

~~Confidential~~

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY

22 January 1940

file

Total Enlisted Strength, 20 January 129,844

Fleet Reservists (Enlisted) on active duty ... 2,965

Other Reservists " " " " ... 780

..... Total 3,745

Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours) 274

Aggregate Discharges " " " " 90

..... Net Gain 184

Retired Officers, returned to active duty as of 22 Jan.:

Line Officers 286
Staff Officers 96
Warrant Officers 32
Total 414

Naval Reservists ordered to active duty for enforcement
of neutrality patrol, as of 20 January:

<u>Officers</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Allowed</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Obligated</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Ordered</u>
Aviation Instructors	150	150	76
District Patrol Planes	128	0	0
Naval Intelligence	100	61	61
Miscellaneous	192	168	148
Ens. and Lieuts. (jg) with Fleet	200	200	109
Merchant Marine	100	57	57
<u>Total Officers</u>	870	636	451
<u>Men</u>			
District Patrol Planes	1024	0	0
Communications	120	64	64
Miscellaneous	1606	346	346
<u>Total Men</u>	2750	410	410

Recruiting activities for week ending 19 January:

Number of applicants accepted for first enlistment, 1129
Number of first enlistments 764
Number of reenlistments within three
months (continuous service)..... 72
Number of reenlistments under broken service. 43
Total enlistments 879

Neutrality Patrol forces, as of 18 January are distributed as follows:

New England Patrol, Comdesron 41 (Captain Farber), DALLAS, BARNBY, BIDDLE, BRECKINRIDGE, BLAKELEY, CLAXTON, and Patrol Squadron 54 (SVPs) - Boston and Newport based. DUPONT, BERNADOU, New London based.

Middle Atlantic Patrol, Comdesron 30 (Captain Hein), GILMER, FAIRFAY, LEARY, Patrol Squadron 54 (7VPs), - Norfolk based. ELLIS, COLE, ROPER, OUL, one Patrol Squadron 52 (7VPs), - Charleston based.

Key West Patrol, Comdesron 32 (Captain Carpenter), LEA, SCHENCK, GAMNET, and Patrol Squadrons 53 (7VPs) and 31 (SVPs), - Key West based.

Gulf Patrol, Comdesdiv 18 (Captain Denfield), DAVIS, JOUETT, BENUAM, ELLET, LANG, - Galveston based.

Caribbean Patrol (Comatron in ComCaribPat), TRUXTON, BROOME, LAPPING, and Patrol Squadron 31 (6VPs), - Guantanamo based. BOKIE, SIMPSON, TROUSH, and Patrol Squadrons 51 (9VPs) and 31 (3VPs), - San Juan based.

Striking Group Patrol, Comcradiv 7 (Admiral Pickens), QUINCY, ST. LOUIS, OMAHA, RANGER, and RANGER and WASP Squadrons, - Norfolk based. SAN FRANCISCO, TUSCALOOSA, - Caribbean based.

Reserve Destroyer Group, Comdesron 10 (Captain Greenman), HOPKINS, COFF, BADGER, HARRITT, JACOB JONES, - Norfolk

based, REUBEN JAMES, BARRY, New York based.

Reserve Patrol Plane Group, Comptwing 5, Norfolk based, (VP planes as received, transferred and overhauled), TEXAS, NEW YORK, ARKANSAS, WYOMING, - Caribbean based.

Antilles Detachment, has been previously reported.

The War at Sea, claimed at least 8 ships over the week-end including the 1,458 ton British Destroyer, GREENVILLE, and an estimated 118 lives. The GREENVILLE is the fourth British destroyer lost. Among others were the British tanker, CARONI RIVER, 8,707 tons, the PROTISILAUS, 9,577 tons, and the Estonian steamer NAUTIC, 2,050 tons.

Naval Medical Center, Bids will be taken in the Bureau of Yards and Docks on 17 April (specifications to be mailed 7 March) for superstructure on main building, two wards, nurses and corporals' quarters, subsistence building, boiler plant, laundry, and garage.

ACUNNET and KUNAWDIE, (oceangoing tugs), are busily engaged in breaking the ice in Chesapeake Bay by request of the Coast Guard, the first time the Navy has been called on to do this since 1936.

Selection Board, for Naval Constructors had its first sitting today, with Captain Williams acting as Senior Member.

4. Merchant Marine Reserve School, aboard USS SEATTLE, first class finishes the course on 26 January. Arrangements have been made to give students 4 or 5 days duty aboard ships of the neutrality patrol. A submarine will be used for simulating actual experience in general drills. The next school will start 29 January for 8 weeks instruction in tactics, communication, gunnery, regulations, etc., the Maritime Commission to pay one-half of the salaries of students, the shipping lines the other half.

U.S.S. ERIE and J. FRED TALBOT, are proceeding to the Galapagos Islands to render medical attention to Chief Engineer Harndon of San Diego tuna fishing boat.

U.S.S. ANDERSON, after completion of Navy Yard work and when ready for sea, about 23 January, is authorized to operate at discretion based in New York in preparation for final trials after proceeding Rockland, Maine, to arrive there not later than 5 February.

Dutch anti-aircraft guns, fired today on a number of unidentified planes flying over Holland, Dutch planes took the air in pursuit of foreign planes which were sighted between Amsterdam and Rotterdam. As far as known no contact was made.

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REPORT TO THE SECRETARY
23 January 1940

Total Enlisted Strength, 22 January 130,093
Fleet Reservists (Enlisted) on active duty ... 2,977
Other Reservists " " " " ... 788
Total 3,765
Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours) 270
Aggregate Discharges " " " 42
Net Gain 228

Retired Officers, returned to active duty as of 23 Jan.:

Line Officers 287
 Staff Officers 96
 Warrant Officers 32
Total 415

Naval Reservists ordered to active duty for enforcement
of neutrality patrol, as of 20 January:

<u>Officers</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Allowed</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Obligated</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Ordered</u>
Aviation Instructors	150	150	76
District Patrol Planes	128	0	0
Naval Intelligence	100	61	61
Miscellaneous	192	168	148
Ens. and Lieuts. (jg) with Fleet	200	200	109
Merchant Marine	100	57	57
<u>Total Officers</u>	870	636	451
<u>Men</u>			
District Patrol Planes	1024	0	0
Communications	120	64	64
Miscellaneous	1606	346	346
<u>Total Men</u>	2750	410	410

Turning Trials, U.S.S. MacLEISH and ANDERSON. Several officers from the Bureau of Construction and Repair and the Experimental Model Basin conducted high-speed turning trials on the MacLEISH (DD220) off the Delaware Capes on 18 January 1940. The purpose of these trials was to compare actual heel data with calculated heel data. The trials were conducted under very good conditions and the angles of heel experienced were somewhat less than calculated. In the case of the MacLEISH, the maximum calculated angle of heel for the displacement of the vessel is about 8° while the angle actually experienced was about 5°. Similar turning trials will be conducted on the ANDERSON (DD411) off New York about 31 January 1940.

Fourth Naval District. Rear Admiral A.E. Watson assumed duty as Commandant and additional duty as Commandant, Navy Yard, Philadelphia.

Drydock YFD-2. A contract has been awarded the Merritt, Chapman & Scott Corporation, of New York, for the towing of Dry Dock YFD-2 from New Orleans, Louisiana to Cristobal, C.Z., at a total estimate cost of \$30,491.92, with the right reserved to the Government to extend the contract to include towing of the Dry Dock from Cristobal

to Pearl Harbor in the event Navy tugs are not available for this service.

Chairman Vinson, has requested the Navy Department to rewrite the bill pending before his committee so as to make it a two year program.

U.S.S. SEPULGA, (oiler), recommissioning has been authorized at Mare Island, 5 February.

Flex 6, 2200 marines, officers and men, have been landed at Culebra in connection with Fleet Landing Exercises.

U.S.S. HARADEN, HERNDON, and A.P. UPSHUR, reported to Commander Atlantic Squadron for duty on 20 January.

Lieutenants, Naval Reserve, to active duty. The Chief of the Bureau of Navigation has approved the plan to include in the authority granted to order not more than 100 Merchant Marine Reserve Officers to active duty in naval auxiliaries, officers in the rank of lieutenant to this duty on a volunteer basis. Roughly, only 50% of the Merchant Marine Reserve officers appear to be satisfactory material for such assignment by reason of age, professional record, or physical condition. The latest indicated need for additional officers in auxiliaries is 32 by 1 April. It would appear that this need can be

4. readily filled. Reserve lieutenants are in general much younger than Merchant Marine Officers in the same grade, and except for seagoing experience are probably superior professionally.

Finnish raid Kronstadt. A dispatch from Helsinki to the Copenhagen newspaper Berlingske Tidende reported today that Finnish airplanes in a raid on Russia's Naval base at Kronstadt severely damaged a battleship and cruiser. The battleship was said to be the 23,606 ton MARAT, built in 1911 and equipped with 12-12" guns. The cruiser was the new 8,500 ton KIROV, mounting 6-7.1" guns.

German U-Boats. According to well informed sources in Copenhagen it is estimated that Germany has lost about 35 U-Boats since the outbreak of war, but has replaced by secret construction and acquisitions from Russia an equal number, making the German undersea force approximately the same size as it was when the war started - 71 submarines built and building. It is estimated from 10-14 submarines have been acquired from Russia.

Ice Breaking. the Navy was asked today to cooperate with the Coast Guard in efforts to open New England's ice locked harbors. Boston Navy Yard expressed fear no Navy ice breaking vessel was available.

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REPORT TO THE SECRETARY

24 January 1940

Total Enlisted Strength, 23 January 130,249

Fleet Reservists (Enlisted) on active duty ... 2,978

Other Reservists " " " " ... 789

Total 3,767

Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours) 257

Aggregate Discharges " " " " 103

Net Gain 154

Retired Officers, returned to active duty as of 24 Jan.:

Line Officers 288

Staff Officers 96

Warrant Officers 32

Total 416

Naval Reservists ordered to active duty for enforcement of neutrality patrol, as of 23 January:

Officers	Number Allowed	Number Obligated	Number Ordered
Aviation Instructors	150	150	76
District Patrol Planes	128	0	0
Naval Intelligence	100	60	60
Miscellaneous	192	175	155
Ens. and Lieuts. (jg) with Fleet	200	200	109
Merchant Marine	100	57	57
Total Officers	870	642	457

Men

District Patrol Planes	1024	0	0
Communications	120	62	62
Miscellaneous	1606	346	346
Total Men	2750	408	408

10. Marine Corps, Total Enlisted Strength, 24 Jan., 24,162

Antilles Detachment, Diplomatic arrangements and requirements necessitate the following itinerary:

WICHITA plus desdiv 82 (MATFIELD, BROOKS, FOX, KANE) will visit Curacao.

VINCENNES plus desdiv 83 (LAWRENCE, HUMPHREYS, KING and SANDS) will visit Aruba.

Desdiv 61 (GREER, UPSHUR, TARBELL, YARNALL) will visit Venezuelan waters of Gulf of Venezuela.

Desdiv 64 (TWIGGS, WICKES, PHILIP and EVANS) will visit Puerto Cabello making reconnaissance of two latter localities 26-30 January.

DECATUR plus desdiv 65 (AARON WARD, BUCHANAN, HALE, CROWNSHIELD) will visit Cumana, Gulf of Cariaco and Posuelos Bay 27-30 January.

DECATUR plus desdive 64 and 65 will visit St. Eustatius.

WICHITA plus desdiv 82 will visit Ponce.

VINCENNES plus desdive 61 and 83 will visit Mayaguez 3-7 February. Upon completion above visits all units will return to Guantanamo. Diplomatic arrangements for visits Netherlands ports have been consummated and for Venezuelan ports initiated with advices later. This

itinerary is restricted.

Medical personnel, The shortage of medical officers is becoming acute and the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery is trying to find some means of relieving this shortage by considering the possibility of taking in Reserve Medical Officers to fill in until such time as legislation is procured to take in additional medical officers as acting assistance surgeons. There is great necessity to get legislation through for 100 acting assistants to meet expansion needs and shortages ashore and afloat.

Senator Nye, is expected to replace Senator Borah on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

State School Ships, H.R. 7870 requests that a school ship be provided for the State of Oregon, based in Astoria. At present we have four state school ships, Massachusetts, New York, Pennsylvania, and California to train merchant marine officers and graduating them as Naval Reserve officers.

Submarine Training, Two classes will be convened at New London as follows: 30 officers about 29 June 1940, and 30 officers about 2 January 1941.

Br. Y.S.D. reports contract for superstructure for Mater-

4
ials Assembly Shop at Navy Yard, Philadelphia, has been awarded to Hughes-Foulkrod Company, Philadelphia for \$267,000. Time, 180 calendar days.

British Destroyer Sunk, The EXMOUTH, 1,475 tons, by mine or torpedo in the North Sea with all on board. The EXMOUTH carries a normal complement of 175 men, with probably 10% additional for war strength. This is the 22nd British vessel to go down since war began and the fifth destroyer. "It is feared there are no survivors", the Admiralty reported.

Swedish Sinkings, Stockholm reports that 26 Swedish ships totalling 52,000 tons have been mined or torpedoed during the war with a loss of 100 lives.

S.S. MANHATTAN objects, Captain Richardson protested today against delays caused his ship by the British Contraband Control. He said he considered himself lucky to have been delayed only 40 hours on the Eastbound trip. Some ships, he said, were delayed for a week. "Any patrol boat can take you in, but orders for release must come from London," he added. His protests to the British Naval Commandant at Gibraltar were fruitless. The British took off 235 sacks of mail for Germany and other countries and did not return them. (UP dispatch)

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REPORT TO THE SECRETARY
25 January 1940

Total Enlisted Strength, 24 January 130,443
Fleet Reservists (Enlisted) on active duty ... 2,978
Other Reservists " " " " ... 789
Total 3,767

Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours) 253
Aggregate Discharges " " " 59
Net Gain 194

Retired Officers returned to active duty as of 25 Jan.:

Line Officers 288
 Staff Officers 98
 Warrant Officers 32
Total 418

Naval Reservists ordered to active duty for enforcement of neutrality patrol as of 24 January:

<u>Officers</u>	<u>Number Allowed</u>	<u>Number Obligated</u>	<u>Number Ordered</u>
Aviation Instructors	150	150	77
District Patrol Planes	128	0	0
Naval Intelligence	100	60	60
Miscellaneous	192	175	159
Ens. and Lieuts. (jg)			
with Fleet	200	200	110
Merchant Marine	<u>100</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>60</u>
<u>Total Officers</u>	870	645	466
<u>Men</u>			
District Patrol Planes	1024	0	0
Communications	120	62	62
Miscellaneous	<u>1606</u>	<u>346</u>	<u>346</u>
<u>Total Men</u>	2750	408	408

2. Hawaiian Detachment, From information now available it appears that the following units of the U.S. Fleet will remain in the Hawaiian Area at the conclusion of the coming fleet problem:

Aircraft Carrier - LEXINGTON

Cruisers - INDIANAPOLIS, MINNEAPOLIS, ASTORIA, NEW ORLEANS, WORTHAMPTON, VENEGOLA, SALT LAKE CITY, HOUSTON, and WALEIGH.

Destroyer Tender - DOBBIN.

Minesweepers - KINGFISHER, PARTRIDGE, TURKEY.

Destroyers - JARVIS, CLARK, CASSIN, COWINGHAM, DOWNS, HEID, CASE, SWAN, CUMMINGS, TUCKER, SELTRIDGE, HENLEY, HELM, BLAKE, BAGLEY, MENFORD, RALPH TALBOT, and PATTERSON.

U.S.S. SAN FRANCISCO, will depart Navy Yard, Puget Sound, on completion of overhaul at that yard on 11 June 1949, to join the Hawaiian Detachment.

Cruisers 55 and 56, The New York Shipbuilding Corporation, Camden, N.J., and Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company, Newport News, Virginia, requested postponement of date of opening of bids on cruisers 55 and 56 because of insufficient time for preparation of bids due to slowness in receipt of vendors' quotations. Date of

opening of bids changed from 31 January to 9 February. 2.

U.S.S. NAVAJO (tug), Completed and delivered to Navy Yard Brooklyn, built at Staten Island Plant of Bethlehem Steel Company.

Key West Detachment, it is estimated that about 13 destroyers and 1 aircraft tender (small) will be the maximum number of surface ships and 12 VPB and 12 VOG planes as maximum number that will be operating from Key West as base during the continuance of present emergency conditions.

U.S.S. DANLON, will be maintained as an engineering experimental destroyer performing special duty under direction of the C.E.O. and that when the experimental status has ceased, as advised by the Chief of the Bureau of Engineering, she will be available for assignment to the fleet as an operating unit.

U.S.S. HENEBOLA, will return to Philadelphia Navy Yard for stores upon completion of recommissioning work at the Bethlehem Steel Company Repair Yard, Baltimore.

U.S.S. NEGRO, (tanker), towing target raft from Norfolk to Key West, parted tow line. A tug has been sent out to help, off Cape Hatteras. Target has been re-

4. located and Meosho will proceed.

Selection Boards, The Medical Selection Board meeting 5 February will recommend 11 officers for advancement to Captain, and 8 to Commander. The Line Selection Board meeting 6 February will recommend 330 officers for promotion to Lieutenant.

Two Year Expansion Program, The Navy Department informed the House Naval Affairs Committee that it would cost nearly \$200,000,000 less to authorize a two year program in place of a three year program.

Searching U.S. Mails, The Ministry of Economic Warfare, London, announced 15,000 parcels had been shipped from the U.S. to Germany, intercepted at Contraband Control Stations. Reichsmark drafts and orders worth \$2,510,000 are said to have been contained among them, and similar dollar value orders worth \$426,355. Also \$8,000,000 worth of diamonds were found and letters containing maps, some of military value.

