 2 DD, and 1 unidentified vessel were noted. U. S. submarine operations in this vicinity indicate that cruisers are still at Kiska.

II. A total of five successful attacks by U. S. submarines on Japanese SS is reported without locations or dates. U.S.S. TAUTOG is credited with three of them, and U.S.S. TRITON and U.S.S. SILVERSIDES with one each. In each of these cases explosions were heard following the firing of torpedoes, observations of sinkings were made, and debris noted on the surface.

III. Southwest Pacific:

On July 4 coast watchers reported that an enemy force of 2 CV's and 13 other vessels passed Cape Esperance (N.W. Guadalcanal Isl. of Southern Solomons). A subsequent report corrected the above to 4 CL, 5 DD, 4 large AK sighted west of Savo. No carriers were sighted and there is no present indication of this type being in the South Pacific.

Air reconnaissance on July 2 sighted a Japanese force of 3 DD and 2 - 3,000 ton AP between the Admiralty Islands and the north coast of New Guinea.

It seems evident from the many contact reports in this area within the past few days that a number of vessels have moved down to the Melanesian area, but with the exception of a few CA, all these units are believed to be light forces.

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IV. Eastern Pacific:

The Costa Rican government has reported the presence of an unidentified submarine heading from the Gulf of Nicoya to Cape Blanco on July 5.

V. Indian Ocean:

Japanese submarines have been active in the Western Indian Ocean, particularly in waters near Madagascar, but the majority of their attacks have not been successful. Although three allied vessels are overdue at Indian Ocean ports, three others have reported unsuccessful attacks since June 30, and one torpedoed on June 5 and given up as lost, has now reached its destination.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0800, July 5, 1942

I. Alentians

✓ (a) On the afternoon of 2 July a formation of Army B-24's bombed Japanese ships at AGATTU. 2 near misses were scored on a transport and a destroyer. Other results of the attack were unobserved. Light anti-aircraft fire was experienced during the attack.

✓ (b) On 2 July, as a result of air reconnaissance, 3 large AP, 3 cruisers or destroyers and 5 destroyers were reported seen at AGATTU. A line of 4 or 5 enemy submarines were sighted 50 miles east of AGATTU. No ships or shore installations were noted at ATTU.

✓ (c) On the 4th of July the USS GROWLER delivered a torpedo attack on enemy vessels at Kiske. 2 destroyers were reported sunk and a third was seen to be on fire. The GROWLER was slightly damaged but continues in action. Enemy cruisers are still thought to be in the vicinity.

✓ II. Mid-Pacific

The USS NAUTILUS returned from patrol off the south coast of Honshu and reported as follows:

(a) All enemy merchant vessels sighted were escorted by cruisers or destroyers.

(b) Enemy vessels sunk - 1 DD and 1 patrol vessel of about 1500 tons.

(c) Enemy vessels possibly sunk. One 17,000 ton AP, one 10,000 ton AO and one destroyer.

III. Southwest Pacific

Signs continue of gradually increasing enemy activity in this area.

(a) Late reports indicate that 2 enemy cruisers are operating in the Guadalcanal-Tulagi area.

✓ (b) 3 Enemy DD and 2-8,000 ton AP were sighted by aircraft at 4°-46'S 147°-33'E on course 080° at 0004Z July 2nd. (Probably headed for Rabaul).

(c) Late information indicates that previous reports of Japanese occupation of Talasea (75 miles S.W. of Rabaul) were erroneous.

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(d) Allied and Enemy aircraft continued to exchange air raids against outlying bases with minor damage to both sides.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIESSummary as of 0800, July 4, 1942

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I. Aleutians:

No further contacts have been reported. Weather conditions are said to be bad.

II. Southwest Pacific:

(a) A Japanese submarine is reported to have come close into the north shore of New Caledonia, but there is no verification of a Japanese landing on this island.

(b) On June 28 an unidentified plane was heard crossing an air field on Tougatabu. Local officials have expressed the opinion that the Japanese can reconnoiter this island by submarine based planes. It seems apparent from a number of recent reports that Japanese submarines are attempting to gain all possible information on allied occupied bases in this theatre.

(c) The presence of three Japanese destroyers off Cape Gloucester, New Britain, supplementing a previous report of sighting a heavy cruiser near Guadalcanal, Solomons, shows that combatant ships are beginning to assemble in Japanese Melanesian waters.

Correction:

In this summary of July 5 in the 1st line of subpar. (a) of par. I change June to July.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, July 3, 1942

I. Aleutians:

(a) At about 0010 Z, June 3, a U.S. patrol plane sighted 5 DD and 3 AP at Agattu Island (near Isls. - S.E. of Attu), a ship reported as a BB at Attu Island, and 3 cruisers, 1 unidentified vessel, and 3 patrol planes at Kiska. The presence of 3 transports at Agattu is strong evidence that this island is by now under Japanese occupation, and the reappearance of heavy units in the Western Aleutians points to renewed landing force operations.

(b) Japanese submarines continue active in Eastern Aleutian waters.

II. Melanesia:

A southerly movement of two CA of Crudiv 6 is indicated by the sighting on July 1 by allied air reconnaissance of a heavy cruiser of the KAKO Class off Guadalcanal Island, Southern Solomons. The presence of this cruiser in these southern waters is believed significant in that it points to the probability that other cruisers and destroyers may be expected soon, if they are not there now, also to move down to these Melanesian waters from which they have been absent for nearly two months.

III. A Chinese report states that Japanese troop movements under escort of units of the South China Fleet have been made from Hongkong. Their destination is not given, but it is probable that they are being transported north to reinforce army forces operating against the Chinese. It is also considered that the number of these forces is considerably smaller than suggested by the report.

A. H. McCollum.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0800, July 2, 1942

I. Southwest Pacific

(a) Following the recently reported raid on Salamoa by allied ground forces it is now stated that reinforcements have been sent to Salamoa from Lae and Rabaul.

(b) A Japanese submarine was reported off the S.W. coast of Anietyum Islands (Southern extremity of the New Hebrides group) on June 29. The following day a Japanese flying boat reconnoitered the northern part of New Caledonia and a submarine, possibly the same one that was sighted off the New Hebrides, was reported off the west coast of the island.

(c) Although the phraseology of a recent report indicated that a three stack light cruiser was sunk on June 22 or 23 in Sandfly Passage (off Florida Island, Solomons), it is believed that the intent of the report was that on that date this CL was sighted partially submerged. The cruiser described is probably the one which our task force sank on May 4 in the preliminary action of the Coral Sea engagement.

II. General

Tokyo, in a recent English broadcast, announced that a Boeing B-17 flying fortress bearing the rising sun insignia and manned by a Japanese crew had completed a successful test flight. It added that when Japanese forces first captured the plane its controls had been destroyed but that it had been successfully repaired. Other B-17's, it went on, are now under repairs.

It is not known how many of these planes the Japanese are attempting to repair, but earlier information to the above effect leads to the conclusion that a few B-17's which may be restored were captured during the Java operations.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, July 1, 1942

I. Southwest Pacific:

(a) Following a night raid on Salamao, New Guinea by allied ground forces, Japanese planes were sent out on extensive air reconnaissance over the surrounding territory, apparently to gain information on the location of this allied force.

(b) A plane believed to have been Japanese again appeared over Nauru.

II. North Pacific:

Extensive U.S. air reconnaissance to the eastward of Amchitka Pass and in the Bering Sea has resulted in only negative information. Heavy fog prevented reconnaissance over the Western Aleutians.

III. A prisoner of war has verified the regunning of the MOGAMI class of heavy cruiser from 15 - 6" to 10 - 8" (20cm) in twin gun turrets, three forward and two aft. Since two of this class (MOGAMI and MIKUMA) were sunk in the Midway action, there remains only two (KUMANO and SUZUYA). Two others, (TONE and CHIKUMA) differ in that they are believed to have only 8 - 8" guns in four twin gun turrets, all forward, the main deck aft being given over to aircraft installations.

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Summary as of 0800, June 30I. Northern Pacific:

Bad weather is reported to continue in the Aleutian area, and no new developments have been noted except submarine activity. At 1218Q of June 29, a SS was sighted in Lat. 52°-03' N, Long 130°-06' W (near the southern tip of Queen Charlotte Island about 65 miles off the mainland). At 0015W another was sighted east-northeast of Fogoslof Island on course 255° at speed 18 knots. In addition to the above two sightings the presence of a minelaying submarine was suspected in a position 4 miles S.E. of the Farallon Islands due to the report of a Navy blimp sighting an oil trail, large air bubbles, and many objects believed to be submerged mines in this area.

II. Southwest Pacific:

(a) Recent reports have estimated the following Japanese Naval aircraft strengths in areas indicated:

New Britain: - 24 fighters, 44 heavy bombers, 11 flying boats and 23 seaplanes.

New Guinea: - 33 fighters

Solomons: - 4 flying boats, 4 seaplanes

Timor: - 12 fighters, 6 heavy bombers

Ambon: - 12 fighters, 9 heavy bombers, 4 flying boats

Celebes: - 90 fighters, 50 heavy bombers, 12 flying boats, 18 seaplanes.

While available records indicate that these figures are probably very close to actual present existing strengths, it must be realized that an almost continual turn-over of aircraft, particularly in the New Britain area, precludes reliance on these figures, except as an indication, in the future. Also it is noted that some locations in these areas are not mentioned; for instance, Java, Sumatra and Borneo in the N.E.I., and New Ireland in Malanesia. Therefore strengths for general areas probably exceed the totals of specific locations.

(b) Construction activity by native labor on an airfield at Baka, Solomon Islands, has been noted by allied reconnaissance.

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by all of aircraft over Japanese installations in Malacca and the Gulf have been identified. Aerial photography of the base structure on June 28 revealed 40 fighters and one bomber, and two new hangars. A new radio station appeared 4 1/2 miles E. of the airbase.

(A) The Japanese are reported to be collecting wreckage, airfields at Anson and building new ones.

(B) Japanese reinforcements are said to be arriving at Hill, S. Yank. New facilities for them are being prepared at Hill.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, June 29, 1942

I. Australian Theatre -

Bombing raids by allied aircraft over Japanese installations in Melanesia and New Guinea have been intensified. Aerial photography of the Lae airdrome on June 26 revealed 45 fighters and one bomber, and two new runways. A new radio station appeared 5/4 mile N.E. of the airdrome.

II. N.E.I. -

(a) The Japanese are reported to be enlarging existing air fields at Ambon and building new ones.

(b) Japanese reinforcements are said to be arriving at Dili, N. Timor. New billets for them are being prepared at Liquica.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIESSummary as of 0800, June 28, 1942I. Aleutians:

(a) The Tokyo radio on June 25, in a commentary addressed to the Americas in Japanese, claimed that additional Aleutian Islands had been occupied by Japanese forces. Although no details were given, it was intimated that these seizures were incidental to "mopping up" in areas adjacent to Attu and Kiska. The Japanese have renamed Kiska "Narumaki" and Attu has been changed to "Atsuta". "Narumaki" refers to "Thunder in June" while "Atsuta" is the name of a Japanese shrine whose festival is in June.

(b) Two out of a total of twelve U. S. heavy bombers located fog bound Kiska on June 26 and dropped sixteen 500 lb. bombs on the northwestern shore of Kiska Harbor. Photographs taken show that facilities on this island appear to have been doubled since June 18. During this attack two transports and one destroyer were believed to have been seen in the harbor. The bow of the transport, which was sunk June 18, showed above water.

(c) Eight U. S. planes were sent to Nome on the possibility that a detachment of seven Japanese ships were moving in that direction.

II. Wake Island:

On June 27 U. S. army bombers made an attack on Wake. Some AA fire was encountered when still three miles offshore. During the attack this fire, although heavy, was inaccurate. Nearly all the bombs dropped struck the aerodrome or adjoining facilities. Navy planes which were poorly dispersed were hit. About three Japanese planes succeeded in taking off and fired on our bombers at long range some 30 miles at sea on the return trip.

III. Melanesia:

In New Ireland, New Britain, and the Solomons the Japanese have been observed to be building additional airfields and ground installations. While the amount of shipping observed in the vicinity of Rabaul appeared in excess of the needs of normal supply, very few combatant surface craft have been sighted.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0800, June 27, 1942

I. In general Japanese naval operations in the Pacific remain quiet with the forces afloat occupied in patrolling and escort duty. There is some regrouping of forces but the impression is gained that problems of replenishing supplies and improvement of local alignment of forces is the main concern at this time.

II. Aleutians

(a) At Noon zone Y/25th a navy patrol plane reported one new heavy cruiser and three destroyers in Kiska harbor. Plane attack groups were unable to find the target later in the day.

(b) At 1530 Z/23rd an unidentified plane was sighted over Nome.

(c) Other than above no enemy forces have been contacted in the Aleutian area during the last 24 hours.

III. Southwest Pacific

(a) Air reconnaissance sighted the following enemy forces

At Kendari	77 fighters, 38 other types of aircraft
Huon Gulf	1-3,000 ton cargo vessel
Rabaul	1 AV, 1 DD, 1 AO, 1 CM, 5 other ships
	11 VPB 16 seaplanes
Vunakonan	11 VB 3 VF
Lakunai	14 VB, 6 VF
Kavieng	1 large cargo ship - 1 small ship
	1 possible warship. 2 seaplanes
Tulagi)	No unusual activity noted.
Guadalcanal)	

(b) Air raids were made on Dili, Lee and Salamu. 2 hits and two near misses were scored on a 4,000 ton cargo vessel and damage was inflicted on shore establishments. 27-30 Japanese type zero fighters raided Port Moresby. There was no damage to ground installations.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0800, June 26, 1942

I. Aleutians

(a) The continued presence of Japanese submarines in the N.E. Pacific is shown by the sighting of a small SS about 1 1/2 miles distant on a S.W. course by a Navy patrol boat at the entrance to the Idrisinski Strait in the Alexander Archipelago on June 24. When sighted it immediately dove.

(b) On June 21 there were sighted in Sarana Bay, Attu Island, one Japanese tanker and one destroyer.

(c) There have been indications of Japanese planes flying in the vicinity of Dutch Harbor, but no attacks were made.

II. Southwestern Pacific

(a) In the Bismarck Archipelago Japanese ground forces are reported to be in possession in the following locations:

- (1) Talasea, Ulaona (75 miles S.W. of Rabaul)
- (2) Fongo (42 miles S.W. of Rabaul)
- (3) Vunapope (12 miles S.E. of Rabaul)

(b) Several small Japanese submarines were operating on June 25 about 70 miles S.E. of Cape Townshend, Queensland. Another SS was sighted the same day 20 miles off Cape Smoky, New South Wales.

(c) Allied air reconnaissance over Kandari, Celebes revealed about seventy Japanese planes at the airfield, and six transports. This may indicate a transfer of personnel and equipment from this station.

III. The U.S.S. SALMON is reported on May 25 to have sunk a light cruiser with four torpedo hits in a single salvo in Lat. 10° N., Long. 110° E. The ship was described as similar to YUBARI but larger and with masts further apart. No ship in the Japanese Navy of which there is detailed knowledge answers this description. It may have been a ship of the KATORI class or possibly a new vessel on which information is lacking.

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800, June 25, 1942

Aleutians:

No new developments have been noted.

Aerial photographs taken over Kiska on June 18-19 have revealed the following:

- (a) No docking facilities have been or are being built.
- (b) Four 50 ft. barges, apparently used in landing operations, were seen moored.
- (c) Gun emplacements are located at the northern head of the harbor entrance, and A.A. guns on Little Kiska.
- (d) Seven dummy planes are located on the sand spit.
- (e) Earth works circle the tents, supply dumps, and some of the buildings.
- (f) Many paths and roads suggesting activities over the whole island.
- (g) There is no evidence of a landing field on this island. If any field used by the Japanese in the Aleutians exists, it must be on Attu or Amchitka Islands. It is believed that the Japanese have planned to use Kiska only as a seaplane base.

Melanesia

In connection with the recent report of the construction of airfields on Guadalcanal Island, Solomons air reconnaissance now reveals a new wharf built at Lunga, on the northern coast, and a Japanese destroyer operating in these waters.

South Pacific

An unidentified plane was heard over Nauru Island on June 23, suggesting continued Japanese interest in the Ocean - Nauru area.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, June 24, 1942

I. Aleutians - West Coast:

No new contacts have been made in Aleutian waters, but submarines remain active. On June 23 the U.S. tanker Camden was torpedoed in Lat. 43°30' N., Long. 125°-18' W., 45 miles off the Oregon coast.

II. Melanesia:

Japanese shipping is reported to be using Lunga Roads (S. coast of Guadalcanal Island). On the northern coast of this island airfields are being prepared on the grass plains. When completed they will provide the southern most land plans base in this area under Japanese occupation.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, June 23, 1942

I. Aleutians:

No new activity by Japanese forces has been noted, leading to the belief that the striking force probably has retired temporarily to the westward, but submarines apparently remain in the N.E. Pacific.

Dense fog and rain in the Western Aleutian area have handicapped air attacks on Kiska, but on June 21 three U. S. bombers reached Kiska and bombed the shore and bay area. Fog prevented any observation of results.

The ship sighted in Kiska Harbor in sinking condition is now established by air photography to have been a transport, not a cruiser as originally reported.

No damage resulted from the shelling of the Oregon Coast at Fort Stevens and Camp Clatrop. At least 9 shells were fired, most of which landed on the south end of the Fort Stevens Reservation, two of them 1500 to 2000 yards to the west of a Fort Stevens battery. The attacking craft was never sighted, but is assumed to have been a submarine.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, June 22, 1942

I. Aleutians:

The situation remains quiet in the Aleutians, but evidence continues to rise of submarine and possibly some surface craft activity off the northwestern American coast. In the early morning of June 22 an unidentified vessel on a N.W. course about 8 or 9 miles off the Oregon coast between the mouth of the Columbia River and Tillamook Head shelled Fort Stevens and Camp Clatrop for 15 minutes.

II. South-west Pacific:

(a) Of possible significance is the report of an air reconnaissance of Ocean Island. This revived interest in the Gilbert Group has lain dormant since the engagement in the Coral Sea in early May.

(b) Air reconnaissance over Rabaul reveals an increase in merchant types in this area. A total of 12 ships were observed in the harbor on June 19, and three direct hits on a 10,000 ton merchantman were reported.

III. China Coast:

(a) Five transports carrying about 5,000 troops were reported to have entered the Pearl River on June 18. Although the point of departure of these transports is not known, the 5th Army Division is reported to be transferring from the Celebes to Indo-China or Canton. It is apparent that forces in the East Indies are being drastically skeletonized.

(b) A U.S. submarine returning from patrol in the East China Sea, north of Formosa, reports having sunk a 13,000 ton transport and a 5,000 ton tanker by torpedoes, and three small craft by gunfire.

IV. A report has been received to the effect that nine German submarines with German crews are operating off the U.S. West Coast from a base at Nagasaki, Japan. It is believed that this report should be taken with considerable reserve until some confirmation is received.

V. Examination of a group of Japanese officers and men who were survivors of the HIRYU elicits the following information:

(a) The striking force which attacked Midway from the northwest consisted of:

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AKAGI, KAGA, HIRYU, SORYU - 4 CV
HARUNA and either KIRISHIMA or KONGO of Batdiv 3 - 2 BB
TONE and CHIKUMA of Crudiv 8 - 2 CA
Desron 10 including NAGARA - 1 CL
8-12 DD

The first air attack on this force took place between 1100 and 1200, June 4. HIRYU was not struck, but the other three carriers all were burning from direct hits, especially SORYU. HIRYU, thereafter, attempted to separate herself from the striking force with two DD, but at 1700, June 4, she was again attacked and this time hit by five bombs, but no torpedoes. She caught fire and sank at about 0900, June 5. The party of survivors under examination stated that they were the last to abandon ship. They stated that they had no knowledge of ships other than the carriers being damaged, nor whether the three remaining carriers sank.

