

Navy Reports: Oct. 1940-April  
1941

~~Confidential~~

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

1 October 1940

Total Enlisted Strength, 30 September ..... 164,047

Fleet Reservists (enlisted) on active duty ..... 7,121

Other Reservists " " " " ..... 4,053

Retired Men " " " " ..... 65

Total ..... 11,239

Aggregate Enlistments (24 hours)..... 311

Aggregate Discharges " " ..... 86

Gain ..... 225

Retired Officers returned to active duty, as of 1 October:

Line Officers 649

Staff Officers 167

Warrant Officers 46

Total.... 862

Naval Reserve Officers ordered to active duty for enforcement of neutrality and the strengthening of the National Defense within the limits of Peace-time authorization; as of September 30:

<u>Character of Duty</u>	<u>Number Allowed</u>	<u>Number Obligated</u>	<u>Number Ordered</u>
V(G) Officers Afloat	300	300	307
Merchant Marine Afloat	225	225	268
Aviation Instructors	248	248	214
I-V(S) Officers	125	125	112
CEC-V(S) Officers	125	125	125
Supply Corps Officers	125	125	149
Medical and Dental Officers	177	177	190
Communication Officers	100	100	124
CC-V(S) Officers	20	20	20
Administration of Reserve			
Midshipman Training Program	140	140	110
Miscellaneous	320	485	485
Total Estimated Number Allowed:	1905	2070	2104

Bureau of Yards and Docks - The following cost-plus-

fixed fee contract awards have been made:

Temporary construction and facilities for enlisted personnel at the Naval Training Station, Newport, R.I. awarded to the Platt Contracting Co., Inc. of Cambridge, Mass. Estimated contract cost - \$455,000.

Supply pier, rehabilitation of existing piers and breakwater at the Submarine Base, Naval Operating Base, Norfolk, Virginia, awarded to the McLean Contracting Company of Baltimore, Md. Estimated contract cost - \$3,226,500.

Storehouses at the Naval Aircraft Factory and the Marine Corps Depot of Supplies, Navy Yard, Philadelphia, Pa. awarded to the M. and L. Construction Company of Philadelphia. Estimated contract cost - \$650,000.

Extension of chemical laboratory and barracks building at the Naval Research Laboratory, Bellevue, D.C., and instrument repair and storage at the Naval Observatory, Washington, D.C. awarded to the Charles H. Tompkins Co. of Washington, D.C. Estimated contract cost - \$531,000.

Extension and improvements at the Naval Reserve Air Base, Squantum, Mass. awarded to the Buck-McDonald Co. of Boston, Mass. and the Warren Brothers Roads Co. of Cambridge, Mass. Estimated cost of contract - \$331,500.

Marine Corps, Total enlisted strength, 30 September 1940, 34,929.

Selection Board, for promotion of 4 Colonels in the Marine Corps to the rank of Brigadier General is composed of the following:

Rear Admirals Taussig, Courtney, Watson, Downes, Brown, Noyes; and Generals Little, Upshur, and Logan. This board

will meet on 14 October, and will not be released for publication until further notice. The selection board to promote 3 Brigadier Generals to Major General will meet on 15 November, and will be the same board that selects Captains to Rear Admirals in the Regular Navy.

Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, has requested 4 more "H" type hospital buildings to house 240 patients. At present there are 482 patients in the hospital at Pearl Harbor. The Bureau of Medicine and Surgery will probably recommend additional buildings, but not 4 as requested.

Conference, between the heads of the Naval Reserve and the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery was held this morning on the advisability of recommending waivers on physical disability. The Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, because of 30-day retirement privileges for the Naval Reserve, will stick to physical requirements of the regular Navy for the immediate future.

Research, Reports are being received from certain European belligerents that fairly large numbers of pilots are being incapacitated for weeks and sometimes months following flight to altitudes above 30,000 feet. The condition is probably not the direct result of failure of adequate oxygen supply. There are many symptoms and

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other features which make it very likely that the cause is aero-embolism or "bends", as we are familiar with it in daily operation. The condition has been known to be possible and likely, but this is the first time that it has been reported in any appreciable numbers. There has been a comprehensive program jointly between the Army and Navy and Public Health Service to carry out research directives toward the determination of the most practical answer to the problem. From the information available at the present time, it appears that there should be little danger of the development of "bends" in rapid ascent provided adequate oxygen is breathed from time of take-off.

Jacksonville Airport, will be officially opened on 15 October.

Banana River, will be officially opened on 1 October.