Allied Plane Orders, Lack of engine production facilities in the U.S. may force Britain and France to reduce their contemplated orders from 10,000 war planes to 3,000, aviation authorities announced. Planes are being manufactured at the rate of 1,700 monthly, engines built at rate of 11 or 12,000 a year.

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REPORT TO THE SECRETARY
26 January 1940

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Total Enlisted Strength, 25 January 130,577

Fleet Reservists (Enlisted) on active duty ... 2,978

Other Reservists " " " " ... 789

Total 3,767

Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours) 217

Aggregate Discharges " " " " 82

Net Increase 134

Retired Officers returned to active duty as of 26 Jan.:

Line Officers	288
Staff Officers	98
Warrant Officers	<u>32</u>
<u>Total</u>	418

Naval Reservists ordered to active duty for enforcement of neutrality patrol as of 25 January:

<u>Officers</u>	<u>Number Allowed</u>	<u>Number Obligated</u>	<u>Number Ordered</u>
Aviation Instructors	150	150	77
District Patrol Planes	128	0	0
Naval Intelligence	100	60	60
Miscellaneous	192	175	159
Ens. and Lieuts. (jg) with Fleet	200	200	110
Merchant Marine	<u>100</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>60</u>
<u>Total Officers</u>	870	645	466

<u>Men</u>			
District Patrol Planes	1024	0	0
Communications	120	62	62
Miscellaneous	<u>1606</u>	<u>346</u>	<u>346</u>
<u>Total Men</u>	2750	408	408

Bureau of Yards and Docks. The following Yards and Docks contract awards have been made:

Gasoline Storage and Distributing System at the Naval Air Station, Alameda, Calif., awarded to the Flotation Systems, Inc. of Los Angeles. Estimated cost \$174,600.00.
Time of completion, 180 days.

Quay Walls at Dry Dock No. 4, at the Navy Yard, Puget Sound, Wash., awarded to the General Construction Company of Seattle, Wash. Estimated cost \$109,900.00.
Time of completion, 180 days.

S. & A. reports. Department of Labor All Commodity Price Index for 20 January was 79.3 as compared with 79.5 on 13 January.

Naval Reserve. With reference to previous information regarding the necessity of assigning a reserve officer on active duty as representative of the Secretary of the Navy on both the SANTA INEZ and SANTA RITA, the detail officer has ordered a Lieutenant Commander of the regular Navy as Chief Engineer of the SANTA RITA and a Supply Corps officer to the SANTA RITA to protect the Navy's interests and will probably be able to order an officer of the regular Navy to the SANTA INEZ prior to

29 February on which date the latter vessel is to be taken over by the Navy in New York City. However, two Merchant Marine Reserve officers will be ordered to the vessels at Norfolk in C.F.O. and on board as watch and division officers in accordance with the general authority already granted in such assignments.

Inspection Boards, Naval Reserve. Aviation sub-board is inspecting Naval Reserve Air bases at Oakland and Long Beach, California, during the next 10 days.

Postgraduate Instruction. Board to select candidates to be ordered in 1940 will meet in near future. In five of the courses, General Line, Naval Engineering, Communications (applied law and aerology) it is planned to select half of students from officers ordered to sea in the fall of 1939 and the remaining half from officers normally due for postgraduate work.

U.S.S. SIMS. will join U.S. Fleet about 2 March after alterations, final trials and test torpedo firings.

U.S.S. ROE. will depart Norfolk 19 April on 10,000 mile (limited) shakedown cruise. Time allowed, two months. Cruise is limited to Atlantic and Gulf ports.

Americans in Sweden. have been invited by the American

4. Legation to consider the desirability of returning to the United States at their earliest convenience. There are between 600 and 700 Americans in Sweden and "it would seem particularly desirable for women and children to leave. The present situation is not immediately dangerous, but nothing can be foretold of the future." The limited transportation facilities were mentioned.

Award of Medallion, has been made by the Secretary of the Treasury to Commander James E. Maher, U.S.N., in appreciation of service during the autumn of 1938 as Commanding Officer of the U.S.S. SOMERS in assisting to convey 25 million dollars in gold from England to the U.S. U.S.S. ANDERSON, 31 January has been set tentatively as date for high speed turning trials. Work is completed and 40 tons dead ballast has been installed.

DEUTSCHLAND, British Naval Officers believe that the DEUTSCHLAND may have been sunk and that Germany was attempting to conceal it by renaming it LAETZOW. There already was a LAETZOW, 10,000 ton cruiser. The British submarine SALMON torpedoed a number of German ships at the mouth of the Elbe, and perhaps the DEUTSCHLAND was one of them.

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REPORT TO THE SECRETARY
29 January 1940

*File
Personnel
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Total Enlisted Strength, 27 January 130,707

Fleet Reservists (Enlisted) on active duty ... 3,005

Other Reservists " " " " ... 797

Total 3,802

Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours) 107

Aggregate Discharges " " " " 28

Net Increase 79

Retired Officers returned to active duty as of 27 January:

Line Officers	289
Staff Officers	96
Warrant Officers	<u>32</u>
<u>Total</u>	417

Naval Reservists ordered to active duty for enforcement
of neutrality patrol as of 27 January:

<u>Officers</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Allowed</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Obligated</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Ordered</u>
Aviation Instructors	150	150	74
District Patrol Planes	128	0	0
Naval Intelligence	100	60	60
Miscellaneous	192	175	160
Ens. and Lieuts. (jg) with Fleet	200	200	110
Merchant Marine	<u>100</u>	<u>61</u>	<u>61</u>
<u>Total Officers</u>	870	646	465

Men

District Patrol Planes	1024	0	0
Communications	120	62	62
Miscellaneous	<u>1606</u>	<u>347</u>	<u>347</u>
<u>Total Men</u>	2750	409	409

2. Number of officers on duty Asiatic Station -

Line Officers	279
Staff Officers	96
Warrant Officers	129

Total

U.S.S. TANTO (Submarine 199) was launched at Groton, Connecticut, 27 January 1940.

Frank R. Whenter, Naval architect employed in the Bureau of C & R since 1892 died 26 January. He was associated with work of designing early cruisers and gunboats, and was identified with construction of the first submarine. U.S.S. ERIL, returned to Balboa from Galapagos, 28 January with Carl Hanken, engineer officer of Tuna Fisherman CITY OF SAN DIEGO on board. Timely arrival of medical officer on J. FRED TALSOYT undoubtedly saved Hanken's life from pneumonia. "No words of mine can express my gratitude for what the Navy has done for our engineer," the Master of SAN DIEGO radioed Comperon.

CinCus and Commander Battle Force, are departing for temporary duty critique in joint Army and Navy exercises Presidio of Monterey, returning 31 January. Flag and administration remains in the California.

3.

Byrd Antarctica, A message from Admiral Byrd said that two plane flights in the vicinity of Marie Byrd Land last week indicated that a ship and seaplane remaining close to shore were apparently the best combination for exploring the Antarctic coastline. Flights made last Monday and Tuesday established the direction of fifty miles of unknown coastline Northeast of Sulzberger Bay, the Admiral said, after living in this extraordinary area for a week.

Allied American Expenditures, Great Britain and France, during October, the second month of the war, liquidated more than \$120,000,000 of their assets in this country for purchase of wartime supplies and materials, the Treasury Department revealed. Figures for November, December, and January were not available but officials estimated on the basis of airplane orders and other purchases, that the two nations probably had used up almost \$500,000,000 of their American holdings. British credits in the U.S. in the form of short term bank funds, brokerage balances, and securities are estimated at 5 to 6 billion dollars. French holdings are considerably less. British Prize Court, at Gibraltar authorized today

4.

seizure of 127,000 feet of pure nickel tubing from the American freighter EKAMELIA, on the grounds that it was suspected of being destined for Germany.

Lloyds of London, announced that 285 merchant vessels have been sunk since the start of the war to January 28. Of these 113 were neutral, 147 allied, including 133 British, 13 French, and 1 Polish. Neutral shipping totalled 335,832 tons, allied shipping 572,706 tons. Among the neutrals the Norwegians and Swedes have suffered the most.

U.S.S. OHL, proceeding from Charleston to aid NEOSHO with target.

German planes, are reported to have bombed the Latvian steamship TAUTMILA in the North Sea. Seven members of the crew are believed to be dead. Fifteen men and the wife of the Captain escaped.

British Naval Circles, said today that during the past five days German submarines had sunk three neutral ships without warning.

Grand Banks Patrol, discontinued by Commandant Coast Guard today.

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REPORT TO THE SECRETARY
30 January 1940

File

Total Enlisted Strength, 29 January 130,860

Fleet Reservists (Enlisted) on active duty ... 3,005

Other Reservists " " " " ... 797

Total 3,802

Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours) 184

Aggregate Discharges " " " 34

Net Increase 150

Retired Officers returned to active duty as of 30 Jan.:

Line Officers	291
Staff Officers	96
Warrant Officers	<u>31</u>
<u>Total</u>	418

Naval Reservists ordered to active duty for enforcement
of neutrality patrol as of 28 January:

<u>Officers</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Allowed</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Obligated</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Ordered</u>
Aviation Instructors	150	150	74
District Patrol Planes	128	0	0
Naval Intelligence	100	60	60
Miscellaneous	192	175	160
Ens. and Lieuts. (jg) with Fleet	200	200	110
Merchant Marine	<u>100</u>	<u>61</u>	<u>61</u>
<u>Total Officers</u>	870	646	465

<u>Men</u>			
District Patrol Planes	1024	0	0
Communications	120	62	62
Miscellaneous	<u>1606</u>	<u>347</u>	<u>347</u>
<u>Total Men</u>	2750	409	409

2. Marine Corps, Total Enlisted Strength, 30 Jan., 24,576.

Recruiting Activities for Week Ending January 26:

Number of applicants accepted for first enlistment, 1002
Number of first enlistments 592
Number of reenlistments within three
months (continuous service) 58
Number of reenlistments under broken service 51
Total Enlistments 701

Medical Shortage, Pearl Harbor. The Bureau of Medicine and Surgery reports that 120 additional beds are necessary at Pearl Harbor, T.H., to care for hospitalization of naval personnel which has increased in that area from 3000 to approximately 13,000. The present hospital is now overcrowded and the Medical Department is embarrassed for proper facilities to take care of patients. At present there are 272 patients at Pearl Harbor with an official bed capacity of 178. Temporary adjustments have been made to overcome the urgent necessity of two additional buildings.

Prince Bertil, head of the Swedish Trade Legation called on Admiral Stark this morning and would have called on the Secretary and the Assistant Secretary had they not been absent at Congressional Hearings.

Ice Breaking. U.S.C. SAGAMORE, (oceangoing tug) has

2. arrived at Cape Henry and will clear a channel from Chesapeake Bay to Baltimore, thence the Potomac River to Washington. The hydrographic office reports there is considerable ice in Chesapeake Bay from Yorkspit Channel to Baltimore, and heavy pack ice, one foot thick, from Bloody Point to and including Baltimore Channels. Vessels with normal power are able to get through with difficulty, but small vessels and river boats are not advised to attempt passage in ice 1" to 5" thick. In Baltimore heavy ice exists along the docks and shores. The Coast Guard Cutter HAUGATUCK is working in the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal and Elk River. Heavy ice jam on the Eastern Shore will cause considerable trouble to shipping should it break away before thawing. All navigational aids are becoming unreliable.

Marine Corps Enlistments, have passed the 24,500 mark and it is expected the limit of 25,000 at this time will be reached by the beginning of next week.

German planes, today were repeating their attacks on British shipping off the East Coast, the Air Ministry at London announced, which they launched yesterday with at least 18 planes. The German High Command announced

4. destruction of 9 British vessels yesterday, seven armed merchant ships and two patrol boats. British naval and air sources denied this.

Flex 6, Early reports coming from Culbra are that the Fleet Landing Exercises are going forward according to schedule.

Navy Air Fighters for British, The British Government has ordered 120 Navy type fighters from the Brewster Company. It is interesting to note that the first order placed by the British in this country for fighters is for a Navy type.

U.S. Motor Ship NORTH STAR, Has retired from the Ross Sea, having completed the unloading operations at the Bay of Whales. NORTH STAR encountered frequent icebergs, but is meeting little pack ice on her route back to Valparaiso, Chile. She expects to arrive there about 15 Feb.

Admiral Byrd, in the following message said: "Flying deep into the unknown of Antarctica one of the major objectives

has been achieved by charting more than 300 miles of heretofore unknown coast line east of Little America." In a 3-hour flight uncharted regions were reached beyond the Jacob Ruppert coast, a new mountain range was discovered, and added to the map were new mountain peaks, glaciers, and a partially snow-covered island 200 to 300 feet high.

~~Confidential~~

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY
31 January 1940

Total Enlisted Strength, 30 January 3,015

Fleet Reservists (Enlisted) on active duty ... 3,015

Other Reservists " " " " ... 806

Total 3,821

Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours) 177

Aggregate Discharges " " " 104

Net Increase 73

Retired Officers returned to active duty as of 31 Jan.:

Line Officers	291
Staff Officers	96
Warrant Officers	31
Total	418

Naval Reservists ordered to active duty for enforcement

of neutrality patrol as of 30 January:

Officers	Number Allowed	Number Obligated	Number Ordered
Aviation Instructors	150	150	74
District Patrol Planes	128	0	0
Naval Intelligence	100	60	60
Miscellaneous	192	176	161
Ens. and Lieuts. (Jg) with Fleet	200	200	110
Merchant Marine & Lt. D-V(G)	100	83	62
Total Officers	870	669	467
Men			
District Patrol Planes	1024	0	0
Communications	120	62	62
Miscellaneous	1606	267	267
Total Men	2750	329	329

2. RESCUED, has recovered target raft with aid of the OWL and is proceeding to Key West with raft in tow.

Ice breaking, U.S.S. SAGAMORE, is making slow progress up Chesapeake Bay and is now clearing the Channel at Annapolis.

Bids opened, Bureau of Yards and Docks on the Superstructure for Central office and Drafting Building, Navy Yard, Washington - 9 bids received, are as follows:

	<u>Item 1</u>	<u>Item 2</u>	<u>Item 3</u>
Harwood Hebel Const. Co.	\$443,000	\$421,000	\$387,000
Washington, D.C.			
John W. Hunt Co.	476,345	452,845	417,645
Washington, D.C.			
James Stewart & Co.	479,500	455,500	439,500
New York City			

For Magazines, Bonds, and Services at the Naval Ammunition Depot, Oahu, T.H. - 4 bids received - are as follows:

	<u>Item 1</u>
Fred J. Early Company	\$310,000
San Francisco, Calif.	
John Hansen	339,000
Honolulu, T.H.	
Escherick Brothers	343,900
Los Angeles, Calif.	

U.S.S. DIXIE (Destroyer Tender), notification has been received from New York Shipbuilding Company, Camden, New Jersey, that the DIXIE will be presented for official trials on 27 March.

1. U.S.S. ALABAMA, (BB60), keel will be laid at Norfolk Navy Yard, 1 February. Senator Byrd, Representative Darden, and Delegates from Alabama will be present at the ceremonies.

Byrd Antarctica. The U.S.S. BEAR emerged from the Antarctic ice pack late today after one of the narrowest escapes of a long career. Shuddering from stem to stern with each successive shock, the BEAR gradually carved herself a channel, backing and steaming into the ice at full speed.

The Admiral logged the 11-day cruise as one of the most important geographic adventures of his career. He will bring back to civilization photographs of a great elevated plateau, new glaciers, a 4000 foot mountain, 40 miles long, and a great, partially snow covered island.

Germs over Copenhagen. A German plane flew within 3 miles of Copenhagen today and was fired upon by guns at Copenhagen fort, it was announced officially.

Prime Minister Chamberlain. In his reply to Hitler today announced that the British Empire has upwards of 1,250,000 men under arms and that a German U-Boat was destroyed yesterday by British naval and air forces. Chamberlain said the destruction of the U-Boat resulted from the

4. First attack in a "long time" by a German sub on a British Naval Convoy. "Different from the Germans, we saved the majority of the crew", he announced. In the first 120 days of the war, he said, one British cruiser was at sea 102 days and one destroyer for 103 days in succession. Discussing Empire training plans, he said 67 air training schools would be established in Canada with a staff of 40,000 men. Upwards of 80 new or enlarged airdromes will be in service.

House Naval Affairs Committee, agreed tentatively on a limited two-year expansion program for the U.S. Fleet estimated to cost a total of about \$655,000,000. The Committee took the position that it was not hampering naval expansion by limiting what was originally planned as a \$1,300,000,000, six-year program.

U.S.S. RIDDLE and U.S.S. BARRY, are coming into Navy Yard, New York, for examination of propellers believed to be damaged by ice. Propellers will either be shifted or repaired.

Air raids British shipping, British have laid down a 400 mile mine barrage to stop the next German submarine wave. Air raids on shipping have taken 50 lives the last 2 days.

~~Confidential~~

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY
1 February 1940

File

Total Enlisted Strength, 31 January 131,104

Fleet Reservists (Enlisted) on active duty ... 3,016

Other Reservists " " " " ... 812

Total 3,828

Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours) 235

Aggregate Discharges " " " 87

Net Increase 148

Retired Officers returned to active duty as of 31 Jan.:

Line Officers	291
Staff Officers	96
Warrant Officers	31
<u>Total</u>	418

Naval Reservists ordered to active duty for enforcement
of neutrality patrol as of 30 January:

<u>Officers</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Allowed</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Obligated</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Ordered</u>
Aviation Instructors	150	150	74
District Patrol Planes	128	0	0
Naval Intelligence	100	60	60
Miscellaneous	192	176	161
Ens. and Lieuts. (jg) with Fleet	200	200	110
Merchant Marine & Lt. D-V(G)	100	83	62
<u>Total Officers</u>	870	669	467
<u>Men</u>			
District Patrol Planes	1024	0	0
Communications	120	62	62
Miscellaneous	1606	367	367
<u>Total Men</u>	2750	429	429

2.