They confirmed knowledge recently acquired from other sources that RYUJO is in Cardiv 4, and that there is no Cardiv 3. They also admitted the loss of SHOHO, formerly the TSURUGISAKI (AS) and previously erroneously referred to as RYUKAKU, in the Coral Sea engagement, and confirmed our recent information that ZUIHO was converted from the former TAKASAKI (AS), sister of TSURUGISAKI. With regard to the two new carriers, they disclaimed knowledge of the HIYO, but stated that they believed the JUNYO was also a converted carrier.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0800, June 21, 1942

I. (a) In general the Pacific area remains quiet and naval activity appears to be at a low ebb. U.S. Army and Navy planes continue to bomb Japanese ships at Kiska as the weather permits, while at least one Japanese submarine has made attacks on our west coast off Cape Flattery and Vancouver Island.

(b) Recent photo-reconnaissance of Kiska reveals that one unidentified auxiliary vessel has been sunk. Two auxiliaries, several small craft and four large seaplanes were noted in the harbor. No combat types of ships were noted at Kiska but they may be at dispersed anchorages in the vicinity.

(c) At 0516Z/21st a submarine, presumably Japanese, started shelling a Canadian coast radio station at Estavan, Vancouver Island. (Lat. 49-22 N., Long. 126-32 W). The shell fire was continuing at 0545 GCT; results as yet unreported.

II. (a) No Japanese air attacks on Port Moresby and north Australian bases have been reported since 18 June.

(b) U.S. and allied aircraft continue raids on Japanese held bases with results not immediately apparent. A definite increase in Japanese air opposition has been noted, pointing to the conclusion that Japanese air strength in the New Britain - New Guinea area has been reinforced.

(c) Japanese submarines continue active off the Australian coast.
1 possible submarine was sighted at Lat. 29-15 S., Long. 153-27 E at 0315Z/18th.

1 submarine was located at Lat. 22-00 S., Long. 172-00 E at 0827Z/17th.

1 submarine was placed at Lat. 24-00 S., Long. 166-00 E. at 0917Z/17th.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, June 20, 1942

Aleutians

(a) Three flights of U. S. Army bombers raided Kiska Island on June 18. Inside the harbor were observed 1 cruiser, 2 transports, 1 destroyer, and 7 patrol planes which might have been dummies. Outside the harbor were seen 1 minelayer or destroyer and two other destroyers. On the island there were two tin and wooden buildings and a number of tents seen on the beach. Bombs dropped from these planes certainly scored a direct hit on a ship, but reports on the type are contradictory.

In view of the recent report of the disappearance of carriers from the Kiska area, it is significant to note that no carrier plane opposition was encountered by the U. S. Army bombers.

(b) At 1003 Z, June 19, U.S.A.T. General W. C. Gorgas was shelled by a submarine in Lat. $56^{\circ} - 17^{\circ}$ N., Long. $146^{\circ} - 46$ W. In spite of two hits this army transport appears not to have been seriously damaged and some 13 hours later was reported underway on a course North by East.

A British steamer FORT CAMOSUN was torpedoed at 0455 Z, June 20, in Lat. $47^{\circ} - 14'$ N., Long. $125^{\circ} - 20'$ W., not far outside Seattle, Washington.

From the above reports and various sightings of Japanese submarines in the N.E. Pacific, it is apparent that a number of these boats have moved eastward from Aleutian waters.

(c) There continues to be no evidence of Japanese surface craft east of Kiska. Navy air reconnaissance has established only negative information with respect to possible Japanese naval units in the Bering Sea. Bad weather still prevails.

II. Three Japanese naval officers and 32 men picked up from a life boat N.W. of Midway stated that they were survivors from the carrier, HIRYU, which had been sunk by bombs.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0800, June 19, 1942

I. Aleutians

(a) In Kiska Harbor air photographic reconnaissance has established that the heavy cruiser previously reported as badly damaged was down by the head and sinking at 0600Z, June 18. She had been abandoned by her officers and crew.

(b) There are no indications of Japanese surface forces to the eastward of Adak Island, Andreanof Group.

(c) On June 18 a U.S. submarine sighted a large Japanese destroyer and a tanker south of the Semichi Islands on course 130°, speed 14 knots.

(d) A Japanese submarine was reported at the entrance to Cold Bay on June 17. The frequency of submarine contacts makes it apparent that these craft are scouting out our dispositions. Reports of submarine attacks on allied merchant shipping in this area show, however, that these boats are not confining their entire activities to scouting only.

(e) Reinforcements for the Japanese forces in the Aleutians are arriving, and it is believed that aircraft are being sent to the occupied islands from Paramushiro, Kurile Islands, but it is not known whether these planes are seaplane types only.

II. Australian Theatre

Allied and Japanese air attacks on each others' bases which lie within flying range continue without any evidence that either has been able to deal any blows which can be expected to incapacitate the other.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0800, June 18, 1942

I. Aleutians

No further contacts have been made. Flying conditions to the west of Atka are described as bad. Three carriers, two cruisers and two destroyers are reported unaccounted for, their whereabouts unknown. Since there are not believed to be more than two or, at most, three carriers in the Aleutians at present, their departure from the vicinity of Kiska would leave this island under very weak air protection.

Evacuees from Atka report that five 4-engined seaplanes bombed a village there on June 14th.

II. The German press, quoting Japan, states that the Japanese Navy fully expects heavy losses in order to attain her objectives, but that she can afford these losses. It states that the Japanese attacks on Madagascar and Sydney were intended only as diversions, but that complete security in the Far East can be secured only after strong bases, such as Midway, are eliminated. The Japanese Press Chief is quoted as stating that naval activities will increase, and that U.S. aircraft carriers will be sought out and destroyed. He also said that the reason Japanese forces were able to land in the Aleutians was because U.S. naval strength was concentrated at Midway, leaving no forces which could be sent to the Aleutians.

A.H. McCollum.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, June 17, 1942

I. Aleutians

Japanese forces on Kiska continue to consolidate their position. Air reconnaissance around Semisopochoi Island (75 miles E. of Kiska) is believed to portend an attempt to occupy the island in order to establish an airfield. Amchitka Island, which provides level ground for an airfield, has not yet been seized. Adverse weather conditions is believed to continue to restrict operations.

II. Australia

Offensive air activity against Port Darwin and Port Moresby has been increased greatly within the past week. Port Darwin has received air raids for four consecutive days.

III. Philippines

Japanese news broadcasts state that a naval detachment supported the occupation of Negros Island on May 23, and a subsequent advance was made on Bohol Island to the eastward. In waters of this area it is claimed that 8 American vessels, including transports, were seized. On May 25 Basilan Island, at the extreme southern tip of the Philippines, was also occupied. The broadcast states that all remaining American resistance in the Visayan area has been completely subdued.

IV. Two Japanese survivors from MIKUMA (CA) picked up by a U. S. submarine in the Midway area confirmed the sinking of both HOGAMI and MIKUMA by bombs on June 6. These were both 8,500 ton heavy cruisers of Crudiv 7.

Further information gained from these two men was that YAMATO (new BB now believed flying flag of C-in-C, Combined Fleet) displaces 57,000 tons and has a rumored maximum speed of 30 knots. This statement cannot be accepted without further confirmation.

They further related that the "scuttlebutt" aboard their ship was to the effect that one half of the force which was to have occupied Midway were to have been transferred to the Aleutians and finally to Australia before returning to Japan in September or October. Whatever the merits of this information may be it does appear to indicate:

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(a) That initial landing force troops are later relieved by garrison troops who probably are not so well trained in landing force operations.

(b) That the Aleutian operations now under way have been launched in accordance with a plan for permanent occupation of certain locations.

(c) That a renewal of the Australian offensive may be expected. Recently increased activity from Melanesia bases tends to confirm this.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, June 16, 1942

I. Aleutians

(a) No very noteworthy developments have occurred in the Aleutians in the past 24 hours. Although no specific movement has been noted toward Atka, U. S. Army reports reflect the belief that a future concentration on this island may be expected.

Surface vessels in the vicinity of Kiska remain well dispersed, but show no disposition to set out for a new objective, although many of them remain underway. At 1730 Z, June 15, only 1 CA (possibly damaged), 1 AP, and several DD remained in Kiska Harbor. The detachment of 1 CA and 3 DD which was observed to stand out to the north turned back when attacked by a Catalina plane, possibly to regain the air coverage of fighter planes around Kiska. Although no carriers were sighted, the presence of these fighters indicates their continued proximity. A heavy ship, possibly a battleship, surrounded by destroyers was observed lying off Kiska to the northward by an army plane. A large number of tents were observed on a spit in the northwest corner of Kiska Harbor.

AT 0520 Z, June 15, air reconnaissance over Attu Island revealed only a very few Japanese planes of carrier-based types.

In spite of the previously received report of a Japanese force in Lat. 58°-30' N., Long 173° W. subsequent air reconnaissance determined that no Japanese had landed on the Pribilof Islands.

At 2130 Z, June 14, an undeveloped contact indicated an enemy force in a position 40 miles S.E. of Amchitka.

Although good weather was reported in the vicinity of Kiska on June 15, the latest report from the C-in-C, U. S. Pacific Fleet, indicates reduced activity in the Aleutians due to foul weather.

(b) Japanese documents captured at Dutch Harbor indicate that RYUJO and JUNYO (HAYATAKA) were the two carriers which attacked Dutch Harbor on June 4. They were accompanied by four plane guard destroyers. These papers revealed that the RYUJO air organization consisted of three (3) Squadrons composed of a total of seven (7) active Sections, and that the JUNYO had three (3) Squadrons totalling nine (9) Sections. Both carriers had one (1) reserve Section. Since RYUJO from previous information is believed to carry a total of 32 planes, it would appear that each section consisted of 4 planes of which one is probably held as replacement.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0800, June 15, 1942

I. Aleutians

No recent observations have been reported with respect to the Japanese occupation force on Attu Island. At Kiska Island, however, the Japanese give every indication of a determination permanently to occupy the island by apparently building a temporary landing field and engaging in other construction activity. Vessels in the harbor and around the island have been well dispersed to avoid presenting a target easy to hit from the air. Although no carriers have been sighted recently fighter opposition encountered in the past two days indicates their nearby presence. At 0145Z, June 14, there were reported 4 CA, 3 CL, 5 AP and a number of DD in and around the harbor. At 2200 Z, June 14, 1 CA and 3 DD were observed to stand out in a northerly direction. An Army report of indications of a Japanese force in Lat. 58-30 N., Long. 173° W moving south suggests the possibility of an attack on the Pribilof Islands. To date there has been no intimation of landing operations elsewhere than on Attu and Kiska, but Japanese movements indicate further offensive operations to the eastward.

II. Australian Theatre

- (a) The tempo of activity has risen with a fresh series of bombings of Port Darwin by the Japanese, and an increased number of ships and aircraft noted in the New Guinea-Melanesia area. A resumption of offensive operations may be expected.
- (b) A submarine, assumed to be Japanese, was sighted in Lat. 34°-40' S., Long. 174°-50' E., about 120 miles north of Auckland, New Zealand.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0800, June 14, 1942

I. Aleutians

(a) Japanese forces on Kiska Island are attempting to consolidate and strengthen their position under repeated air attacks from U.S. planes which have succeeded in scoring a number of casualties on surface vessels and seriously impeding the progress of defense construction on the island.

A resume of the several attacks on June 11 and 12 follows:

- (1) 5 B-24 hit one CA; 1 B-24 was lost by AA fire.
- (2) 4 PBY besides sinking one SS, which was previously reported, made one hit on a gunboat, one on a DD, three on a cruiser.
- (3) 5 B-17 set fire to two cruisers and one DD, and machine-gunned a landing party, encountering heavy land and ship-based AA.
- (4) 7 B-17 scored two hits on a cruiser and a near-miss on a large transport.
- (5) PBY made a torpedo hit on one CA as previously reported.
- (6) PBY sank several 4-engined VPB on the water and demolished the adjacent aerological station. Another PBY was driven off by Type O fighters which may have been either carrier or shore based.

In the case of the cruisers lack of identification makes uncertain the total number damaged. Assuming that the same ships were hit more than once the most conservative estimate which can be made is that two heavy cruisers were severely damaged by bombs and one additional one by a torpedo.

Summary

3 CA damaged
1 DD damaged
1 SS sunk
1 gunboat damaged
1 AP damaged

(b) Attu, due to its greater distance from U.S. air bases, has remained unmolested and free to pursue its construction activities. Twenty-five tents were observed under concealment.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0800, June 13, 1942

I. The mid-Pacific area remains quiet with no enemy forces having been seen since contact was lost following the battle of Midway.

II. Aleutians

(a) Except for Kiska and Attu there are no known enemy landings at other points in the Aleutians. So far as known the enemy threat against Kanaga did not develop.

(b) The situation at Attu is not clear as no reports have been received from this area since a report of the 11th which stated that there was a Japanese occupation force ashore.

(c) The enemy appear to be attempting to build an advanced base at Kiska. At 1725 Z on the 12th a total of 16 ships were sighted in Kiska harbor including 2 badly damaged cruisers. Despite bombing attacks by Army B 24's and Navy Patrol planes, landing operations were continuing. A sizable tent city was being erected and heavy shore based and ship based AA fire was encountered by our attacking planes.

(d) One report stated that an enemy CV had been sighted 10 miles north of Kiska but a total lack of carrier based plane opposition renders it doubtful that an enemy carrier is operating close to this area.

(e) A U.S. patrol plane reports having torpedoed a heavy cruiser at 2215 Z on the 12th position and other details missing.

(f) The Japanese appear to be consolidating their position at Kiska with little or no air support. No Zero fighters or seaplanes have been encountered lately and there has been no air opposition to our bombing attacks.

III. Southwest Pacific

(a) Three Japanese submarines are thought to be operating in Australian waters, one near Brisbane, one near Newcastle (just north of Sydney) and one off Lakes Entrance Victoria Province (South coast of Australia, approximate Longitude 148 E).

(b) On 11 June the 5500 ton Panamanian freighter Guatemala straggled from a convoy and was sunk by a submarine in Lat. 33°- 52' S., Long. 151°- 56' E.

(c) Allied air forces continue raiding enemy bases and harbors in New Guinea and Bismark Archipelago. Some damage to shore installations is reported but the enemy seems to be able to use his harbors with relative impunity as our planes apparently make no attacks on his shipping.

IV. Indian Ocean

No recent reports have been received of Japanese raiders previously reported in Mozambique Channel, consequently the impression is gained that

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0800, June 12, 1942

I. Aleutian Attack Force

(a) It is now confirmed that Japanese forces have occupied Attu and Kiska, and at 0835Z of June 12 a force described as 2 CA, 1 CL, & AP were heading east in a position north of Kanaga, Andreanof Islands, probably for Atka, with the evident intention of seizure.

At Attu a U.S. patrol plane reported a large landing force under good concealment. Many landing boats were observed, and interception by a Type 97 Nakajima fighter indicated that shore-based aircraft were on the island. Signs of construction activity showed that occupation of the island must have been effected some time prior to the patrol plane's detection.

At Kiska a force similar in composition to that sighted heading eastward north of Kanaga was spotted by air reconnaissance and later bombed by U.S. Navy patrol planes with the resultant report of one transport damaged and all ships scattered. Although reports do not so state, it is believed probable that following this bombing small craft only remained at Kiska while the transports under escort of 2 CA and 1 CL proceeded eastward on a further mission, and were again sighted north of Kanaga.

(b) It is believed that Cardiv 3, whose composition in Aleutian waters was estimated by the C-in-C, U.S. Pacific Fleet to be 2 CV, 1 XCV, may be covering the landing operations.

(c) A U.S. plane is reported to have sunk a large Japanese submarine in Lat. 51°N., Long. 177°W. Army reports also state that their planes bombed and torpedoed a cruiser whose loss was certain, and damaged a carrier on June 5. However, a reconnaissance plane reported sighting a damaged heavy cruiser at Kiska on June 10, undoubtedly the cruiser hit by the army plane, but apparently still afloat.

II. French Indo-China

(a) Camranh Bay is reported to have been abandoned as a naval base. When the Japanese first moved into Indo-China grandiose plans were made to develop this excellent harbor. The subsequent shift of interest to other theatres, and the difficulties of transportation to this harbor probably have brought about this decision.

(b) Japanese merchant vessels navigating in Indo-Chinese waters are reported to be divided approximately equally into two groups; the first proceed independently without escort whereas the second are formed into convoys of 6 or 7 ships escorted either by destroyers, sub-chasers or armed merchantmen.

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On 20 Jan 7, 1942, a U.S. air patrol over Alaska, Alaska Territory, reported on Japanese forces present, and the following day a Japanese force assigned to conduct an operation along the coast of Alaska, Alaska Territory, and the Japanese base of the CHUKCHI class were sighted. In view of the strategy outlined which has prevailed in the Aleutians and is expected to continue through June 15, it is possible that the damaged oiler was captured by the Japanese craft has entered this harbor for refuge. This assumption is strengthened by the location of my observations which might be expected to be the result of a plan for subsequent operations. On the other hand there is no evidence to indicate a withdrawal of the Japanese Task Force beyond the coast of Alaska, and although there is no confirmation yet of receipt of an air photo from Alaska, it is considered highly probable that such an air photo will be received.

(b) With similar operations continuing regarding U.S. reconnaissance operations in the Aleutians further in the Aleutians their current status in these waters has not been definitely determined heretofore. A report to this effect received from the C-in-C, Pacific Fleet announced a 67% loss of oiler in 1942, and a 10%.

21. **Alaska**
Although all remaining surface units of this force are expected will be located during the course of U.S. forces, a Japanese air patrol from Alaska Island of about 100 planes is a noteworthy element as indicated by the sighting of a Japanese reconnaissance force to appear on 20 Jan 7, 1942, and 21 Jan 7, 1942.

22. **Philippines**
There Japanese presence, possibly from aircraft on 20 Jan 7, 1942, is reported to occur off the west coast of Australia.

23. **Malaysia**
(a) Japanese vessels, including three transport ships, were sighted by air reconnaissance at Sabul on 20 Jan 7.
(b) The Japanese are reported to be preparing a concentration of strength near Sabul (20 miles S.W. of San, west coast of Sarawak). All air sightings have been reported.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0800, June 11, 1942I. Aleutian Attack Force

(a) On June 9, Zone I, a U.S. air patrol over Kiska, Rat Islands, revealed no Japanese forces present, but the following day a Japanese force estimated to consist of one damaged heavy cruiser, one large destroyer, and two torpedo boats of the CHIDORI class were sighted. In view of the stormy weather which has prevailed in the Aleutians and is expected to continue through June 14, it is possible that the damaged cruiser under support of the lighter craft has entered this harbor for refuge. This assumption is strengthened by the absence of any transports which might be expected in the event of a plan for permanent occupation. On the other hand there is no evidence to indicate a withdrawal of the Aleutian Task Force beyond the Western Aleutians, and although there is no confirmation yet of occupations in any area other than Kiska, it is considered highly probable that such has been or will be attempted.

(b) With weather conditions seriously hampering U.S. reconnaissance observations of the Japanese forces in the Aleutians their carrier strength in these waters has not been definitely determined heretofore. A recent reliable estimate received from the C-in-C, Pacific Fleet enumerates 2 CV, one of which is RYUJO, and 1 XCV.

II. Midway Attack Force

Although all remaining surface units of this force now appear well outside striking distance of U.S. forces, a Japanese air patrol from Wake Island of about 700 miles in a northeasterly direction is indicated by the shooting down of a Japanese twin-engined bomber in approx. Lat. 26° N., Long. 176° W.

III. Australia

Three Japanese submarines, possibly four, continue on June 9 to be reported in waters off the east coast of Australia.

IV. Melanesia

(a) Twenty-six vessels, including three unusually large ones, were sighted by air reconnaissance at Rabaul on June 9.

(b) The Japanese are reported to be preparing a concentration of strength near Mubo (10 miles S.E. of Lae, east coast of New Guinea), but no details have been reported.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of OROO, June 10, 1942

- I. Aleutian Attack Force
(a) Japanese authorities are claimed to have reported that on and after June 7 Japanese army units occupied points in the Aleutian Islands, and that operations are still in progress. There has been no confirmation of this claim from U.S. sources, and it is therefore apparent that if any Japanese forces have landed it has been on outlying islands separated from any quick means of communication.
- (b) An Army report gives information of activity in an area within a 200 mile radius of a point 200 miles south of Dutch Harbor.
- (c) It is now reported that on June 4 a U.S. destroyer attacked and probably sank a Japanese submarine 15 miles S.E. of Egg Island (off the east end of Unalaska).
- II. Midway Attack Force
No further reports of contacts have been received, and there has been no indication of a possible renewal of the Midway attack.
- III. West Coast
S.S. Coast Trader is reported to have been torpedoed at 2110Z, June 7 in Lat. 48°-15' N., Long. 125°-40' W. Survivors were picked up and landed on June 9. This is the first evidence of a successful Japanese submarine attack off our West Coast.
- IV. Australia
Although only two Japanese submarines are known to be off New South Wales there have been two recent cases of shelling land objectives; the first on June 6 at Sydney, the second on June 8 at New Castle. In neither case was material damage reported.