Bureau of Supplies and Accounts, announces:

A contract has been awarded the Elgin National Watch Company for 3,300 clocks, aircraft, at a unit price of \$10.33, ~~plus~~ spare parts in the amount of \$999.45, total price of \$34,088.45

A contract has been awarded the Switlik Parachute & Equipment Co. for 800 Parachutes, at a unit price of \$100.00, total cost \$80,000.00

A contract has been awarded the Pioneer Parachute Co., Inc. for 600 Parachutes at a unit cost of \$116.50, total cost \$69,900.00

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REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

2 October 1940

*file  
Journal  
Confidential*

Total Enlisted Strength, 1 October ..... 16,177

Fleet Reservists (enlisted) on active duty ..... 7,121

Other Reservists " " " " ..... 4,053

Retired Men " " " " ..... 65

Total ..... 11,239

Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours) ..... 166

Aggregate Discharges " " " " ..... 36

Gain ..... 130

Retired Officers returned to active duty as of 1 October:

Line Officers 649

Staff Officers 167

Warrant Officers 46

Total 862

Naval Reserve Enlisted Men ordered to active duty for

enforcement of neutrality and the strengthening of the national defense within the limits of peace-time organization:

<u>Character of Duty</u>	<u>Number Allowed</u>	<u>Number Obligated</u>	<u>Number Ordered</u>
Inshore Patrol Bases	340	212	88
Naval Reserve Aviation Bases	2300	2300	652
Communications	85	83	76
Afloat	5000	1352	1058
Miscellaneous	( )	1191	1189
Class V-7 Procurement Program	2325	224	223
Class V-7 for Midshipmen, USNR	5000	1500	
<b>Total Men</b>	<b>15,050</b>	<b>6,862</b>	<b>3,286</b>

*Original and duplicate, additional has storage, Kansas City, Mo., 100,000.*

Bureau of Yards and Docks - The following cost-plus-fixed-fee contract award has been made:

Facilities for additional enlisted personnel at the Naval Training Station, San Diego, California, awarded to Charles L. Hopkins of San Diego. Estimated contract cost - \$871,600.

Contract for Additional Ammunition Storage Facilities at the Naval Ammunition Depot, Hawthorne, Nevada, has been awarded to Wm. P. Neil Co., Los Angeles, California, for the sum of \$2,146,000; 375 calendar days.

The contract for Additional Storage Facilities at the Naval Ammunition Depot, Hawthorne, Nevada, has been cleared through the National Defense Advisory Council.

Additional work added to existing cost-plus-fixed-fee contracts:

Contract Hangar, etc. Naval Proving Grounds, Dahlgren, Va. - Jeffress-Dyer Co. - Extension to Gun Storage Facilities - \$56,000.

Contract Aviation Facilities Guantanamo Bay - Frederick Snare Corp. - Storehouse, Barracks, Hangars and Runways - \$531,000.

Contract Aviation Facilities, Pearl Harbor and Pacific Islands - Hawaiian Dredging Co. and Associates - Improvement Shop, Buildings and Telephone System, Navy Yard, Pearl Harbor - \$225,000.

Aircraft Storehouse, Laundry Building, Landplane Hangars, Parking Area, Seaplane Ramps and Recreation Facilities, Naval Air Station, Pearl Harbor, T.H. - \$2,231,100.

Tuberculosis Ward and Quarters, Guam - \$316,800.

Dispensary Building, Tutuila, Samoa - \$162,000.

Grading and Servicing, Additional Gas Storage, Kaneohe, Oahu, T.H. - \$1,766,700.

Additional Gasoline Storage and Servicing, Landing Field, Midway Islands - \$360,000.

Additional Underground Fuel Storage, Pearl Harbor, \$2,250,000.

Dredging Channels and Harbors, Hawaii - \$1,250,000.

Target Storage and Repair Facilities, Bishop Point, Oahu, T.H. - \$250,000.

Magazines and Storehouses, Naval Air Station, Pearl Harbor, T.H. - \$99,900.

Magazine and Storehouse, Kaneohe Bay, T.H. - \$62,100.

Magazine and Storehouse, Midway Islands - \$68,400.

Contract for Additional Pier, Navy Yard, Philadelphia, Pa. - Kaufman Construction Co., and J.E. Brenneman Co. - Strengthen Shipways #1, Navy Yard, Philadelphia - \$45,000.

Contract for Temporary Housing, Storage and Aviation Facilities, Parris Island - Charles W. Angle, Inc. - Repair to Buildings and Causeway and Extension to Roads, Parris Island, S.C. - \$571,500.

NOTE: Contracts in excess of \$500,000 were cleared by the National Defense Advisory Commission.

U.S.S. NAVAJO (fleet tug), hoisted plane PEY-1 aboard after it had been towed toward Pearl Harbor by the RAMAFO.

There was no apparent damage to the plane, though it will be inspected and its condition reported later.

Commander Atlantic Squadron, and Chief of Staff are in the Navy Department to discuss impending operations.

U.S.S. SAPPELO (ciler), will escort District draft from Norfolk about 15 October to the Canal Zone. They include

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submarine chasers 454, 456, and 460, and Yachts 33 and 34. Submarine chaser 457 will be in the group, designated to Tenth Naval District.

Admiral Greenslade and party flew from Miami and Nassau this morning, and will continue on to Guantanamo where they will join the ST. LOUIS.