Bureau of Yards and Docks, the following contract awards have been made:

Plumbing, drainage and fire protection for Turret and Erection Shop at the New York Navy Yard awarded to C. F. Mentsinger's Son, Inc., and Thomas E. O'Brien Co. Inc., of Brooklyn, New York, for \$71,400. Time of completion, 270 days.

Three storehouses at the Naval Air Station, Jacksonville, Florida, awarded to Hillyer and Lovan of Jacksonville, for \$654,564. Time of completion, 240 days.

Dredging, fill, bulkhead, seaplane ramp, paved area and boat pier at the Naval Air Station, Quonset Point, R.I. awarded to the Callan Construction Co., Inc., of Bristol, R.I., for \$177,777.77. Time of completion, 100 days.

Building construction for Turret and Erection Shops at the New York Navy Yard, awarded to the White Construction Co., Inc., of New York City, for \$458,400. Time of completion, 270 days.

Superstructure for Central Office and Drafting Building at the Navy Yard, Washington, D.C., awarded to the Harwood Nebel Construction Co., of Washington, D.C., for \$443,000. Time of completion, 180 days.

S. & A. Reports:

A contract has been awarded the General Electric Company for Main Propulsion Units for Battleship No. BB61 (IOWA) in the amount of \$2,369,811, with an option to order an additional unit within 180 days at a total cost of \$2,191,691.

A contract has also been awarded to the Westinghouse Electric Manufacturing Company for Main Propulsion Units for Battleship BB62 (NEW JERSEY) in the amount of \$2,280,661, with an option to order an additional unit within 180 days at a total of \$2,191,691.

2.

The difference between the prices being paid to the General Electric Company and the Westinghouse Electric Manufacturing Company represents the value of the thrust meters which are required for one ship only. The lower prices for the option units under each contract represent the saving in engineering costs and certain spares which will not be required for a second group of ships.

The Department of Labor All Commodity Wholesale Price Index for 27 January 1940 was 79.1 as compared with 79.3 on 20 January. Low for the fiscal year was 74.6 on 19 August 1939.

Experimental Piston Assemblies, extended tests have been conducted at the Engineering Experiment Station on forged aluminum alloy pistons with beveled compression rings for submarine diesel engines. These piston assemblies were prepared by General Motors Corporation, Cleveland, Ohio. Reports indicate that, with minor modifications, these pistons are suitable for the Naval Service for operation at rated loads for long periods of time without siezing or ring-sticking, and with very satisfactory figures for lubricating oil consumption.

USS OWL, has returned to Norfolk after helping the NEOSHO in recovering the target raft.

4.

U.S.S. SAGAMORE, breaking ice in Annapolis, has reached Piney Point in coming up to the Potomac.

Naval Reserve radiomen, Indications are that the field of procurement in the various Eastern radio stations for active duty is practically exhausted. Further assignments to such stations and to San Juan, Puerto Rico, are being procured from the Ninth Naval District where preliminary reports indicate there are sufficient volunteers to fill the expected emergency needs.

Helsinki talks peace, President Kallio told parliament today that Finland is ready to negotiate an honorable peace.

Sir Victor Sassoon, Shanghai capitalist reported to possess a fortune of 300 million dollars said today on arriving in San Francisco from the Orient: "The Japanese industrial scheme will collapse if America enforces trade restrictions against the nation. Japan knows that with

abrogation of the trade treaty, any steps it might take against the U.S. would be fatal. The business men and diplomats in Japan want peace in China and friendliness with the U.S., but there are other forces to be reckoned with. The Army wants to fight America, the Navy, which would have to do the fighting, does not. There is a startling lack of coordination in the present Japanese Government."

~~Confidential~~

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY
2 February 1940

Total Enlisted Strength, 1 February 131,123

Fleet Reservists (Enlisted) on active duty ... 3,016

Other Reservists " " " " ... 812

Total 3,828

Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours) 121

Aggregate Discharges " " " 105

Net Increase 16

Retired Officers returned to active duty as of 1 Feb.:

Line Officers	291
Staff Officers	96
Warrant Officers	31
Total	418

Naval Reservists ordered to active duty for enforcement
of neutrality patrol as of 1 February:

Officers	Number Allowed	Number Obligated	Number Ordered
Aviation Instructors	150	150	73
District Patrol Planes	128	0	0
Naval Intelligence	100	74	61
Miscellaneous	192	176	163
Ens. and Lieuts. (jg) with Fleet	200	200	110
Merchant Marine	100	86	70
Total Officers	870	686	477

Men

District Patrol Planes	1024	0	0
Communications	120	78	78
Miscellaneous	1606	484	484
Total Men	2750	562	562

2. Marine Corps, Total Enlisted Strength, 1 Feb., 24,784
Ice Breaking, U.S.S. SAGAMORE is clear again after being stuck in Potomac ice.
Schooner NELLO, in distress 50 miles from Southwest Pass, Gulf of Mobile with rudder and propeller gone, has asked for assistance. U.S.C.G. Cutter CARTAGENA is proceeding to her relief.
Admiral Byrd, has departed from the Bay of Whales for East Victoria Land.
Honorable Lewis Compton, was confirmed by the Senate as Assistant Secretary of the Navy today.
Marine Corps, The Major General Commandant will announce tomorrow that the authorized strength of 25,000 enlisted men has been reached. On 8 September when the President declared a limited national emergency, the Marine Corps had an enlisted strength of 18,277 men. In order to bring the strength of the Corps up to 25,000 in the shortest possible time, it was necessary to expand the recruiting service to the largest force it has had since 1920. Now that the Marine Corps has reached its goal the recruiting service is being reduced considerably as only a comparatively small force is necessary to maintain

the Corps at its new authorized strength. All parts of the U.S., however, will be within reach of Marine Corps recruiting stations. In view of the rate at which young men have been seeking entrance into the ranks of the Corps, it is expected that recruiting for some time to come will be from waiting lists of applicants which each station will maintain.
Naval Reserve radiomen, Since the beginning of the limited emergency the Navy Department has ordered 153 Naval Reserve radiomen to active duty throughout the Coastal Radio Stations, Cheltenham, Md., Pensacola, Winter Harbor, Me., Mare Island, etc. At present there are 10 Communications Reserve officers on active duty at various stations. The Bureau of Navigation is ordering three groups of 40 men each (radio and signalmen reserve) to the Naval Training Station, San Diego. The first class will convene on 4 March, to be followed by 2 classes, all to continue for a period of 30 days each. Duty with the fleet not to exceed one year including the training period will follow the 30 day classes. Of the total number ordered, approximately 90 are radiomen and 30 signalmen. All duty is voluntary. At present 850 reserve officers and 5,000 men are drilling once a week in radio and communication instruction. This

3.

4. force operates in 80 Government owned radio stations and 2,652 privately owned radio stations for training. It is believed by the Naval Communications Service that 1/3 of this force would be ready for immediate duty if necessary, 1/3 more within 30 days, and 1/3 within 60 days of training. Bureau of Construction and Repair, is making arrangements for a practical test on a battleship of the Fleet of dehumidifying material (silica gel) to learn whether corrosion in closed compartments can be reduced with corresponding saving in maintenance costs. This material has been used with success on merchant ships for keeping down damage by moisture to cargo.

S. & A. reports, contracts have been awarded the Kennecott Sales Corporation for 600,000 pounds of copper at the unit price of \$.1153 per pound, total \$69,180.00. This price reflects the recent reduction in the market price for copper and the previous price of \$.1254 per pound paid on 2 January 1940 under a contract for a comparable quantity and comparable point of delivery.

U.S.S. HUNT, SATTERLEE, McCALLA, RODGERS, and BANCROFT reported to Commander Atlantic Squadron for duty on 29 January.

~~Confidential~~

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY

5 February 1940

Total Enlisted Strength, 3 February 131,227

Fleet Reservists (Enlisted) on active duty ... 3,022

Other Reservists " " " " ... 814

Total 3,836

Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours) 109

Aggregate Discharges " " " 41

Net Increase 68

Retired Officers returned to active duty as of 5 February:

Line Officers	298
Staff Officers	98
Warrant Officers	<u>32</u>
<u>Total</u>	<u>428</u>

Naval Reservists ordered to active duty for enforcement
of neutrality patrol as of 3 February:

<u>Officers</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Allowed</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Obligated</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Ordered</u>
Aviation Instructors	150	150	75
District Patrol Planes	128	0	0
Naval Intelligence	100	74	69
Miscellaneous	192	176	163
Ens. and Lieuts. (jg) with Fleet	200	200	111
Merchant Marine and Lieut. D-V(G)	<u>100</u>	<u>87</u>	<u>70</u>
<u>Total Officers</u>	<u>870</u>	<u>687</u>	<u>488</u>

Men

District Patrol Planes	1024	0	0
Communications	120	78	78
Miscellaneous	<u>1606</u>	<u>484</u>	<u>484</u>
<u>Total Men</u>	<u>2750</u>	<u>562</u>	<u>562</u>

2. Recruiting Activities for week ending 2 February:

Number of applicants accepted for first enlistment, 994
Number of first enlistments 173
Number of reenlistments within three months
continuous service 53
Number of reenlistments under broken service .. 43
Total Enlistments 269

Sabotage on U.S.S. BROOME (DDC10), On 18 January while making preparations to get underway, and while conducting routine tests of main engines, the port engine locked when throttle was open in ahead direction and starboard engine locked in astern direction. Throttles continued to be operated under careful supervision. Both engines after again locking, appeared to free themselves and commenced to turn over. Loud knocking noises were heard in both reduction gears, and both engines were stopped immediately. Inspection of reduction gears indicated that the teeth on both gears had been gashed and damaged in several sections, as the result of a deliberate attempt to inflict damage. In the starboard reduction gear casing were found 2 socket wrenches, a 12 inch mill file and a file scraper. In the port reduction gear casing were found two 1 1/2 inch open end wrenches. Further investigation revealed that the oil inspection cup on after

port low pressure bearing had been filled with a coarse sand. The BROOME was unable to get underway until the reduction gear teeth had been repaired, the entire lubrication system cleaned and inspected, and bridge gauge and thrust clearance measurements had been taken. The cause of the derangement is obviously that of deliberate efforts of one or more persons, as yet unknown, to damage the main engines. Investigation of the circumstances is now in process and will be the subject of a further report. The time of the failure was 0945, 18 January, and was remedied at 1800, 19 January. The BROOME at present is at Charlotte Amalie, Virgin Islands.

Naval Construction, At present the Navy is building 239,370 tons in private shipyards of a total program of 498,790 tons. This information will appear shortly in the publication "Survey of Current Business".

Medical Selection Board, is convening for the first time today to select 8 Lieutenant Commanders to be Commanders and 11 Commanders to be Captains.

American Ambassador Nelson T. Johnson, said today on arriving at Shanghai from a cruise up the Yangtze River, that it was untrue that the American Gunboat LUZON in

4.

which he was a passenger had been fired on by Chinese artillery.

Swedish Economic Mission, has visited the Navy Department to request permission to buy and export from this country certain materials including: 90 paravanes for 16 knot auxiliary cruisers, 20 paravanes for 30 knot destroyers, 17 paravanes for 24 knot battleships, 24 paravanes for the Coast Guard, towed from the stern with depressors, 300 Momsen lungs, and 4 Motor Torpedo boats, 60' overall length.

British Shipping interests, trying to replace some of their war destroyed ^{tonnage}, have purchased or agreed to buy 18 American vessels aggregating 76,267 gross tons, the Maritime Commission records show. Since the war began the British have lost 147 merchant ships totalling 532,268 tons according to unofficial compilation. The French, whose merchant losses have been considerably less, have acquired or are about to purchase 14 American ships totalling 36,925 gross tons.

U.S.S. SEARAVEN, will leave Portsmouth 12 February on her shakedown cruise. Destroyer escort will be provided. At Coco Solo, C.Z. the SEARAVEN will receive her supply of torpedoes and ammunition.

~~Confidential~~

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY
6 February 1940

Total Enlisted Strength, 5 February 131,335
Fleet Reservists (Enlisted) on active duty ... 3,022
Other Reservists " " " " ... 814
Total 3,836
Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours) 142
Aggregate Discharges " " " " 35
Net Increase 107

Retired Officers returned to active duty as of 6 February:

Line Officers	300
Staff Officers	98
Warrant Officers	<u>32</u>
<u>Total</u>	430

Naval Reservists, ordered to active duty for enforcement of neutrality patrol as of 5 February:

<u>Officers</u>	<u>Number Allowed</u>	<u>Number Obligated</u>	<u>Number Ordered</u>
Aviation Instructors	150	150	75
District Patrol Planes	128	0	0
Naval Intelligence	100	74	69
Miscellaneous	192	176	163
Ens. and Lieuts.(jg) with Fleet	200	200	111
Merchant Marine and Lieut. D-V(G)	<u>100</u>	<u>87</u>	<u>70</u>
<u>Total Officers</u>	870	687	488

Men

District Patrol Planes	1024	0	0
Communications	120	78	78
Miscellaneous	<u>1606</u>	<u>484</u>	<u>484</u>
<u>Total Men</u>	2750	562	562

2. Italian Naval Attache, Captain Umberto Cugia, Marquis of Sant'Orsola, Honorary aide de camp to H.M. the King of Italy, and retiring attache to the United States called on the Secretary, the Assistant Secretary, and the Chief of Operations with his relief, Admiral Alberto Lais. U.S.S. CHAUMONT, under overhaul at Navy Yard, Norfolk, previously reported to leave 8 February, will remain in Norfolk for approximately 6 weeks more. The CHAUMONT is now restricted to transportation of military personnel and cargo only.

U.S.S. GILMER, will escort the submarines SCULPIN and SPANISH from Chesapeake Lightship to Key West. From Key West a ship will be designated from Key West Patrol to escort them to the Canal Zone.

U.S.S. MCCOOK, is enroute to Key West for Patrol Duty. She is the last of the East Coast destroyers that have been recommissioned to report for duty.

U.S.S. HUNT and SATTLEE, have reported to San Juan, Puerto Rico.

U.S.S. HARRY, when ready for sea will proceed to Annapolis to arrive there 8 February and report to the Superintendent of the Naval Academy for duty in connection with training of midshipmen.

U.S.S. SANTA RITA, is expected to arrive Norfolk 7 February. On board for passage are the prospective engineer and supply officers (previously reported). Maritime Commission personnel will leave the ship for return to New York as soon as practicable, after vessel's delivery to the Navy.

Flex 6, Commander Atlantic Squadron and Commander Air Scouting Force have deemed it practicable and realistic for 6 V.P.'s of Patrol Wing 3 to participate in Fleet Landing Force Exercises. This combination will advance to base exercises, Samana, Haiti, for period extending from 26 February to 8 March. The GEORGE E. BADGER or another tender will be made available for this duty. Patrol Squadron 33 will return to Guantanamo, complete loading and depart for Coco Solo 8 March to improve coordination of various types of vessels and aircraft participating in Flex 6 covering 6 VP's. Patrol Squadron 33 will participate in Flex 6 from 21 February to 6 March.

War Sinkings, 8 British ships totalling 25,069 tons and 6 neutral vessels totalling 17,546 tons were sunk by Germany during the week ending February 4, it was announced officially in London.

4.

Bureau of Yards and Docks, reports contract has been let for magazines, roads, and services at the Naval Ammunition Depot, Oahu, T.H., to the Fred J. Early Company, San Francisco, California, for \$217,000. Time: 270 calendar days.

U.S.S. MUSTIN (DD413), will be based at Navy Yard, Norfolk, until 1 March undergoing repairs and alterations. From 1-8 March she will operate at discretion in preparation for final trials off Boston, after which she will return to Norfolk for post trial examination. From 23-29 March she will proceed to Newport and undergo test torpedo firings.

Italian Planes for Finland, in large numbers were refused transit across Germany, it was reliably reported from Paris today and have been sent to the Finns by way of France.

Canadian Pacific, Steamship Line announced today that all but one of the 77-man crew of the 9,874 ton liner BEAVERBURN had been rescued after the ship was torpedoed by a submarine off the Southwest Coast of England.

Russian Parachute troops, A detachment of 50 more were reported wiped out by the Finns today.

~~Confidential~~

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY

7 February 1940

file

Total Enlisted Strength, 6 February 131,383

Fleet Reservists (Enlisted) on active duty ... 3,023

Other Reservists " " " " ... 874

Total 3,897

Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours) 50

Aggregate Discharges " " " " 63

Net Loss 13

Retired Officers returned to active duty as of 7 February:

Line Officers	300
Staff Officers	98
Warrant Officers	<u>32</u>
<u>Total</u>	430

Naval Reservists, ordered to active duty for enforcement
of neutrality patrol as of 6 February:

<u>Officers</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Allowed</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Obligated</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Ordered</u>
Aviation Instructors	150	150	75
District Patrol Planes	128	0	0
Naval Intelligence	100	74	69
Miscellaneous	192	176	163
Ens. and Lieuts. (jg) with Fleet	200	200	111
Merchant Marine and Lieut. D-V(G)	100	<u>87</u>	<u>70</u>
<u>Total Officers</u>	870	687	488
<u>Men</u>			
District Patrol Planes	1024	0	0
Communications	120	78	78
Miscellaneous	<u>1606</u>	<u>484</u>	<u>484</u>
<u>Total Men</u>	2750	562	562

2.
U.S.S. PATOKA, (aircraft tender), left San Diego on 5 February and will arrive at the Canal Zone 20 February. She will be assigned to Patrol Wing 5 operating out of San Juan, Puerto Rico.