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Japanese Naval Activities
Summary as of 0800 June 9, 1942

I. Midway Attack Force

With returning vessels now believed largely under the support of shore-based aircraft at Wake, which was reinforced in the past few days, contact has been broken. It is considered doubtful now whether any further damage can be inflicted by our surface vessels or aircraft unless some stragglers remain within striking distance. That this is possible is suggested by the recent sighting of a Japanese sea-plane of a type carried by cruisers within 280 miles of Midway.

II. Aleutian Attack Force

Very little light has been cast upon the present locations and intentions of this force, although an easterly movement was reported. Negative information in this case suggests a withdrawal in view of the costly failure of the Midway venture.

III. Indian Ocean

There are reports of two well armed raiders in Mozambique Channel believed to be Japanese. They are described as of about 8,000 and 15,000 tons respectively, both motor-vessels carrying sea-planes and about 8 guns. They are considered to be two of the following three: Arimasan Maru, Kyusyu Maru, and Awajisan Maru.

IV. It has been definitely established that a total of four midget submarines were sunk in the recent attack on Sydney Harbor. These boats are reported to be larger than those which attacked Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. Fittings found on them have given rise to the belief that they may be carried on the decks of large submarines.

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NAVY DEPARTMENT
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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0800, June 8, 1942

I. Midway Attack Force

Details remain lacking with regard to the pursuit and attack on the remaining Japanese ships of this force which are believed continuing their westerly withdrawal.

The present tally on casualties imposed on the Japanese units appear to be as follows:

- (a) It is believed that all four (4) carriers of Carriers 1 & 2 have been lost by sinking.
- (b) Three battleships have been damaged, but none is known to have sunk.
- (c) One Mogami class heavy cruiser has been burned and abandoned, another sank following two 1100 lb. bomb hits; probably three other heavy cruisers have been badly damaged.
- (d) Four transport type vessels are believed to have been lost and some four others damaged.
- (e) Destroyer casualties are indefinite; at least one was sunk and others damaged.

An Army reconnaissance report of June 7 indicated Japanese forces to be about 850 miles west of Midway.

II. Aleutian Attack Force

Apparently largely due to adverse weather conditions the movements of this Japanese force remain somewhat obscure.

An Alaska Defense Command report states that a force of 2 carriers, 2 cruisers and 8 destroyers remained north of Seguan Island during most of June 6. About midday planes were launched for action against Dutch Harbor but were later recalled due to weather conditions without delivering the attack. The latest report of 2045Z, June 6, places this force in the vicinity of Lat. 52°-50' N., Long. 172°-30' W.

There has been no intimation yet of an attempt to land ground forces on any island in the Aleutians.

- III. Although success has been reported in destroying Japanese ships

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marines off S. E. New South Wales, at least two SS are reliably reported to remain in these waters.

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Japanese Naval ActivitiesSummary as of 0800 June 7, 1942

I. Naval action in the mid-Pacific area is continuing but no reports have been received as yet that materially add to or alter the situation outlined yesterday.

II. Repeated air attacks have apparently failed so far to damage seriously the Japanese aircraft carrier off the Aleutian Islands as our attacking planes report strong fighter opposition. The carrier, accompanied by two cruisers and eight DD, was last reported about 200 miles west of Dutch Harbor.

III. (a) Enemy submarines continue active off the east coast of Australia. One submarine is thought to have been sunk and another may have been sunk as a result of attacks by aircraft.

(b) With the exception of light air raids and enemy submarine activity the Australian theater appears to be relatively quiet.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIESSummary as of 0800, June 6, 1942I. Midway Attack Forces:

The following fragmentary description of action in the Midway area is submitted in continuation of yesterday's summary:

Shortly after receiving an air attack from planes of the Japanese Striking Force a U.S. task force delivered an air attack in return on the Japanese force, which was reported to consist of 4 CV, 2 BB, 4 CA, 6 DD, located to the northwest of Midway. The attack took place between 2130 and 2300 Z, June 4, and resulted in a report that all four carriers had been badly damaged and one or two other heavy ships had been hit. Japanese defending fighters, probably of type O, appear to have taken a heavy toll on the attacking planes but failed to turn back the attack.

At 1330 Z, June 5, Midway reported being under light bombardment from the south. This shelling, believed to have been made by a Japanese submarine, ceased after the firing of about 8 rounds.

At 1959 Z, June 5, all available B-17 and dive bombers attacked battleships of the Support Force bearing 264°, distance 125 miles from Midway. One direct hit was scored and bomb explosions seen under the stern of one of these big ships. This caused her to circle to starboard and take a list to starboard. Previous to this attack this ship was seen to be leaking oil.

At 0105 Z, June 6, it was reported that 3 CA of MCGAMI or TONE classes, two of which were damaged and streaming oil, were trailing a group of 6 AP escorted by 1 CL on each bow. On approach of the U.S. patrol plane the transports circled and the cruisers counter-marched. These were apparently units of the Occupation and Support Forces, and were in about Lat. 28°-30' N., Long 179° W, retiring to the westward on course 270° at a slow speed of 12 or 13 knots.

By 0900 Z, June 6, the Striking Force, now observed to consist of 2 BB (both believed damaged), 2 CV (one of which was still on fire), 3 CA and 5-10 DD, were in approximate Lat. 33°-00' N., Long. 177°-15' E. on a retiring course of 290° at speed 13 knots. The absence at this time of the two additional CV indicates that they had been sunk.

A recapitulation of the entire damages sustained by the Japanese Force follows:

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Support Force

At least 1 and probably 2 BB damaged, one listing to starboard
2 CA damaged and streaming oil

Occupation Force

At least 2 AP hit, one by torpedo, the other by a bomb.

Striking Force

2 CV sunk, 2 remaining ones seriously damaged
2 BB damaged

The above summary of casualties sustained is undoubtedly incomplete, but is believed to indicate the minimum possible.

It is apparent that the Midway Attack Force, having lost nearly all its air support by carrier casualties and with the greater portion of its heavy ships seriously crippled, has retired in defeat.

II. Aleutian Attack Force

(a) A Japanese task group or groups believed to consist of one large CV (RYUJO) and one small CV, 2 CA, 3 DD was attacked by army bombers at 0052 Z, June 5. They were on course 330°, speed 25 approaching Usnak Island in position about 120 miles bearing 210° from that island. One B-26 is reported to have dropped a torpedo on a carrier deck while Japanese planes were in the air. Previous attempts to attack this force had failed due to bad weather and the fact that the Japanese force maintained a loose formation moving eastward on the edge of a high pressure ridge and taking advantage of scattered fog. Army reports indicate a belief that this force was divided into two groups, one consisting of 1 CV, 2 CA, 2 DD, the other of 1 CV and 2 DD.

At 0526 W, June 5, Dutch Harbor reported the Naval Station under attack, but 4 minutes later stated that the approaching planes withdrew without attacking.

At 1000 Z, June 5, the Naval Air Station reported a Japanese force of 1 CV, 1 CA and supporting units about 90 miles S.W. of Otter Point. B-17's sent out to attack dropped bombs, but no results have been reported.

(b) In the first attack on Fort Mears on June 3 a despatch sent on the Fort Mears tactical net frequency stated, "Friendly planes, don't fire". This is believed to have been transmitted as a ruse by the Japanese.

III. Early in May Japan notified the U.S.S.R. that after the middle of May no ships could pass through an area 32°-40° N., 123°-147° E. without permission of the Japanese Navy. It appears that this restriction was made in order to prevent disclosure of preparations being made in this area for the attacks on the Aleutians and Midway.

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IV. A report from Port Moresby stated that recently 5 Japanese planes about 90 secs. before the arrival of their bombers made a white cross in smoke over the day's target. The bombers flew through the center of this pattern and bombs were heard to drop about 12 secs. later.

V. A report is received that a Japanese submarine sent a small landing party ashore at Guadelupe Isl. (about 225 miles S.W. San Diego) on May 30 to demand food and fresh water.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, June 5, 1942

I. Aleutian Attack Force:

U.S. Planes have spotted at least one task group heading in a general northeasterly direction toward Umnak or Unalaska. The composition of this group is believed to be 1 CV, 3 CA, 2 DD. At 0405 Z, June 5, this group bore about 210°, 120 miles from Umnak. In addition to the above a single report was received of a three stack carrier in a position north of Unalaska. This can be only the HOSHO. Scattered fog banks have made interception difficult.

At about 0355 Z, June 5, carrier planes, probably from the task group mentioned above, attacked Port Mears for the second time. The fuel oil storage was reported set on fire as was the old "Northwestern", and a warehouse was burned. Only negligible damage was done to army installations and personnel. In addition to the above Fort Glenn was strafed by Type O fighters, two of which were shot down. No appreciable damage was inflicted.

II. Midway Attack Force:

(a) Since the report received yesterday of the attack by 9 B-17's on the main body of the Japanese Support Force, in which at least 1 BB was damaged, nothing further has yet arrived, but two transports of the Occupation Force in a nearby area are reported to have been hit, one by a bomb and the other by a torpedo. These two forces are believed to be continuing eastward toward Midway.

(b) The Striking Force with its four carriers bore down on Midway from the northwest as expected, and carried out an air raid on Midway at about 1835 Z, June 4. The power house was destroyed and slight damage was inflicted on a runway, but the aviation gas storage remained intact. Incomplete reports indicate that 8 Japanese planes were shot down.

As this force approached U.S. planes from Midway and submarines seem to have succeeded in inflicting considerable damage. A SORYU Class CV was reported to have been struck by three torpedoes from U.S.S. NAUTILUS and latest reports express the opinion that all four carriers of the Striking Force have been damaged.

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A summary of the damages believed to have been inflicted on the Japanese forces to date follow:

Support Force

1 BB on fire from a direct bomb hit.

Occupation Force

1 AP hit by a bomb
1 AP hit by a torpedo

Striking Force

1 BB received two bomb or torpedo hits
1 BB was struck
1 CV (SORTU Class) struck by three torpedoes
1 CV hit by two bombs
2 CV probably damaged

A B-17 later reported scoring two hits on a burning carrier and sighting two ships afire at a distance of 170 miles on bearing 320° from Midway and two others also burning at 125 miles on the same bearing.

III. An allied submarine in a raid on Japanese shipping lanes reported sinking two heavily laden armed supply ships of 6,000 and 10,000 tons, and badly damaged a third of 7,000 tons. It also claimed the sinking of an armed transport of 6,000 tons with the probable loss of all embarked troops.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, June 4, 1942

I. The air attack over Dutch Harbor reported in this summary of yesterday, June 3, is now known in the following details:

At 1545 GCT (0445 local Aleutian Time), June 3, 15 Japanese Type 97 light bombers attacked Fort Mears, Dutch Harbor from an altitude of 10,000 feet. These raiding planes appeared in groups of three, one flight from the southeast, and four from the northwest. The bombing lasted for about 20 minutes and resulted in the firing of two barracks, two warehouses, two other buildings, and damage to five additional barracks. Casualties were reported as 20 killed, 35 wounded. One of two single engine seaplanes was shot down near Umnak Pass, the second escaping. Reports of additional air attacks, and the sighting of a Japanese carrier were erroneous, but one or two reconnaissance photographic flights were made subsequently.

The light bombers are of a type carried by Japanese aircraft carriers, and the seaplanes are believed to have been catapulted from a seaplane tender, probably of merchant type.

It is considered highly probable that this raid presages landing operations to the westward in the Aleutian Archipelago.

II. Japanese submarines attacked 2 small cargo ships 35 miles east of Sydney Harbor, and a third vessel likewise was attacked 225 miles from Sydney. One of these ships was sunk, but the others escaped.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIESSummary as of 0800, June 3, 1942

I. A report has been received from the 13th Naval District to the effect that enemy planes were attacking Dutch Harbor. No details are yet known.

II. The U.S. patrol plane reported in this summary of yesterday, June 2, as having contacted Japanese aircraft is now reported to have been attacked by them. They were 2 heavy bombers apparently operating from Wake Island.

III. Official reports on the Japanese midget submarine attack at Sydney contain discrepancies with regard to numbers. Although details on these craft have not yet been received, it is assumed that they are identical to those which attacked Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIESSummary as of 0900, June 2, 1942

I. Again on June 1 at 2140 Z a U. S. patrol plane made contact with Japanese aircraft bearing 2510, distant 560 miles from Midway.

II. The wreckage of two of the midget submarines which attacked Sydney have been recovered, but no trace has been reported of the mother ship which transported these boats to this area.

III. Chinese sources report that the Japanese landing made on Yuhwan Island (Wenchow Bay, S.E. coast of Chekiang) has been repulsed, but it is not thought that this can be accepted as evidence of more than a temporary set back, if that.

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Office of the Chief of Naval Operations
WASHINGTON**SECRET**JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIESSummary as of 0800, June 1, 1942

I. Further contacts on Japanese patrol planes apparently operating from Wake Island have been made in positions approximately midway between Wake and Midway. It is obvious that not only aircraft but submarine activity has increased greatly within the past few days in mid-Pacific.

II. Press reports of a communique from Allied Headquarters in Australia declare that three Japanese midget submarines were believed to have been destroyed during an attempted raid on Sydney, one by gunfire and two by depth charges. This attack was termed completely unsuccessful. At Diego Suarez, Madagascar an attack was also made on British ships in the harbor, but to date the identity of the attacking force has not been reported. Whether or not this second attack was made by Japanese submarines they strongly suggest an effort to divert attention from the main issue.

III. Naval forces on May 28 were reported to have withdrawn from the Foochow vicinity. Press reports of new landings made on Yuhwan Island, Chekiang Province, (N.E. of Wenchow) lead to the assumption that these naval forces may have moved to this location to support the landing operations.

IV. Coast watchers reported on May 30 that over a period of three days an observation balloon was noted over an area between Bulolo and Buina, New Guinea.

V. Continued air reconnaissance over the various islands of the Gilbert and Ellice Groups strengthens the belief that offensive operations in this area have been postponed, but by no means abandoned.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, May 31, 1942

I. The presence of Japanese submarines and aircraft in Aleutian waters apparently reconnoitering U.S. forces has been well established in the past few days. That some of these submarines have moved far over toward the West Coast is now revealed by the sighting by a U.S. air patrol of a Japanese submarine in Lat. 47°-20' N, Long. 156°-00' W. (650 miles west of Seattle) at 1810 Q, May 30.

II. In addition to these activities in the Northern Pacific it is now evident that submarines and patrol planes are likewise employed in Mid-Pacific. About 2200 Z, May 30 one Kawanishi Type 97 4 engined flying boat was spotted bearing 215°, distant 480 miles, and one Mitsubishi Type 97 heavy bomber bearing 262°, distant 450 miles from Midway. These two planes were apparently very near the outer limit of the air patrol now being maintained from Wake Island.

III. The Japanese seaplane base at Tulagi, Florida Island, Solomon Group was attacked by allied planes the night of May 29. Fires started by the raid were reported to have destroyed fuel dumps, wharves and adjoining buildings visible for a distance of 80 miles. Besides destroying one patrol plane, AA guns at Tanaboga and Gavutu were silenced.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, May 30, 1942

I. Growing interest of the Japanese in the Aleutian Islands area is indicated by increased reports of submarines being sighted by U.S. Army Forces and U.S. Naval Patrols. A U.S. Naval Aircraft operating from Dutch Harbor sighted a submarine presumed to be Japanese at 0015Z May 29 bearing 150° distant fourteen miles from Scotch Cape. The submarine dived before an attack could be made.

II. (a) Reconnaissance from Australia indicates that the tempo of Japanese naval activity in this area has lessened as relatively few and usually only unimportant ships have been sighted.

(b) The Allied air forces continue their attacks on Japanese bases in the New Guinea, Bismarck and Solomon Islands area. Japanese opposition to these attacks is momentarily weaker and a marked lessening of reprisal raids on Australia has been noted.

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Office of the Chief of Naval Operations
WASHINGTONJapanese Naval ActivitiesSummary as of 0800, May 19, 1942

I. Air reconnaissance in the New Britain-Solomon area reveals a continually decreasing number of surface vessels, but in spite of this fact Allied planes were reported to have sunk Komaki Maru, a Kokusai Kisen K.K. vessel of 8,525 gross tons at a wharf at Rabaul. To the northward of New Britain two cruisers, one DD were sighted in 01° 31' S., 152° 56' E. on course 345 but these were probably enroute Truk.

II. Air reconnaissance over Koepong, S. Timor, showed five merchant vessels to be present, and this indicates that activity in the East Indies is now probably greater than in Melanesia, and that further seizures are being carried out, but only after air patrols show no Allied activity, especially submarines.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, May 18, 1942

I. In Melanesia there is now very little activity other than by aircraft. Air reconnaissance has failed to sight any of the major units that were recently engaged in the Coral Sea, and it is therefore assumed that they have been withdrawn in spite of the press report to the effect that a strong U.S. task force had been claimed by Tokyo to have been sighted by Japanese aircraft a few days ago some distance to the eastward.

II. No new developments have been noted in any other theatre.

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WASHINGTONJAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIESSummary as of 0800, May 17, 1942

I. The situation in Melanesia, as revealed by air reconnaissance, has quieted down considerably, and it is now considered that the threat to Australia has been averted for the time being.

II. Other than shore-based aircraft there is believed to remain very few or no naval units in the Bay of Bengal.

III. In the East Indies is only a comparatively weak Defense Force which at the time is probably still engaged in extending occupations to outlying islands, mopping up and consolidating gains. It is believed that some oil is now being taken from Borneo at Miri and probably Tarakan.

IV. With forces in the South scattered and few in numbers it may be concluded that the next offensive movement will be launched from Japan Proper and/or the Japanese Mandates.

E. Watts

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, May 16, 1942

I. Air reconnaissance over the Solomon Island-Bismarck Archipelago area continues to reveal the presence in these waters of numerous transports, one or two tankers and tenders, and a few cruisers and destroyers. No aircraft carriers have been sighted for several days. It thus appears that the Japanese have drawn off all available air power, probably for an offensive to the northeastward.

R.A. Boone

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, May 15, 1942

I. The situation in Melanesia remains quiet, but the movement to the eastward is believed to be underway. The comparatively large number of vessels sighted in the Solomons and New Britain area indicate that action directed more closely at Australia has been postponed but not abandoned.

II. No new developments are noted with respect to an offensive into the Eastern Pacific.

R. A. Boons

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WASHINGTONJAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIESSummary as of 0800, May 14, 1942

I. Air reconnaissance over the New Britain - Solomons area on May 12 reveals no new developments. Negative information on the carriers and cruisers over a period of several days clearly indicates that they have departed, some probably to the eastward and others returning to home waters in Japan.

II. The present lull in activities is believed to presage offensive operations which may be directed into the Eastern Pacific before the end of May.

R. A. Boone.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, May 13, 1942

I. Air reconnaissance over the Solomons area on May 11 continue to show a number of light naval craft and scattered merchant types, but no carriers or cruisers appear to have been sighted. It thus seems probable that at least the heavy cruisers may have moved eastward, leaving the defense of Rabaul principally to shore-based aircraft which undoubtedly have been reinforced by air units in the Marshalls, following considerable losses last week.

R. A. Boone

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, May 12, 1942

I. Air reconnaissance over the Bismarck Archipelago disclosed considerable activity by surface units, particularly in refueling, up to May 10. By now it is highly probable that some units have moved out to the eastward in prosecution of offensive operations. Since there is no evidence of additional ships reaching this area the strength of this force cannot be very imposing, considering the material casualties suffered last week in the Coral Sea. Not only does this force lack strength in surface vessels, but also in ship-borne aircraft after its comparatively serious carrier losses in the recent engagement.