Civil Engineers, 32 candidates passed the examination to fill existing vacancies in the grade of Assistant Civil Engineer, with the rank of lieutenant (junior grade). Ten of the candidates will be recommended for commissions immediately, the remaining candidates to be placed on an eligibility list from which additional appointments may be made.

Dental Officers, 32 candidates for appointment have successfully qualified and commissioned as Assistant Dental Surgeons (lieutenant, junior grade) as of 5 September.

University of Southern California, President Von Klein-sund offers the facilities of its workshop, School of Engineering, and related technical departments for the training of naval personnel, photography, cinematography, sound recording and supporting sciences. Faculty, buildings, and equipment are also offered with the most capable technicians from Hollywood.

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REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

3 October 1940

Total Enlisted Strength, 2 October ..... 104,442

Fleet Reservists (enlisted) on active duty .... 7,121

Other Reservists " " " " .... 4,053

Retired Men " " " " .... 65

Total ..... 11,239

Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours) ..... 289

Aggregate Discharges " " " " ..... 24

Gain ..... 265

Retired Officers returned to active duty as of 2 October:

Line Officers 649

Staff " 167

Warrant " 46

Total 862

Naval Reserve Enlisted Men ordered to active duty for enforcement of neutrality and the strengthening of the national defense within the limits of peace-time organization:

<u>Character of Duty</u>	<u>Number Allowed</u>	<u>Number Obligated</u>	<u>Number Ordered</u>
Inshore Patrol Bases	340	212	88
Naval Reserve Aviation Bases	2300	2300	652
Communications	85	83	76
Afloat	5000	1352	1058
Miscellaneous	(	1191	1189
Class V-7 Procurement Program	(2325	224	223
Class V-7 for Midshipmen, USNR	5000	1500	--
Total Men	15,050	6,862	3,286

2. Placentia Bay, New Foundland, Plane has been ordered

there for preliminary survey before U.S.S. BOWDITCH arrives about 13 October. At that time two more planes will be ordered there for survey of operating conditions.

U.S.S. ARCTURUS (cargo ship), former MORMACHAWK will undergo no conversion at present. As soon as full complement of officers and enlisted personnel are placed aboard the ARCTURUS will fill a special assignment to outlying bases.

U.S.S. SABINE (tanker), former Esso Albany will undergo conversion at Philadelphia for the next 2-1/2 months.

Status of aircraft, as of 27 September:

	Combatant	Training	Utility	Total
Useful Planes on Hand	1234	422	156	1812
Total Planes (including obsolete experimental)	1642	428	188	2258
Total Planes on order	1502	1467	32	3001

Bids for construction of 2 minelayers will be opened 23 October instead of 16 October.

Bureau of Yards and Docks, Contract for two storehouses for reserve material at the Naval Supply Depot, Oakland, Calif., has been awarded to Monson Bros., San Francisco, Calif. for the sum of \$555,400. Time 210 calendar days.

This contract has been cleared by the National Defense Advisory Committee.

3. Naval Reserve, Drills will be increased from 48 to 60

annually. All divisions and air squadrons will be brought up to full strength. Divisions of 69 men will be increased to 100. Air squadrons will be brought up to 124 men, increased from 67. There are 18 air squadrons.

Local Defense Divisions, there are 30, are being brought up to 150 men, previously 69. These latter divisions in many cases will probably be ordered to minesweepers, minelayers, yachts, submarine chasers, and net tenders.

District Headquarters and Reserve Armory, Boston. At a conference of Governor's representatives, Mayor's Committee, Commandant Boston, State W.P.A. Administrator and Labor Counsel, the project to build a new district headquarters and Reserve Armory was called off because of lack of bricklayers, metal workers, electricians and other skilled trades on the W.P.A. roles. Commandant is faced with 200,000 sq.ft. space shortage, lease for which in the City of Boston is estimated to cost from \$35,000 to \$72,000 a year.

Bureau of Navigation, is restricting enlistments, Class V-6, Naval Reserve, to ex-service men in order not to take draft dodgers and men for whom there are no facilities for

45.

training at the present time. As soon as the Navy's regular recruiting program has been achieved enlistments in V-6 will be opened to qualified men and the facilities of Naval Training Stations will be used to give necessary preliminary training to such recruits before ordering them to sea.

U.S.S. SEA RAVEN (SS196), reported to CINCUS on 30 September for duty in Submarine Force.

U.S.S. TUNA (SS 203), was launched at Mare Island on 2 October.

Coast Guard Cutter Campbell will leave New York today for Lisbon to relieve the OMAHA.

RECRUITING ACTIVITIES FOR WEEK ENDING 27 Sept. 1940

Number of applicants accepted for first enlistment	- 1744
Number of first enlistments .....	2028
Number of reenlistments, continuous service .....	41
Number of reenlistments, broken service .....	29
Total .....	
2089	

6 American Experts, studying the resources of Honduras

declared today that the North Coast of Honduras contained the best rubber growing lands in America.