War Sinkings. The British passenger-cargo steamer MUNSTER 4,305 tons, has been sunk, London announced today. It is not known yet whether the ship was mined or torpedoed. All passengers and members of the crew totalling about 200 were saved and landed at an English port.

U.S.S. OMAHA, is relieving the ST. LOUIS on the Middle Atlantic Patrol.

U.S.S. SEPULGA, (oiler), was commissioned at Mare Island on 5 February.

U.S.S. YUKON, (storeship), reported to the Commander in Chief U.S. Fleet for duty and departed from New York for the Caribbean with stores and provisions for the Atlantic Squadron.

U.S.S. KENAYDIN, (oceangoing tug), and UNDAUNTED (harbor tug) are being altered for ice breaking purposes and will be completed tomorrow.

U.S.S. MacKENZIE, WELLES, WILLIAMS, and BAILEY will arrive Canal Zone 17 February from the West Coast, will

report to the Commander Atlantic Squadron for Patrol duty.

Aviation Training, (lighter than air), The Chief of the Bureau of Navigation has issued instructions for the fiscal year 1941. A class of 6 officers will convene at the Naval Air Station, Lakhurst, New Jersey, about 1 July 1940. Candidates in submitting their applications shall have them endorsed by a flight surgeon that they are physically qualified for this duty. Officers of the classes of 1936, 1937, and 1938 are particularly desired.

Bureau of Yards and Docks, the following contract awards have been made:

Dredging, filling, bulkhead, seaplane ramp, and small boat pier at the Naval Aviation Patrol Base, Floyd Bennett Field, Long Island, New York, awarded to Graves-Quinn Corp., of New York City for \$74,800. Time of completion 60 calendar days.

Heating, ventilating and service piping systems for Turret and Erection Shop at the New York Navy Yard awarded to Almirall and Co., Inc., of New York City for \$34,322. Time of completion, 270 days.

Bachelor officers' quarters, barracks, storehouse and

4.
dispensary for Naval Aviation Patrol at the Naval Air Station, Banana River, Florida, awarded to J.M. Raymond Construction Co., of Jacksonville for \$155,140. Time of completion, 150 days.

Postponement of Bids, The Navy Department's advertisement of December 1, 1939 is further amended to provide that the bids for constructing two Light Cruisers will be opened February 16, 1940 instead of February 9, 1940.

Contraband Control, The Ministry of Economic Warfare announced in London today that as of February 6 there were 30 neutral ships in 3 United Kingdom contraband control bases. They included 14 Dutch ships, 5 Belgian, 4 Norwegian, 3 Swedish, 1 Panamanian, 1 Italian, 1 Portuguese, and 1 Argentinian.

Portsmouth, N.H., A U.S. Marine from Georgia was held in \$5,000 bail today on charges of aggravated assault on another Marine who lay near-death at a hospital with a stab wound in his left shoulder. It was alleged in Municipal Court that Private Perry Edwards, 22, of Dublin, Georgia, had stabbed his companion, B.F. Brown, also from Georgia, last night at the Portsmouth Naval Prison where both men were stationed. The case was continued until Friday.

~~Confidential~~

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY
8 February 1940

Total Enlisted Strength, 7 February 131,434
Fleet Reservists (Enlisted) on active duty ... 3,032
Other Reservists " " " " ... 877
Total 3,909
Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours) 55
Aggregate Discharges " " " 16
Net Increase 39

Retired Officers returned to active duty as of 8 February:

Line Officers	300
Staff Officers	99
Warrant Officers	32
Total	431

Naval Reservists ordered to active duty for enforcement of neutrality patrol as of 7 February:

Officers	Number Allowed	Number Obligated	Number Ordered
Aviation Instructors	150	150	75
District Patrol Planes	128	0	0
Naval Intelligence	100	74	69
Miscellaneous	192	176	165
Ens. and Lieuts. (jg) with Fleet	200	200	111
Merchant Marine and Lieut. D-V(G)	100	87	70
Total Officers	870	687	490
Men			
District Patrol Planes	1024	0	0
Communications	120	78	78
Miscellaneous	1606	484	484
Total Men	2750	562	562

2. S. & A. Reports, the Department of Labor All Commodity price index for the week ending 3 February was 78.6, off .3 from 27 January.

Bureau of Yards and Docks, contract awards since 1 July 1939 are as follows:

	Number of Contracts	Amount of Contracts
July 1 to December 31	298	\$74,506,502.47
January	45	3,773,898.02

U.S.S. ROE (DD413), shakedown cruise (previously reported) has been approved. The ROE will leave Norfolk on 19 April touching at San Juan, Pernambuco, La Guaira, Colon, Guantanamo, and Jacksonville, arriving New York 10 June. Diplomatic negotiations have been initiated for the visits to Pernambuco (Brazil) and La Guaira (Venezuela).

Germany reports enemy ship losses, An official Berlin news agency communique said today that Germany had lost 42 merchant ships, totalling 236,957 tons, between the start of the war and 31 January. Losses were specified as follows: confiscated in enemy harbors, 13,196 tons; captured by the enemy, 82,236 tons; scuttled to prevent enemy capture, 141,525 tons. The High Command announced that since the start of the war "enemy and neutral mer-

chant marine losses caused by war measures of the German Navy alone", totalled 409 ships, representing 1,439,431 tons up to 31 January. The official news agency also estimated enemy and neutral merchant ship losses between 21 December and 31 January: "according to confirmed reports," 371,898 tons; "according to reports which in all probability may be included in total losses," 91,898 tons; making a total of 463,796 tons. These claims of the first five months of the war that allied and neutral countries had lost 409 ships were refuted in authoritative London quarters. The British said that up to February 5th the Allies and neutrals had lost 274 ships.

Unfilled Airplane Orders, In three San Diego factories reached a new high of \$43,000,000, as contracts from the U.S. and foreign governments for military and naval planes continued to come in. Officials of the Consolidated, Ryan and Solar Aircraft Companies said employment had reached a new peak at all three plants and that by 1 July approximately 4,100 persons would be added to the 5,365 already working.

Conference on Organization of the Navy Department, was held today aboard the U.S.S. SEQUOIA. Those present

4.
included the Secretary of the Navy, the Assistant Secretary, Admiral Stark, Rear Admirals Robinson and Woodson, and Captains Fisher and Deyo.

U.S.S. SIMS (DD409), while holding training runs on 5 February in preparation for final trials wiped forward and after bearings on her starboard turbine. Severe damage to turbine is indicated and the SIMS has gone into Navy Yard, Boston, for repair work.

Competitive Examination for appointment in the Dental Corps, to select not more than 20 will be held on 8 July 1940, at the Naval Medical School, Washington, D. C., Naval Training Station, Great Lakes, and Naval Training Station, San Diego. A candidate for appointment in the Dental Corps must be a citizen of the U. S., between 21 and 32 years of age at the time of appointment, and a graduate of a standard dental college.

Prime Minister Chamberlain, told the House of Commons today that further aid was enroute to Finland. He also stated that in addition to the U-Boat sunk recently (previously reported) while attacking a convoy, another was so badly damaged that it is doubtful if it could return to base.

~~Confidential~~

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY

9 February 1940

Total Enlisted Strength, 8 February 131,404

Fleet Reservists (Enlisted) on active duty ... 3,040

Other Reservists " " " " ... 881

Total 3,921

Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours) 113

Aggregate Discharges " " " 155

Net Loss 42

Retired Officers returned to active duty as of 9 February:

Line Officers	300
Staff Officers	100
Warrant Officers	32
<u>Total</u>	<u>432</u>

Naval Reservists ordered to active duty for enforcement of neutrality patrol as of 8 February:

Officers	Number Allowed	Number Obligated	Number Ordered
Aviation Instructors	150	150	75
District Patrol Planes	128	0	0
Naval Intelligence	100	74	69
Miscellaneous	192	176	165
Ens. and Lieuts. (jg) with Fleet	200	200	111
Merchant Marine and Lieut. D-V(G)	<u>100</u>	<u>87</u>	<u>70</u>
<u>Total Officers</u>	<u>870</u>	<u>687</u>	<u>490</u>

Men	Number	Number	Number
District Patrol Planes	1024	0	0
Communications	120	78	78
Miscellaneous	<u>1606</u>	<u>484</u>	<u>484</u>
<u>Total Men</u>	<u>2750</u>	<u>562</u>	<u>562</u>

Marine Corps, Total Enlisted Personnel, 8 Feb., 25,065

Marine Corps, Total Officer Personnel, 8 Feb., 1,419

Regular Navy Officer Personnel, as of 1 February:

Line Officers	6,677
Staff Officers	2,156
Warrant Officers	1,621
<u>Total</u>	10,454

Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, reports temporary buildings erected for the Naval Hospitals are rapidly nearing completion. The first buildings will be commissioned today at Norfolk, Virginia, where they will be utilized immediately for relieving the serious overcrowded conditions of that hospital. Other buildings soon to be ready will be utilized in the same way.

Honorable Lewis Compton, was sworn in today as Assistant Secretary of the Navy.

Astronomical Determinations, of geographical positions will be made in the Bahamas by 2 officers who will survey lights and other aids to navigation, depending on the consent of the British. Some lights are believed to be as much as 5 miles out of position and are serious hazards to navigation. The survey party will leave Key West about 1 March and will be taken to different points by ships of the neutrality patrol. It is estimated

that this work will be finished in less than two months.

At times it will be necessary for the survey to camp out. U.S.N.R. gunnery trophy, was awarded to the 4th Division, U.S. Naval Reserve, 12th Naval District at Oakland, California. This division obtained the highest graded merit (100,000) of the 137 divisions which fired Naval Reserve battle practice during the year 1939-40. It will be awarded the gunnery trophy now in the possession of the 22nd Division, New York, 3rd Naval District. The 11th Division, at Buffalo, stood second with a graded merit of 85,613. The 3rd Division, of Washington, stood third with 82,038. Eleven divisions were not given an opportunity to fire because their cruises were cut short when cruise ships were assigned to neutrality duty.

War Sinking, The British steamer CHAGRES, 5,406 tons, was sunk by enemy action off the northwest coast of England early today.

Maritime Commission, announced that six additional high speed tankers which could be used to fuel the Navy in time of war will be constructed soon. The ships are part of a 24-tanker program being undertaken by private operators with the Maritime Commission paying the cost of defense

4. features. The six vessels will be built by the Socony-Vacuum Corporation, Inc., of New York.

Turkish Shipyards, have put marine guards to watch over German Naval Engineers who are fitting engines in two submarines for the Turkish Navy, British circles said today. A Daily Mail dispatch said that there was a steady flow of German residents from Turkey, especially among the wealthy commercial class. A later dispatch said that 30 German engineers at Turkish shipyards were told that their services were no longer needed.

Helsinki, officially denied a Russian break through the Mannerheim Line.

Chinese Military Authorities, asserted that Japanese casualties since the war started have totalled 362,500 killed and 1,087,900 wounded.

Net loss to British Merchant Marine tonnage, after matching purchases and new construction against captures and sinkings during the first five months of the war, totalled only 134,000 tons, or less than 2% of British tonnage, an Admiralty statement said. Nevertheless over 500,000 tons of British Merchant shipping were reported sunk, 62,000 French, and neutral tonnage of 339,000. British Merchant tonnage totals 21,000,000.

~~Confidential~~

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY

12 February 1940

Total Enlisted Strength, 10 February 131,444

Fleet Reservists (Enlisted) on active duty ... 3,043

Other Reservists " " " " ... 889

Total 3,932

Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours) 90

Aggregate Discharges " " " 61

Net Increase 29

Retired Officers returned to active duty as of 12 February:

Line Officers	300
Staff Officers	100
Warrant Officers	32
<u>Total</u>	<u>432</u>

Naval Reservists ordered to active duty for enforcement

of neutrality patrol as of 10 February:

Officers	Number Allowed	Number Obligated	Number Ordered
Aviation Instructors	150	150	75
District Patrol Planes	128	0	0
Naval Intelligence	100	54	54
Miscellaneous	192	169	160
Ens. and Lieuts. (jg) with Fleet	200	200	111
Merchant Marine and Lieut. D-V(G)	100	87	70
<u>Total Officers</u>	<u>870</u>	<u>660</u>	<u>470</u>
<u>Men</u>			
District Patrol Planes	1024	0	0
Communications	120	78	78
Miscellaneous	1606	486	486
<u>Total Men</u>	<u>2750</u>	<u>564</u>	<u>564</u>

2. Recruiting Activities for week ending 9 February:

Number of applicants accepted for first enlistment 931
Number of first enlistments 968
Number of reenlistments within three
months (continuous service) 59
Number of reenlistments under broken service. 45
Total Enlistments1072

The Bureau of Supplies and Accounts has awarded a contract to the Douglas Aircraft Company, Santa Monica, California, for services and material in reconditioning airplanes to the amount of \$269,024.

U.S.S. SQUALUS, which is being reconditioned to be placed in service again has been renamed the SAILFISH.

Cables tested on SQUALUS. A question of considerable importance in connection with reconditioning the SQUALUS was the effect salt water immersion may have had on the insulation of electric cables. Upon raising the SQUALUS, 120 samples, representing all locations and types of cables installed, were removed and tested for resistance and voltage breakdown. The samples were tested first in exactly the condition as removed, and second after washing with fresh water and drying out. The purpose of these tests was to determine the actual value of the Navy's cable insulation development program of the past few years.

The results were that all samples as removed easily with-^{3.} stood breakdown voltages greater than those required of commercial cables, and after drying regained practically all their original resistance and dielectric strength. Practically, this means that the entire cable installation could be cleaned by washing with fresh water and operated "as is" with entire safety. After a short period of operation the drying out would have been finished and the cable would have returned almost to the condition of new cable.

Naval Reserves, have volunteered for shore and sea duty for the period of the emergency in the ratio of about two to one for the number of jobs available to date. Merchant Marine Reserve School, on board the U.S.S. SEATTLE graduated 10 in the first class. Five others who started the course could not complete it, being assigned to ships and having to go to sea. The second class started 29 January with 10 students. The original intention was to have the Maritime Commission pay the officers of their ships while attending school, but now that the Maritime Commission has no officers to send, students must be paid by ships' owners. Considerable

ouble is being experienced in getting private companies send officers to school and pay them while there for various reasons. A next best plan is being considered to train cadet officers at this school as their loss to ships not so important, nor is their pay a heavy factor in delaying their release from ships operating.

Board of Investigation, on the U.S.S. ROWAN concerning the death of Lieutenant J.K. Morrison is completed. Proceedings are being forwarded to the Navy Department by airmail. Death was determined to be in line of duty and not result from own misconduct.

Aircraft Industry, reports mass delivery of thousands of planes ordered by the U.S. and foreign countries will be completed within the next 30 days, in the greatest mass production era of its history. Authoritative sources said that aircraft plants, working at full capacity have filled foreign and domestic orders for 1,450 combat planes and will must complete production of 7,700 more for the Army, Navy, and foreign governments. British and French orders approximate 5,000 planes, 1,100 of which it is estimated have already been delivered or completed and waiting delivery.

~~Confidential~~

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY

13 February 1940

Total Enlisted Strength, 12 February 131,698

Fleet Reservists (Enlisted) on active duty .. 3,046

Other Reservists " " " " .. 894

Total 3,940

Aggregate Enlistments (Last 24 hours) 179

Aggregate Discharges " " " " 42

Net Increase 137

Retired Officers returned to active duty as of 13 February:

Line Officers	300
Staff Officers	100
Warrant Officers	<u>32</u>
<u>Total</u>	<u>432</u>

Naval Reservists ordered to active duty for enforcement

of neutrality patrol as of 12 February :

<u>Officers</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Allowed</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Obligated</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Ordered</u>
Aviation Instructors	150	150	75
District Patrol Planes	128	0	0
Naval Intelligence	100	54	54
Miscellaneous	192	169	160
Ens. and Lieuts. (jg) with Fleet	200	200	111
Merchant Marine and Lieut. D-V(G)	<u>100</u>	<u>37</u>	<u>70</u>
<u>Total Officers</u>	<u>370</u>	<u>660</u>	<u>470</u>

Men

District Patrol Planes	1024	0	0
Communications	120	73	73
Miscellaneous	<u>1606</u>	<u>486</u>	<u>486</u>
<u>Total Men</u>	<u>2750</u>	<u>564</u>	<u>564</u>

2.

U.S.S. WASP (aircraft carrier), left Fore River Shipyard yesterday for South Boston drydock, where she will be overhauled in preparation for official trials off Rockland, Maine.

Naval attache to Venezuela, Lieutenant Fitchugh Lee has orders to the American Embassy at Caracas. This is one of the newly created posts.

Letters of Commendation, have gone out from the Bureau of Navigation to the four top ranking Naval Reserve units (previously reported) in the 1939-1940 Reserve Battle Practice.

1940 Supplemental Appropriation Bill, was signed by the President today.

Maritime Commission announced that it has asked for construction bids on two luxury liners, capable of being converted quickly into aircraft carriers. They are to be used in Pacific Ocean routes. Previously the Commission announced that 6 additional high speed tankers which could be used to fuel the Navy in time of war will be constructed in the near future. The ships are part of 24-tanker program being undertaken by private operators with the Commission paying cost of national defense

features. The six vessels will be built by the Socony-Vacuum Oil Co., Inc., of New York.

U.S.S. ROWAN, one day delayed on shakedown cruise will arrive Aruba 16 February. The executive officer of the ROWAN has become Commanding Officer of the SEALION, replacing Lt. Morrison, deceased.

U.S.S. KEWAYDIN, (oceangoing tug), has orders to break the ice on East and West shores of Chesapeake Bay and around Solomon's Island.

Antilles Detachment, Orders are going out to get the ships of this division back to their regular assignments about 1 March.

