MR 45065, Sec. 3 - LOCATION OF FRENCH SHIPS

1944 - 1945

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/12/94

Regraded Unclassified
NAVAL MESSAGE

FROM
ANQXF

RELEASED BY

DATE
18 FEB 1945

TOR CODEROOM
1656

DECODED BY
SORENS

PARAPHRASED BY
ROLL

ROUTED BY
SORENSEN

ADDRESSES
ADMIRALTY
CINC PLYMOUTH
CINC PORTSMOUTH
CTF 122
SHEAF ("MAIN")

PRECEDENCE
PRIORITY
DEFERRED

CRYPTOGRAM
ADMIRALTY INFO CINC PLYMOUTH CINC PORTSMOUTH CTF 122 SHEAF ("MAIN")

A MISSED. NOT TO ALL.
NOW THAT NEARLY THE WHOLE OF FRANCE HAS BEEN LIBERATED
RECOMMEND QUESTIONS BE RAISED WITH CCS OF TURNING SOME
FRENCH WARSHIPS SUCH AS MINE-SweepERS SHORT-ENDURANCE
DESTROYERS OR ESCORT AND COASTAL CRAFT OVER TO FULL
FRENCH CONTROL FOR LOCAL WORK IN AREAS NO LONGER REQUIRED
BY SHEAF.

2. FURTHER RECOMMEND THAT AN OPERATIONAL AREA IN BAY OF
BOUZAY BE ALLOCATED TO FRENCH CONTROL. AREA SOUTH OF 48-30
NORTH AND EAST OF 75-5 WEST IS SUGGESTED. APART FROM
GENERAL ADVANTAGES THIS WOULD ALLOW FRENCH TO BLOCKADE
ENEMY POCKETS ON BOUZAY COAST WHICH THOUGH NOT ALL IMPORTANT
OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS REDUCE LOCAL FRENCH DISSATISFACTION AT ENEMY RECEIVING SUPPLIES FROM SPAIN WHICH THEY

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JCS Memo, 1-4-74
By RHP, NLR, Date JUN 1974

SECRET

Make original only. Deliver to Code Room Watch Officer in person. (See Art. 76 (4) NAVREGS.)

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E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/12/94

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THERESELS CANNOT OBTAIN.
3. SHAEB AGREES.

4. PENDING ANY PERSISTENT DECISION REQUEST 3 CHASSEURS BE ALLOCATED TO ANCFX FOR OPERATIONS BY FRENCH AT BEST. FRENCH ARE ARRANGING FOR MAINTENANCE.
COMNAVFORFRANCE SENDS ACTION COUNINC COUNAVEU

THIS IS FOR YOUR INFORMATION A MEETING TO DISCUSS MARINE SALVAGE OF MERCHANT SHIPPING IN ALL CAPTURED OR LIBERATED PORTS ON THE CONTINENT UNDER SCAEF’S JURISDICTION INCLUDING COASTAL AND INLAND WATERWAYS WAS CALLED YESTERDAY BY BRITISH MINISTRY OF WAR TRANSPORT. PRESENT WERE MR BLACK OF BMFT, MR CLYDE OF BRITISH TREASURY, BRITISH COLONEL FROM G4 SCAEF, CAPT HALE RN OF ANCF, COMMODORE MACKENZIE BRITISH SALVAGE, MR AT’WAT OF WSA AND REPRESENTATIVES OF MY STAFF. PRELIMINARY CONFERENCES BY INTERESTED BRITISH AUTHORITIES HAD BEEN HELD IN LONDON AND ALTHOUGH NO AGENDA WAS FURNISHED OR PROMULGATED A FIRM PLAN WAS PRESENTED. IT WAS POINTED OUT THAT URGENT TASK OF CLEARING PORTS IN ORDER TO HANDLE MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF SHIPPING HAS UP TO PRESENT ABSORBED ALMOST WHOLE EFFORT AND RESOURCES OF THOSE CONNECTED WITH MARINE SALVAGE. IT NOW SEEMED POSSIBLE TO GIVE SOME ATTENTION TO SALVAGE OF SUNKEN OR DAMAGED SHIPS OF ALL TYPES WITH OBJECT OF BRINGING INTO SERVICE THOSE THAT
It was proposed that a committee be activated in SHAEF to coordinate and direct marine salvage. This proposal was objected to by ANCXF and in lieu of a SHAEF committee, it was suggested that consideration should be given to an advisory committee set up in England to advise CCS and direct salvage personnel through medium of SHAEF or through national representatives of interested nations. This committee to function beyond end of combat operations this theatre. Direction of salvage operations and disposal of ships would be governed by following considerations:

A. The supreme commander has power to requisition any allied or enemy shipping including damaged or sunken vessels that he may deem necessary for his purposes.