II. The fact that little or no combatant ship reinforcements have been observed moving south to augment the depleted forces in the Bismarck Archipelago area may be interpreted as an indication that forces now in home waters are being readied for offensive operations.

R. A. Boons

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, May 11, 1942

I. The fleet of about 25 transports, supply ships and tankers together with their escorts which were enroute to effect an occupation, probably on the south-eastern coast of New Guinea, when intercepted by our forces has by now apparently returned to its New Britain base. Its offensive operations apparently have been abandoned for the present, but may be resumed at a later date.

The striking force which was engaged with our forces on May 6, 7 and 8 likewise appears to have been withdrawn, but by this time very probably may have resumed operations in an easterly direction.

It is believed that in spite of some recent reconnaissance reports to the possible contrary there now remain no Japanese surface units in the Coral Sea to the southward of the Solomon Islands and New Guinea.

II. Although the occupation of Tulagi, (Southern Solomon Islands) has not yet been confirmed it is thought highly probable that Tulagi, Gavutu and Makambo Islands are now all under Japanese control, even though possibly weakly held.

III. The Japanese admission noted in the press of the loss in the Coral Sea action of a carrier converted from a tanker strengthens the conviction held for some time that a number of such types of which there has been no previous information exist and are being employed offensively.

R.A. Boone.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0600, May 10, 1942

I. The Japanese fleet which engaged in the Coral Sea action is believed retiring northward still harried by Allied bombers which damaged a seaplane tender and a tanker.

II. Allied airplane reconnaissance on May 7th observed in the general area of the Louisiade Archipelago 22 Japanese warships, including 2 seaplane tenders, heavy and light cruisers and destroyers. Also observed were 25 other ships, presumably AP's, AK's and at least 1 tanker.

Adding to the above the Japanese CV's attacked or observed in the fighting and subtracting Japanese losses reported to date, there should be somewhere in the New Britain area the following Japanese ships:

2 CV, one damaged. The damaged CV will probably head for home waters if she has not already done so.

2 seaplane tenders, one or both damaged.

12 other warcraft, including one damaged CA and one damaged CL.

23 AP's, AK's, etc., including 2 damaged AP's or AK's and a damaged tanker.

III. There may be other vessels present in these waters which have not been observed by our aircraft.

IV. It is not considered likely that the Japanese will renew their drive on Port Moresby at present. In view of the forces still available, however, some offensive operation, possibly to the northeastward, may be anticipated shortly.

V. The Japanese announce the occupation of Lorengau (just north of Manus Island in the Admiralty group) on May 8. Allied forces before withdrawing had destroyed all installations including the airfield and radio station.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, May 9, 1942

I Official reports on the naval engagement in the Coral Sea have not yet been received. It is believed probable that the press report of the withdrawal of the Japanese striking force is accurate, but there is no definite confirmation thereof. It is believed that prior to the end of May 8 all naval units in the Truk - Bismarck Archipelago which may have been ordered to join the engagement should have arrived, and that no other units in other areas could be expected to arrive in time. It is evident that aircraft played a major role in the engagement, and that the Japanese employed both ship-borne and shore based planes in their attacks.

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SECRETJAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIESSummary as of 0800, May 8, 1942

A naval engagement between allied and Japanese forces has been in progress in the general area southward of Bismarck Archipelago in the Coral Sea, and there is no indication yet of a cessation. Japanese losses are believed to be:

Sunk

1 CV
1 CA
1 CL
2 DD
4 PG
2 AP or AK (1 sunk by Army planes in Louisiade Archipelago)

Damaged

1 CV
1 CA
1 CL
1 AV Seaplane tender
2 AP or AK

Confirmed details of allied losses are not known at present but Tokyo's press claims may be discounted.

It is a foregone conclusion that the Japanese are rushing all available units in the New Britain area to engage allied forces.

M.C.
R. A. Boone.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIESSummary as of 0800, May 7, 1942

I. (a) An unconfirmed report states that Tulagi, Florida Is. of Solomon group has been occupied by the Japanese, but no details are given. It will be recalled that only three days ago word was received that Tulagi had been evacuated by all personnel except members of the signal staff.

(b) Judging from reports of allied aircraft sighting of a number of Japanese navy ships in the vicinity of Woodlark Island (150 miles N. E. of S. E. tip of New Guinea), it is concluded that the long anticipated offensive from the New Britain area has started. Their positions indicate objectives on the southeastern New Guinea coast.

R. A. Boone

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, May 6, 1942

I. (a) Although there is yet no evidence of any new occupations in the New Guinea--Bismarck Archipelago area air reconnaissance reveals a gradually increasing number of transport type vessels as well as naval vessels. These indications point to imminent offensive action, probably within the next few days.

(b) Air reconnaissance has shown that new Japanese airfields appear to have been constructed at Sulla (5 miles S.E. of Lolobau Island) and on a plain referred to as Tovat (28 miles east of Lolobau Island). Lolobau Island is approximately 160 miles S.E. of Rabaul. It is apparent that the Japanese are dispersing their aircraft in this area as much as possible in an effort to cut down losses from allied air attacks.

II. There are no new developments noted in any other theatres.

W.C.

R. A. Boone

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, May 5, 1942

I. There are no new developments in the Melanesia area worthy of note. It is believed that aggressive movements by Japanese fleet units are being hampered in particular by Allied air action over their bases. The considerable aircraft losses to which they have been subjected recently are not easy to replace, and there are indications that in spite of almost continued reinforcements their air strength is not yet considered entirely sufficient for operations planned. The sighting on May 4 of one carrier and two large ships which were probably heavy cruisers suggests that the major portion of the concentration at Truk has now moved down into the Rabaul area.

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R. A. Boons

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SECRETJAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIESSummary as of 0800, May 4, 1942

I. There is as yet no evidence that Japanese naval forces have carried out any further occupations. Tulagi has been very heavily bombed and all personnel except members of the signal staff have been evacuated, and it is therefore probable that occupation of this location, which provides a seaplane base, is imminent.

Air reconnaissance over Rabaul on May 2 disclosed a total of 19 transports which is a considerably larger number than has heretofore been noted. In addition to these, two large and three small ships were sighted between Gatukai and Etipari (Solomon Islands) and three unidentified ships off Santa Isabel Islands headed for Tulagi.

II. Japanese troops are reported to have landed at Tagaloan-Bugo (N.W. Mindanao) from six transports apparently without navy escort.

III. It is reported that a U.S. submarine scored two torpedo hits on the KASUGA (CV) in the Marshall Islands area. Her sinking has not been confirmed.

IV. A U.S. submarine reports being attacked by a large Japanese submarine which fired five magnetic torpedoes, the first report of the possession of this type by the Japanese Navy. Further confirmation is being sought.

V. One Japanese carrier and two large ships, probably heavy cruisers, were sighted in Bismarck Archipelago waters on May 4.

R. A. Boons.

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DATE 08-08-78NAVY DEPARTMENT
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I. Since present trends in the Japanese Fleets appear to envisage several possible movements in the near future, the following recapitulation is submitted in an attempt to clarify the present situation:

About April 10-12 heavy types, including battleships and carriers, suddenly withdrew from the Bay of Bengal at a time when fleet actions taken in these waters indicated a continued advance in the Indian Ocean. In the light of recent developments, it is concluded that this withdrawal marked a sudden change of plans which is believed to have been made with the realization of the danger of operating strong surface units in distant waters in the face of the rising U.S. Navy threat in home waters.

Following the withdrawal 3 BB, 4 CV, 4 CA, nearly the entire force in the Bay of Bengal, were given refits in home yards. Cardiv 5 of 2 CV, apparently in good material condition, was the only unit exempted. The fact that these units were sent to yards simultaneously leads to the conclusion that all of them were desired for operations at an early date, sometime around the middle of May at the earliest.

Shortly thereafter a concentration in the Truk area and increased activity in the New Britain area has made it increasingly evident that operations from Rabaul were imminent. By now it is probable that the following units have assembled or are being assembled near Rabaul:

3 (possibly 4) CV, 2 CA, 3 CL, about 10 DD and 10 SS, 3 or 4 XAV, 7 or 8 IAM, unknown number of AP, and a strong force of shore-based aircraft probably numbering 150 - 200 bombers and fighters, including flying boats. This force, predominantly strong in air units, is under the command of the CinC, 4th Fleet, who it is believed has by now started advance preparatory operations. The mission of this force for the present is believed to be limited to restricting allied fleet movements by attacks on various outlying island bases with possible occupation of some, and the continuation of aircraft bombing of allied air bases with the object of gaining air control. In order to be in better position to launch strong air attacks on northeast Australian bases, the seizure of objectives on the southeastern coast of New Guinea, including Port Moresby, is most probable. Offensive operations against New Hebrides and New Caledonia are not expected until after securing more advantageous advance bases from which to launch attacks.

Available in home waters as a striking force at present are: 6 BB, 4 CA, 2 CV (one or both of which will probably proceed south), at least one Desron and two Subrons. Most of the heavy units now undergoing overhaul, 3 BB, 4 CV, 4 CA, may be made ready for sea in 2 or 3 days but normally are not expected to be

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available until after the middle of May. It is believed that the reported allied air attack on Honshu of April 18 has crystallized Japanese Navy plans to strike offensively in order to prevent future U.S. attacks on Japan proper. Although plans for operations against other U.S. areas should by no means be excluded from consideration, at present the Aleutian Islands appears to be the most probable objective. The fact that the CinC, 2nd Fleet, who formerly has commanded all major offensive operations, appears to remain in home waters strengthens the likelihood of an offensive movement from Japan.

E. Watts

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES
Summary as of 0800, May 2, 1942

I. Preparations for attacks on Port Moresby and Tulagi continue. An early offensive operation in the Gilbert Islands is also believed probable.

II. We still have no reports of a concentration of transports and land forces sufficient for a landing attack against the Australian mainland. Lacking this information, we can only assume that the New Guinea operations will be supplemented by heavy bombing of north Australian points.

III. The press reports that on April 29 and 30 fifty-three Japanese planes were damaged or destroyed at Lae and Salamoa. There has been no official confirmation of these reports, but if the figure is even approximately correct Japanese plans for the attack on Port Moresby have received a severe set back, since an important feature of this attack would undoubtedly be heavy bombing of the Port Moresby area by land based planes operating from Lae and Salamoa.

R. A. Boone

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O&D Letter, 6-3-78JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIESSummary as of 0800, May 1, 1942

I. (a) It is considered now that offensive movements will be made almost certainly from the Rabaul area in the near future unless interference by allied forces becomes too great. In the neighborhood of 200 bombers and fighters are believed concentrated in the New Britain - East coast New Guinea area, but it is probable that a considerable portion of this air strength will be held back in defense of Japanese bases from a possible allied attack.

(b) The movements of Second Fleet units in the Truk area are obscure, and it is thought that possibly some units have moved down to the New Britain area, but there is no confirmation of this belief.

II. It is believed that by about the middle of May several strong units now undergoing overhaul in home yards will be ready for sea. At the time these ships near readiness careful consideration should be given to possible offensive movements in the Eastern Pacific.

R. A. Boone.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, April 30, 1942

I. Although there is very little concrete evidence of Japanese offensive action imminent from New Britain, there is every reason to believe that plans for the extension of present occupations in this area may still be expected to materialise. The seizure of Port Moresby is believed to remain the principal objective for the present.

II. The interest of the Japanese Navy in the Alaska-Aleutian theatre continues, but there is no indication yet of any immediate action planned.

R. A. Boone.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, April 29, 1942

I. No progress has been noted in the anticipated advance from the Truk-New Britain area in the past twenty-four hours, except that air reconnaissance over New Britain on April 28 sighted a total of 12 merchant types, a slight increase over the past few days. It is believed that a landing force will be put ashore at Tulagi at the first opportunity when the least allied interference may be expected.

II. Some time ago it was reported that Vichy French merchant shipping in Indo-Chinese waters was expected soon to be turned over to the Japanese. Some 18 vessels totalling slightly over 100,000 tons were known to have been involved. Now a report from the American Ambassador in Vichy confirms that the Japanese Navy has seized roughly 90,000 tons of this shipping, and that the remaining approximate 10,000 tons were expected to be retained by the French for Indo-Chinese coastal trade.

III. There are some as yet uncertain indications of a rising interest by the Japanese Navy in the Alaska-Aleutian theatre. It is thought most probable that since the reported air attack on Honshu on April 18 drastic defense measures to prevent future attacks have been discussed. Along these lines offensive action to neutralize the Aleutian Islands as an approach route doubtless at least has been considered.

W. H.

R. A. Boons

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0600, April 28, 1942

I. The focus of naval activity remains in the Truk-New Britain area. The movement of certain units southward from Truk is believed due more to the rising allied threat than to immediate offensive action. It appears that the execution of operations planned by the Japanese Navy at this time in the Rabaul area has been complicated by continual allied air raids and by the probable proximity of allied task forces. Present indications, however, reflect the determination of the Japanese Navy to gain air and surface supremacy; to that end aircraft in particular is continually being drawn into this area at the expense of other theatres. The trend is definitely toward a "show-down" here in the near future.

R. A. BOONE

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, April 27, 1942

I. There are indications that some surface vessels may be moving to the southward of Truk toward Rabaul. It is evident, however, that no task force is yet ready for a major offensive, although occupation of Tulagi (Solomons) is expected at an early date, and an attack on Port Moresby is possible soon thereafter. In the meanwhile, heavy bombing raids on Port Moresby and Port Darwin are anticipated. Continued interest is displayed in an area southward of the Marshalls including the Gilberts, Nauru, Ocean, Howland and Baker.

R. A. Boone

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I. Port Darwin, Port Moresby and Tugali (Solomon Islands) were heavily bombed by Japanese aircraft on April 25th. These raids are believed to be the opening phase of an offensive in the Australian sphere. It may be expected that these attacks will be intensified.

II. To date there is no indication that land forces and transports are in position for an early large scale attack against the Australian mainland. A landing operation against Port Moresby remains a probability, when and if the Japanese gain control of the air over New Guinea.

R. A. Boone.

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I. Although uncertain it is believed that search operations in the N.W. Pacific have been abandoned. However it must be expected that subsequent to the reported air attack of April 18 air, surface and submarine patrols have been intensified. No indication has been received yet that the naval defenses of Japan have been augmented, but it is possible that one or more units recently returned from the Bay of Bengal may be diverted to this duty on completion of overhaul.

II. There are no new developments with regard to the previously reported concentration in the Truk area. Although it continues to appear that the C-in-C, Second Fleet will be in command of this force it is not believed that he actually has reached this area yet.

E. Watts.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, April 24, 1942

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I. 5th Fleet units, Local Defense Forces, and a number of submarines continue search operations off the east coast of Honshu. No new developments are noted.

II. In the New Britain area aircraft continues to arrive but to date there are no indications of any material increase in combatant or merchant vessels. Increased Japanese attention is being directed to the various islands in the South Pacific under control of the United Nations, and further advances are expected soon.

III. It is expected that the Japanese will occupy other islands in the Philippines, probably as soon as control is firmly established over Panay and Cebu. Negros Island is considered to be the next most probable objective.

IV. Convoys of troop ships continue to be sent to Rangoon from Singapore.

R. A. Boons.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, April 23, 1942

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I. It is believed that 5th Fleet units are continuing the search in the N.W. Pacific and that air patrols from Marcus and Wake Islands are maintained through northerly sectors. Other units which had been ordered out on April 18-19 to search for an allied task force have probably been withdrawn.

II. As was anticipated an increasing number of combatant ships are being connected with the projected concentration at Truk. Of importance is the indication that the C-in-C, 2nd Fleet in TAKAO (CA) will be, if not already is, in this area. This flag officer has been in command of all major Japanese naval offensive operations in the S.W. Pacific in the past.

III. There is no present indication of any imminent carrier action outside of the Southern Mandates-Australian theatre. It is believed that four carriers are now or will be in the next few days in home yards undergoing repairs and overhaul. Four others appear committed in the Truk-New Britain area, and the remaining three in home waters are not ones which have in the past been employed in offensive operations.

R.A. Boons.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, April 22, 1942

I. Search operations covering an area east and northeast of Honaha to about Long. 155° E., apparently having brought only negative results, are now to a great extent being discontinued. A number of air and surface units are believed to have been directed to resume normal employment, but submarines continue to remain active.

II. It is now definitely established that Japanese naval offensive plans in the Bay of Bengal temporarily at least have been abandoned. With the probable exception of some destroyer units all surface forces have been withdrawn, the majority to home ports. Submarines however are believed to continue operations from their base at Penang.

III. The anticipated concentration in the Truk-New Britain area is shaping up and those units which are believed under orders to proceed to this area should all be assembled by the end of April. However, it is thought quite likely that most, if not all, of the forces previously in the Bay of Bengal may wind up in this area after completion of overhaul in home yards. It is estimated that by May 10 the striking forces which were in the Bay of Bengal could be assembled in the Truk-New Britain area ready for a major operation. Offensive operations from New Britain may, however, be launched prior to the above date.

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R. A. Boose

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I. Search operations for an Allied task force in the northwestern Pacific continue under the direct command of the Commander-in-Chief, Combined Fleet, but there is no indication of a contact.

The approaching arrival of several heavy types to Japan ports from the Bay of Bengal are believed to have no bearing on the search operations. They apparently are returning only for overhaul and repairs prior to future employment. With the possible exception of one carrier those units which recently have received movement orders to the Truk area appear to be following their assigned schedule. In addition, it is quite probable that one battleship of the Haruna class, possibly Hiyei, will move down into southern Mandate waters or the New Britain area. This general theatre continues to be the focal point of future operations.

The Japanese continue to strengthen their position in New Britain. Natives report that Wunamarita (25 miles west of Rabaul) has been occupied by them, and that extensive earth works have been constructed at Kerabat (15 miles S.W. of Rabaul), and at Kopopo (10 miles S.E. of Rabaul). In spite of plentiful indications of preparations, there is yet no tangible evidence of the anticipated offensive operations from this area.

Kenjo Maru, a converted air tender, has been identified definitely as the vessel on which Allied attacking planes scored a hit off Rabaul on April 18.

R. A. Boone

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIESSummary as of 0800, April 20, 1942

I. Every effort is continued to be made to locate the allied force in the north-western Pacific. At least 80 bombers, many of them carrying torpedoes, in addition to scouts and fighters are being employed in search operations from the Yokosuka area. A continuous air patrol within 100 miles' radius of Yokosuka is maintained. Air, surface, and submarine units have been coordinated in these operations.

It is probable that an attack on Wake Island is now expected by the Japanese, and that aircraft on this island has been disposed accordingly. The air strength of Wake, which is included in the Marshalls air organization, recently has been assigned a large portion of the numbers of aircraft in this area.

II. It is indicated that the naval air base established at Koepang, S. Timor, has been found very vulnerable to allied air attacks from Australia, and that in consequence a new location, possibly at Ambon, has been selected as an air base from which to base aircraft attacking N.W. Australian objectives.

III. Reinforcements for the Burma front continue to be sent by sea from Singapore under naval escort. One such convoy of an unknown number of vessels is reported to have departed Singapore April 20.

IV. Tokyo reports indicate yet further occupation of islands surrounding Sumatra.

R. A. Boone

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIESSummary as of 0800, April 19, 1942

I. Tokyo broadcasts of the allied air raid on Honshu specifies the Tokyo-Yokohama, Kobe and Nagoya areas as having been under attack. These areas are the centers of the Japanese aircraft industry. To date Tokyo has claimed bringing down only nine allied planes in spite of the fact that the first contact apparently was made some six hours prior to the attack on land objectives.

There can be no doubt that the Japanese Navy has for some time expected a raid on her east coast of Honshu, and has intensified her preparations to the maximum consistent with the prosecution of operation plans in the south. The shore-based air organization of Honshu has been increased, the 5th Fleet guarding the north-easterly approaches, although still unimpressive in combatant types, has been materially strengthened, and the Screening Force, the main battle force in home waters, has been in position to deny southeasterly approaches.

There is yet no indication that any allied surface units have been attacked with any success although air, surface and submarine searches have without any doubt been sent out from Honshu bases, and all available aircraft from Marcus Island in northerly sectors.

II. Unconfirmed reports state that Japanese forces have occupied Siberut and Pulo Nias Islands off the west coast of Sumatra.