British Naval forces in the South Atlantic, confirmed the scuttling of the German merchant ship WAKAMA, 3,771 tons, when intercepted by a British cruiser, one of three operating off Brazil. British warships were pursuing other German freighters attempting to reach home from South Atlantic ports.

War Sinkings, 5 allied and neutral ships were lost in the war zone, as follows, in the past 24 hours: British trawler THERESA, 224 tons, sunk by German planes; Norwegian freighter, NIDERHOLM, 3,432 tons, mined or tor-

3.

4.
pedoed; Swedish steamer ORENIA, 1,854 tons, torpedoed;
Esthonian steamer LINDA; 1,213 tons, torpedoed; Swedish
steamer DALARO, 3,927 tons, torpedoed.

10,000 additional men, were needed by the Admiralty to
man trawlers, drifters, and sweepers engaged in patrolling
and minesweeping. Since the start of the war an original
10,000 have enlisted for this service and at present are
joining up at the rate of 300 per week.

Naval Appropriation Bill, carrying \$966,772,878 was re-
ceived by the House today. It includes funds for 19
new fighting ships, among them 2 - 45,000 ton battleships,
and 352 airplanes.

Six German Merchantmen are attempting to run the blockade
to home ports from Spanish waters. They are said to be
the WANGONI, 7,848 tons; WAHEHE, 4,709 tons; ORIZABA,
4,354 tons; ROSTOCK, 2,542 tons; ARULAS, 3,369 tons;
and MOREA, 1,927 tons.

Swedish Purchasing Mission, has contracted 144 late
model American fighting planes, involving \$10,000,000,
the largest foreign order outside of those to Great
Britain and France.

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REPORT TO THE SECRETARY

14 February 1940

Total Enlisted Strength, 13 February 131,851

Fleet Reservists (Enlisted) on active duty ... 3,046

Other Reservists " " " " ... 894

Total 3,940

Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours) 217

Aggregate Discharges " " " " 64

Net Increase 153

Retired Officers returned to active duty as of 14 Feb.:

Line Officers 302

Staff Officers 100

Warrant Officers 32

Total 434

Naval Reservists ordered to active duty for enforcement
of neutrality patrol as of 13 February:

<u>Officers</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Allowed</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Obligated</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Ordered</u>
Aviation Instructors	150	150	71
District Patrol Planes	128	0	0
Naval Intelligence	100	56	56
Miscellaneous	192	169	161
Ens. and Lieuts. (jg) with Fleet	200	200	113
Merchant Marine and Lieut. D-V(G)	<u>100</u>	<u>87</u>	<u>69</u>
<u>Total Officers</u>	<u>870</u>	<u>662</u>	<u>470</u>

Men

District Patrol Planes	1024	0	0
Communications	120	78	78
Miscellaneous	<u>1606</u>	<u>486</u>	<u>486</u>
<u>Total Men</u>	<u>2750</u>	<u>564</u>	<u>564</u>

2.
Fifteen Ensigns (Supply Corps), received commissions for appointment as Assistant Paymasters, 10 from the Naval R.O.T.C. and 5 from the Harvard School of Business Administration. These officers have been ordered to the Naval Finance and Supply School, Philadelphia, for a course of instruction.

Deadly 64, TWIGGS (F), WICKES, PHILIP, and EVANS have returned to their regular stations at Key West after having served with the Antilles Detachment.

U.S.S. MASON, departed from Key West and is en route to join the Caribbean Patrol bases at San Juan, P.R.

Germany has the right to torpedo American ships, an authorized Nazi source said today, if they enter Gibraltar for contraband inspection while en route to the Mediterranean, either voluntarily or under compulsion. British warships "without any right or justification whatsoever" are compelling neutral ships to enter British harbors instead of searching them on the high seas, "thereby creating a new British right for themselves".

War Sinkings, the British oil tanker, GREYFIELD, 10,191 tons, was sunk off the Northeast Coast of Scotland early today.

U.S.S. TUSCALOOSA, and destroyers LANG and JOUETT anchored in Pensacola Bay at 8 A.M., ostensibly for fuel and liberty. Officers refused to comment when asked if the President would embark at Pensacola.

Pan American Airways, said today that Bermuda was the only place along their route where the British were opening and censoring mail carried by Pan American clippers. Winston Churchill, said in Commons that within a month or six weeks every vessel trading in the North Sea would be armed with guns "to resist murderous attacks."

Protest of the American Republics against violation of the safety zone around the Western Hemisphere was officially rejected by the German government as the "British and French showed no serious desire of endorsing it." The British and French notes, though cordial, suggested the safety zone could be maintained only if German ships were kept out of it by effective patrol.

Naval Expansion Bill, authorizing \$654,902,270 to increase the U.S. Fleet was submitted to the House today in the midst of debate on the \$966,772,878 Naval Appropriation Bill. If the expansion is voted, another appropriation will have to be passed later to start build-

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ing the ships, as this bill carried no funds.

Ministry of Economic Warfare, at London revealed that American shipments of foodstuffs and clothing destined for German-occupied Poland had been stopped to prevent their falling into German hands.

American Japanese difficulties, were concerned mostly with incidents in China, Foreign Minister Arita said today. These included 149 protests in connection with air raids, 73 concerning damage or occupation of American property, others concerning American casualties, Chinese Maritime customs, salt administration, exchange control, railway administration, reopening of the Yangtze, and the right to trade in the interior of China.

Bill permitting \$20,000,000 credit to Finland, was received in Helsinki with reserved gratification because the credits were restricted to non-military purposes. South Magnetic Pole, has shifted if observations made by Admiral Byrd prove correct. New position for the Pole is not definitely established, but indications are it has moved in a westerly direction from positions reported since 1909. Byrd reserved further comment, pending more detailed analysis of his calculations.

The President left
Wash on Feb 14th.
No reports were sent
after that date until
March 1st

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NAVY DEPARTMENT
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OFFICIAL BUSINESS

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID
PAYMENT OF POSTAGE, \$300

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General 2/15/40 by
S. E. and ordered filed S. E.

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REPORT TO THE SECRETARY
(Recapitulation 15 February - 1 March)
For the President

Gruisers Cleveland and Columbia, 10,000 tons, bids were opened today. The last two combatant vessels for which money was appropriated in the 1940 budget. They are similar to the ST. LOUIS class, being armed with 6" guns.

Bids were as follows:

Bethlehem Steel Company \$19,200,000 - 36 months (1 ship)
18,190,000 - 36 to 39 months
(2 ships)

New York Shipbuilding Corp. \$20,425,000 - 36 mos. (1 ship)
17,990,000 - 36 to 39 months
(2 ships)

(16 February)

U.S.S. SIMS, Casualty to starboard H.P. turbine (previously reported). Turbine forced open at Navy Yard, Boston, after removal from the ship disclosed that in 5 of the 7 Rateau stages the locking pieces had completely failed. The 5th row of Rateau blading was destroyed and severe damage sustained by other rows. The rotor was so severely damaged as to require renewal and it may be necessary to renew the casing as well. From investigation it appears casualty was due to material failure, probably of the locking piece in the 5th Rateau stage. Turbine had been operated according to approved instructions. SIMS was built by Bath Iron Works which has authorized the Navy Yard, Bos-

2. ton, to return the damaged turbine to the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Co. Bureau of Engineering considers that repairs are contractor's responsibility. It will take six months to effect them. Meanwhile SMS can operate at all speeds both shafts. (19 February)

Surplus Ordnance Material, Bureau of Ordnance reports Admiral Wijkmark, Swedish Navy, Technical Assistant to the Swedish Purchasing Mission and Aide to Prince Bertil, and Mr. Gabrielson, the Civilian Chief of the Mission, called on the Chief of the Bureau of Ordnance in connection with obtaining surplus ordnance material. They were shown the list of surplus material, copy of which was recently furnished the Secretary of the Navy. They were also shown samples or drawings of several of the items on the list such as Lewis machine guns, Browning automatic rifles, mines, and torpedoes. The prices quoted ranged from 10% to 50% of original cost. Considerable interest was evidenced in this material by Admiral Wijkmark and the Chief of Purchase Bureau, and they have cabled their government the information furnished them.

(26 February)
P.C. 450 (110' wooden subchaser, diesel driven) will be launched 7 March, the American Car and Foundry Company announces from Wilmington, Del. Trials will begin about

17 March. (26 February)

5.
U.S.S. WASP (aircraft carrier), has completed her preliminary trials excepting the 4 hour full power, the rudder tests, and the crash ahead and astern tests. On the last run of her full power standardization run, one intermediate receiver pipe split. This contributed to a slow mile, but the average was still 30.73 knots against a contract of 29.5 knots. The ship, without mishap, could have made 31.5 knots. Astern speed of 22.5 knots was made on 35,000 shaft horsepower. The split pipe was brazed and all economy runs except full power were made. The company earned its maximum fuel bonus about seven times over. The ship has gone back to Fore River for completion. Permanent repairs will be made to the receiver pipe, and 4 hour full power runs, rudder tests, and crash tests will be made just before the ship is delivered. Results to date are considered very good, as unfavorable weather conditions prevailed during trials. Delivery expected 15 April. (26 February)

Explosion gases, A request made of the British Admiralty for information as to their method of venting explosive gases from turrets met with a proposal to furnish our Navy with the information on an exchange basis. This is going

4. ahead. The Bureau of Construction and Repair has made some experiments in this connection by causing explosions in an experimental chamber, with unsatisfactory results. In view of British experience with shell explosions in the turrets of the EXETER it is thought they may have more effective arrangements than ours. (29 February)

U.S.S. WICHITA, The few defects found in the WICHITA subsequent to her departure from Philadelphia Navy Yard on 25 September and now the subject of criticism in the Philadelphia press are nothing more than may be found and corrected in the first vessel of a new class within her first year of service. The defects, none serious, are as follows: (a) Salt Water Piping, 2" piping and above developed some leaks. It was considered preferable to make 100% replacement as soon as trouble started to avoid future periodic breakdowns of fire and flushing mains. (b) Gasoline tank leaks, minor, essential to repair at an early date. (c) Reduction gear, evidence of slight misalignment of #1 main reduction gear shaft. Operation of the gear up to the present has been satisfactory. The ship has operated successfully at speeds up to full power. A further increase in vibration has been observed recently and to preclude damage the speed of the ship has been limited to 26 knots. The ship will be ordered to the Navy Yard, Philadelphia, for further investigation and corrective work when the operating schedule permits.

(1 March)

~~Confidential~~

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY

4 March 1940

fw
Total Enlisted Strength, 2 March 133,493

Fleet Reservists (Enlisted) on active duty ... 3,082

Other Reservists " " " " ... 946

Total 4,028

Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours) 126

Aggregate Discharges " " " " 99

Net Increase 27

Retired Officers returned to active duty as of 4 March:

Line Officers 302

Staff Officers 101

Warrant Officers 32

Total 435

Naval Reservists ordered to active duty for enforcement

of neutrality patrol as of 2 March:

<u>Officers</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Allowed</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Obligated</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Ordered</u>
Aviation Instructors	150	150	71
District Patrol Planes	128	0	0
Naval Intelligence	100	57	56
Miscellaneous	192	172	163
Ens. and Lieuts. (jg) with Fleet	200	200	109
Merchant Marine and Lieuts. Afloat	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>86</u>
<u>Total Officers</u>	870	679	485

Men

District Patrol Planes	750	340	0
Communications	120	78	78
Miscellaneous	<u>900</u>	<u>890</u>	<u>490</u>
<u>Total Men</u>	1770	1308	568

2. U.S.S. THRESHOLD (SS200), is scheduled for launching at Electric Boat Company, Groton, Conn., 27 March 1940.

Maritime Commission. The war is helping the American Merchant Marine by providing an opportunity to sell overage ships at good prices. Foreign countries are buying these ships and the proceeds are going into new construction. The U.S. should emerge from the war with the most up-to-date merchant marine afloat. Since the outbreak of war in Europe, 98 ships totalling 500,000 tons have been sold to foreign purchasers. Of the transfers, 57 have taken place since the Neutrality Act was passed.

U.S.S. O'BRIEN, was placed in full commission, 2 March, at Navy Yard, Boston.

Resdiv 18 (DAVIS, BENHAM, SELET) enroute to West Coast has been sent to assistance of the TIMBER HUSH, cargo ship with Navy freight, aground 85 miles south of Acapulco, halfway between San Diego and the Canal Zone.

U.S.S. HUNT, left St. Thomas 4 March, to Vieques for survey duty.

Bureau S. & A., reports Department of Labor All Commodity Price Index for the week ending 24 February was 78.6, a rise of .3 from the previous week.

U.S.S. SALINAS, sighted and investigated two abandoned thirty foot lifeboats at Latitude 17-34 N., Longitude 69-43 W. One was capsized, and unidentified. The other had a nameplate, HAPAG, trade mark of North German Lloyd-Hamburg America Lines.

U.S.S. NIBLACK (DD424), is scheduled to be launched at the Bath Iron Works on 27 March.

U.S.S. BEAR, Byrd Expedition, Lt. Comdr. Cruzen, Commanding, discovered six small unknown islands off the coast of Alexander Land, 800 miles south of Cape Horn on 3 March 1940.

Floating Hose. The Navy is conducting tests of floater hose for fueling vessels. It has been difficult in fueling at sea to provide hose long and strong enough to withstand weight of oil it contained. 34 lengths of 19 feet each have been purchased from the U.S. Rubber Company. This type of hose has an external air inflated jacket which gives the hose positive buoyancy in the water and takes the weight strain off the coupling connections. This hose is being tested by tankers of the Base Force simultaneously with tests of oil suction hose, wire stiffened, supplied in accordance with Navy Department specifications.

4.

German Bomber, which blasted the British Liner DOMALA, Killing 106 of 299 aboard, also bombed the Dutch steamer, JONGE WILLEM, 1,132 tons, which had rescued 50 persons from the DOMALA. A bomb was dropped 20 feet from the JONGE WILLEM.

Coal for Italy, 5 Italian ships carrying 30,000 tons of German coal sailed from Rotterdam today despite the British announcement the blockade would intercept such shipments. An authoritative British source said Britain would carry out its decree, no extension having been granted.

War at Sea, A German plane bombed the Dutch coastal steamer, ELZIENA, 197 tons in the North Sea, killing the Captain and the Engineer. The vessel, which foundered, was the first Dutch ship to be sunk by aerial bombs.

Appropriations, Byrd Antarctica, The House is reported today to have cut \$250,000 from the 1941 Interior Department Bill, or full appropriations for Byrd Expedition beginning June 30, 1940.

Foreign Policy Association, in a report by Vera Micheles Dean, stated that Russia and Germany would collaborate more closely if Russia becomes involved in war with the Allies either in Scandinavia or the Far East, and that the two countries would then use the weapon of revolutionary propaganda to further their aims.

~~Confidential~~

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

5 March 1940

file →
Total Enlisted Strength, 4 March 133,461
Fleet Reservists (Enlisted) on active duty ... 2,914
Other Reservists " " " " ... 908
Total 3,822
Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours) 202
Aggregate Discharges " " " " 28
Net Increase 174

Retired Officers returned to active duty as of 5 March:

Line Officers	302
Staff Officers	101
Warrant Officers	<u>32</u>
<u>Total</u>	435

Naval Reservists ordered to active duty for enforcement
of neutrality patrol as of 4 March:

<u>Officers</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Allowed</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Obligated</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Ordered</u>
Aviation Instructors	150	150	71
District Patrol Planes	128	0	0
Naval Intelligence	100	57	56
Miscellaneous	192	172	163
Ens. and Lieuts. (jg) with Fleet	200	200	109
Merchant Marine and Lieut. Afloat	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>36</u>
<u>Total Officers</u>	870	679	485
<u>Men</u>			
District Patrol Planes	750	340	0
Communications	120	78	78
Miscellaneous	<u>900</u>	<u>890</u>	<u>490</u>
<u>Total Men</u>	1770	1308	568

Recruiting Activities for week ending 1 March:

Number of applicants accepted for first enlistment, 937
Number of first enlistments 510
Number of reenlistments within three months
(continuous service)... 61
Number of reenlistments under broken service ... 36
..... Total Enlistments 607

Allied Purchasing Commission, Admiral Towers reports that representatives of many of the aircraft manufacturers are assembled in Washington this week for conferences with the Allied Purchasing Commission on the subject of procurement by the Allies of a very large number of American aircraft. The number under consideration is understood to be something in excess of eight thousand. In an effort to reduce the number of different types, the Purchasing Commission has proposed that direct contracts be let with only three of the larger companies, namely, Glenn L. Martin, Curtiss Aeroplane and Douglas Aircraft, and that these three companies subcontract with the various other companies for the manufacture of parts. This proposition is being opposed by several of the smaller companies who undoubtedly foresee smaller profits than could be obtained for airplanes of their own types. The outcome appears uncertain at the moment.

Bureau of Yards and Docks:

	Number of Contracts	Amount of Contracts
July 1 to January 31	343	\$78,280,400.49
February	42	5,838,637.15
Total		\$84,119,037.64

The following Yards and Docks contract award has been

made:

Extension to storehouse B-29 at the Naval Operating Base, Norfolk, Virginia, awarded to the Blythe Bros. Co. of Charlotte, N.C., for \$59,800. Time of completion 180 days.

U.S.S. DICKERSON and HEBERT, Squadron 40-Y arrived Cadix, Spain, on 4 March and will arrive Lisbon, 5 March.

U.S.S. TRENTON, It has been proposed she stay in Europe another year.

DAVIS, HENHAM, ELLET, reported to CINCUS for duty and will arrive San Diego, 10 March.

American Embassy, Mexico, in a dispatch says the Mexican Navy has reported the YESSER HORN (previously reported) is aground off Acapulco with her bow 8 meters from beach, but is undamaged and can be floated as soon as towing facilities are available. American destroyers had not yet arrived.