B. Vessels not required by the supreme commander for this immediate purposes will be salvaged and repaired in accordance with following.

1. Determination of responsibility for marine salvage.

2. The fullest possible information regarding sunken or damaged ships found and all salvage matters at liberated or captured ports should be centralized and coordinated.
(3) CAREFUL RECORDING OF WORK CARRIED OUT SO AS TO FACILITATE THE DISPOSAL OF EVENTUAL CLAIMS AND TO AVOID DISPUTES.

C. NATIONALITY OF SHIPS WILL BE DETERMINED BY THE FLAG UNDER WHICH EACH VESSEL WAS REGISTERED AT TIME OF CAPTURE SUBJECT TO ANY SUBSEQUENT INFORMATION BECOMING AVAILABLE THAT MAY SHOW OWNERSHIP TO BE OTHER THAN AT FIRST DECIDED.

D. ALL AVAILABLE SALVAGE RESOURCES WHETHER PERSONNEL OR EQUIPMENT WILL BE EMPLOYED BY THE SALVAGE AUTHORITIES TO THE MAXIMUM BENEFIT OF THE WAR EFFORT.

E. ALL ALLIED VESSELS WHEN SALVAGED (OTHER THAN THOSE REQUISITIONED BY SUPREME COMMANDER) WILL BE IMMEDIATELY OFFERED ON CHARTER TO THE MMT OR NSA FOR SERVICE IN THE ALLIED SHIPPING POOL.

F. ENEMY VESSELS WILL BE TURNED OVER TO THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CSAB (NORMALLY THE NSAR OR MMT) WHO WILL IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE LOCAL SALVAGE AUTHORITIES DETERMINE THE DEGREE OF PRIORITY TO BE GIVEN TO THEIR SALVAGE AND/OR TAKE STEPS TO DETERMINE THEIR EVENTUAL DISPOSAL.

G. BOTH ALLIED AND ENEMY VESSELS ARE SUBJECT TO ALL CLAIMS INCLUDING SALVAGE CLAIMS AND WILL BE ACCOUNTED FOR IN THE ULTIMATE SHIPPING SETTLEMENT. FURTHER IT WAS ASSUMED THAT MMT AND NSA HAVE AN OVER-
RIDING INTEREST IN ALL ALLIED AND ENEMY VESSELS LIKELY TO PROVE USEFUL TO THE TOTAL ALLIED WAR EFFORT THAT SALVAGE WILL IN ALL CASES WHERE VESSELS ARE NOT REQUIRED BY SUPREME COMMANDER BE FOR THE ACCOUNT OF THE NATION TO WHICH THE SHIP BELONGS. IN THE CASE OF ENEMY SHIPS IT WILL BE INITIALLY FOR THE ACCOUNT OF THE WSA OR WMT. A CAREFUL RECORDING OF ALL WORK DONE IN ALL CASES IS TO BE KEPT TO FACILITATE ULTIMATE INTERNATIONAL ACCOUNTING UNDER THE EVENTUAL SHIPPING SETTLEMENT. NO FRENCH AUTHORITIES WERE REPRESENTED BUT IT WAS ASSUMED THAT SALVAGE CONTROL WOULD INCLUDE PRIVATE SALVAGE OR ANY CENTRAL AGENCY OPERATIONS BY FRENCH BELGIAN DUTCH GERMAN OR DENMARK NATIONALS.