III. The Rabaul area continues to be strengthened particularly with aircraft, but it is believed that by now a few submarines probably have reached this area. Some shore-based air units from the Bay of Bengal appear to be moving eastward, probably to Rabaul or adjacent locations.

IV. In the past few days movements of considerably large numbers of Army transports have been reported. Some 16 such vessels appear to have started north from Singapore with Dairen as probable destination, and another group of about 24 are believed to have departed Penang for some unknown destination.

E. Watts.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

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Summary as of 0600, April 18, 1942

I. The departure of strong naval surface and air units from the Bay of Bengal and the movement of many of these ships toward home bases was reported in yesterday's summary. It now seems possible that the Japanese had advance information of the projected attack against Honshu and were hurrying these vessels home to meet the attack.

II. The question at once arises, "may we expect revenge raids against Hawaii, or, by-passing Hawaii, against the west coast". In answer we can only say that the Japanese have several CV's and strong supporting units which could be made available, should they care to risk the ships in such an operation. However, such an undertaking would probably postpone for some time the expected advance into the Australian sphere, for which the Japanese continue to make preparations.

R. A. Boone

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIESSummary as of 0800, April 17, 1942

I. It is now evident that heavy units of naval forces in the Bay of Bengal have been withdrawn. There are now believed to remain no battleships and a maximum of two carriers only. The departure of Batdiv 3 of 3 BB, Cardiv 5 of 2 CV, Cardiv 3 of 1 CV, and Crudiv 7 of 4 CA gives every indication of being of a permanent nature. Light forces of destroyers and submarines are believed to remain, as do all shore-based aircraft.

From the above it may be assumed that a basic change of plans has been effected. The advance on the east coast of India and Ceylon which was clearly indicated by the initial attacks on these objectives in the early part of the month thus appears to have been abandoned.

Many of the heavy units undoubtedly are returning to home yards for overhaul and repairs for a short period which will probably terminate by May 10. Already the new focal point of concentration is shifting down to the Truk area, an indication that future offensive action may be directed against the Australian sphere.

II. The landing of Japanese troops under covering fire from unidentified warships and planes on the island of Panay at Capiz (northern coast) and Iloilo (southern coast) appears to be in conformance with Japan's basic strategy of extending her control over the Philippine Islands.

R. A. Boons.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, April 16, 1942

I. The center of Japanese offensive naval activity now appears to be drawing away from the Bay of Bengal. Although at first it was thought that the withdrawal of aircraft carriers was for the purpose of replacing lost aircraft, it now appears that three carriers have been detached and are proceeding to other areas. Likewise the principal cruiser unit in this area, Crudiv 7 of three or four Mogami Class CA, is moving out of the Bay, but possibly will remain nearby. Nothing is yet known of the exact locations of the battleships previously reported.

In spite of the apparent withdrawal of some naval strength merchant types in considerable numbers continue to move into the Bay of Bengal, probably as a result of increased security which the Japanese believe they now possess in this area. One route is clearly via Saigon, Singapore and the Malacca Straits, but indications are that some vessels from the Mandates pass through to the southward of the East Indies and thence up the Sumatra west coast into the Bay of Bengal.

R. A. Boons.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, April 15, 1942

I. (a) In the Bay of Bengal there has been a marked decrease of activity, but this lull may be interpreted as necessary in preparation for new Japanese advances. Some 40 enemy merchant vessels are known to be at Rangoon, but have probably been employed in transporting personnel and equipment to the Burma front. Although these ships may well be employed at a later date in landing force operations their present locations some distance up-river and the absence of naval vessels in this area indicate that for the present at least they will not be used offensively.

(b) The recent RAF raid on the Andaman Islands, in which 15 flying boats were reported destroyed or damaged, shows that the Japanese have assembled a fairly large number of long range VPB here. Lack of available airfields on the islands has restricted the use of heavy bombers.

II. Japanese submarine units, comparatively inactive during the past month, now appear to be resuming operations.

R. A. Boons

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, April 14, 1942

I. There are indications that Japanese aircraft carriers which have been operating against Ceylon objectives and shipping in the Bay of Bengal may have retired to the eastward. Losses in carrier aircraft have been heavy, and therefore a withdrawal to take on additional planes before commencing new operations is considered probable.

British authorities in India consider that before making an attempt to seize Ceylon Japan will invade the east coast of India in order to acquire air bases from which shore based aircraft can operate against the island. They estimate that the Japanese will require 6 BB, 6 CV, 15 cruisers with sufficient DD and SS in order to successfully hold off British naval forces during the landing operations. Despite many confusing and contradictory reports, it is not believed that to date more than 3 BB, 4 CV, 5 CA, 1 CL, one Desron, and 12 SS have operated in the Bay of Bengal on offensive missions.

II. A R.C.A.F. pilot has reported the sighting of small fishing craft with a single pole mast in the general area of Lat. 54-30 N., Long. 132 W. near the Queen Charlotte Islands. He is convinced that these were Japanese submarines in disguise. This is further confirmation of previous reports to this effect which have been sufficiently detailed to base a rough sketch thereon.

R. A. Boone.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIESSummary as of 0800, April 13, 1942

I. No new developments in operations have been noted in the Bay of Bengal. A strong task force is believed to remain within air striking distance of Colombo. Attacks on allied merchant vessels appear to have fallen off probably as a result of British stoppage of merchant traffic. Shore based aircraft on the Andaman Islands are being reinforced. Although a number of Japanese merchant vessels are known to have moved to the Andamans, there is no present indication of the assembly of a large convoy which might be employed in landing operations.

On April 4 Jaluit Radio reported to Tokyo that on that day many U.S. planes arrived in India.

II. (a) Exploitation of western Dutch New Guinea continues with indications that various bases are being planned. Among these is an air field which is to be constructed on Efinan Island in the Salawati Group, on the N.W. end of Dutch New Guinea.

(b) Operation orders on the anticipated sea invasion of Port Moresby have been issued, and it is believed that these operations will commence on or about April 21.

(c) A submarine base is being established on the Warangoi River in New Britain, but to date no submarines have been noted based in this area.

III. (a) It has been learned that Malakal Passage, N.E. of Uruk Thapel Island in the Palau group is probably mined, and that fuel oil is available at Malakal Harbor.

(b) Japanese vessels are now assigned definite routes to follow in moving between Japan and the Mandates, and extending south into the New Britain area. In the vicinity of the Bonin Islands escorts are provided as required.

IV. A Japanese air operations report states that a Portuguese torpedo boat "SADO", flying Portuguese colors, exploded and sank within 3 minutes in waters apparently under Japanese control about 6 miles offshore. An immediate search for possible enemy submarines gave only negative results. The nearest approach to the above name is the Portuguese destroyer, "ZARCO".

R.A. Boone.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

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Summary as of 0800, April 12, 1942

I. HMS (CV) HERMES with 12 Swordfish aboard, the sloops VAMPIRE and HOLLYHOCK and one auxiliary were sunk south of Trincomalee on April 10, probably by torpedo planes. On the morning of April 10 three Japanese BB's, 4 CV's, 5 CA's plus DD's were sighted by a plane 180 miles east of Trincomalee, steaming south. British lack of torpedo planes is said to compel avoidance of fleet action as it is desired to keep the fleet in being until heavily reinforced with torpedo planes. British lack of long range reconnaissance planes limits zone of certain knowledge to Indian coastal waters.

II. The (AV) NOTORO is enroute to Singapore. One or more auxiliary aircraft carriers, now in the Yokosuka area, are expected to return to the Mandates shortly with planes and equipment. One aircraft carrier was sighted near New Britain. (This may have been either the KASUGA or the HOSHO.) Enemy air reconnaissance over the coastal areas north and northeast of Port Moresby continues. This is a further indication that a landing attack against Port Moresby may be expected shortly.

III. The Commander of the Marshalls Air Force is at Kwajalein. The Major Commander of shore-based aircraft is enroute to his new headquarters at Tinian (Lat. 15-00 N; Long. 145-36 E). His command includes all aircraft operating in the Marshalls, Marianas, New Britain, East Indies and Andaman areas.

IV. 500 laborers are being sent from Saipan to Kendari.

V. Air searches from Wake have recently been made in the sector from north to east of the Island to a distance 300 miles. Morning and evening searches may be expected.

VI. On April 10 General Wainwright reported 8 to 10 transports plus 5 warships off Cebu, and 10 warships off northwestern Panay headed east.

R. A. Boone

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIESSummary as of 0800, April 11, 1942

I. An air attack on Trincomalee on April 9 resulted in considerable damage. H.M.S. HERMES in addition to several smaller craft was sunk by bombs.

Reports of Japanese naval units in the Bay of Bengal are conflicting, particularly with respect to capital ships. It is apparent that several separate task forces are operating in the bay, but it is thought probable that there is only one to which battleships are assigned. Another force consisting of about 4 CA, 1 CV and several DD has been harrying the east coast of India, but is now believed to have retired to the vicinity of Port Blair for refueling. Although air reconnaissance reports show recognition of at least one MUTSU class battleship, there is no evidence to show that any of this class has been detached from the Screening Force in home waters, and therefore the original estimate of three or four battleships in this area, (2 KONGO class, and 1 or possibly 2 FUSO class) remains unchanged, at least until more concrete evidence to the contrary is received.

II. An advanced naval base in the Philippines has disseminated information to the effect that since the Japanese army had penetrated the defense of Bataan it now will concentrate its strength on Corregidor, and that if control of Manila Bay is achieved by April 15 naval units will immediately thereafter commence operations in central and southern Philippine waters. For this purpose four or more additional destroyers are requested from higher authority.

III. After a considerable period during which the whereabouts of the flagship of the Combined Fleet remained obscure, it is now reliably reported that she is at Kure. This is believed to be the new battleship, YAMATO, flying the flag of C-in-C, Combined Fleet.

IV. Further naval air reorganization effective as of April 10 is reported as follows:

Commander 11th Air Fleet at Tinian, Mariana Islands.

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Location</u>
1. 6th Attack Force	Chichijima, Bonin Islands.
	Marcus
2. 4th Attack Force	Ominato, N. Honshu
	Wake
	Tarao?
	Makin
3. 1st, 2nd, 3rd Bomber Groups*	Rabaul, Lae.
4. Unidentified forces	Timor
	Andaman Islands
	Possibly other N.E.I. areas

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This air fleet is composed of naval aircraft, both landplanes and seaplanes except carrier based planes.

* Described in this summary of April 1, 1942.

V. Kerguelen Island (Lat. 49°S., Long. 69°E.) is reported to be a base used by Germany and Japan for refueling submarines and raiders. Two excellent small ports are located on this island. About 18 months ago Japanese whalers in this area are said to have supplied Nazi raiders with fuel obtained in the East Indies.

VI. Always quick to take advantage of the scientific achievements of other nations an aircraft technician has been ordered south from Yokosuka to examine captured allied aviation material including American B-17E's and B-24's.

VII. It is indicated that an air patrol is sent out from Wake Island daily both in the morning and evening. The original radius of these patrols was 600 miles, but more recently it appears to have been reduced to 300-400 miles.

R. A. Boone.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, April 10, 1942

I. The Japanese naval operations in the Bay of Bengal are taking a heavy toll in allied merchant vessels. Although probably exaggerated, a type commander has reported to his seniors the destruction of about 140,000 tons of shipping. Continued interest is displayed in the number of vessels remaining at Calcutta.

Although the straddling by allied aircraft bombs of a Japanese carrier believed to be the AKAGI has been reported, there has not yet been received any further information of contacts of naval units in spite of the Japanese claim of sinking H.M.S. HERMES.

II. Japanese landing forces have occupied the island of Cebu, an important oil storage center. Since the surrender of our forces in Bataan will release a large number of ground forces, it may be expected that the planned occupation of islands in the central and southern Philippines will soon be accomplished.

III. The occupation of Lorengau, Admiralty Islands, N.E. of New Britain by Japanese forces is confirmed.

IV. Although no considerable movements out of home ports have yet been noted, indications are that the repair and overhaul periods are expiring. Reorganization of naval and air units has been nearly completed, so an increase in operations may be expected in the near future.

A. H. McCollum.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIESSummary as of 0800, April 9, 1942

I. (a) The British Admiralty has announced that about 50 Japanese fighters and bombers succeeded in sinking the cruisers H.M.S. DORSETSHIRE and CORNWALL not far from Colombo on April 4. It is, therefore, assumed that the Japanese task force which attacked Ceylon on Easter morning, April 5, had contacted these cruisers while approaching the island.

(b) The large number of Japanese merchant vessels which are reported to be moving into the Bay of Bengal combined with considerable naval strength in these waters strengthens the possibility that landing operations will be carried out in the near future.

II. There is strong evidence that plans have been made for a sea-borne invasion of Port Moresby. Since the carrier KAGA, now under repairs at the Sasebo Navy Yard, is desired to participate in the operations, inquiry has been made to determine the earliest date by which her repairs can be completed. Already there are indications that KASUGA (originally laid down as a merchant liner and completed last year as a carrier) may have moved down into the Rabaul area. Likewise there are indications that the carrier ZUIKAKU has recently received a change modifying earlier orders to operate in the Mandates, inferring that she also may be sent to participate in the attack. Future reports of reconnaissance over the New Britain-New Guinea area should provide a reasonably accurate basis for determining when this offensive will start.

III. A number of small vessels, probably motor torpedo boats, are being sent south to bolster the defenses of the Mandated Islands. Some 15 or more of these are earmarked for Jaluit, about 7 for Truk and 9 for Rabaul.

IV. The Jaluit Radio Intelligence station has informed Tokyo of a translation of a U.S. Hydrographic Notice purported to announce the mining of certain areas off the Peruvian coast.

A. H. McCollum.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIESSummary as of 0800, April 8, 1942

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I. Naval forces have been materially strengthened in the Bay of Bengal with the apparent mission of securing sea and air control over this area. By attacking allied merchant shipping and military and industrial objectives on the east coast of India from Calcutta southward it appears that the Japanese Navy hopes to weaken India's defenses, possibly demoralize the Indian masses, and by denying shipping in the Bay of Bengal to neutralize the important industrial port of Calcutta.

Forces in the Bay of Bengal are estimated as follows:

3 or 4 BB - Possibly NAGATO or MUTSU, FUSO, KIRISHIMA, KONGO
4 CV - AKAGI, SORYU, HIRYU, RYUJO
Not over 8 CA - Crudivs 5, 7, 8, and 1 ship of Crudiv 4
2 CL - Desron flag
About 28 DD - Desrons
About 12 SS - Subrons 2, 4, 5 less some units in home yards
Not over 6 XAV- Airons 11 and 22

It is indicated that the above forces are separated into two or more task forces.

It is possible that one battleship of the Screening Force has been detached for the Bay of Bengal area, (NAGATO or MUTSU). There thus is retained for the defense of Japan Proper a maximum of 8 BB of which at least one is probably unoperative, and not over 5 CV.

II. For the first time there is now received definite evidence that docking facilities at Hongkong are used by Japanese naval vessels. There is yet no information on the extent to which the Navy Yard Singapore is being used.

III. D/F stations at Marcus Island and Horomushiro, Kurile Islands, have been active in sending out enemy position reports.

A.H. McCollum.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIESSummary as of 0800, April 7, 1942

I. Air and submarine attacks on Allied merchant ships continue in the Bay of Bengal, and air raids have been made on objectives on the east coast of India.

Included in the task force which attacked Colombo on April 5 were two battleships, two cruisers and some destroyers, according to air reconnaissance. The two battleships were identified as either of the Nagato or ~~Muso~~ Muso classes or one of each. It is quite probable that ~~Muso~~ Muso, which was previously in the N.E.I. area, may have been in this force, but the two ships of the Nagato class were reliably reported to be in the Screening Force now believed close to home waters. If one or both of these ships was sent south it may be assumed that no major operation is planned for the Screening Force at the present. Ever since a U.S. task force in the Western Pacific was reported by the Japanese to have withdrawn toward Midway the Screening Force has appeared to be very quiet and gradually units therefrom have been sent into other areas.

II. (a) The C-in-C of the Fourth Fleet has requested the assignment of an officer as the Commander of an Occupation Force over two areas. Although not conclusive, it is believed that these areas are Ocean and Nauru Islands, to the westward of the Gilbert Islands. The occupation of these two islands would provide convenient bases in the Marshalls - Bismarck Archipelago line of communications.

(b) Air searches from the Salamoa-Lae area may be expected to extend six hundred miles in an area southeast to south therefrom.

(c) Mopping up operations in N.W. New Guinea continues under combined surface and air support.

III. Several army supply ship convoys of two or three ships each are leaving Takao for a destination believed to be Shanghai.

IV. The Ominato Radio Station conducts frequent plane tracking exercises.

V. A Japanese merchantman at 1600 of April 6 reported being under submarine attack in Lat. 1° - 08' S., Long. 150° - 50' E.

A. H. McCollum

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(a) The first part of the report is a summary of the operations of the 10th Army from 1 July to 1 August 1950. The report is divided into two parts: (1) Operations from 1 July to 1 August 1950, and (2) Operations from 1 August to 1 September 1950.

(b) The second part of the report is a summary of the operations of the 10th Army from 1 September to 1 October 1950. The report is divided into two parts: (1) Operations from 1 September to 1 October 1950, and (2) Operations from 1 October to 1 November 1950.

(c) The third part of the report is a summary of the operations of the 10th Army from 1 November to 1 December 1950. The report is divided into two parts: (1) Operations from 1 November to 1 December 1950, and (2) Operations from 1 December to 1 January 1951.

(d) It is noted that the 10th Army has been reorganized and is now composed of the 10th Army Group, the 10th Army, and the 10th Army Reserve. The 10th Army Group is composed of the 10th Army, the 10th Army Reserve, and the 10th Army Support Group. The 10th Army is composed of the 10th Army Division, the 10th Army Brigade, and the 10th Army Battalion. The 10th Army Reserve is composed of the 10th Army Reserve Division, the 10th Army Reserve Brigade, and the 10th Army Reserve Battalion.

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SECRETJAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIESSummary as of 0600, April 6, 1942

I. (a) The fact that the Japanese air raid on Colombo on Easter morning, April 5, was anticipated undoubtedly contributed materially to the state of readiness with which the attacking planes were met. Since about 75 planes were reported in the attack it is considered probable that two carriers, AKAGI and RYUJO, were involved. These carriers were undoubtedly covered by several cruisers of Crudiv 7 and a number of destroyers known to be in the Andaman Islands area.

(b) Air and submarine attacks on allied merchant shipping in the Bay of Bengal continue. The latest report mentions three merchantmen attacked near Calcutta by air.

(c) The Japanese continue to acquire all possible information on airfields in India. Fields at Fort William, Calcutta, Dum Dum, Alipore and Maidan are mentioned prominently.

(d) Although the date is unknown good evidence exists that the Nicobar Islands south of the Andaman Islands will shortly be occupied.

(e) It is now known that the convoy carrying a detachment of the 25th Army reported in this summary of April 4 left Singapore on April 2 and was scheduled to arrive at Rangoon April 6. That certain troops are being transported from Java to Singapore is reflected in the report of arrival at Singapore from Batavia of a convoy of 9 vessels carrying the Sakaguchi Detachment. This detachment, previously used in invasion forces in the N.E.I., is now probably to be sent into Burma.

(f) Of some interest is the report that four vessels under Army control, each of about 5,000 tons, departed Saigon March 31 for home ports loaded down with Indo-China rice.

II. Plans are now being made to extend occupation of the Philippines down into the central and southern islands. Operations along these lines appear dependent upon the availability of the Second Occupation Force which is expected to leave an unknown Philippine harbor in the near future. Intelligence information on practically all islands to the south of Luzon has been disseminated indicating the possibility that occupations on an extensive scale are planned. Cebu, which has numerous oil storage tanks still believed to contain a considerable amount of fuel oil and various petroleum derivatives, will without doubt be a primary objective.

III. Incident to the extensive reorganization now being made of all naval surface and air units it has become known that the strength of air force personnel in the Marshalls is 2,500 men, and that of the Rabaul is 2,000 men.

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The majority of naval air groups are having their aircraft allowance decreased, but a number of older types are being replaced by new types of which there is yet no information. Of special interest is the introduction into these air groups of two new Diesel-driven types, a Type O patrol plane and a Type O fighter.