4.

U.S.S. MONTIC (DDM17) placed in commission at Navy Yard, Norfolk, 5 March.

U.S.S. TRITON (SSR201), is scheduled to be launched at the Navy Yard, Portsmouth, N.H., on 25 March 1940.

U.S.S. CLEVELAND (CL55) and COLUMBIA (CL56), 10,000 ton cruisers, contract awarded to New York Shipbuilding Corporation, Camden, N.J., at their bid price of \$17,990,000 per vessel, to be delivered within 36 and 39 months respectively, subject to adjustments for changes in cost of labor and material.

Coal for Italy. Two Italian coal ships, of a possible 10 sailing from Rotterdam, the GRATA, 8,631 tons, and the LIGORIO, 5,968 tons, were detained today in the British Contraband Control. A big scale coal rationing system has begun in Italy, corporations being allotted from 50 to 80% of amounts consumed last year. Italian press is editorially quiet to date on anti-British feeling.

Rumanian Oil. A dispatch from Bucharest says that Germany is getting hardly half of the 130,000 tons of oil a month contracted for. Failure is probably due to foreign interests owning as high as 70% of the productive wells, particularly British and French.

~~Confidential~~

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
6 March 1940

file →

Total Enlisted Strength, 5 March 133,762

Fleet Reservists (Enlisted) on active duty ... 2,914

Other Reservists " " " " ... 203

Total 3,822

Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours) 188

Aggregate Discharges " " " " 123

Net Increase 65

Retired Officers returned to active duty as of 6 March:

Line Officers	302
Staff Officers	101
Warrant Officers	32
<u>Total</u>	<u>435</u>

Naval Reservists ordered to active duty for enforcement
of neutrality patrol as of 5 March:

<u>Officers</u>	Number <u>Allowed</u>	Number <u>Obligated</u>	Number <u>Ordered</u>
Aviation Instructors	150	150	71
District Patrol Planes	128	0	0
Naval Intelligence	100	57	56
Miscellaneous	192	191	164
Enz. and Lieuts. (jg) with Fleet	200	200	109
Merchant Marine and Lieut. D-V(G)	100	100	88
<u>Total Officers</u>	<u>870</u>	<u>698</u>	<u>468</u>
<u>Men</u>			
District Patrol Planes	750	340	0
Communications	120	78	78
Miscellaneous	900	890	490
<u>Total Men</u>	<u>1770</u>	<u>1308</u>	<u>568</u>

Submarine Engines. A report dated 1 March 1940 from Commander U.S. Submarine Force states that from observation of himself and staff, he considers that the major defects in the Hoover Ocean Bentschler engines installed in SALMON and JANGO classes of submarines have been corrected and that these engines are now at least the equal and in some respects superior to any other type of submarine engine now in service. These engines when first placed in service were somewhat unreliable and gave trouble.

War and Navy Departments, renewed today their opposition to Walsh-Healey Public Contracts Amendments which would extend the Act's scope, and urged that provision be made for suspending the law's requirements during periods of national emergency as well as actual war. Irving A. Duffy War Department, and Gen. M.L. Ring of the Navy, appeared before House Judiciary sub-committee to oppose labor-supported amendments which would make the Act apply to government contracts under \$10,000. Both contended that tightening of the law would retard national defense preparations.

Bahama Survey Party. (previously reported) consisting of 3 officers and 6 men and about 5 tons of equipment are

expected to depart Key West on the evening of 11 March. 1.

A ship will be designated to act with them in order that diplomatic arrangements may be completed.

Condoriv 18, (DAVIS, ELLEY, BENHAM), arrived off Acapulco at the scene of the TIMBER HUGH aground in Latitude 16-14 N., Longitude 98-20 W. Report TIMBER HUGH grounded at 11 knots, draft 19 feet, now in 15 feet of water. Passengers have been transferred in DAVIS's boats to ANGRA LUCKENBACH and are bound for San Pedro. Crew is in no immediate danger. Salvage is considered as major operation. Salvage expert is enroute by plane from New York. The Merritt Chapman Salvage Co. is sending a salvage tug with full equipment to arrive 11 March. Condoriv 18 will proceed to San Diego.

U.S.S. SAN FRANCISCO, has been recommended by CINCPAC to join Cruiser Division 5 as soon as practicable in fleet problem and commence overhaul 22 May.

U.S.S. SPINOLE (fleet tug) is ready for commissioning tomorrow at the Staten Island yards of the Bethlehem Shipbuilding Corp.

Captain John T. Nelson, 63, First Naval District, was promoted to Rear Admiral in the Naval Reserve by the

4. Selection Board chosen to promote one Reserve Officer to that rank.

Italian Coal Blockade. Great Britain is understood to be preparing a firm but conciliatory rejection of Italy's protest on German coal exports. Nine ships of 5 to 7,000 tons have been seized with others waiting to proceed inside Contraband Control waters. The technique of seizure was simple. The area off the East Coast of Britain is mined, making it possible for ships from Rotterdam to proceed only along a narrow channel. British warships lie in wait, ask for identity, and escort into control station like traffic policemen. Ministry of Economic Warfare said there was no discrimination against Italy as similar embargoes on German goods had been placed on 19 neutral countries. One vessel, the LOANCO, was released and is now on its way with coal to Italy. Coal aboard the other 8 vessels will be unloaded and held as a prize of war. The LOANCO was released because it had sailed before. Allied Contraband Control was extended to imports of German coal by sea.

The German Government, issued officially a general warning to neutrals today that Germany will not accept responsibility for the sinking by German planes of neutral vessels being forced into enemy ports by contraband control.

~~Confidential~~

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
7 March 1940

file 1

Total Enlisted Strength, 6 March 133,549

Fleet Reservists (Enlisted) on active duty ... 2,910

Other Reservists " " " " ... 910

Total 3,820

Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours) 74

Aggregate Discharges " " " " 49

Net Increase 25

Retired Officers returned to active duty as of 7 March:

Line Officers	303
Staff Officers	101
Warrant Officers	<u>32</u>
<u>Total</u>	<u>436</u>

Naval Reservists ordered to active duty for enforcement of neutrality patrol as of 6 March:

	Number <u>Allowed</u>	Number <u>Obligated</u>	Number <u>Ordered</u>
<u>Officers</u>			
Aviation Instructors	150	150	71
District Patrol Planes	128	0	0
Naval Intelligence	100	57	56
Miscellaneous	192	191	164
Ens. and Lieuts. (jg) with Fleet	200	200	109
Merchant Marine and Lieut. D-V(G)	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>88</u>
<u>Total Officers</u>	<u>870</u>	<u>698</u>	<u>488</u>
 <u>Men</u>			
District Patrol Planes	750	340	0
Communications	120	78	78
Miscellaneous	<u>900</u>	<u>890</u>	<u>490</u>
<u>Total Men</u>	<u>1770</u>	<u>1308</u>	<u>568</u>

Marine Corps, The Major General Commandant, General

Holcomb, has left on an inspection tour of Parris Island.

Bureau of Supplies and Accounts, reports Department of Labor All Commodity Price Index for March 2 was 78.4, off .2 from a week ago.

U.S.S. BOWDITCH, (auxiliary), (ex-SANTA INEZ), Commandant, Norfolk Navy Yard, has been authorized to place her in commission in ordinary on or about 12 March.

Desdiv 65, (BUCHANAN, HALE, CROWNINSHIELD, AARON WARD), Two destroyers from this division will be ordered from Galveston to Key West Patrol, Division Commander will nominate them.

U.S.S. BRECKINRIDGE and BIDDLE, will go to Savannah 15-18 March to participate in St. Patrick's Day Celebrations.

Aviation Cadets, 33 have been appointed for flight training at Pensacola in the Class which convened 26 February. They were selected from aviation bases throughout the United States.

U.S.S. DIXIE, (destroyer tender), preliminary acceptance trials will start on 27 March 1940.

Naval Medical Center, Washington, D.C., First carload of steel for tower left Pittsburgh yesterday. Bids will be accepted for construction of main building, officers quarters, nurses' and corpsmen's quarters, Laundry, garage, and heating plant on 3 April. Steel construction will start on 11 March.

Structural Steel, for new construction purposes (new ships) has been bought on a "period of construction" contract whereby bidders named a fixed price for steel over a 2 to 4 year period, depending on the time to build ships. In addition, Navy has gone into market once every 6 months for "stock replenishment." In an effort to eliminate the long term guarantee of prices on new construction, the Navy is experimenting with asking for firm prices for periods of six months only. If the experiment proves successful it should be advantageous both to producers and the Navy. If satisfactory bids are not received on this basis, it will doubtless be necessary to return to the original method of steel procurement. This bidding does not include armor plate. It is an effort to cut down the period of obligation of contractors which should prove attractive to the steel industry.

4. Bu. Yards and Docks, contract for Hangar Doors at the Naval Air Stations, Quonset Point, R.I., Jacksonville, Fla., Jacksonville (Banana River), Fla., and San Juan, P.R.; Naval Station, Key West, Fla; Naval Reserve Aviation Bases, Squantum, Mass. and Floyd Bennett Field, Long Island, N.Y., has been awarded to Byrne Doors, Inc., 1150 Griswold St., Detroit, Michigan, for \$238,714.00

Maritime Commission, approved the application of Lykes Brothers to sell the 2,637 ton freighter ALMERIA LYKES to Italian Associates, Trieste. The application of Coastwise Transportation Co., Boston, to sell the 4,015 ton TRANSPORTATION to a Yugoslavian concern was approved.

Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Mr. Compton, will speak to the Illinois Manufacturers' Association in Chicago tonight.

War at Sea, The British steamer ROSEDENE, 376 tons, arrived at an East Coast port of England today and reported 12 bombs had been dropped by a German plane, none hitting her. Captain and second officer were slightly injured by machine gun fire.

German Coal, 16 Italian ships, carrying 100,000 tons of coal, are now being held in British Contraband Control Base.

~~Confidential~~

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
8 March 1940

<u>Total Enlisted Strength</u> , 7 March	133,586
<u>Fleet Reservists</u> (Enlisted) on active duty ...	2,909
<u>Other Reservists</u> " " " " ...	<u>915</u>
<u>Total</u>	3,824
<u>Aggregate Enlistments</u> (last 24 hours)	139
<u>Aggregate Discharges</u> " " " "	<u>106</u>
<u>Net Increase</u>	33

Retired Officers returned to active duty as of 8 March:

Line Officers	303
Staff Officers	101
Warrant Officers	<u>32</u>
<u>Total</u>	436

Naval Reservists ordered to active duty for enforcement
of neutrality patrol as of 7 March:

<u>Officers</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Allowed</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Obligated</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Ordered</u>
Aviation Instructors	150	150	71
District Patrol Planes	128	0	0
Naval Intelligence	100	57	56
Miscellaneous	192	191	164
Ens. and Lieuts. (jg) with Fleet	200	200	109
Merchant Marine and Lieut. D-V(G)	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>88</u>
<u>Total Officers</u>	870	698	488
<u>Men</u>			
District Patrol Planes	750	340	0
Communications	120	78	78
Miscellaneous	<u>900</u>	<u>890</u>	<u>490</u>
<u>Total Men</u>	1770	1308	568

Flex 6 completed, Embarkation on 8 March of Bat Div 5 (TEXAS, NEW YORK, ARKANSAS, and WYOMING), CAPELLA, MANLEY, and Desdiv 56 (TRUXTUN, BORIE, BROOME, and SIMPSON) at Culebra. This force will proceed from Culebra area to Hampton Roads. TEXAS and NEW YORK will arrive Norfolk on 12 March, ARKANSAS, 13 March. WYOMING will proceed independently to Norfolk via Virgin Islands, embarking Marine aviation unit arriving Norfolk 13 March. CAPELLA will proceed to Quantico via Ponce, P.R. embarking marine aviation unit and discharging landing boats and lighters, arriving Quantico as early as practicable. MANLEY will proceed to Quantico, arriving 13 March, debarking marines and will then go to Norfolk yard for overhaul commencing 18 March. Desdiv 56 will proceed to Norfolk arriving 13 March, debarking Marines and will then report to Comdesron 27 for duty in reserve task group.

Whales for submarines, Compatron 51 reports squadron planes sighted school of 7 whales, some very large, in Mona Passage which may account for submarines seen by merchantmen so often in that area.

U.S.S. LANG, San Diego is designated as home port and Mare Island as home yard, both effective 15 March.

Bureau of Yards and Docks, reports following awards:

Contract for superstructure for structural laboratory, Naval Aircraft Factory, Philadelphia, to Ralph S. Herzog, Philadelphia, for the sum of \$228,113. Time, 240 calendar days.

Contract for pier, buildings, and dredging at the submarine base, Virgin Islands, to Paul H. Smith Construction Co., Miami, Fla., for the sum of \$298,670. Time, 180 calendar days.

Contract for hangar doors at Naval Air Station, Quonset Point, Jacksonville, Banana River, San Juan, Squantum, and Floyd Bennett Field, to Byrne Doors, Inc., Detroit Mich., for \$238,714. Time as specified in contracts.

U.S.S. PLUNKETT (DD431) and KEARNY (DD432) will be launched on 9 March at the Federal Shipbuilding & Dry Dock Co., Kearney, N. J. The Assistant Secretary of the Navy will attend the launching.

Selection Board, Dental Corps will convene on 18 March to recommend 3 officers for promotion to Captain and such other officers as are eligible and fitted to be lieutenant commanders and lieutenants.

Marine Corps Reserve officers, 54 volunteers have been ordered to active duty for 3 months to undergo intensive training at Quantico beginning 1 April. They come from all walks of life and from all parts of the country.

Naval Reserve, 414 additional officers, volunteer reserve, will receive training duty aboard ship for 14 days each

4. during the remainder of the fiscal year. Enlisted men may be substituted for this duty in the ratio of 3 men per officer. Within the limit of funds it is desired that all volunteer general aviation officers perform annual training duty in order to accomplish the prescribed flight syllabus. Requests for training will be solicited from officers and men of the aviation component, including communications reserve associated with aviation squadrons.

Anti-magnetic mine "belts", 100 British merchant ships and naval vessels have been equipped with belts similar to that on the QUEEN ELIZABETH as a protection against German magnetic mines. So far none of the vessels has been sunk. The belts supposedly make the vessels non-magnetic, and consist of a length of cable that carries an electric current around the ship. They can be fitted in 4 to 7 days.

British Budget, Estimates for the fiscal year starting 1 April for prosecution of the war are 700,000 pounds (\$2,800,000).

Swedish Parliament, foreign affairs committee reliably reported to have decided that passage of foreign troops across Sweden would be resisted by all means.

~~Confidential~~

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
11 March 1940

Total Enlisted Strength, 9 March 133,645
Fleet Reservists (Enlisted) on active duty ... 2,912
Other Reservists " " " " ... 920
Total 3,832
Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours) 142
Aggregate Discharges " " " 117
Net Increase 25

Retired Officers returned to active duty as of 11 March:

Line Officers	303
Staff Officers	101
Warrant Officers	<u>32</u>
<u>Total</u>	<u>436</u>

Naval Reservists ordered to active duty for enforcement
of neutrality patrol as of 9 March:

<u>Officers</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Allowed</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Obligated</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Ordered</u>
Aviation Instructors	150	150	71
District Patrol Planes	128	0	0
Naval Intelligence	100	57	57
Miscellaneous	192	190	163
Ens. and Lieuts. (jg) with Fleet	200	200	109
Merchant Marine and Lieut. D-V(G)	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>86</u>
<u>Total Officers</u>	<u>870</u>	<u>697</u>	<u>486</u>

<u>Men</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Number</u>
District Patrol Planes	750	340	0
Communications	120	78	78
Miscellaneous	<u>900</u>	<u>890</u>	<u>646</u>
<u>Total Men</u>	<u>1770</u>	<u>1308</u>	<u>724</u>

2.

Fleet Problem 21, At the request of C.N.O. and in accordance with the function of strengthening the national defense within the limits of peacetime authorization in the present limited national emergency it is planned to order 4 officers of class (CV)S (communication reserve) to active duty in each of the 11th, 12th, 13th, and 14th naval districts and 1 officer to the office of the Director of Communications during Fleet Problem 21. These officers will function as members of coding boards in the respective offices.

Squadron 40-T, TRENTON, DICKERSON, and HERBERT will be relieved by OMAHA, BARRY, and GOFF at Ponta del Gada late in June, relieving ships to proceed to Lisbon, others home.

U.S.S. WICHITA, successfully made full power speed with exception of excessive vibration in No. 1 shaft. Alignment of this shaft will require investigation (previously reported). Gears were apparently satisfactory with greatest vibration occurring at 228 R.P.M.

New Assistant Japanese Attache, Lieut. Comdr. Gishu Tarai relieved Commander Taguchi at the Japanese Embassy.

U.S.S. EVANS, has been designated to take Bahamas survey party from Key West.

2.

U.S.S. HALE and CROWNINSHIELD, reported for duty to Comdesron 32, neutrality patrol, for duty from Galveston and are arriving Key West today.

U.S.S. JOUETT, leaves Balboa, C.Z., today for San Diego to report for duty Destroyer Battle Force.

U.S.S. MAYO, will be launched at Quincy, 26 March.

Motor Torpedo Boats, The 11 70-foot M.T.B. being built at the Electric Boat Co. have been assigned official numbers from PT-10 to PT-20 inclusive.

War at Sea, Dominican schooner YAQUE on 7 March encountered 2 British warships close to Cape Engano (Mona Passage) detaining the German vessel HANNOVER, 5,600 tons. YAQUE was warned off when she tried to pick up members of the crew already in lifeboats. The HANNOVER was then scuttled by her own crew to escape capture. 37 survivors are expected at Ciudad Trujillo today. Four aircraft have been ordered by Governor Leahy of Puerto Rico to search the area for 55 crew members unreported and the McLEISH is proceeding to the Mona Passage.