AGREEMENTS WOULD BE MADE WITH THOSE GOVERNMENTS IF THEY HAVE NOT ALREADY BEEN ACCOMPLISHED GRANTING THIS RIGHT. OTHER POINTS DISCUSSED BRIEFLY WERE CATEGORY THAT SHIPS NOW BUILDING OR UNDER REPAIR AND NOT CONSIDERED WITHIN MARINE SALVAGE WOULD COME UNDER ALSO MATTERS OF CLAIMS AND PAYMENT OF CIVIL PERSONNEL. THE ABOVE IS SUBMITTED IN LIGHT THAT PROJECT ONCE STARTED MAY EXTEND INTO PERIOD OF POST

HOSTILITIES AND THAT SALVAGE COMMITMENTS MAY BECOME EVENTUALLY A NATIONAL COMMITMENT. FRANKLY WITHOUT GUIDANCE ON OUR NATIONAL POLICY
DISPATCH

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PAGES 5 OF 5

PAGE 5 OF 5

Originator fill in DATE AND TIME GROUP

(Use G. C. T.)

ON OUTGOING DISPATCHES PLEASE LEAVE ABOUT ONE INCH CLEAR SPACE BEFORE BEGINNING TEXT

THIS SUBJECT BY STAFF IS NOT PREPARED TO DISCUSS POST HOSTILITY ASPECTS SALVAGED SHIPPING EVEN THOUGH WAR IN PACIFIC MAY REQUIRE SUCH SALVAGED CRAFT.

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JCS memo, 1-6-74
By RHP, NLR, Date JUN 3 1974

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No. 1 ADMIRAL. No. 2 FILE. No. 3F-1 OR CHARTROOM. No. 4 SPECIAL.

Handle only in accordance with "Top Secret" instructions contained in Article 76, Navy Regulations.

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E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/13/94
NAVAL MESSAGE

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ON OUTGOING DISPATCHES PLEASE LEAVE ABOUT ONE INCH CLEAR SPACE BEFORE BEGINNING TEXT

AS EXECUTIVE AGENT OF CCS IN COLLABORATION WITH BAD AND ON REQUEST OF CHIEF FRENCH NAVAL MISSION IN U.S. INITIAL EMPLOYMENT FRENCH SUBMARINE ARCHIMEDE DESIGNATED MEDITERRANEAN UNDER ALLIED NAVAL COMMANDER IN CHIEF.

COMINCH....ORIG

BADO....FRENCH NAVAL MISSION....CCS SECRETARIAT....

13....16....19....19C....28G....

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JCS memo, 1-4-74
By RHF, NLR, Date
JUN 3 1974

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E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/13/94
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**DISPATCH**

**FROM**

COMNAVFRANCE

**RELEASED BY**

[Initial]

**DATE**

24 JAN 1945

**TOR CODER ROOM**

222B

**DECODED BY**

SCHMICK

**PARAPHRASED BY**

SCHMICK CHECKED BY CONROE

**ROUTED BY**

BY SCHMICK

**F/1 ACTION**

COMINCH

**ASTERISK (*) MAILGRAM ADDRESSEE**

COMINCH

**PRIORATY**

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IF OPERATIONAL

CHECK BELOW

241768A

**ICR 7584**

**NOTE**

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

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**ORIGINATOR TELL IN DATE AND TIME GROUP**

**FROM COMNAVFRANCE, ACTION COMINCH**

**TEXT**

THIS IS

HEAD OF FRENCH NAVAL STAFF VICE ADMIRAL LEMONNIER HAS MADE A

POINT OF TELLING ME THAT ACCORDING TO HIS BEST INFORMATION

ADMITTEDLY SEVERAL MONTHS OLD ALL FRENCH MEN OF WAR IN INDO

CHINA WATERS ARE MANNED EXCLUSIVELY BY FRENCH NAVAL PERSONNEL

AND ARE NOT UNDER JAPANESE OPERATIONAL CONTROL.