IV. A D/F station located in the Kurile Islands is controlled from Ominato, northern coast of Honshu. A new radio intelligence station has been established at Sama in Hainan.

A. H. McCollum

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, April 5, 1942

I. The growing importance of air operations based on Rabaul, New Britain and Lae, New Guinea is indicated by the organization of aircraft based in this area into a separate air detachment under the command of Rear Admiral Yamada (probably Sadayoshi Yamada who was in command of SORYU (CV) in 1940).

II. A large Japanese naval force was sighted by a British plane at about 1000 E 4 April in a position about 360 miles bearing 155° from Dondra Head (Southernmost point of Ceylon). An attack on Colombo and Trincomalee is expected. This force probably includes units of the 2nd Fleet, Cariv 3 and Airon 22, which were recently given information of British air and naval establishments in Ceylon and southeastern India.

III. Submarines continue to patrol in the vicinity of Truk and contact reports, presumably of our submarines, are continuing to cause some concern, notably in the area between Davao and New Britain and off the southeastern coast of Kyushu.

IV. Some forces continue to move towards home waters presumably for overhaul, Subron six having lately arrived and ISUZU (CL) is now enroute from South China to Sasebo via Takao.

A.H. McCollum.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, April 4, 1942

I. No new developments of importance have been noted in Melanesia. The occupation of Faisi on Shortland Island, southwest of Bougainville Island in the Solomon Group has now become well established.

The report that the air field at Salamoa is not in use confirms previous information that aircraft employed in attacks on Port Moresby are based at Lae.

II. (a) The fact that surface naval vessels are notably few in number in the Japanese Mandates at a time when the air strength of this area is being steadily increased leads to the conclusion that the defenses of these islands are being vested mainly in aircraft.

(b) Construction work on Wake Island is still in progress.

III. (a) A detachment of the 25th Army either has or will depart Singapore for Rangoon via Penang in twenty transports. This is the first evidence received of transportation of troops to Burma through the Bay of Bengal. //

(b) To date the scope of the combined air and submarine operations, which were to have started on April 1 in the Bay of Bengal, seems to have been limited to attacks on British merchantmen. On April 1 the Bihoro Air Group composed of 13 heavy bombers made an unsuccessful search for an allied transport convoy believed to have been in the Bay of Bengal.

IV. An unidentified Japanese naval vessel in a position north of the northeast point of Christmas Island at 0904Z, April 1, reported a submarine torpedo had entered her forward engine room, fired from a position 70° on her starboard bow, distant 400 meters. Numbers 1 and 2 engine rooms and the after fire room and adjoining compartments were flooded. //

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, April 3, 1942

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I. Fragmentary reports based on air reconnaissance indicate that the increased activity in Melanesia has been confined to the Solomon Islands. Undoubtedly a few additional occupations of points in these islands have been made and it is apparent that penetrations southeastward are being carried out step by step in accordance with a detailed plan.

II. The Marshall-Gilbert Islands Naval Air Organization which went into effect April 1 follows:

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Strength</u>	<u>Location</u>
(a) <u>1st Attack Group</u> Chitose Air Group	1. 31 heavy bombers (landplanes) 2. 31 other bombers 3. 3 new type 1 (1941) heavy bombers (landplanes) Total - 65	Wake-Kwajalein
(b) <u>2nd Attack Group</u> 1st Air Group	1. 31 new type (1941) heavy bombers (landplanes) 2. 15 other heavy bombers 3. 14 type 0 fighters Total - 60	Tarao
(c) <u>3rd Attack Group</u> 16th Air Group	Uncertain. Believed to comprise about 24 VPB flying boats	Eniwaji-Makin
Tenders -	Goshu Maru (XAV) KALDI (AV) One unidentified (XAV)	

Although the above organization may not be entirely accurate in all details, it is considered a good indication of the increased strength of aircraft in this area.

III. Although not entirely conclusive, there is good evidence to indicate that the Japanese Navy now has ten or eleven battleships either in operating condition or capable of almost immediate readiness for sea. The status of HARUNA which was reported as sunk remains uncertain, but since Batdiv 3 now believed in the Indies area appears to be composed of four capital ships of the older types, the inference may be made that these are the four ships of the KONGO class which includes HARUNA. Although this entire class was completed by 1915, they are comparatively fast (26 knots), having been built originally as battle cruisers. It may be expected that they are grouped together as a single unit.

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IV. Except for increased submarine activity in the Indian Ocean, no confirmation has yet been received with regard to the offensive operations in the Bay of Bengal. The occupation of Akyab continues to remain in doubt.

V. The effectiveness of U.S. submarine operations in the Western Pacific is reflected in a Japanese army request that ships laden with troops and supplies continue to be escorted from Bako, Pescadore to southern destinations.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIESSummary as of 0800, April 2, 1942

I. A high degree of activity in the Melanesia area points to imminent seizures in the Solomons. Detachments of comparatively small strength have been observed in several different locations in this group of islands and unconfirmed reports have been received of Japanese occupation of an area south of Bougainville Island, Northern Solomons. More specifically, five naval vessels and one transport are said to have shelled and entered Shortlands Harbor on March 30, but negative results were obtained on this force by an air search made the following day. The maximum estimated naval force in the Bismarck Archipelago is estimated to be: 3 CA, 3 CL, 1 (possibly 2) CV, 6 DD, 6 XPG. Although some uncertainty exists due to fragmentary reports, it is not believed the number of transports and supply vessels exceeds 15 vessels.

Urgency is apparent in the assembly and organization of the new air organization effective April 1. To date this reorganization in so far as known, applies only to the bomber groups. Additional information received on these groups follows:

- (a) Groups # 1 and # 2 reported in this summary of April 1 to be located at Salamoa-Lae are now more accurately learned to be divided between Lae and Rabaul.
- (b) The mission of the 1st Bomber Group is the defense of Lae and Rabaul and bombing attacks on the Port Moresby area.
- (c) The 2nd Bomber Group is charged with attacking enemy vessels and supplies in the Port Moresby area.
- (d) The 3rd Bomber Group (VPB) is assigned the patrol of the New Britain area and the defense of this area from enemy vessels.

II. The penetration of Dutch West New Guinea is reported to have started on schedule as given in this summary of March 30 and March 31.

III. Some doubt continues to exist with regard to the offensive in the Bay of Bengal. A force of 2 CA, 3 CL, 5 DD, 4 AP, 2 AK was reported by the R.A.F. to have been near Akyab on the west coast of Burma south of Calcutta on the 27th of March, but it is not yet clear whether a landing actually was made at this point. Reports from the Indian Ocean theatre are frequently late in arriving.

IV. The unopposed seizure of Christmas Island, reported imminent several times in the past, was accomplished by a force of 3 CL, 4 DD, 2 AP during the night of March 30/31. The flagship of this force is reported to have been hit by one torpedo from an allied submarine.

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V. The Jaluit Radio Intelligence Station has issued a warning based on the detection of some departure from normal U.S. Navy communications. Although uncertain this may mean that an attack is expected due to some reason such as that radio silence has been noticed in certain units.

VI. There are indications that Ponape is being developed as a submarine base. Ever since the U.S. attack on the Marshall Islands submarine activities from the former major submarine base at Jaluit have decreased. It is possible that such a base is now being planned in a more secure area.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, April 1, 1942

I. (a) Although no confirmatory evidence has yet been received, it is highly probable that a Japanese offensive operation in the Indian Ocean started this date unless adverse weather conditions or other unforeseen developments have caused a postponement. The most probable objective, as previously reported, is merchant shipping in the Bay of Bengal, particularly Calcutta. The main air attack is probably being supported by fleet units including about 5 CA, 10 DD, 12 SS.

(b) In addition to the Andamans and Rangoon an air patrol is now known to be sent out on a daily schedule from Tavoy, on the west coast of lower Burma.

(c) The Japanese have found that large planes are unable to take off from the Port Blair airfield. Extension of the present field will not be completed for some few months. It is reported, however, that the anchorage area at Chatham Island off Port Blair can accommodate 100 large vessels.

II. A new bomber organization in the New Britain-East Coast New Guinea area goes into effect April 1 as follows:

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Strength</u>	<u>Location</u>
(a) <u>1st Bomber Group</u> Taichu Air Group	45 heavy bombers	Salamoa - Lae
(b) <u>2nd Bomber Group</u> 4th Air Group	36 Mitsubishi type 97 heavy bombers	Salamoa - Lae
(c) <u>3rd Bomber Group</u> Yokohama Air Group	12 VPB (probably Kawanishi type 97 flying boats)	Rabaul
(d) <u>Tender Group</u>	Probably Kamikawa Maru	

If the above organization can be taken as the total bomber strength in this area, it may be roughly placed at 100 bombers. The very considerable variance in the strengths of the several air groups shows that an accurate estimate of strength from a knowledge of the numbers of these groups alone is difficult, but it may be safely assumed that an air group consists at full strength of 3 squadrons of 15 planes (including 3 reserves) in the case of bombers and fighters. The 12 VPB of the Yokohama Air Group is undoubtedly only a portion of the whole group and may be expected to be increased.

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III. There is considerable evidence to indicate the presence in operating status of a new carrier named RYUKAKU which is now believed to be in the Southern Mandates-New Britain area. The name suggests she may be a sister of the ZUIKAKU and SHOKAKU. Further confirmation will be sought before adding this vessel to the Japanese Navy Organization.

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DATE 10-2-78NAVY DEPARTMENT
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WASHINGTONSECRETJAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIESSummary as of 0600, March 31, 1942

I. There has been very little information received on the Screening Force in the past two weeks. One report has expressed the opinion that several units of this force, which is virtually the First Fleet, have returned to home waters. This might indicate preparations for an attack, but the present time does not appear propitious for a major offensive action because there now are only two carriers in home waters believed in operating status and a very large number of ships of all types are undergoing repairs and overhaul following intensive operations for nearly four months in southern waters.

II. No new developments have emanated from the Bay of Bengal, but the recent marked decrease of information on the movements of the four carriers in the Indies - Malay area may be an indication that they now are operating offensively in the Bay of Bengal and/or off north-west Australia.

III. The expected penetration through north-western Dutch New Guinea appears to be planned more as an exploration than with the intent to maintain occupancy. A detailed schedule of locations with dates of entry has in large part become known. The expedition is to start from Dula, Ceram, and the itinerary is to include Babo on the west coast of New Guinea, Sorong at the north-eastern entrance to Sele Strait, Nabire, a village on Geelvink Bay on the north coast, and probably Hollandia Bay in the north western part of Humboldt Bay. It thus appears that the resources of this section of New Guinea will be studied with the view of later exploitation.

IV. Air reconnaissance in Melanesia extending through the Solomons down to Noumea, New Caledonia portends an early attempt to extend seizures down into the Solomons. Apparently balked at overland penetration into Port Moresby an attempt at seizure from the Coral Sea may well be attempted if it is considered that allied strength in this area is not yet sufficient to deny Japanese approach.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIESSummary as of 0800, March 30, 1942

I. It becomes increasingly apparent that the offensive air operations planned by the Commander of the Combined Air Force in the Indian Ocean (See Summary of March 29) will be directed principally on allied merchant ships.

There has been a great congestion of shipping at Calcutta for some time. On March 6 a State Department despatch reported 78 ships in port, 43 of which required repairs. This large number was a 50% increase over normal. Now a Japanese Naval Air Squadron afloat believed to be in the Rangoon area reports some naval vessels and 50 merchantmen at Calcutta. The inference seems clear that Japanese naval aircraft may attempt a bombing attack on these vessels in the very near future. Although all but one of the six carriers in the S.W. Pacific are still believed in the Celebes area, it is quite possible that one or more of them may now be enroute into the Bay of Bengal.

II. It is indicated that Japanese forces plan the occupation of Dutch western New Guinea. It is expected that an unidentified occupation force will move into the northwestern coast of New Guinea from Ceram, landing possibly at or near Sorong. This force will probably advance slowly eastward exploiting occupied areas, and its present plan of advance is estimated by the Japanese to continue until about April 24.

III. (a) It is noted that air reconnaissance of Rabaul on March 28 disclosed the presence of a considerably larger number of merchantmen than have been present in the past. There is a high probability that seizures are planned to extend southeastward in Melanesia, but it is reiterated that naval units in this area are still not sufficiently strong to launch any major attack.

(b) A certain relaxation in the recent intensive air patrols is noted in the Marshalls. The Commander of Air Group # 19 reports that starting March 30 he will conduct a patrol over the harbor at Imieji for about two hours from 0315, and that another patrol will be carried out by two planes from 1430 to 1545. This latter patrol appears to be for the purpose of detecting any approaching allied force before dark.

IV. Continued interest is manifested in the movements of U.S. convoys to the Anzac area. Tokyo Intelligence reports that one cruiser of the Omaha class is included in the escort of one convoy, and that the route taken passes through the Tuamotu Group, and thence passes close to Tahiti. Other locations mentioned whose connection is obscure are Antofagasta and Easter Island.

V. A book found in the possession of an aviator shot down on March 23 has given the Japanese the following general information on the organization of the Royal Australian Air Force:

- (a) Southern Air Command Headquarters are at Melbourne.
- (b) Eastern Air Command Headquarters are at Sydney.
- (c) Group "A" at Melbourne consists of fighter unit No. 5 and a bomber unit.

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- (d) Group "B" at Sydney consists of one fighter and one bomber unit.
- (e) Group "C" at Townsville consists of two units of unknown types.
- (f) Group "D" at Darwin has 4 or 5 bombers of a certain unit and about 11 fighters of unit Hal3.
- (g) Group "E" at Perth has one bomber and one fighter unit.
- (h) Unit No. 9 has been sent to Canada, and two of the units mentioned under the alphabetical groups have not yet been formed.

It is probable that further information not given above may have been included.

VI. Apparently as a result of the operations of allied submarines in the Bonin Islands area, ships enroute to and from the Mandates are now being escorted while in these waters.

VII. (a) Individual units of all types of naval vessels continue to return north for repairs and overhaul in home yards. The aircraft carrier RYUJO, believed still in Malay waters, has had her docking postponed. Present information, however, indicates that the urgency of repairs will make her early return mandatory.

(b) Reorganization of naval forces to meet new conditions is still being carried out. Air units likewise are being materially changed, and several new groups are being established.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0900, March 29, 1942

I. (a) Development of the Andaman Islands is already underway. Elphinstone Harbor, in the northern side of the channel separating North Passage Island from Baratang Island, and Stewart Sound, within Sound Island between North and Middle Andaman, are mentioned as desirable locations for surface craft bases and \$1,150,000 is requested to build up their facilities. Port Blair is reported as ready for use, and will probably be used as a seaplane base. Submarines are also expected to be based in the Andamans. Air patrols from these islands are reported to have been started, and several naval units, believed to include the 3 cruisers of the Southern Expeditionary Fleet, one or more CA of Crudiv 7, units of Desron 4 and Subrons 2 and 5, are operating in the Andamans and northward to the Rangoon area.

(b) The Commander of the Combined Air Force, who is reported now at Moulmein, Burma has issued instructions for an offensive operation which is believed planned for about April 1. Although the details of this are not yet fully known an attack on allied merchant shipping in the Indian Ocean appears to be included. This is indicated by several different reports including one from submarines that allied supply vessels are hugging the coast line, and another giving numerous ship locations.

II. In this summary of March 27 it was stated that the seizure of Christmas Island would be made by a force now located in the Batam Anchorage. This location is now definitely identified as being in Banten Bay (also referred to as Bantam Bay) on the N.W. coast of Java near Batavia. Mines are now laid in this bay on a line bearing 130° from Point Kapo, and on an arc of about 240° to a distance of 5800 meters from a point 6½ miles, bearing 083° from Point Nicholas.

III. Shipments of various fuel oils, notably of aviation gasoline whose highest octane rating appears not over 87, continues to be sent south from Japan Proper. There is no indication yet that the Japanese have been able to procure any oil in quantity from the East Indies.

IV. The Fifth Fleet in home waters is still being built up. The latest vessel reported transferred to it is MIZUKI (AV). More planes are also being transferred to the Kisarazu Air Station (E. coast of Honshu) for assignment to patrol duties under the CinC of this Fleet.

V. Several submarine contacts have been reported and shipping warned of enemy submarines in the Bonin Islands area.

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VI. Romblon Island (E. of Mindoro in Sibuyan Sea) was occupied on March 27. This appears to be further evidence of the recent intensification of operations against American forces on Bataan Peninsula. General Prince Asaka, a member of the Imperial family who is on the Army's Supreme War Council, is reported to have flown to the Manila area in a flight of three heavy bombers escorted by five type "O" fighters, arriving at 1050, March 27. A visit such as this clearly reflects Japan's determination to end organized resistance in the Philippines.

VII. A Japanese report reveals that an American ship captain (-APC-R) has disclosed the following with respect to the U.S. 6,000 ton Atlanta class of cruisers:

- (a) Battery consists of 5" guns in 8 twin mounts.
- (b) A certain number of 21" quadruple tube torpedo mounts are installed.
- (c) No aircraft or catapults are provided.
- (d) Considerable additional information with respect to stacks, masts, and other characteristic features.
- (e) Three of this class have been completed and three more will be ready in April. The entire number will be finished in 1943.
- (f) A crew complement of 450 is expected.

VIII. A U.S. Navy torpedo manufactured in 1941 has been recovered by the Japanese at a location believed to be Wake. It is a foregone conclusion that any features of this torpedo which the Japanese approve will be incorporated in their future models.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES~~SECRET~~DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-78Summary as of 0800, March 28, 1942

- I. The general impression gained from information at hand is that many of the major elements of the Japanese Navy are in or near the homeland for repairs, and that reorganization of forces is still progressing. All activity in the Pacific area seems to be confined to replenishing supply and to routine patrols with the probability strong that many ships are under repair at home yards. Notably KAGA (CV) is thought to be in dock at Sasebo and ATAGO (CA) in dock at Yokosuka. It is desired to emphasize, however, that there is no positive information concerning the present location or movements of the main fleet which was last thought to be in the Bonin Islands area.
- II. A Japanese merchant ship is reported to have been sunk by a submarine in the general vicinity of Nagasaki and anti-submarine craft have been directed to search for and destroy the submarine.
- III. Staring Bay in the Southeast Celebes still seems to be the focus of base activities in the Netherlands East Indies and is the point to which convoys are routed prior to dispersal to ultimate unloading ports. Koepang in Timor is assuming increasing importance as a base and no less than 50,000 tons of merchant type shipping were noted in that harbor on the 25th.
- IV. There is strong evidence that the Japanese plan to continue bombing raids on north Australian objectives and this seems to be the primary mission at present of the air forces operating from Lae in New Guinea and from New Britain.
- V. The only activity of note in the Mandate Island area is the carrying of supplies, probably aviation gasoline, to Brown atoll (Eniwetok).
- VI. The building up of operating bases and supply dumps in Malaya, presumably to support operations in the Indian Ocean, continues apace, as evidenced by the many new base commands and mobile base forces appearing in this area.

A.H. McCollum.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIESSummary as of 0600, March 27, 1942

I. Late information on the occupation of the Andaman Islands reveals that one brigade and a naval landing force were landed at Port Blair from three transports under the cover of three cruisers and six destroyers. Since this force is greater than the one sighted by air reconnaissance it is assumed that the approach was made by two or three separate detachments. Mopping up of South Andaman, on which Port Blair is located, was reported completed on March 25, and it is indicated that Middle Andaman received similar treatment. There is as yet, however, nothing to show that North Andaman has been occupied.

An unidentified vessel has been ordered to deliver a cargo of bombs at Sabang Island (off N.W. tip of Sumatra) and Port Blair. From this evidence it may be assumed that air bases will be set up in the Andamans from which bombing raids will be made.

II. The plans for the seizure of an undisclosed island which is probably Christmas Island have been revealed in part. Ashigara (CA) with the Commander of the Second Expeditionary Force is scheduled to depart Batam Anchorage probably a day after certain units leave this same area at 1900 I, March 29. The location of this anchorage is probably in Batam Bay in the eastern part of Singapore Strait. The offensive operation will commence at 0700 I March 31, it is believed. Ashigara in command of certain unknown units will act as support and cover for the occupation detachment. The only reason Christmas Island is chosen as the probable objective is because it has on several occasions been reported as soon to be attacked.