Evening News, London, said tonight regarding the sinking of 132,000 British tons of shipping last week, "The 50 American destroyers should ease, but not in themselves cure this situation."

~~Confidential~~

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

4 October 1940

*File*

Total Enlisted Strength, 3 October ..... 164,713

Fleet Reservists (enlisted) on Active duty ..... 7,121

Other Reservists " " " " ..... 4,053

Retired Men " " " " ..... 65

Total ..... 11,239

Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours) ..... 314

Aggregate Discharges " " " " ..... 43

Gain ..... 271

Retired Officers returned to active duty, as of 3 October:

Line Officers 649

Staff Officers 167

Warrant Officers 46

Total .... 862

Naval Reserve Officers ordered to active duty for enforcement of neutrality and the strengthening of the National Defense within the limits of Peace-time authorization; as of 3 October:

Character of Duty	Number	Number	Number
	Allowed	Obligated	Ordered
V(G) Officers Afloat	300	300	307
Merchant Marines Afloat	225	225	268
Aviation Instructors	248	248	214
I-V(S) Officers	125	125	112
CEC-V(S) Officers	125	125	125
Supply Corps Officers	125	125	149
Medical and Dental Officers	177	177	190
Communication Officers	100	100	124
CC-V(S) Officers	20	20	20
Administration of Reserve			
Midshipman Training Program	140	140	110
Miscellaneous	320	485	485
Total Estimated Number Allowed	1905	2070	2104

2.

First Marine Brigade, will leave Quantico on 8-9-10

October entrained for Hampton Roads. On 12 October Brigade will sail for Guantanamo on the McCRAWLEY and BARNETT (Marine transports). The first air group arrived at Guantanamo yesterday composed mainly of scouting and fighter planes. Bombing squadrons will leave at a later date.

Advertisement, will soon go out for construction of a number of auxiliary vessels, among them destroyer tenders and minesweepers. Awards will be made after competitive bidding.

Battleship NORTH CAROLINA, construction is reported to be unusually rapid and there is every possibility this vessel will be completed six or seven months ahead of schedule.

Admiral Wilcox, today relieved Admiral Brinser as head of the Board of Inspection and Survey.

U.S.S. SUMNER (DD333), reports that on the request of the Ecuadorian Minister for Foreign Affairs the SUMNER proceeded to QUITO on 30 September for a conference regarding Peruvian officers on board. The Minister of Foreign Affairs now has no objection to the presence of Peruvian officers of the SUMNER anywhere within the territorial waters of Ecuador provided they take no part in survey

operations.

Bureau of Supplies and Accounts, announces the following:

A preliminary award has been made, subject to later confirmation to The Babcock & Wilcox Company for 400 sets of 5"/38 Weldments at a cost of \$2,300,000, and for the purchase of Government owned equipment not to exceed \$250,000.

A preliminary award has been made, subject to later confirmation, to United Aircraft Corporation, Hamilton Standard Propellers Division, for propeller equipment and spare parts, at a cost of \$43,962,098.30.

A preliminary award has been made, subject to later confirmation, to United Aircraft Corporation, Pratt & Whitney Aircraft Division, for engines at a cost of \$197,294,123.75

A contract has been awarded the Bausch & Lomb Optical Company for 520 pairs of Binoculars at an average unit cost of \$56.11, total cost \$29,173.00

The preliminary awards to the United Aircraft Corporation for propellers and engines include the propeller and engine requirements of both the Army and the Navy.

Supply Corps, has 583 regular officers as of 1 October, and 955 reserve officers with 105 applications favorably recommended. There are approximately 350 reserve of-

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Officers enrolled in the Supply Corps correspondence course. This bureau continues to be desirous of recruiting reserve officers under 26 years of age who hold a degree from a recognized university. A building on the grounds of the Naval Hospital, Washington, has been secured for the new class of the Reserve School beginning 7 October. The course is 5 months and will be composed of 36 officers.

Coast Guard, announced it is increasing its merchant ship control force by 1500 men, to prevent possible sabotage and neutrality violations in American ports. 500 extra men will be based at New York.

Curtiss-Wright Corporation, has completed plans for an expansion program calling for construction of three new airplane manufacturing plants at a cost of \$40,000,000. Executives said plants would be erected as speedily as possible at Buffalo, Columbus, and St. Louis, for mass production of fighting planes for the United States and Great Britain. Curtiss-Wright employment will jump from 9,200 to 45,000.

Congressional Sub-Committee, returned from an inspection flight to Midway, Johnston, and Palmyra Islands. Representative Darden said the Committee found construction work moving ahead according to schedule, "and very good progress being made."