Priority I destroyers, The following recommissioned destroyers have been advanced to Priority I - ABBOT, ALLAN, DORAN, BELKNAP, CONWAY, CONNER, FOOTE, HOPEWELL, KALK,

OSMAND, INGRAM, SIGOURNEY, STOCKTON, THOMAS, TILLMAN, COL-
HOUN, COWELL, GREGORY, LITTLE, MADDOX, McKEON, RINGGOLD,
ROBINSON, STRINGHAM, BALLARD, CHEW, HOGAN, PALMER, SCHLEY,
THORNTON, GILLIS, HOWARD, GREENE, STANSBURY, WARD, and
McFARLAND. Also MATTOLA and SAPELO (oilers).

U.S.S. NAVAJO (ocean-going tug), arrives Washington Navy
Yard tomorrow and will remain until Saturday. The NAVAJO
has Diesel Electric designed propulsion, 4 diesels driving
her at 17 knots, 4 motors driving reduction gears. NAVAJO
will make daily trips at 9:30 and 1:30 each day with de-
partment representatives. As this propulsion machinery
might well be used in net tending vessels (2 diesel hook-
up) it is considered important.

Drydock, Mare Island, Contract totalling \$1,545,706 has
been let to Ben C. Gerwick, Inc. and Clyde C. Wood, San
Francisco for construction of a new drydock, Mare Island
Navy Yard.

Russo-Finnish Negotiations, Webb Miller from London says:

"If Stalin can see his way clear to accept the island of
Utoe between Hanko and the Aaland Islands as a naval base
and to moderate his territorial demands in the Karelian
Isthmus, chances of peace would seem decidedly bright.
Fortification of Utoe would give Russia command of the
entrance to the Gulf of Finland, one of Russia's primary
objectives."

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
12 March 1940

*File personally.
Confidential!*

<u>Total Enlisted Strength</u> , 11 March	133,851
<u>Fleet Reservists</u> (Enlisted) on active duty ...	2,909
<u>Other Reservists</u> " " " " ...	<u>943</u>
	<u>Total</u>
	3,852
<u>Aggregate Enlistments</u> (last 48 hours)	254
<u>Aggregate Discharges</u> " " "	<u>67</u>
	<u>Net Increase</u>
	187

Retired Officers returned to active duty as of 12 March:

Line Officers	285
Staff Officers	95
Warrant Officers	<u>32</u>
<u>Total</u>	<u>412</u>

Naval Reservists ordered to active duty for enforcement of neutrality patrol as of 11 March:

	<u>Number</u> <u>Allowed</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Obligated</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Ordered</u>
<u>Officers</u>			
Aviation Instructors	150	150	71
District Patrol Planes	128	0	0
Naval Intelligence	100	57	57
Miscellaneous	192	190	163
Ens. and Lieuts. (jg) with Fleet	200	200	109
Merchant Marine and Lieut. D-V(G)	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>86</u>
<u>Total Officers</u>	<u>870</u>	<u>697</u>	<u>486</u>
 <u>Men</u>			
District Patrol Planes	750	340	0
Communications	120	78	78
Miscellaneous	<u>900</u>	<u>890</u>	<u>646</u>
<u>Total Men</u>	<u>1770</u>	<u>1308</u>	<u>724</u>

Recruiting Activities for week ending 8 March:

Number of applicants accepted for first enlistment, 846
 Number of first enlistments 961
 Number of reenlistments within three months
 (continuous service) 78
 Number of reenlistments under broken service .. 23
 Total Enlistments 1062

ERRATA, Cancel yesterday's item re Priority Destroyers, page 3.....

Medicine and Surgery, Inspection of various hospitals on the East Coast has been partially completed and Admiral Oman is en route to Great Lakes to cover that area.

Fleet Problem 21, which will be held from 1-26 April will be attended by 10 Army officers distributed on the different flagships as follows: 2, Commander Battle Force; 2, Commander Battleships; 2, Combat Air Force; and 4, Commander Scouting Force.

Flex 6, Commander Atlantic Squadron has sent a "well done" message to the Farragut attack force.

Swedish Purchasing Mission, Admiral Wijkmark, Swedish Navy, will make an informal visit to the Naval Gun Factory.

U.S.S. DIXIE, Builder's trials have been completed successfully, and contractor is requesting acceptance trials

to be held 27 March.

Finnish Parliament, is meeting in an apparent attempt to reach a final decision on peace terms with Russia. A heated debate was said to be in progress with the entire problem of foreign aid to Finland. Negotiations were said to be still going on in Moscow between Finnish and Russian representatives.

Naval Expansion Bill, House began debate today. The measure would increase the Navy's fighting strength by 167,000 tons, probably 21 fighting ships, as well as 22 auxiliaries and 1,011 additional airplanes.

John Paul Jones His original commission as Captain in the U.S. Navy, issued by the Continental Congress with the signature of John Hancock, was presented to the Secretary of the Navy today. It is loaned to the Naval Academy by its owner, Mr. John L. Senior, of Roxbury, Connecticut, and will repose in the museum there or in the crypt.

U.S.S. TAYLOR (DD94), at the Philadelphia Navy Yard, will be sold for scrap. Sealed proposals to be opened at the Navy Department 16 April.

War at Sea, The British steamer CLAN STUART, 6,760 tons,

4.
foundered off the West Coast of England and after a collision at sea. The 6,236 ton motor tanker EULOTA, Royal Dutch Shell, sank after an explosion in the North Sea. It was equipped with paravanes.

German Freighter HANNOVER, London press association reported today the 5,600 ton HANNOVER intercepted between Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic was prevented from scuttling by her crew, and was towed "to a port" as a prize of war. The captain and 54 other members of the crew are still unaccounted for.

Late Dispatch from London lists the sinking of the British Steamship GARDENIA, 3,745 tons, after an explosion, presumably the result of enemy action.

Add Navy Bill, House, The only voice raised in opposition after Vinson's declaration for a 10% increase was that of Hamilton Fish who contended the U.S. was "completely secure" with the present Navy. He said he would have to be convinced of the need before voting for 3 new aircraft carriers and attacked "war hysteria" and "propaganda". Chairman Vinson contended that the ultimate cost of the Expansion Bill was "cheap insurance for the peace and security of this country", and that we could "speak the language of force" to Europe if necessary.

~~Confidential~~

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

13 March 1940

*File
Personal +
Confidential*

Total Enlisted Strength, 12 March 133,965
Fleet Reservists (Enlisted) on active duty ... 2,909
Other Reservists " " " " ... 943
Total 3,852
Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours) 191
Aggregate Discharges " " " " 77
Net Increase 114

Retired Officers returned to active duty as of 13 March:

Line Officers	285
Staff Officers	95
Warrant Officers	<u>32</u>
<u>Total</u>	<u>412</u>

Naval Reservists ordered to active duty for enforcement

of neutrality patrol as of 12 March:

<u>Officers</u>	<u>Number Allowed</u>	<u>Number Obligated</u>	<u>Number Ordered</u>
Aviation Instructors	150	150	71
District Patrol Planes	128	0	0
Naval Intelligence	100	57	57
Miscellaneous	192	190	163
Ens. and Lieuts. (jg) with Fleet	200	200	109
Merchant Marine and Lieut. D-V(G)	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>86</u>
<u>Total Officers</u>	<u>870</u>	<u>697</u>	<u>486</u>
<u>Men</u>			
District Patrol Planes	750	340	0
Communications	120	78	78
Miscellaneous	<u>900</u>	<u>890</u>	<u>646</u>
<u>Total Men</u>	<u>1770</u>	<u>1308</u>	<u>724</u>

Bureau of Yards and Docks announces the following contract awards have been made:

Pier buildings and services at the Naval Submarine Base, St. Thomas, V.I., awarded to Paul H. Smith Construction Co. of Miami, Fla., for \$298,670. Time of completion, 180 days.

Electrical work for turret erection shops at the New York Navy Yard awarded to Eastern States Electrical Contractors, Inc., of New York City for \$194,859. Time of completion, 240 days.

Sewage disposal plant at the Naval Air Station, Alameda, California, awarded to M.H. Golden of San Francisco, for \$96,830. Time of completion, 180 days.

SOSED, Information has been received that the Finnish Legation still contemplates going through with the acquisition of one PT-6 (building at New Orleans) and carrying out their private contract for other motor torpedo boats. Ratification of the peace terms between Russia and Finland may remove the desirability for giving the Finnish Government priority in delivery.

Structural Steel, for construction purposes (previously reported 7 March), on new ships, bids for firm prices on

a 6 months basis are coming in, proving this method is satisfactory to contractors rather than 2 to 4 year period basis previously used.

Naval Attache, Berlin, reports that following considerable equipping the NORDMARK and the LUTZOW left Danzig last week according to rumor. The NORDMARK is a sister ship of the ALTMARK, and the LUTZOW was formerly the DEUTSCHLAND.

Survey of Ecuador, Commander Patrol Wing 3 has recently been directed to undertake an aerial photographic survey of the coast of Ecuador. The SANDPIPER (seaplane tender, small) will be employed with the flight group.

S.S.HANOVER, The Dominican foreign office states it has no further official information of the HANNOVER incident. Investigation of members of the crew has not been undertaken as they are being housed in the German Legation while awaiting orders from Berlin. Dominicans are trying to ascertain whether or not ship was armed.

U.S.S. LANG, With Comdesdiv 15 embarked departed from Norfolk for San Diego, and is expected to arrive 24 March.

U.S.S. DRAYTON, On leaving Navy Yard, Pearl Harbor, burned out starboard after high pressure main turbine.

4.

Bureau of Aeronautics, is sending a Board to San Diego within the next few days to conduct tests on the latest type, twin engine, flying boat built by the Consolidated Aircraft Corp. The plane was built at the expense of the Consolidated Corp. If the claims of the manufacturer as to the performance of this flying boat are substantiated by the test, it represents a great advance in aircraft of this type.

German Coal to Italy, Karl Clodius, German Economic expert now in Rome, signed an agreement yesterday providing for German coal shipments to Italy by railroad exclusively. Clodius went to Rome with Von Ribbentrop, and it was while they were on their way that England announced settlement of her coal controversy with Italy by releasing 13 Italian coal laden ships.

Allied War Orders, Assistant Secretary of War, Louis Johnson, said that he would object to diverting war planes built for the U.S. Army to the allies, that the Army and Navy Aeronautical Board which must approve foreign sales would not agree to do so unless the Government had superior equipment well developed under contract.

War at Sea, Britain lost 9 ships totalling 29,396 tons during the week ending March 10, German News Agency, DNB, reports. British admitted 6 ships totalling 18,673 tons.

~~Confidential~~

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
14 March 1940

Total Enlisted Strength, 13 March 134,169
Fleet Reservists (Enlisted) on active duty ... 2,907
Other Reservists " " " " ... 943
Total 3,850
Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours) 223
Aggregate Discharges " " " " 17
Net Increase 206

Retired Officers returned to active duty as of 14 March:

Line Officers 285
Staff Officers 95
Warrant Officers 32
Total 412

Naval Reservists ordered to active duty for enforcement
of neutrality patrol as of 13 March:

<u>Officers</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Allowed</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Obligated</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Ordered</u>
Aviation Instructors	150	150	71
District Patrol Planes	128	0	0
Naval Intelligence	100	57	57
Miscellaneous	192	190	163
Ens. and Lieuts. (jg) with Fleet	200	200	109
Merchant Marine and Lieuts. D-V(G)	100	100	86
<u>Total Officers</u>	870	697	486
<u>Men</u>			
District Patrol Planes	750	340	0
Communications	120	78	78
Miscellaneous	900	890	646
<u>Total Men</u>	1770	1308	724

Bureau of Yards and Docks, the following contract awards have been made:

Waterfront development at the Navy Yard, Boston, Massachusetts awarded to Merritt-Chapman and Scott Corporation of New York City for \$1,326,666. Time of completion 540 days.

Superstructure for shop building at the Naval dry dock, South Boston, Massachusetts awarded to the Hughes Foulkrod Company of Philadelphia for \$589,000. Time of completion, 180 days.

Flex 6, The First Marine Brigade returned yesterday from Flex 6 exercises. The ships docked at Norfolk, Va., the marines returning to Quantico by rail. Aircraft One, Fleet Marine Force is returning to Quantico by air, completing two months problem away from base.

U.S.S. ROWAN (DD405) will be ready for official trials 19 April, according to advices received from Commandant, Norfolk, Va.

U.S.S. HAMMANN (DD412), built by Federal Shipbuilding and Drydock Co., conducted final trials on 24 February. Vibration existed in intermediate pressure turbine. Subsequent to final trials the HAMMANN conducted special en-

gineering tests and 4 full power trials. During these trials I.P. turbine operated satisfactorily. When turbine was opened subsequently at the Navy Yard, one section of shroud band in the last row of blading was missing and two other sections had partially failed. The rotor is being returned to engine manufacturers for repairs.

Italian-Russian Rapprochement, Well informed Berlin circles report that Italy and Russia are nearing the end of successful negotiations for a trade agreement. They are the result of efforts by Berlin to bring Rome and Moscow closer together. It is said the Russian Ambassador will soon return to Rome and the Italian Ambassador to Moscow.

Allied plane purchases, Both the Senate and House may conduct simultaneous independent investigations next week in the controversy. A House military affairs subcommittee has ordered an inquiry to consider Senator La Follette's resolution.

"Most Deadly Explosive", The inventor who so impressed the Senate Military Affairs Committee yesterday that they burned the minutes of the meeting wants to try his

experiment with animals. A joint meeting of the House Military and Naval Affairs Committee has been called for Monday to discuss the experiment. War and Navy Department officials will attend.

Powder and High Explosives, for the British and French are being negotiated for with leading American munitions makers, United Press reports. An Allied advance of \$1,427,000 to the Atlas Powder Co. to construct a new TNT plant is said to be an initial step in the program. It is estimated the Allied program in this field will involve expenditures of no less than \$100,000,000.

Rumanian Army, half of which is composed of farmers, is demobilizing its rural members, it was disclosed by the Rumanian Minister of Agriculture. It is regarded as Rumania's response to a German promise to guarantee Rumania against aggression in return for strenuous efforts to meet Germany's needs for supplies.

Secretary Morgenthau, said at a press conference that he "definitely concurred" in Secretary Edison's statement yesterday that allied orders had not interfered appreciably with the nation's military procurement program.

~~Confidential~~

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
15 March 1940

Gil

<u>Total Enlisted Strength</u> , 14 March	134,287
<u>Fleet Reservists</u> (Enlisted) on active duty	2,906
<u>Other Reservists</u> " " " "	940
<u>Total</u>	3,846
<u>Aggregate Enlistments</u> (last 24 hours)	255
<u>Aggregate Discharges</u> " " " "	133
<u>Net Increase</u>	122

Personnel

Retired Officers returned to active duty as of 15 March

Line Officers	285
Staff Officers	95
Warrant Officers	32
<u>Total</u>	412

Naval Reservists ordered to active duty for enforcement

of neutrality patrol as of 14 March:

	Number <u>Allowed</u>	Number <u>Obligated</u>	Number <u>Ordered</u>
<u>Officers</u>			
Aviation Instructors	150	150	71
District Patrol Planes	128	0	0
Naval Intelligence	100	57	57
Miscellaneous	192	190	163
Ens. and Lieuts.(jg) with Fleet	200	200	109
Merchant Marine and Lieuts. D-V(g)	100	100	486
<u>Total Officers</u>	870	697	486

<u>Men</u>			
District Patrol Planes	750	340	0
Communications	120	78	78
Miscellaneous	900	890	646
<u>Total Men</u>	1770	1308	724

2.

PC 450, 110 foot wooden subchaser was launched at Wilmington on 14 March. Official trials are expected to begin early in April. This is American Car and Foundry Company contract, Winton diesel engine drive. This is the first of the larger boats in the experimental boat program to be launched.

Medicine and Surgery, has requested authorization of a new hospital in Honolulu, estimated cost \$3,375,000, and has placed it No. 1 in priority list. Site has already been selected and work will go ahead as soon as funds are made available.

Supplies and Accounts, reports bids were opened on 12 March for 18,800 powder containers for delivery to various ammunition depots. Four bids were received, the prices ranging from \$29.45 to 35.90 each. The total cost of these powder containers will amount to approximately \$553,660.

USSELLIS AND COLE, have been ordered to New London to train operators at the Sound School. This makes entire destroyer division 60 (COLE, BERNADOU, DUPONT and ELLIS) engaged in this work.

3.

NAVAL RESERVE, In view of the shortage of regular officer personnel it is probable that as many as 12 Naval Reserve officers will be ordered to active duty as instructors at the Naval Academy in non-professional subjects during the coming academic year, commencing about 1 August 1940. There are at present 4 reserve officers so assigned. Unofficial information from the Naval Academy indicates these officers who have been carefully selected from a large list of applicants are proving eminently satisfactory.

WAR AT SEA - The Admiralty announced that the German steamer LA CORUNA, 7414 tons was scuttled by its crew when intercepted by a British warship. It was the 35th German vessel scuttled since the start of the war. LA CORUNA sailed from Rio Janeiro on 3 January.

CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES, has unanimously approved war estimates totalling 55 billion francs (\$1,157,750,000) for the second three months of 1940. \$560,000,000 of this goes for armaments.

American prices, for war materials were debated in the House of Commons. "Is it true the Allies are paying stiffly for supplies including airplanes - sufficient

4.

to provide for extension of United States factories?" a Laborite asked. "Why not erect our own national factories?" he continued.