---

**DECLASSIFIED**

**JUN 3 1974**

**COMINCH: COPIES 1 TO 8 INCLUSIVE**

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**RECLASSIFIED**

E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4

NLR 101

By RT, NARA, Date 4/1/94

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**Regraded Unclassified**
IN CONSEQUENCE OF ESTABLISHMENT OF A CONSIDERABLE FRENCH FLEET IN NORTH AFRICAN WATERS AND DIRECTIONS FROM COMBINED CHIEFS OF STAFF WHICH MAKE IT CLEAR THAT BRITISH AND US PORT AUTHORITIES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR SCREENING AND FORWARDING DEMANDS FOR SUPPLIES OF CONSUMABLE STORES AS WELL AS SHIP REPAIR MATERIAL, IT IS NOW NECESSARY TO TAKE THE FOLLOWING ACTION:

(A) ALLOCATE FRENCH SHIPS TO DEFINITE BASE PORTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEMANDS FOR CONSUMABLE STORES, REPAIR MATERIAL AND NORMAL REFITTING WORK. THIS DOES NOT NECESSARILY MEAN THAT THE SHIP WILL DOCK AT ITS NOMINATED PORT DOCKINGS THROUGHOUT THE THEATRE BEING ENTIRELY CONTROLLED, ACCORDING TO THE OPERATIONAL SITUATION BY
CINCSRD WHO WILL AUTHORIZE PLACE OF DOCKING AND PRIORITY FOR REPAIR. CASE OF THE 8 INCH CRUISERS PROVISIONAL DEPENDENT ON CGS REPLY TO NAF 535.

3. REVISION OF CINCSRD'S DIRECTIVE MED (w) 103/1/32 OF THE 22ND. MARCH WHICH WILL BE PROMULGATED IN DUE COURSE BY LETTER.

2. ALLOCATION OF FRENCH SHIPS TO PORTS FOR THE PURPOSE OUTLINED ABOVE AS FOLLOWS:-

FERRYVILLE: CRUISER TOURVILLE.
LIGHT CRUISER EMILE BERTIN.
LARGE DESTROYERS FANTASQUE, TERRIBLE, LE MALIN, LE TRIOMPHANT.
TRANSPORTS BARFLEUR AND QUERCY.

ALGIERS: SUBMARINE DEPOT SHIP JULES VERNE

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ALGIERS (CTD): 6 DESTROYERS FORTUN, BASQUE, FORBIN, TROMBE, (MISTRAL 2 CHASSEURS, NOS 2 AND 3, AND CURAGAN LATER.)
2 A/C ESCORTS GOELAND AND FRUCTIDOR
8 MINESWEEPERS AS AND THEN TRANSFERRED FROM THE BRITISH.
16 EX-BRITISH HIMLS BASED IN ALGERIA AND CORSICA.
ALGIERS TO BE STORING BASE FOR DETACHED FRENCH FORCES AT MINOR BASES ON THE ALGERIAN COAST AS FAR AS BONE AND CORSICA. LOCAL HARBOUR CRAFT AND PATROL BOATS ON PRESENT SCALE.

ORAN:
BASE SHIP DORIANE
6 OPERATIONAL SUBMARINES.
ORAN (CTD):

3 SUBMARINES UNDER REPAIR.
4 A/S PATROL VESSELS - SETOLSE,
AJACCIENNE, TOULONNAISE, ADOLPH
MOUCHEZ

2 US-TYPE SUBMARINE CHASERS.

3 YAC AS AND WHEN TRANSFERRED FROM US
SOURCES, INCLUDES 2 SC'S IN CORSICA.
LOCAL HARBOUR CRAFT AND PATROL COATS
ON PRESENT SCALE.

CASABLANCA:

BATTLESHIP JEAN BART; HULL TO BE MAIN-
TAINED IN PRESENT CONDITION. NO FUR-
THER STRUCTURAL ALTERATIONS OR REPAIR
FROM ALLIED SOURCES.
CASABLANCA (CTD): CRUISERS GEORGES LEYGUES, VONTCALM,
GLOIRE, DUGUAY TROUTN, JEANNE D'ARC,
LARGE DESTROYERS TIGRE, ALBATROS
IN RESERVE.
DESTROYERS TEMPELE, SIMOUN, ALCYON.
5 ADVISE MINEKEEPERS LA BOUDEUSE,
LA GRACIEUSE, CO MANDANT, BORY,
COMMANDANT DELAGE, LA CAPRICEUSE.
SUBMARINE MARSOUIN, A/S TRAINING.
AMPHITRITE REPAIR.
TANKERS ELOMN, VAR AND MEKONG.
HOSPITAL SHIP CANADA.
US - TYPE: 5 SUBMARINE CHASERS,
4 YMS., AS AND THEN TURNED OVER.
CASABLANCA (CTD): LOCAL HARBOUR CRAFT AND PATROL BOATS ON PRESENT SCALE.