~~Confidential~~

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY  
October 7, 1940

*file me  
by [unclear]*

Total Enlisted Strength, 5 October ..... 105,074  
Fleet Reservists (enlisted) on active duty ..... 7,121  
Other Reservists " " " " ..... 4,053  
Retired Men " " " " ..... 65  
Total ..... 11,239

Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours) ..... 334  
Aggregate Discharges " " " " ..... 117  
Gain ..... 217

Retired Officers returned to active duty, as of 5 October:

Line Officers 649  
Staff Officers 167  
Warrant Officers 46  
Total ... 862

Naval Reserve Officers ordered to active duty for enforcement of neutrality and the strengthening of the national defense within the limits of Peace-time authorization:

Character of Duty	Number Allowed	Number Obligated	Number Ordered
V(O) Officers Afloat	300	300	315
Merchant Marines Afloat	225	225	282
Aviation Instructors	248	248	81
I-V(S) Officers	125	125	115
OEC-V(S) Officers	125	125	135
Supply Corps Officers	125	125	150
Medical and Dental Officers	177	177	216
Communication Officers	100	100	136
CC-V(S) Officers	20	20	20
Administration of Reserve			
Midshipman Training Program	140	140	109
Miscellaneous	320	508	508
Total estimated number allowed:	1905	2093	2068

2.

Marine Corps, Total Enlisted Strength as of 5 October -- 35,533

Admiral Richardson, and Admiral Yarnell were in the Navy Department today for conferences.  
Lieut. Comdr. McDowell, Naval Reserve, addressed the General Board on the Mandate Islands and South Pacific Archipelago including the Dutch East Indies.

Brigadier General Strong, Assistant Chief of Staff recently returned from London, will address the General Board tomorrow.

All ship Contracts, to shipbuilders were mailed this morning, following up award letters previously mailed.

Excess Profits Tax, Bill has been passed and is awaiting signature.

Degaussing Cable, for Fleet. Information was given to bidders at 11: o'clock this morning, bids to be accepted

at 3: o'clock this afternoon. Deliveries are to be made at Boston, Brooklyn, Philadelphia, Charleston, Norfolk, Mare

Island, Puget Sound, Cavite and Pearl Harbor, 20 per cent within 12 days (except Pacific Coast, 19 days), and balance

of 80 per cent in 30 days. 22,500,000 feet are being purchased with a 100 per cent additional clause inserted in

contracts if more is desired.

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Midvale Company, only bidder for 18 forged steel splinter plates (about 37 tons) of vital importance to the con

struction program. Contract is still being held up as Midvale awaits decision on the minimum wage law, claiming it does not come under this law.

The Assistant Secretary, Mr. Compton, is leaving for New York to address the Army Ordnance Association, and Rutgers University. He will also inspect the Norden Bomb Sight Plant.

Emperor Hirohito, will review the main units combined of the Japanese Fleet in Tokio Bay on 11 October.

Protection of propeller shafting, against corrosion of sea water has long been a problem of the Navy. A new process of covering the shaft has been invoked by first sandblasting the shaft, (2) spraying it with a 1/16 inch coating of zinc, and (3) applying two coats of Phenolic varnish. Preliminary tests indicate a high degree of resistance to corrosion and pitting. A service test will now be tried out on the U.S.S. TRENTON.

Naval Training Stations. Projects are being rushed forward as follows:

Newport - 1 drill hall, 100' x 200'; Extension to Mess

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Hall, 20' x 200'; 3 barracks, 228 men each, total capacity 684 men. This contract was awarded 19 September, estimated time of completion, 5 months.

Norfolk - 11 barracks, 288 men each; subsistence building, 912 men; drill hall 100' x 500'; swimming pool, additional subsistence building, 1824 men.

Great Lakes, swimming pool, Marine barracks, 9 additional barracks, drill hall, trade school, Administrative building, supply and accounting office and storage building.

This contract is being negotiated; estimated time of completion is four months after contract award.

San Diego, trade school, auditorium, building and accessories; 4 barracks; recreation building; storage buildings; Contract for this construction was awarded 1 October; estimated time of completion, 6 months.

Acting Chaplains, seven have been appointed with the rank of lieutenant (j.g.) as of 20 October.

Senate Conferees reached an agreement today on legislation which will authorize an \$150,000,000 appropriation for a National Defense housing program. Under the legislation this housing would include enlisted men in the Navy, employees in the Navy Department assigned to Naval bases and Workers in essential defense industries.

~~Confidential~~

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

8 October 1940

<u>Total Enlisted Strength</u> , 7 October.....	165,311
<u>Fleet Reservists (enlisted)</u> on active duty .....	7,121
<u>Other Reservists</u> " " " " .....	4,053
<u>Retired Men</u> " " " " .....	65
Total .....	
<u>Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours)</u> .....	347
<u>Aggregate Discharges</u> " " " " .....	110
Gain .....	
	237

Naval Officers Retired, returned to active duty, as of October 7:

Line Officers	649
Staff Officers	167
Warrant Officers	46
Total .....	
	862

Naval Reserve Officers ordered to active duty for enforcement of neutrality and the strengthening of the National Defense within the limits of Peace-time authorization, as of 7 October:

<u>Character of Duty</u>	<u>Number Allowed</u>	<u>Number Obligated</u>	<u>Number Ordered</u>
V(G) Officers Afloat	300	300	316
Merchant Marines Afloat	225	225	282
Aviation Instructors	248	248	81
I-V(S) Officers	125	125	115
CEC-V(S) Officers	125	125	135
Supply Corps Officers	125	125	150
Medical and Dental Officers	177	177	216
Communication Officers	100	100	136
CC-V(S) Officers	20	20	20
<u>Administration of Reserve</u>			
Midshipman Training Program	140	140	109
Miscellaneous	320	508	508
<u>Total Estimated Number</u>			
Allowed:	1905	2093	2068

2.