BRITISH EMBASSY, announced that Great Britain is suspending for an indefinite period imports of American canned and bottled fruits as a war measure to conserve dollar exchange and shipping space. Large stocks of these goods were said to have accumulated "and it is in no way intended to cause a permanent diversion of this trade," the Embassy said.

ADMIRAL HART, CinC Asiatic Fleet in a speech at Cebu, P.I. ^{said} that he believed the fleet would remain in the Orient even after the Philippines are completely independent because of the necessity of protecting the interests of American Nationals.

WAR RESTLESSNESS, Observers in London are noting an increasing demand that Britain forestall a possible Hitler blitzkrieg by carrying the war to Germany. Germany on the other hand was consolidating her position in Southeastern Europe by backing economic rapprochement between Russia and Italy, Rumania, Turkey. Nazi leaders saw in such trade guarantees a Reich free to act on the Western Front.

~~Confidential~~

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
18 March 1940

file

Total Enlisted Strength, 16 March 134,468

Fleet Reservists (Enlisted) on active duty ... 2,905

Other Reservists " " " " ... 943

Total 3,848

Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours) 194

Aggregate Discharges " " " " 113

Net Increase 81

Retired Officers returned to active duty as of 18 March:

Line Officers	285
Staff Officers	95
Warrant Officers	<u>32</u>
<u>Total</u>	<u>412</u>

Naval Reservists ordered to active duty for enforcement
of neutrality patrol as of 16 March:

<u>Officers</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Allowed</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Obligated</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Ordered</u>
Aviation Instructors	150	150	66
District Patrol Planes	128	0	0
Naval Intelligence	100	63	61
Miscellaneous	192	189	161
Ens. and Lieuts. (jg) with Fleet	200	200	110
Merchant Marine and Lieut. D-V(G)	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>85</u>
<u>Total Officers</u>	<u>870</u>	<u>702</u>	<u>483</u>
<u>Men</u>			
District Patrol Planes	750	340	340
Communications	120	75	75
Miscellaneous	<u>900</u>	<u>894</u>	<u>670</u>
<u>Total Men</u>	<u>1770</u>	<u>1309</u>	<u>1085</u>

Bureau of Yards and Docks, announces the following award:

Contract for Gasoline Storage and Distribution System
 at the Naval Air Station, Jacksonville, Florida, to Aqua
 Systems, Inc., New York City, for \$138,128. Time, 180
 calendar days.

Naval Reserve, Policy Board convened this morning, Rear
 Admiral Schofield, President, and will continue to meet
 until 30 March.

Nautical School Conference, with representatives of each
 of the 4 nautical schools and members of the Maritime Com-
 mission met to discuss general training and policy with
 Bureau of Navigation and Operations representatives.

Flight Surgeons, 10 Naval Reserve Medical officers will
 attend school in this category at Pensacola, commencing
 1 May. It is hoped sufficient volunteers from this class
 will be obtained to fill needs of naval reserve flight
 stations.

Congressional Party, from House Naval Affairs Committee,
 left Guatemala City for Managua this morning. Their
 itinerary has been changed to include an overnight stop
 at San Jose, Costa Rica, 18 March.

Bureau Supplies and Accounts, reports Department of Labor

All Commodity Price Index at 78.3 for week ending 9 March,
 off .1 from the previous week.

One Airplane, in the group that flew from the Philippines
 to Canton Island struck a coral head and injured hull so
 that plane was no longer able to operate. U.S.S. WRIGHT
 has been sent to recover the plane. There were no in-
 juries to personnel.

U.S.S. BROOKLYN, has developed a crack in main steam line
 valve and will probably go to Mare Island Navy Yard for
 immediate repairs.

U.S.S. SCHENCK (DD159), will proceed to Norfolk about
 23 March for overhaul.

U.S.S. NOA (DD343), Commandant authorized to place in
 full commission at Navy Yard, Philadelphia, on or about
 25 March.

U.S.S. O'BRIEN (DD415), will leave Norfolk on shakedown
 cruise 20 May to touch at Guantanamo, Bahia, Buenos
 Aires, Santos, San Juan, arriving Navy Yard, Boston, 19
 July, according to present schedule. Diplomatic nego-
 tiations have been initiated for visits to Bahia, Buenos
 Aires, and Santos.

U.S.S. EDISON (DD439) and ERICSSON (DD440), keels were

4.
laid today at Federal Shipbuilding and Drydock Co., at Kearney, New Jersey.

New deadly explosive, four Congressional committees met today in joint session to hear inventor Lester Barlow of the Glenn L. Martin Co. appeal for funds to test his "most deadly" explosive. Most Senators appeared to favor a test on animals. Barlow claims his explosive is "so horrible as to make war impossible". The Secretaries of War and Navy were present. Session lasted 3 hours and Barlow obtained an agreement to demonstrate it before members of the Army, Navy, and Congress.

Air Bombing Scapa Flow, English press criticized British air defense that would allow 12 of 14 German bombers to return to base after 1200 mile flight to bomb fleet and air bases. The Telegraph suggested "some deficiency in defensive strength at a fleet anchorage as important as Scapa Flow."

War at Sea, A Laborite in Commons charged Britain had greatly underestimated the effect of German warfare on shipping. "Britain has lost rather more than 750,000 tons of merchant shipping. In addition many vessels have been damaged and not included in official lists, ships that cannot be repaired for weeks or months. To say we have lost 200,000 tons is a travesty of the situation", he said.

~~Confidential~~

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
19 March 1940

file

Total Enlisted Strength, 18 March 134,638

Fleet Reservists (Enlisted) on active duty ... 2,905

Other Reservists " " " " ... 943

Total 3,848

Aggregate Enlistments (last 48 hours) 197

Aggregate Discharges " " " 32

Net Increase 165

Retired Officers returned to active duty as of 19 March:

Line Officers	285
Staff Officers	95
Warrant Officers	<u>32</u>
<u>Total</u>	<u>412</u>

Naval Reservists ordered to active duty for enforcement

of neutrality patrol as of 18 March:

<u>Officers</u>	<u>Number Allowed</u>	<u>Number Obligated</u>	<u>Number Ordered</u>
Aviation Instructors	150	150	66
District Patrol Planes	128	0	0
Naval Intelligence	100	63	61
Miscellaneous	192	189	161
Ens. and Lieuts. (jg) with Fleet	200	200	110
Merchant Marine and Lieuts. D-V(G)	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>85</u>
<u>Total Officers</u>	<u>870</u>	<u>702</u>	<u>483</u>

Men

District Patrol Planes	750	340	340
Communications	120	75	75
Miscellaneous	<u>900</u>	<u>894</u>	<u>670</u>
<u>Total Men</u>	<u>1770</u>	<u>1309</u>	<u>1085</u>

2. Recruiting Activities for week ending 15 March:

Number of applicants accepted for first enlistment, 749
Number of first enlistments 1,195
Number of reenlistments within three months
(continuous service) ... 77
Number of reenlistments under broken service . 16
..... Total Enlistments 1,288

Bureau of Yards and Docks, announces the following awards:

Contract for completion of two hangars at the Naval Air Station, Jacksonville, Fla., to Virginia Engineering Co., Inc., Newport News, Va., for \$352,600. Time: 270 calendar days, except that all work in connection with sliding door tracks shall be completed within 180 calendar days.

Contract for Transmitter Building and quarters at the Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md., to the Ross Engineering Co., of Washington, D.C., for \$123,896. Time: 120 calendar days.

Twenty-five Midshipmen, upon graduation in June 1940 have been named to receive commissions as second lieutenants in the Marine Corps.

U.S.S. WHARTON, escorted by the seagoing tug SAGAMORE, will leave Norfolk 21 March for Todd Shipbuilding Co., New York.

Desdiv 71, (LAMB, AULICK, EDWARDS, and McLANAHAN) and

Desdiv 72 (MEADE, SHUBRICK, and SWASEY) less BAILEY, plus THATCHER, report to CincUS for duty on 19 March. BAILEY reported for duty in Atlantic Squadron previously. The above are 3 Priority II boats commissioned on the West Coast. They will rendezvous with NEOSHO 25 March, 800 miles south of San Diego for fueling.

U.S.S. CAPELLA, completed duty in Atlantic Squadron 19 March and resumed duties in Naval Transport Squadron.

U.S.S. HEAKON (harbor tug), completed at Charleston Navy Yard and will depart for Navy Yard, Washington, on 22 March.

War at Sea, The French steamer CAPITAINE AUGUSTIN, 3,137 tons, and the Italian collier, TINA PRIMO, 4,853 tons, have been sunk in British waters after striking mines. Two members of the crew of the CAPITAINE AUGUSTIN were killed, 28 saved. Seven members of the TINA PRIMO were injured, all were rescued.

S.S. MAURETANIA, was reported being loaded with sand ballast in the absence of regular cargo signifying imminent sailing as troop transport.

Allied losses, at sea for the week ending March 17 were 3 British, 2 allied, and 4 neutral vessels, totalling

4.
23,992 tons. Most of the ships sank after striking mines. Only 4 ships have been sunk by submarines since 24 Feb., indicating that the German U-boat campaign had slowed down. Three German shipping casualties were listed for the same period: the HANNOVER, 5,537 tons, captured and taken to Kingston, Jamaica, on 13 March, LA CORUNA, 7,141 tons, scuttled at sea, and the ESCHERSCHEIM, 3,303 tons, wrecked off the coast of Jutland. The Admiralty announced that up to 13 March, 12,816 British, Allied, and neutral merchant ships had been convoyed and that of these only 28 were lost. Of 1,614 neutral ships convoyed, two were lost.

Deadly Explosive, Lester Barlow, inventor of the liquid oxygen-carbon bomb of unheard of force, said that a safety and control test of his product will be held next Tuesday at the Glenn L. Martin plant in Baltimore. Official military tests will start in about 2 weeks, at which time the destructive power of the explosive will be demonstrated. Goats will probably be used for the experiment. He is inviting newspapermen to next Tuesday's test.

Problem 21, United Press release states 130 ships, 350 aircraft, an undisclosed number of submarines, and 42,500 officers and men will participate in Fleet Problem 21.

~~Confidential~~

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

20 March 1940

file

Total Enlisted Strength, 19 March 134,814

Fleet Reservists (Enlisted) on active duty ... 2,905

Other Reservists " " " " ... 943

Total 3,848

Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours) 252

Aggregate Discharges " " " 76

Net Increase 176

Retired Officers returned to active duty as of 20 March:

Line Officers	285
Staff Officers	95
Warrant Officers	<u>32</u>
<u>Total</u>	<u>412</u>

Naval Reservists ordered to active duty for enforcement
of neutrality patrol as of 19 March:

<u>Officers</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Allowed</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Obligated</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Ordered</u>
Aviation Instructors	150	150	66
District Patrol Planes	128	0	0
Naval Intelligence	100	63	61
Miscellaneous	192	189	161
Ens. and Lieuts. (jg) with Fleet	200	200	100
Merchant Marine and Lieuts. D-V(G)	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>85</u>
<u>Total Officers</u>	<u>870</u>	<u>702</u>	<u>483</u>
<u>Men</u>			
District Patrol Planes	750	340	340
Communications	120	75	75
Miscellaneous	<u>900</u>	<u>894</u>	<u>670</u>
<u>Total Men</u>	<u>1770</u>	<u>1309</u>	<u>1085</u>

U.S.S. STERETT and BARNEY, will visit Savannah, Georgia, 1-6 April in connection with Coastal Empire Paper Festival. After 6 April, until 11 April, STERETT will proceed and be at Newport for test torpedo firings, departing 12 April for San Diego, stopping at Norfolk, Guantanamo, Canal Zone, en route.

U.S.S. ANDERSON, employment includes 6-11 April at Newport for test torpedo firings and obtaining torpedo allowance and equipment. On 12 April ANDERSON will depart for Norfolk, arriving there 15 April and in company with STERETT and MANLEY will proceed to the West Coast.

U.S.S. BLAKELY, will escort HEAKON (harbor tug) from Charleston to Virginia Capes.

S.S. TIMBER RUSH, is still aground off Acapulco. Coast Guard Cutter ITASCA is standing by.

U.S.S. WAINWRIGHT, (DD419), will be placed in full commission at Navy Yard, Norfolk, on or about 15 April.

U.S.S. WASHINGTON, (BB56), Commandant of the Navy Yard, Philadelphia, has been advised that the proposed date of 15 June 1940 for launching the WASHINGTON is approved.

U.S.S. CHAUMONT, (Transport), will leave Norfolk 30 March for San Diego, Pearl Harbor, San Pedro, and San Francisco,

carrying marine passengers, cargo, and equipment. The CHAUMONT is tentatively scheduled to depart San Francisco for the Orient on or about 21 June.

Pictures of Sylt Island, Two British reconnaissance planes, in a bold daylight flight, raced along Germany's heavily fortified Sylt Island air base on the North Sea Coast today to photograph for an indisputable record the damage done in the seven-hour Royal Air Force Raid last night and early today. It was reported that 50 latest type Whitley and Wallington bombers conducted the raid, carrying capacity loads of high explosives and incendiary bombs. The raid continued from 8 P.M. to 3 A.M. with little opposition from German fighters. Berlin admitted one house had been struck, but thanks to German defense, the British planes did no damage, most of their bombs falling in the water. One British plane was shot down, Berlin said, the Admiralty concurring. The moon was bright, but aided by clouds the British were able to dive and get away. Great Britain must expect regular Nazi air raids, Winston Churchill told Commons, "but we will do our best to return them." Lord Strabolgi estimated in the House of Lords that almost 1000 British

4.

bombs had been dropped, more bombs than had been dropped in Britain throughout the World War.

World's most heavily armed fighting plane, is claimed by the Vultee Aircraft Co., Los Angeles. The new "Vanguard" pursuit plane will mount 10 rapid fire, heavy calibre guns, 6 on its wings and 4 in the fusilage. The ship develops a speed of 350 miles an hour.

Norwegian withdrawal, from all negotiations for a Norwegian-Swedish-Finnish defense alliance was predicted by the newspaper Dagbladet, supporter of the Government as a result of a Soviet statement that Russia was opposed to it. Maritime Commission, announced that the S.S. SANTA TERESA, the 4th C-2 cargo vessel to be placed in service by the Grace Line will be delivered by Newport News, March 27th. This is the 28th ship placed in operation by the Maritime Commission merchant fleet renewal program.

S.S. MAURETANIA, is reported ready to sail tonight for duty as a troop ship. The QUEEN MARY is reported waiting for an additional crew assignment which is expected to arrive tomorrow on the LANCASTRIA, after which she is expected to sail too. Both vessels were taking on provisions.

~~Confidential~~

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
21 March 1940

file 7

Total Enlisted Strength, 20 March 134,997

Fleet Reservists (Enlisted) on active duty ... 2,902

Other Reservists " " " " ... 938

Total 3,840

Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours) 268

Aggregate Discharges " " " " 77

Net Increase 191

Retired Officers returned to active duty as of 21 March:

Line Officers	285
Staff Officers	95
Warrant Officers	<u>32</u>
<u>Total</u>	<u>412</u>

Naval Reservists ordered to active duty for enforcement
of neutrality patrol as of 20 March:

<u>Officers</u>	<u>Number Allowed</u>	<u>Number Obligated</u>	<u>Number Ordered</u>
Aviation Instructors	150	150	66
District Patrol Planes	128	0	0
Naval Intelligence	100	63	61
Miscellaneous	192	189	161
Ens. and Lieuts. (jg) with Fleet	200	200	100
Merchant Marine and Lieuts. D-V(G)	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>85</u>
<u>Total Officers</u>	<u>870</u>	<u>702</u>	<u>483</u>

<u>Men</u>	<u>Number Allowed</u>	<u>Number Obligated</u>	<u>Number Ordered</u>
District Patrol Planes	750	340	340
Communications	120	75	75
Miscellaneous	<u>900</u>	<u>894</u>	<u>670</u>
<u>Total Men</u>	<u>1770</u>	<u>1309</u>	<u>1085</u>

Bureau of Navigation, has announced that approximately 400 enlisted men in the Organized and Voluntary Reserve will be ordered to active duty at Pensacola by 1 July 1940 (previously reported). Such active duty is with pay on a voluntary basis. A course of industrial training at the various naval reserve bases, will be carried out for 30 days prior to transfer to Pensacola, during which instruction in ground handling and service of aircraft will be given, as well as fundamentals of the Naval Service. It is expected that the duration of this duty will be the same as the duration of the present national emergency, not to exceed a period of one year. Each man volunteering for this duty will be required to sign an agreement that he will not request release from active duty within one year from the date of his orders. Other considerations being equal, unmarried applicants will be given precedence. These men, 37 to be ordered to each of the following naval reserve aviation bases: Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Anacostia, Miami, Detroit, Chicago, Minneapolis, St. Louis, Kansas City, Long Beach, Oakland, and Seattle will come from the various naval districts proportionately, 31 of each group of 37

to be further ordered to Pensacola after the 30 days training.

Rumania and Italy, have signed a trade agreement under which Italy will get about 470,000 tons of Rumanian oil during 1940, it was announced in Bucharest. Great Britain is reported to be trying to charter, for the duration of the war, between 30 and 40 percent of available Danube River oil tankers and other cargo vessels. Success of such a program would be a severe blow to Germany.

Attack on the Maginot Line, may come at any moment now, the London Daily Mail diplomatic correspondent in Rome wired his paper today. He quoted well informed sources as sponsors of reports that Hitler was completing plans for big attacks, "accompanied by concentrated offensives on land, sea, and air against Great-Britain".

Russo-German rapprochement, was furthered today when the Berlin Newspaper Boersen-Zeitung devoted a 32 page edition entirely to German-Russian economic relations. There were 6 articles in the Russian language and numerous advertisements in Russian.

German Airplanes, raided British coastal shipping again today and were reported to have killed 5 persons in an