III. The following information has been obtained on the operations of Japanese submarines:

(a) One boat detailed to reconnoiter Samoa and Suva, Fiji Islands reported having sighted three allied merchantmen at anchor in Suva Harbor. On March 16 he reported sighting an allied cruiser with two tankers in some location in the Samoan Group. March 21-23 he reported reconnoitering Pago-Pago whose harbor he found impossible to enter. Thereafter he departed for a new area to conduct radio intercept work.

(b) On March 13 after receiving the report of an allied craft in the Yokosuka area, four submarines at Eure were ordered to proceed to this area to conduct search operations.

IV. Some light is now cast on the organization of the Fifth Fleet whose indicated mission is the defense of the northern approaches to Japan Proper. Its so-called "Northern Detachment" is composed of three patrol forces in each of

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which are probably five or six armed merchant types which may be auxiliary cruisers or air tenders. One additional vessel has been added to each of these forces as has the NACHI (CA) which may have been assigned as the Fifth Fleet flagship. Supporting the theory that at least some of these vessels are air tenders is the report that certain planes assumed to be seaplanes have been transferred to this detachment from Airon 23, consisting of air tenders, now in the N.E.I. area. VPB flying boats and submarines are also believed to operate in conjunction with these patrol forces.

A. H. McCollum

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIESSummary as of ORO, March 26, 1942

I. The Indian Government on March 25 announced that Japanese forces had occupied the Andaman Islands. Except for the reconnaissance report of one rather small force approaching Port Blair on March 23, which probably was only one of several separated detachments, there have been received no details of the extent of the occupation. It appears, however, that but little if any resistance was offered. With these islands and the Nicobar Islands as its western boundary the Japanese Navy now has control over waters between them and Burma, thus facilitating operations from the Strait of Malacca to Rangoon. Increased movements of naval units as well as merchant shipping carrying reinforcements and supplies to Rangoon may now be expected through this area. There is as yet no indication of an offensive move by sea towards either the Calcutta or Ceylon areas.

II. (a) Since the report of the withdrawal of a U.S. naval task force in the direction of Midway on March 19, 1942 the Screening Force has remained quiet, the only activity reported in the Bonin Islands area being a search conducted from Chichijima for allied submarines believed to be in these waters.

(b) An unknown number of aircraft have been transferred to Marcus to strengthen its defenses.

III. Activity in the Australian theater is confined to air operations. Planes continue to be flown and ferried to Rabaul, New Britain. Two air tenders, KIYOZUMI MARU and GOSHU MARU appear to be employed in transporting short range aircraft, whereas the longer range bombers use Saipan as a stop in their flights from home bases.

IV. A patrol of heavy bombers covering an unspecified southwesterly sea area from Koepang, Timor is now in operation on a 600 mile radius.

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OSD Letter, 5-3-72NAVY DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
WASHINGTONJAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIESSummary as of 0800, March 25, 1942

I. An official British source has reported that a Japanese naval force was sighted by air reconnaissance approaching Port Blair, Andaman Islands at 0700Z, March 23. This force was described as consisting of 2 CV, 1 CA or CL, one cruiser or large destroyer and one transport. It is probable, however, that the two vessels identified as carriers were actually seaplane tenders, not only because of the absence of plane guards, but also for the reason that tenders have been reported as being more directly involved. In the past landings, even on relatively weakly defended objectives, have been carried out by amply sufficient ground forces which in this case are not apparent. Pending confirmation it is not thought advisable to consider the occupation of Port Blair as immediately imminent.

It will be recalled that an advance on the Andaman Islands was to have started March 15. Since that time a certain hesitancy has been manifested which has given rise to the impression that although an advance into the Indian Ocean was definitely planned, the apparent inferiority of available forces in this theater to the allied naval strength has brought about a cautious plan of slow and gradual advance. This is reflected to a certain degree by the air patrols thrown out from Penang and Rangoon and the close attention directed to the strengths and dispositions of British naval forces in the Indian Ocean.

The fact that Japan considers it essential to maintain an Indies Defense Force naturally detracts from her Navy's effective striking power in the Indian Ocean. This is but a fresh instance showing that her present extensive areas under occupation will require a continued wide dispersion of naval elements which tend to reduce forces available for further aggressions. It also explains in part her apparently rising concern over possible U.S. naval offensive concentration against any one point of her defenses which can only become weaker as additional areas are taken by aggressive action.

II. In line with Japanese efforts to stamp out blockade running in Philippine coastal waters is the recent report indicating that mines have been laid in the Visayan and Sibuyan Seas to disrupt inter-island shipping.

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III. It is now reported that Christmas Island, often mentioned of late as the object of imminent Japanese occupation, will probably not be attacked until the end of March or early April.

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Japanese Naval Activities

Summary as of 0800, March 24, 1942

I. The Japanese are now energetically consolidating and strengthening their positions in the Netherlands East Indies. Many new bases, principally for aircraft, are being established, and shore-based planes from at least four air groups are being transferred to operate from these bases. The Third Fleet, including the First and Second Base Forces, are now re-organized into an Indies Defense Force. Air tenders of Comairon 23 appear to be engaged in establishing air bases. The full extent of these new bases is not yet known but indications are definite that establishments of some strength are being built at Keepang and Dilli, Timor, at Bali, and probably at Sabang, off N.W. tip of Sumatra.

It will be recalled that the old but comparatively fast battleship, HIYEI (formerly partially demilitarized in accordance with the provisions of the Washington Arms Treaty) was reported to become the prospective flagship of this N.E.I. Defense Force. This early report appeared to have been in error when HIYEI was ordered to the Screening Force concentration in the Bonin Islands area. Now, however, she has been released from this area and appears to be headed south via home bases. Her departure leaves only 5 BB believed to be in operating status in or near Empire waters.

II. The only further evidence of the advance into the Indian Ocean is the report that certain guns of unknown caliber have been ordered shipped to Sabang Island and to some location in the Andaman Islands. This strengthens the previously gained impression that the offensive will be a cautious, step-by-step operation.

A careful check is apparently kept on British naval strength in the Indian Ocean. The most recent report thereof states that as of March 21, ten of His Majesty's cruisers were in this area, and gives their estimated positions.

III. A report from General Wainwright states that food and medical supplies required by the American forces on Bataan are being denied by the newly emphasized Japanese naval blockade of Philippine waters. This confirms previously submitted reports of the Japanese determination to make this blockade effective.

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IV. The present depletion of fuel oil and gasoline stores in the many widely dispersed areas of Japanese occupation is further reflected by an urgent request from the Comd'r, First Air Fleet for 11,000 tons of fuel to be shipped from Bako (Pescadores) about March 27 by the Kokuyo Maru. In yesterday's summary it was reported that Bako's supply had arrived at a very low level, so a disappointment appears in store for the First Air Fleet. This condition, however, is probably only a temporary problem of logistics reflecting the present need of bottoms more than oil. It is unquestionably true that Japan is increasingly feeling the need for more merchant shipping, and is making every effort to acquire foreign vessels. An instance of this is seen in broadcasts purporting to originate from a Norwegian source offering bribes to Norwegian vessels in the Indian and Pacific Oceans to proceed to a rendezvous in Japanese controlled waters.

V. Japanese instructions have been issued on the route to be followed in approaching Chichijima, Bonin Islands from both North and South. In the former case vessels are cautioned to approach from Point N, 300⁰, 15 miles from Kita Ioshima. The approach from the south is not fully known. These instructions can be interpreted only to mean that waters surrounding Chichijima have been mined.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, March 23, 1942

I. A recent report emanating from Vichy stated that a large Japanese fleet was headed for Perth, and on March 21 was approaching Cape Leeuwin. Although there is a fairly strong striking force in the East Indies area, there has been no indication of its movement eastward whereas its interest frequently has been reported to lie in operations to the westward in the Bay of Bengal. However, this advance has materialized to date only in the transfer of aircraft into Burma, and it is therefore considered quite possible that there has been ordered a postponement, a modification to a smaller scale advance, or even a change of plans.

II. In the Australian theater there has been noted a marked increase of offensive aircraft operations over the north and northwestern coastal areas. This activity confirms recent reports of the establishment of an air base at Koojang in Dutch Timor, only about 300 miles from the Australian continent, and a reversal of aircraft transfers to Rabaul, New Britain.

III. Tokyo Naval Intelligence has acquired considerable information with respect to U.S. convoys in the Pacific. Only fragmentary knowledge of this is available, but the following data, although perhaps not exact, may be a guide to the extent of Japan's intelligence:

(a) A convoy of twenty vessels left Chesapeake Bay on or about March 16 via Capetown, Va. for Australia. Included in the escort is one ship whose name may be Astoria.

(b) Another convoy, likewise of twenty ships, with four escorts departed in the latter part of March for the Pacific via the Panama Canal. Its cargo is described as consisting of bombs, aircraft material, and 2800 aviation personnel including technicians.

IV. It appears that U.S. submarines are suspected of using bases in the Philippines. As a consequence the Philippine Expeditionary Force and the Tenth Air Group have been ordered to deny the future use of these bases to them. This measure is in line with the recently expressed determination to prevent blockade running through Philippine waters, as a result of which an increased number of light craft have been sent to this area.

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V. The Bako Naval Station (Pescadores), an important fueling station on Japan's China Coast shipping lanes, at present has an insufficient supply of either aviation gasoline or bunker fuel oil, probably the former. Two storage tanks were reported empty on March 22 and a certain type of gasoline has been estimated to become entirely exhausted on March 24.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, March 22, 1942

I. The reorganization of forces started about ten days ago appears to have been virtually completed. Information is not available as yet in sufficient detail to permit definite assignment of units to the various forces. The broad outlines of force groupings appear to be as follows:

(a) A defensive patrol force based in the Netherlands East Indies for defensive operations including escort duty and base defense.

(b) A fairly strong striking force based in the Netherlands East Indies, the main elements of which seem to be 2 to 3 BB, 3 to 5 CV, 2 divisions of heavy cruisers with attendant destroyers and light craft. Staring Bay in the Celebes appears to be the base of this force although units show considerable dispersion at times.

(c) Air Bombardment groups, one located probably on Timor to bomb north Australian bases and one near Manila to bomb U.S. Army forces on Bataan.

(d) A small combined air surface and submarine force basing on Penang to facilitate operations in the Indian Ocean whenever the opportunity moment arrives.

(e) The 4th Fleet continuing defensive operations in the Mandates and minor offensive operations in the New Britain-New Guinea area, particularly building up bases at Rabaul and Lae.

(f) The main strength of the Japanese Fleet organized into a Screening Force whose operations center at Chichijima in the Bonin Islands.

(g) The 5th Fleet engaged in patrol and escort off the coasts of Japan proper. While the general disposition suggests defense at least for the present, there are two strong striking forces, one in the East Indies and one near the Bonin Islands capable of taking offensive action at will and in almost any direction; therefore this disposition of force appears to be well suited for the initiation of offensive operations whenever the enemy so elects.

II. Numerous reports being received of dockings and supply arrangements suggest that many units of the fleet are now being repaired, crews rested and other measures of material and personnel and refit and refreshment are under way.

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III. There are indications that Wake is being developed as an air base and that a small air unit is now in process of being established at that place.

IV. Some of the forces in the East Indies appear to have been put in readiness for the occupation of an island thought to be Christmas Island (South of Java.)

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NAVY DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
WASHINGTONJAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, March 21, 1942

I. In spite of extensive preparations and plans for an advance into the Bay of Bengal there remains no tangible evidence of an immediate major offensive in this area. If the present trend is followed it may be expected that the advance will be rather slow and piece-meal, and that no attempt will be made to reinforce naval forces now in the N.E.I. - Malay area from units in the Bonin Islands area in order to secure naval supremacy in the Indian Ocean.

II. Activity in Melanesia reflects a persistence in efforts to seize strategic points on islands north-east of Australia. Although the air strength of Rabaul, New Britain has been materially increased the available surface vessels in this area are now comparatively weak.

III. The scheduled docking of the aircraft carrier RYUJO has been postponed. This carrier, now in Malaya waters, has been associated with forces believed advancing into the Bay of Bengal.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, March 20, 1942

I. There are increasing indications of offensive operations from the Malay Peninsula into the Indian Ocean, but as yet there is very little tangible evidence other than aircraft movements toward Rangoon and an air patrol established on March 18 with a 600 mile radius from bases at Penang and possibly Rangoon. This suggests that the available Japanese fleet units will move into the Indian Ocean with some caution.

II. Information received from U.S. submarine operations in the Western Pacific leads to the conclusion that in conducting anti-submarine warfare the Japanese use both the echo-ranging equipment and a listening device. The older destroyer tactics of searching for submarines by advancing in line and stopping together to listen leads to the belief that these ships have only the listening device. On the other hand newer destroyers have definitely been heard "pinging", definitely establishing the fact that at least some of this class are equipped with echo-ranging equipment. The most recent reports state that their destroyers place more dependence on listening than on "pinging". One possible reason for this is that their audio signal makes a wide bend, 90° at 1,000 yards, thus making their detection by our SS comparatively easy. In the attack on the carrier KAGA on March 2 practically no "pinging" was heard during the approach and the ensuing four hour counter attack by destroyers. Fifty depth charges were dropped at random, but 1 1/2 hours after the last noise of screws had faded 8 charges exploded close aboard. These charges were all set at around 150 ft.

Sampans and small craft of all types near home waters are probably used for listening and possibly as submarine traps.

Of interest also is the report of recent instances of night contacts on U.S. submarines on the surface when Japanese searchlights were first flashed on the correct bearing by Japanese cruisers or large destroyers. This leads to the belief that the Radar may now be in use by the Japanese.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, March 19, 1942

I. (a) The only additional information with respect to the Japanese advance into the Indian Ocean is an interest displayed in merchant shipping at Colombo, Calcutta, Madras and Visagapatam on the N. E. coast of Madras Presidency.

(b) Present indications of the strongest available naval force which may be employed in the Indian Ocean follows:

Battlv 3	-	3-4 BB
Cruadv 7	-	3 CA
Cruadv 8	-	1 CA
Cardiv 1 & 2	-	3 CV plus about 10 DD
Cardiv 3	-	1 CV plus about 4 DD
Desrons 1 & 5	-	2 CL, about 20 DD
Subrons 2 & 5	-	1 CL, 1 AS, about 10 SS
Airos 11 & 22	-	About 6 IAV

Summary
 3-4 BB
 4 CV
 4 CA
 3 CL
 About 3 1/2 DD
 1 AS
 10 SS
 About 6 IAV

It is not believed that all the above force will be sent into the Indian Ocean at once. It is thought more probable that only light forces in conjunction with air units will initiate operations.

II. (a) The Commander-in-Chief finally has expressed the opinion that the enemy force which was believed north of Wake has now withdrawn toward Midway, and that Japanese waters are now clear of all enemy units except submarines.

(b) The continued presence of the Screening Force in the Bonin Island area is suggested by the fact that the Chief of Staff of the First Fleet is at Chishima, Bonin Islands. The Chiefs of Staff of the various fleets are directly concerned with their fleet operations under their respective commanders, and frequently are addressed personally in administrative type despatches.

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(c) There is a certain increase noted in the patrol activities of the Fifth Fleet which would normally not be expected at a time when home waters are said to be free of enemy forces. This condition is not yet sufficiently definitive for analysis and may have existed prior to the "all clear" signal.

III. A complete list of the locations of meteorological stations in the Mandates follows:

<u>Marshall Islands</u>	<u>Caroline Islands</u>	<u>Mariana Islands</u>
Rongelab	Sorol	Pagan
Uterik	Olof	Rota
Mili	Truk	
Wotje	Lamotrek	<u>Gilbert Islands</u>
	Mortlock	
<u>South of Carolines</u>	Ulithi	Makin
Greenwich	Enderby	
		<u>New Britain</u>
<u>Between Carolines & Marshalls</u>		Rabaul
Ujelang		

There are also a number of merchant vessels stationed in certain areas whose sole duty appears to be to broadcast weather observations, particularly in areas marked for air bombing. One such ship is reported in Lat. 15 S., Long. 121 E. which is sending out upper air observations, thus indicating aircraft operations on the north-west coast of Australia. Another is given in Lat. 32 N., Long. 160 E.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, March 18, 1942

I. Shortly following the invasion on Java every indication of the future direction of offensive action by the Japanese Navy has pointed to the Indian Ocean. To date these indications have been limited to comparatively close range objectives with particular emphasis on the Andaman Islands. However, now there is substantial evidence to show an aggressive interest extending westward across the Bay of Bengal. Interested units of naval forces afloat have been informed of allied troop and aircraft strengths, of the locations of air bases, of fortifications, and of allied naval strength and dispositions. The exact area encompassed is not yet fully known but the general outlines thereof may be approximated from the following incomplete list of locations which are probably marked for prospective bombing:

A. Ceylon:

- (a) The airport and radio station near Colombo City are emphasized.
- (b) Trincomalee, N.E. coast of Ceylon, the largest British air and naval base in India. China Bay, on west side of Trincomalee Harbor, the site of the naval fueling station, is mentioned.
- (c) Puttalam, west coast of Ceylon.
- (d) Amurathapura, inland in north central Ceylon.

B. Calcutta area:

- (a) Alipore, south of Calcutta
- (b) Dum Dum Airport, about 12 miles N.E. of Calcutta
- (c) Baranagar, north of Calcutta

C. Mysore Principality:

- (a) Bangalore, S.E. Mysore
- (b) Mysore, southern Mysore

The above locations represent only a fractional part of those mentioned and it is believed that many others, the exact names of which are not available at present, are connected with airports, radio stations, military centers and harbors. British naval forces which the Japanese believe to be in this area are 3 BB, 2 CV, 4 or 5 CA, 13 DD with attendant CL, and an unknown number of SS.

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II. (A) The great activity which has existed in the Bonin Islands area now appears to have subsided somewhat. Submarine and air searches, however, continue. Latest search sectors, all extending 600 miles, are reported from the following:

- (a) Wake - from 270° clockwise to 090° divided into four sectors.
- (b) Northern Marshalls - from 035° clockwise to about 140°
- (c) Jaluit Atoll - from 030° clockwise to about 215°
- (d) Wadn, Gilbert Islands - from 115° clockwise to about 215°

(B) Japanese air activity has been noted on Eten Island, Truk group.

(C) It is believed that convoys enroute Truk to the New Britain area pass through Steffen Strait, between New Ireland and New Hanover.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, March 17, 1942

I. Most of the units comprising the Screening Force are by now believed concentrated in the Bonin Islands area, although it was reported that the assembly of the force would not be entirely completed until March 23. Aircraft patrols continue, but it is noted that the operating sector from the Misawa Air Station (Eastern Honshu coast) has been shifted to a north-easterly direction. Twelve heavy bombers were assigned patrol duty in this sector, the flight taking off at 0530 I, March 16. As of this date, it is reported that a total of 43 planes at this station were equipped with torpedoes and in operational condition. The emphasis on torpedoes makes it apparent that the Japanese are making every effort to increase their torpedo bomber strength, and increased use of this weapon by both shore and ship based planes may be expected. Past successes with aerial torpedoes would seem amply to justify Japanese reliance in this weapon.

II. Plans appear underway for extending Japanese occupational zones in Sumatra. Some few vessels have been ordered to Belawan, the port for Medan in Northern Sumatra, and it is indicated that some troops will be landed in this area.

III. There is increasing evidence to support the assumption that KAGA (CV) of Carrier 1, now enroute to a home yard, was the carrier damaged by torpedo fire in the Strait of Lombok. The following identifications of recent casualties, while not certain, have strong evidence to support them:

(a) HACHI (CA), probably damaged in the Java Sea, is under repairs at Palembang.

(b) CHIKUMA (CA) is believed to have been sunk in the Feb. 11 air raid on the Salamoa-Lae area.