September Commissionings of vessels were as follows:

Name	Type	Date
BASS, Bonita, Barracuda	Submarines	5 Sept.
Charles F. Hughes	Destroyer	5 "
S-11	Submarine	6 "
Hilary P. Jones	Destroyer	7 "
R-9, R-15	Submarines	9 "
McCawley	Transport	11 "
Kearney	Destroyer	13 "
Lansdale	"	17 "
S-31, S-32	Submarines	18 "
Mayo	Destroyer	18 "
PC-449	Sub Chaser	25 "
Barnett	Transport	25 "
Sabine	Oiler	25 "
Arcturus	Storeship	26 "

October Commissionings are contemplated as follows:

Name	Type
PC-454, 456, 457, 460	Sub Chasers
Albatross	Minesweeper
Bluebird	"
Catbird	"
Curlew	"
Flicker	"
Goldfinch	"
Grackle	"
Gull, Kite, Linnet	"

Winston Churchill, revealed before Commons that a

British battleship and a large British cruiser suffered serious damage in the action against the French at Dakar.

All Commodities, Price Index for the week ending 28 September was the same as the preceding week, 77.7.

Mobilization, organized reserve, it is probable that officers will be called only as ships become available for them. At present it is likely they will be called to of-

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ficer auxiliary vessels as they become available.

Several weeks will probably be allowed before calling, that they can take care of their business associations.

Commandants at various Navy Yards will probably name those best fitted to come to duty first.

Bureau of Ordnance, has placed orders for seventeen planers with Mesta Machine Company of Pittsburgh and General Machinery Corporation of Hamilton, Ohio, at a cost of \$3,311,000 for use in the Naval Ordnance Plant, South Charleston, W. Va.

Contract for Six Hundred low cost housing units, in the vicinity of Vallejo, California, has been awarded to Barrett & Hilp, San Francisco, California, for the sum of \$2,243,418. Time, twelve of the buildings shall be completed ready for occupancy within 90 calendar days and the remaining 38 buildings shall be completed within 150 calendar days, and the landscaping shall be completed within 360 calendar days. This contract was cleared by the National Defense Advisory Commission.

Yacht VARA, owned by Harold Vanderbilt, was taken over 7 October.

U.S.S. LIVERMORE (DD 435), preliminary acceptance from Bath Iron Works Corp. on 7 October, and placed in full

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commission at Navy Yard, Boston, on the same day.

Destroyers to Britain, following vessels were decommissioned and turned over on 8 October: BRANCH, HUNT, MASON, SATTERLEE, LAUB, AULICK, EDWARDS, and McLANAHAN.

U.S.S. McFARLAND (DD237) recommissioned and placed in full commission on 5 October, at Navy Yard, Mare Island.

Naval Mobile Hospital Unit, was placed in full commission at Navy Yard, New York, on 5 October.

Negotiations, are being speeded for acquisition of 53 Merchant Marine vessels to fill the need for auxiliaries. 22 auxiliary craft have already been purchased or advanced to the final contract stage. These vessels and 31 others will be converted as fast as possible. The budget allows \$75,000,000 to be spent on such ships.

British Admiralty, announces the loss of 72,337 tons of merchant shipping due to enemy action in the week ending 29 September. Losses included 10 British, 4 allied, and 1 neutral ship.

American Shipbuilders, launched 632,558 tons of ships during 1939.

Lord Lothian, did not fly to England today giving as his reason the seriousness of the Far Eastern situation.

~~Confidential~~

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

October 9, 1940

Total Enlisted Strength, 8 October .....165,599

Fleet Reservists (enlisted) on active duty ..... 7,121

Other Reservists " " " " ..... 4,053

Retired Men " " " " ..... 95

Total ..... 11,269

Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours) ..... 347

Aggregate Discharges " " " " ..... 189

Gain ..... 158

Retired Officers returned to active duty, as of 8 October:

Line Officers 649

Staff " 167

Warrant " 46

Total ... 862

Naval Reserve Enlisted Men ordered to active duty for enforcement of neutrality and the strengthening of the National Defense within the limits of Peace-time organization:

<u>Character of Duty</u>	<u>Number Allowed</u>	<u>Number Obligated</u>	<u>Number Ordered</u>
Inshore Patrol Bases	340	212	89
Naval Res. Aviation Bases	2300	2300	680
Communications	85	83	76
Afloat	5000	1352	1190
Miscellaneous	(	1191	1054
Class V-7 Procurement Program	(2325	224	219
Class V-7 for Midshipmen, USNR	5000	1500	1500
Radio and Signal Schools	<u>4000</u>	<u>534</u>	<u>310</u>
Total Men	19,050	7,396	5,118

2.

