U. S. NAVAL COMMUNICATION SERVICE

FROM: COB FORTY-THREE

TO: ALL SHIPS PRESENT MINA ATAN AREA

THIRTY SHARK PLANES APPROACHING FROM KAUAI

[Handwritten note: False report.]

[Handwritten note: Canceled by Operations (Phone)]

PLAIN LANGUAGE DESPATCH

Received at 1550 GCT 12/8
THE FIRST EVIDENCE OF HOSTILITIES WAS THE PRESENCE OF A
SUBMARINE IN PEARL HARBOR DEFENSE AREA AT ABOUT 0715 LOCAL TIME.
THERE WERE ONLY A FEW MINUTES WARNING OF THE APPROACH OF AIRCRAFT
WHICH ARRIVED AT 0747. THEIR FIRST ATTACKS AGAINST OUR AIRCRAFT
ON THE GROUND AT PEARL HARBOR, EWA, KANEHOE, HICKAM AND WHEELER
WERE SO EFFECTIVE THAT PRACTICALLY NONE WERE IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE
EXCEPT TEN WHICH WERE IN THE AIR. ENEMY CARRIERS WERE NOT
SIGNITED BUT INDICATIONS OF AT LEAST ONE NORTH AND ONE SOUTH OF
OAHU AS THERE APPEARED TO BE 3 SEPARATE ATTACKS ENDING ABOUT
0830. DIVE BOMBING AND TORPEDOING WERE MOST EFFECTIVE AND IN SPITE
OF MAGNIFICENT AND COURAGEOUS WORK BY GUN CREWS, NOT MORE THAN A
DOZEN OF THE ENEMY WERE SHOT DOWN INCLUDING THOSE BY ARMY PURSUITS
ADD TO REPORT OF CASUALTIES, THE ARIZONA BLEW UP AND MOST OF HER
OFFICERS AND MEN INCLUDING REAR ADMIRAL KIDD WERE LOST. THE
FLOATING DRYDOCK WAS SUNK. PERSONNEL CASUALTIES ARE ESTIMATED AT
2800, ABOUT HALF OF THEM DEAD. ATTEMPTED BOMBING OF DOCK FACIL-
ITIES IN HONOLULU KILLED ABOUT 200 CIVILIANS.
There was no damage from submarines and believe that three were destroyed, one in Pearl Channel certain. Hit in Nevada was possibly mine but no other damage from mines. Pearl Channel is usable. In addition to ship based and planes in carriers about 30 VPB-15 Army pursuits and 13 Army bombers are available. Lexington and 4 heavy cruisers from position east of Midway attempting to intercept southern carrier. Enterprise with other available light forces are guarding against repetition of raid. Wake reports heavy damage from bombing by 30 planes. Guam also reported air attack.

Action: 38.......

Record Copy: 12.....13.....16.....38w.....NAVAID.....

SECRET

Regarded CNO File.......

Unclassified

NAV OP File......

See Art 76(4) Nav Regs

Make original only, deliver to Communication Watch Officer in person
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*INDICATE BY ASTERISK ADDRESSEES FOR WHICH MAIL DELIVERY IS SATISFACTORY.*

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

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TEXT

REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

MAKE ORIGINAL ONLY, DELIVER TO COMMUNICATION WATCH OFFICER IN PERSON
SEE ARTICLE 76(4) NAV REGS.
NAVAL MESSAGE

PHONE EXTENSION NUMBER

FROM CINCPAC
RELEASED BY

DATE 7 DEC 1941
TOR CORDEROOM 
DECODED BY G ALLEN
PARAPHRASED BY SLADE
ADDRESSEES
OPNAV CINCAF
FOR ACTION

MESSAGE PRECEDENCE
PRIORIY PPP
ROUTINE DEFERRED
DEFERRED

INDICATE BY ASTERISK ADDRESSEES FOR WHICH MAIL DELIVERY IS SATISFACTORY

572244 CR 5503
UNLESS OTHERWISE DESIGNATED THIS DISPATCH WILL BE TRANSMITTED WITH DEFERRED PRECEDENCE.
ORIGINATOR FILL IN DATE AND TIME FOR DEFERRED AND MAIL DELIVERY

DATE 0830 TIME 8:30

TEXT

COMMENCING 575 LCT, ENEMY AIR RAIDS ON FLEET AT PEARL HARBOR.
DAMAGE KNOWN TO BE GREAT, THOUGH ITS FULLEST EXTENT NOT DETERMINED. THREE BATTLESHIPS SUNK; ALL OTHERS VARIOUSLY DAMAGED.
LARGE PROPORTION OF PLANES DESTROYED ON GROUND. AM SEARCHING ENEMY WITH ALL AVAILABLE PLANES AND FORCES. CARRIERS AT SEA UNDAMAGED.

38...ACTION

RECORD COPY: 38W....12....13....NAVAIDE....P1A....10A.....

GENERAL FILE.

DELIVERED TO...AT......BY.................

SECRET

SEE ART 76(4) NAV REGS
MAKE ORIGINAL ONLY, DELIVER TO COMMUNICATION WATCH OFFICER IN PERSON
12 planes attacked DIWAQ. Destroyed 7 of our patrol planes.

Activity...

Destroy Capt. 29... 13... 98... BAYAN...

ON 09... 26...

O
NEW Y. NPW BT
FROM: RDO WALLACE
ACTION: RDO HONOLULU

UNIDENTIFIED SHIPS OFF LWAUALEI FISHING

38 ACT

NAVIGATOR 95-20R
00A-01A-02A-ARMY