(c) Either AORA (CA) or KINUGASA (CA) was sunk, and TENRYU or TATSUTA badly damaged and probably sunk in the Salamoa-Lae area.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, March 16, 1942

I. Search operations to the south-eastward of Japan continue. Six bombers started to search a sector 340°- 025° from Marcus to a distance of 400 miles from 0400, March 15. Cardiv 5, which for the past week appears pretty thoroughly to have covered the area between Japan and the Carolines, is now returning to fuel at Yokosuka on March 16. On the following day this division is expected to proceed to Staring Bay, S.E. Celebes, arriving on March 24th. It is believed that this trip does not mean the division's detachment from the Screening Force, but is made for the purpose of delivering certain short range aircraft to the southern areas. However, since it is composed of two of the newest and fastest carriers in the Japanese Navy, it suggests that no immediate large scale offensive is planned in the Eastern Pacific.

II. The naval forces which appear to be involved in the advance into the Bay of Bengal are:

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| RYUJO | 1 CV |
| Cardiv 7 | 3 CA |
| Desdivs 5 & 22 of | |
| Desron 5 | 8 DD |
| Airon 22 and possibly | |
| a unit of Airon | |
| 6 | 4 XAV and unknown number of sea-planes |
| Subrons 2 & 5 | About 12 SS |
| Gensan, Bihoro & Toko | |
| Air Groups | About 75 Aircraft. |

III. Christmas Island, about 180 miles S.W. of Java, will probably soon be occupied. Cocos Island, about 550 miles S.W. of Christmas Island, may also be seized, but there is no present indication of it.

IV. KAGA (CV) of Cardiv 1 which is now enroute to Sasebo is very likely the carrier which was recently reported torpedoed.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, March 15, 1942

I. (a) Much evidence continues of a reorganization of naval forces. The main battle force of five or six battleships with two carrier divisions and light forces continues to concentrate in the Bonin Islands area. Search of an extensive and thorough nature continues to cover an area eastward of the Bonins for some allegedly present U. S. task force which to date has brought nothing but negative information.

(b) Indications are plentiful of an advance into the Bay of Bengal. Air and light forces have been assembling at Penang, preliminary to the offensive which is believed imminent. The Andaman Islands remains the most probable objective because there are indications that shore based aircraft may be employed from Malaya and the composition of the relatively light forces is not believed sufficiently strong for a major operation.

(c) There is a decrease of activity in the eastern theatre with an indication that the recent strengthening of air units in the Marshalls and New Britain has been completed. Particularly in view of the recent casualties suffered at Salamoa and Lae, which do not appear to have been replaced, there seem to be no naval units in this area of sufficient strength to support a landing on the Australian continent at present. Furthermore, no large concentrations of transports are reported, but there does appear to be sufficient shipping available for minor extensions in the Solomons or New Guinea.

(d) Although but little of a definite nature is known, it has become apparent that a tightening of the blockade on American forces on Bataan is under way. The 31st Base Force of the Western Philippines Force is reported to have reached some decision with respect to Manila Bay.

A. H. McCollum

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIESSummary as of 0800, March 14, 1942

I. Gathering of heavy Japanese forces in an area centered by the Bonin Islands continues.

(a) HIYEI (BB) originally ordered to proceed to the Netherlands Indies as flagship of the newly organized East Indies Defense Force has now received orders to join the Screening Force in the vicinity of the Bonins.

(b) KAGA (CV) is probably proceeding from Starling Bay in the Celebes to the Bonin area.

(c) Cardiv 4, Cardiv 5, KAGA, SORYU and probably one other carrier, possibly a new one, are indicated as the carrier force to be concentrated in the Bonin area.

(d) Extensive air searches are being conducted from Japan proper, Saipan and by carrier based aircraft extending 300 miles to the eastward of the Bonin islands presumably for a U.S. Task Force reported north of Wake on the 10th. It should be noted that these widespread air searches and patrols greatly add to the security of any concentration of ships in the area between the Bonin Islands and Japan.

II. Reports received that torpedo training, particularly for aircraft, is being emphasized and that coordinated attacks both day and night against ships by high level bombers and torpedo planes are being practiced. There are indications that a standard attack of this type would be delivered by 36 bombers and nine torpedo planes.

III. From the foregoing it may be inferred that the concentration of ships in the Bonin area is receiving training as a combat unit and that use of naval air power in coordination with surface ships is being stressed.

IV. In general vessels in the Netherlands Indies area seem to be enjoying a rest period and there are signs that many units of the Third Fleet are proceeding to Csmaroh Bay in French Indo-China presumably for upkeep. Indications of a gradual movement of 2nd Fleet forces towards Singapore and possibly Penang persist although no very definite new information has been received on this movement within the past two days.

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V. Repairs to damaged base establishments in the Marshall Islands seem to have been satisfactorily completed and a large force of heavy bombers are stationed at these bases.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, March 13, 1942

I. The Commander, Screening Force (C-in-C First Fleet) at 2330 I, March 11 directed a rendezvous of large proportions in an area not far north of the Bonin Islands during a ten day period, March 13-23. The best information now available indicates the following composition of this force:

C-in-C, First Fleet, Comdr.

<u>Units</u>	<u>Strength</u>	<u>Present location</u>
Batdivs 1 & 2	5 BB	Area between Bonins and Tokyo
Cardiv 4 with 2 Desdivs	2 CV 8 DD	Unlocated, but believed in area near Batdivs 1 & 2. Arrives rendezvous March 16.
Cardiv 5 with 2 Desdivs	2 CV 8 DD	Arriving Lat. 29°N., Long. 137°E on Mar. 13. One additional unit of this division which has been exempted is believed in Marshalls.
Crudiv 4	2-4 CA 1 CL	Java-Celebes area.
Newly organized Desron	12 DD	Not known
Subron 1	1 AS 7 SS	Either home waters or Mandates
NARUTO	1 AO	Believed in home waters

An unidentified Air Comdr. controlling aircraft at Saeki, Kure, and Iwakuri Air Stations.

In addition at least one other unknown unit is believed included. The Screening Force is also reported to include the 5th Patrol Force which may be the Fifth Fleet Patrol Force of 12-15 armed merchantmen.

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air base

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Summary

- 5 BB
- 4 CV
- 2-4 CA
- 1 CL
- 28 DD
- 1 AS
- 7 SS
- 1 AO

Miscellaneous

The mission of this force is believed to be the defense of Japan Proper for the following reasons:

- (a) It is virtually the previously organized Screening Force to which have been added some additional units which round it out as a well-balanced force. The Screening Force, due to its intimate association with the Fifth Fleet and the various home defense forces, has been considered defensive.
- (b) This rendezvous is ordered at a time when considerable activity has been apparent in strengthening the air defenses of Honshu, and an air patrol extensive in character has been started to cover the southern approaches to Japan. This patrol is reported to extend a maximum 700 miles to sea and is probably conducted from southern Kyushu.
- (c) The assigned rendezvous is not one from which an offensive could be launched with advantage, since the Bonins is not a sufficiently large base to provide the fuel and provisions which would be required prior to a long overseas trip.
- (d) The haste with which this concentration has been ordered reflects an urgency which would not be conducive to a well laid offensive plan.
- (e) Offensive action to start about March 15 is expected in the Indian Ocean, and on a smaller scale in Melanssia.
- (f) The recent activities of U.S. naval task forces in the Western Pacific have caused the Japanese a very considerable amount of concern.

II. The naval force which is being organized to base in the N.E.I. apparently in defense of the Indies with its principal base at Staring Bay is now believed to be composed of the following:

HIYEI (BB), flagship	-	1 BB
Cardivs 1 & 2	-	4 CV
		8 DD
Subrons 4 & 6	-	1 CL
		2 AS
		16 SS
Desdiv 34	-	4 DD
Possibly 2 additional Desdivs		8 DD

Summary

- 1 BB
- 4 CV
- 1 CL
- 12-20 DD
- 2 AS
- 16 SS

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OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
WASHINGTON

JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, March 12, 1942

I. With the conquest of the K.E.I. now virtually completed phase one of Japanese operations may be considered completed except for mop-up, consolidation and the construction of defenses in occupied areas. It now becomes increasingly apparent that little or no "breathing spell" will be permitted before the initiation of phase two.

In analyzing the direction in which the next main offensive will be aimed preliminary movements of naval forces should provide a reliable guide. In the Ausao area occupations of points on the east coast of New Guinea which will almost certainly be extended down to at least Port Moresby seem to strengthen the possibility of an invasion of Australia. On the other hand there is no evidence whatever of any strong naval units being assembled in this theatre although the air strength of Rabaul, New Britain, is being materially increased. In the west there has been and continues to be definite evidence of an offensive to start about March 15 as previously reported. Each day some additional unit of the naval forces now in the Java-Celebes area appears to be involved. Further strengthening the indications of an advance into the Indian Ocean are the persistent reports of a military, naval and air mission at Madagascar coupled with unconfirmed reports that Vichy, France will cede this island to Japan. Yet another possible straw in the wind is the receipt of information that British charts on the Indian Ocean seized at Singapore were rushed back to Tokyo by air.

II. (a) Great concern is reflected in Japanese despatches over the deprivations of U.S. Naval task forces in the Mandates. Cardiv 5, apparently while enroute south to Starling Bay, Celebes, was ordered to conduct search operations. At 1800 I of March 11 the Comdr. of the Sorewing Force directed Commander 5, who at the time is estimated to have been somewhere between Guam and Yap, to an unknown position which appeared to be at variance with a reported course 045°, speed 22 knots given by the latter. It is therefore inferred that Commander 5 was on a false lead which the Sorewing Force Commander attempted to correct.

(b) About twenty-four hours prior to the above orders contact with a Blue Force was made in the Rabaul area. Commencing at about 1800 I, March 10 contact type despatches were sent out by several types of vessels indicating that an attack had been launched by an allied task force in this area.

(c) Fault, which appears to be the principal radio intelligence center in the Mandates, reported on March 9 that a U.S. Naval air unit had established communications through one of its planes acting as a relaying station.

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NAVAL DEVELOPMENT

05-10-52
not for
it will be made to return

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(d) The Japanese intention of extending its reconnaissance range is reflected in orders issued a certain officer by the CinC, Fourth Fleet to investigate the suitability of Lae, recently seized location on east coast of New Guinea, as a base for patrol bombers.

III. Increased efforts are being made to stamp out blockade running through the Sibuyan and Visayan Seas by small vessels believed to be supplying the American Forces on Bataan. The Commander of an unidentified force was summoned to an urgent conference on this subject. His force is to start certain preventive measures after fueling at Olongapo on March 13.

IV. On March 10 two Japanese 4-engined flying boats were heard from Midway. In the ensuing attack one of these was shot down. It is of interest to note that following both recent occasions when Tokyo broadcast weather information on the Hawaiian area flying boats appear actually to have made the long trip from the Marshalls.

A. H. McCallum

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, March 11, 1942

I. (a) A third landing on the east coast of New Guinea has been made at Finnshafen.

(b) Aircraft movements to the Marshalls and Rabaul, New Britain continue. There are, however, indications that a maximum of 3 CA of Cruisers 6 and 8 may have departed the Rabaul area for N.E.I. waters.

(c) Two separate contacts appear to have been made with an allied naval force of 1 CV, 2 cruisers and 5 DD in the New Britain area. The first was made by a gunboat at 1035 some (-9), March 10, the second by a patrol plane at about 1530 of the same day. A few minutes after making contact the Orange patrol plane reported 40 enemy planes in the air.

II. (a) Considerable activity continues with respect to the prospective offensive operations on a Bay of Bengal objective believed to be the Andaman Islands. The Cinc, Second Fleet's interest in the matter implies that he probably is formulating operation orders which concern a portion of the army forces in Malaya in addition to the naval units previously mentioned. It appears definite that the offensive will be launched from Penang after ground forces are embarked from the west coast of Malaya or Singapore.

(b) Although the majority of the forces which were engaged in the Java invasion are now receiving a ten day upkeep period a few units are operating in the Indian Ocean. Tokyo announces that on March 2 one of her cruiser squadrons sank a U.S. cruiser.

A.H. McCollum.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, March 10, 1942

I. Tokyo has again sent out the force and direction of the wind at Midway and an area between Midway and Oahu for March 10 and 11. This transmission was sent to the C-in-C, Fourth Fleet, the Comdr. Southern Air Force, the C-in-C Combined Fleet and the Yokohama Air Group.

It will be recalled that the last time this weather data was sent out three bombs were dropped outside Honolulu. The only variation in procedure in this instance is that submarines in the Eastern Pacific which were included last time are now omitted.

The indications are that the initial attempt at bombing objectives in the Hawaiian Islands was not wholly successful, but that renewed trials will be made with some form of coordination between the attacking flying boats and either surface craft or submarines.

II. An advance into the Bay of Bengal is indicated to start about March 15. Seizure of the Andaman Islands is considered the most probable objective. An air unit is scheduled to depart Muntok, Bangka Island, on March 15 and to refuel at Penang prior to proceeding to the operations area, reinforced by five heavy bombers and two transport planes. The Gansan and Ryakurihama Air Groups are also involved, the former advancing on the objective about March 15 from Saigon, and the latter proceeding from Kuching (W. coast Borneo). It is probable that a so-called 12th Special Base Force which was recently escorted South and now believed at Penang may have been sent there for this purpose. The various air units mentioned suggests the customary procedure of air reconnaissance followed by bombing before the final stage of landing operations.

III. All evidence shows that strenuous efforts are being continued to build up the air defenses of the Empire, and that the present first line aircraft strength in Japan proper is considered insufficient. Radio traffic association between air units in the N.E.I. area with the C-in-C Fifth Fleet indicates that Airon 7 of 3 AV is being recalled to home waters, while 47 heavy bombers are stated to be enroute to the Kasumigaura Air Station (30 mi. N. of Tokyo) from Kanoya (S. Kyushu).

IV. (a) Naval forces which supported the landing operations on Java are now employed in upkeep and provisioning for the period March 9-19 at Kendari and Macassar.

(b) There are indications that a N.E.I. Defense Force is now being organized. It is probable that the old battleship, HIYEI will be, or has been

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, March 9, 1942

I. (a) Salamaoa and Lae (both on east coast of New Guinea) were occupied on the morning of March 8. It is believed that the occupation forces came from six transports escorted by one cruiser and four destroyers which were reported on March 7 in the general vicinity of Salamaoa, and on March 9 believed to be under attack. This new aggression will doubtless be followed soon by an attack on Port Moresby. Occupation of this point will make possible the control of Torres Strait and will constitute a serious threat to Northern Australia.

(b) The inclusion of areas to the southward of Truk under its administrative jurisdiction is reflected by a conference now probably taking place at this island. Tokyo representatives departed Yokohama on March 4 by plane to attend this conference with the CinC, Fourth Fleet.

(c) Utirik Island (N.E. Marshalls) sent out a contact report to other units in the Marshalls at 1230 Japan time, March 8. Considerable concern continues to be shown over the operations of U. S. Navy task forces and submarines in the Western Pacific. Radio silence appears to have been ordered in an effort to gain more reliable D/F bearings on U. S. forces. One of our submarines was reported in a position in the middle of Korea. By reversing the latitude and longitude, this contact shows to be in the Tsushima Straits.

II. A Cairo report states that a Japanese military, naval and air mission has been making surveys for naval and air bases in Madagascar. Although renowned as the rumor capital of Europe, a report from Lisbon, which cannot be ignored, states that the surrender of Madagascar by the Vichy Government to Japan is expected. The high strategic value of this island to Japan gives rise to the belief that there is some foundation to these reports.

III. The Navy has assigned calls to an unknown number of merchantmen not previously included in Navy call lists. This indicates a greater number of merchantmen than originally planned have had to be requisitioned by the Navy and reflects the merchant shipping deficiency analyzed by a recent comprehensive study on the subject.

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IV. SHOKAKU (CV) finally reported her departure from Yokosuka at about 1630, March 7 after a delay caused by difficulties in obtaining her cargo consignment. She is proceeding to an unspecified destination from which she is to pick up an escort believed to be destroyers at 1500, March 10. These orders, however, appear to have been modified subsequently to include this carrier to engage in air search for our forces. ZUIKAKU (CV), carrying the flag of Comcardiv 5, is reported to have departed the Yokosuka area at 0600 Japan time, March 8 for Starling Bay, S. E. Celebes, the same ultimate destination as has the SHOKAKU.

V. There is an indication that a convoy may be enroute to Rabaul from Western Luzon via San Bernardino Strait and Palau, but this information is still based on very uncertain evidence.

A. H. McCollum

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, March 8, 1942

- I. There seems to be no lessening of the Japanese naval forces operating in the Java Sea nor have there been any further reports of the Japanese surface forces previously reported as being south of Java.
- II. Light surface forces have been added to the submarines and air forces operating from Penang and constitute an added threat to Allied communications with India.
- III. The Japanese continue to build up strength in the New Britain area, particularly at Rabaul and Gasmata. The steady development of this area indicates the possibility that it is being organized as a base to support offensive operations. The increased frequency of reconnaissance flights by Japanese planes over eastern New Guinea and Northeastern Australia is worthy of note as indicative of a possible offensive move in this region.
- IV. The NITTA MARU, a converted carrier, is apparently scheduled to return to Japan in the near future, very likely after the arrival in the operating area of the SHOKAKU (CV) which sailed south from Yokosuka on the 5th.
- V. The situation in the Marshall Islands remains about the same with repairs progressing at Wotje and Kwajalein. With the exception of submarines and patrol planes there are indications of a gradual shift of forces from this area towards the Rabaul-New Britain zone.
- VI. CinC Combined Fleet and the 1st Fleet are not definitely located but many light units of the First Fleet have been noted in the Java Sea area where they have been operating under the direction of CinC 2nd and CinC Third Fleets.

A.H. McCollum.

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JAPANESE NAVAL ACTIVITIES

Summary as of 0800, March 7, 1942

- I. (a) The Yokohama and Chitose Air Groups, totaling about 20-24 flying boats (VPB) are at Wotje, Marshall Islands, together with a third unit called "The North Marshall Bomber Group", a new designation. Close radio association between these air groups and three submarines reported in an area French Frigate Shoals - Midway suggests a practicable plan for raids on the Hawaiian Islands by which attacking planes are serviced from submarines in the above area in sheltered water after flying direct from Wotje and before attacking objectives. In this manner the attacking planes could be loaded to capacity shortly before a raid, and thereafter make the return trip of 2000 miles non-stop under light load conditions.
- (b) Aircraft continues to be transferred from Truk to the Marshalls. On March 5 eleven planes arrived.
- (c) Intensification is noted in the search and patrol operations conducted from the Marshalls. Every effort is being made to locate the U.S. naval task force which attacked Marcus. The CinC, 5th Fleet, reported the Enterprise, Salt Lake City and Northampton to have been involved in the raid.
- (d) The Comdr. of the Screening Force (CinC, 1st Fleet) has expressed the great urgency of equipping screening vessels with their complete complement of planes.
- (e) It is now learned that on January 2 Tokyo broadcast the departure of one aircraft carrier and two cruisers from Pearl Harbor within 12 hours after their actual sailing. In possible explanation it is noted that at that time Japanese submarines were comparatively thick in the Hawaiian area.
- (f) A three ship convoy of army transports left Moji or a nearby home port at 1500, March 6 enroute to Takao, Formosa at a speed of 9 knots. This convoy is scheduled to arrive the afternoon of March 11.
- (g) It has been well established that the Navy tanker ERIND was torpedoed and probably sunk on March 4 in Lat. 4°-20' S., Long. 106°-7' E. Increased concern is voiced over shipping losses from submarine action.
- (h) A flight of 4 heavy bombers left Kasumigaura Air Station at 0700, March 6. Their schedule follows:
- Arrive Saipan March 6, Depart March 7
 Arrive Truk March 7, Depart March 8

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3 planes arrive Rabaul March 9, 1 plane arrives Taroa via Ponspe on March 9.

(i) A message from Chichijima, Bonin Islands expresses the need for increased aircraft and a guard detachment of 12 ships. Provisions for fueling heavy bombers is also required. This is believed to be the location from which convoys to the south are despatched.

(j) It is learned that SHOKAKU (CV) departed Yokosuka March 5 for Starling Bay, S.E. Celebes. Since she was previously reported bringing supplies to the Fourth Fleet, it is possible that she will proceed via the Truk-Marshall area.

(k) Reconnaissance on March 5 showed Japanese forces, including 3 CA and 5 DD, moving from Rabaul toward Salamoa. At the same time 20 merchant vessels were sighted at anchor at Rabaul and 12 flying boats in the harbor.

A. H. McCollum.

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