BB 61-64, Contract with the American Engineering Company will probably be signed shortly for windlasses, capstans, and anchors. This contract will run about \$517,000.

Storage Powder Depot, negotiations are underway for purchase of land in Martin County, Indiana, for building this depot.

Far East families, of naval personnel are being recalled though the process of their return may be slow. It has been suggested that S.S. WASHINGTON and MANHATTAN be sent for removal of Americans in China and Japan, and negotiations are underway to make this possible. Families of Naval officers are being refused passage to the Far East because of the existing conditions. The Japanese press continues to be warlike in its statements regarding U.S.

embargoes in spite of seeming lack of interest in Britain's opening of the Burma Road. Some papers even consider our attitude "tantamount to a declaration of war", adding that Japan has stored important munitions against a possible break with Britain and the United States. In order to capitalize the occupation of French Indo-China, the Japanese Government is sending a trade mission to Hanoi.

Rear Admiral Greenslade, and his mission will visit

San Juan, Puerto Rico, in the ST. LOUIS arriving there about 20 October for a stay of 3 days duration.

Destroyers to Britain, Date of arrival of division 72 composed of the Claxton, Fairfax, Ringgold, Sigourney, Tillman and Robinson at Halifax is delayed until 8: A.M. 15 November. These vessels will remain in the Norfolk Area to accomplish additional work, the accomplishment of which will allow them to depart from Newport on 13 November.

Bureau of Yards and Docks, The following cost-plus-fixed-fee contract award has been made:

Facilities for additional enlisted personnel at the Naval Training Station, Great Lakes, Ill. awarded to the Henry Ericsson Company of Chicago, Ill. Estimated contract cost - \$1,200,000.

The following contract has also been awarded:

Two storehouses for reserve material at the Naval Supply Depot, Oakland, California, awarded to Monson Bros. of San Francisco, Calif. Estimated cost - \$555,400. Time of completion 210 days.

U.S.S. O'BRIEN (DD415) reported to CINCUS for duty on 8 October.

U.S.S. BOWDITCH, after fueling at Norfolk, left on 8 October for Placentia Harbor (Newfoundland) to act as survey ship for new base, and will arrive there on 13 October.

4.

RECRUITING ACTIVITIES FOR WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 4, 1940:

Number of applicants accepted for first enlistment -	1804
Number of reenlistments (first) .....	1313
Number of reenlistments, continuous service ...	64
Number of reenlistments under broken service ..	<u>36</u>
Total .....	1413

German Spokesman, for the Economic Section of the German High Command told foreign correspondents that American should avoid underestimating the economic strength of the German-Italian-Japanese alliance. He said Japan was prepared for any economic retaliation by the United States. Germany and Japan will soon enter into closer economic relations, he said, and Germany will deliver important materials to Japan.

Diving tests, a new electrically heated, fiber glass insulated diving suit was approved by the diving school at the Navy Yard today. It will permit divers to remain at great depths twice as long as previously. This new equipment will be sent to the six salvage vessels tending submarines in the Atlantic and Pacific.

Excess profits tax, Amortization Bill was signed today and will ease the repayment of defense plant expansion costs. This bill becoming law will aid in negotiating contracts previously troublesome to the Navy Department.

~~Confidential~~

File

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY  
10 October 1940

Total Enlisted Strength, 9 October ..... 166,371

Fleet Reservists (enlisted) on active duty ..... 7,121

Other Reservists " " " " ..... 4,565

Retired Men " " " " ..... 95

Total ..... 11,782

Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours) ..... 412

Aggregate Discharges " " " " ..... 53

Gain ..... 359

Retired Officers returned to active duty as of 8 October

Line Officers 649

Staff " 167

Warrant " 46

Total ..... 862

Naval Reserve Officers ordered to active duty for enforcement of neutrality and the strengthening of the national defense within the limits of peace-time authorization, as of 9 October:

<u>Character of Duty</u>	<u>Number Allowed</u>	<u>Number Obligated</u>	<u>Number Ordered</u>
V(G) Officers Afloat	300	300	316
Merchant Marines Afloat	225	225	282
Aviation Instructors	248	248	81
I-V(S) Officers	125	125	115
CEC-V(S) Officers	125	125	135
Supply Corps Officers	125	125	150
Medical and Dental Officers	177	177	216
Communication Officers	100	100	136
CC-V(S) Officers	20	20	20
<u>Administration of Reserve</u>			
Midshipman Training Program	140	140	109
Miscellaneous	320	508	508
<u>Total Estimated Number Allowed:</u>	1905	2093	2068

2.