DAKAR:

2 CRUISERS, DUQUESNE, SUFFREN.
AVISOS CHEVREUIL, ANANIMITE, CAZALLE.
CORVETTES COMMANDANT DETROYAT, COMMANDANT DROGOU, COMMANDANT D'ORVES.
3 A/S ESCORTS AIR FRANCE 1, AIR FRANCE 3, AIR FRANCE 4.
SMALL HARBOUR AND PATROL CRAFT ON THE PRESENT SCALE.
3. Arrangements are being made by CINCHED and COMNAVMAC to forward emergency demands for proportion of stores required for each base in order to start the supply movement pending detailed assessment of stores requirements which is to be done locally in each port by the British or US port authorities. Detailed instructions as to the method of screening and forwarding these reports will be included in the revision of CINCHED's directive referred to above. The French are being requested to submit revised lists to port authorities on the allocation of ships mentioned above.

4. Arrangements for fuel will continue to be centralised in AFHQ as at present. French requests for radar, gun and torpedo armament and ammunition reserves will also be handled centrally through AFHQ.
5. DEMANDS FORWARDED THROUGH THE BRITISH OR US NAVAL PORT AUTHORITY IN EACH AREA SHOULD INCLUDE ALLOWANCE FOR CONSUMABLE STORES FOR FRENCH NAVAL SHORE BASED PERSONNEL, INCLUDING COAST DEFENSE, BUT NOT INCLUDING FRENCH AVIA. THE INTENTION IS THAT DEMANDS SHOULD BE HANDLER ON A QUARTERLY BASIS, EACH DEMAND BEING SUPPORTED BY A STATEMENT OF THE PREVIOUS QUARTER'S EXPENDITURE.

§41246A JANUARY, 1944.

DECLASSIFIED
JCS memo, 1-4-74
By RHP, NLR, Date JUN

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/13/94

Regraded Unclassified
From: Supreme Headquarters, Allied Expeditionary Forces
Main, Versailles, France

To: War Department

Nr: S-72995 SCAF 160 30 December 1944

S 72995 to for action AGWAR for the Combined
Chiefs of Staff, to for information British Chief of
Staff, Admiralty for London Munitions Assignment Board,
ANOCF signed Eisenhower this is SCAF 160.

Ships under construction in French yards subject.

Following ships not yet completed were constructed
during period of German occupation.

Destroyers 5
Submarines 4
Launches 13
Tankers 29
Tugs 39
Miscellaneous craft 11
Commercial ships 25

These are usable by Allies but returnable to
French when no longer required. Following not yet completed
were commenced prior to 1940 and are therefore French
property unless requisitioned by Allies.

Cruisers 5
Submarines 1
Miscellaneous small craft 30

Of all above the following are clearly novel ships

OM-IN-29259 (30 Dec 44)
From: Supreme Headquarters, Allied Expeditionary Forces
Main, Versailles, France

To: War Department

Nr: S-72995 SCAF 160 30 December 1944

Destroyers 5
Cruisers 5
Submarines 5
Leuchees 13
Patrol boats 1
Dispatch boats 6.

These naval ships can be rapidly completed by actual French resources. It is assumed that these ships should be disposed of as war material covered by instructions already issued by you. Accordingly, unless otherwise instructed, they and the material needed for their completion will be placed at disposal of French who should complete and man them. Please confirm. Remaining ships are being considered by Ministry of War Transport and War Shipping Administration as merchant ships whose completion would aid allied war effort. French claim that these latter are ancillary vessels is being clarified.

End.

ACTION: CC/S

INFO: OPD, Admiral Leahy, CG AAF, General Somervell, General Bissell, Admiral King, Log

CM-IN-29259 (30 Dec 44) 1936Z

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By RT, NARA, Date 4/12/94