Bureau of Supplies and Accounts has awarded contracts

as follows:

Contracts for climb indicators (aircraft) awarded to:

Kollman Instrument Division of Square D Company, 2,994,  
unit price \$64.00, spare parts \$3,000.00, total \$194,616.00;

Pioneer Instrument Division of Bendix Aviation Corporation  
for 4,402, unit price \$62.75, spare parts \$3,000.00, total  
\$279,225.50.

Contracts for steel awarded to:

Carnegie Illinois Steel Corporation in the amount of  
\$4,826,464.55; Jones & Laughlin Steel Corporation, 1,538,000  
lbs. of steel, total price \$86,281.80; Lukens Steel Company,

16,690,000 lbs. of steel, total price \$889,024.85; Worth  
Steel Company, 30,486,000 lbs. of steel, total price  
\$1,343,095.52. These contracts cover the Navy's estimated

requirements of steel of the types specified in the con-  
tract for a period of 6 months from 1 October 1940.

A contract for 150 airplanes and spare parts has been  
awarded to Curtiss-Wright Corporation at a total cost of  
\$3,674,566.39.

Bureau of Ordnance authorized expansion of the Camden

Forge Company, Camden, N.J., to increase capacity for

3.

forging and machining ship shafting, turbine rotors, and  
turret training racks to an amount of about \$3,000,000.

The Government will own these facilities.

Hanoi Press, for Thursday says Japan plans action on

the opening of the Burma Road, that it can be cut or

bombed from a base in Indo-China; Japanese military action

against China is said to have already started from Indo-

China bases.

Shanghai, 4th Marines report Americans are calm and in

most cases are in no hurry to leave the Orient.

Admiral Greenslade, is expected to return about 24 Oc-

tober when the actual field work for construction of bases

will probably have been completed. His visit of 3 days

to Puerto Rico is to fit that Island into the picture

along with the other bases acquired by leave from Britain.

The Newfoundland survey now in progress will achieve es-

tablishment of a base in that area. In Washington mem-

bers of the Greenslade Board are working with various

bureaus of the Navy Department collecting data and study-

ing the outer defense survey as a whole.

Governor of Maryland, has offered land at the mouth of

the Patuxent River for erection of a naval or aviation

4.

base covering 1400 acres on the East bank of the river.

U.S.S. GRAMPUS (Submarine) will be launched at the Electric Boat Company, Groton, Connecticut about 23 December.

U.S.S. FULTON (submarine tender) will be launched at the Navy Yard, Mare Island sometime in December.

Mobilization, Organized Marine Corps Reserve, consisting of 23 battalions, ground units, has been directed to take place on or about 7 November 1940. Small administrative details will precede these units to mobilization points. Eight battalions will be mobilized at Quantico, 1 at Philadelphia, 9 at San Diego, 1 at Mare Island, 3 at Norfolk, and 1 at Puget Sound.

Army-Navy Munitions Board, is uniting with members of the Labor Department toward distribution of skilled labor to key points in the defense scheme, removing gluts in some sections of the country to fill needs in others.

American Charge d'Affaires, to Berlin, Alexander Kirk, has been recalled. The State Department said he would not return to Berlin, adding that there was no significance to the recall beyond the desire to reassign personnel.

Japanese Commandant, expressed regret for "unwarrantable contact" of Japanese gendarmes in seizing and beating a Marine in the International Settlement.

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~~Confidential~~

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

October 11, 1940

Total Enlisted Strength, 10 October ..... 166,635

Fleet Reservists (enlisted) on active duty .... 7,122

Other Reservists " " " " .... 4,565

Retired Men " " " " .... 95

Total ..... 11,782

Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours) ..... 391

Aggregate Discharges " " " " ..... 127

Gain ..... 264

Retired Officers returned to active duty as of 10 Oct.

Line Officers 649

Staff Officers 167

Warrant Officers 46

Total 862

Naval Reserve Officers ordered to active duty for enforcement of neutrality and the strengthening of the national defense within the limits of peace-time authorization, as of 10 October:

Character of Duty	Number Allowed	Number Obligated	Number Ordered
V(G) Officers Afloat	300	300	316
Merchant Marines Afloat	225	225	282
Aviation Instructors	248	248	81
I-V(S) Officers	125	125	115
GEC-V(S) Officers	125	125	135
Supply Corps Officers	125	125	150
Medical and Dental Officers	177	177	216
Communication Officers	100	100	136
CC-V(S) Officers	20	20	20
Administration of Reserve			
Midshipman Training Program	140	140	109
Miscellaneous	320	508	508
Total Estimated Number Allowed:	1905	2093	2068

2.

Brushes for Naval Use - One of the effects of the hostilities in Europe and the Far East has been to cause a shortage of bristles such as are used for the manufacture of brushes in the United States. Brushes for Naval use are procured in accordance with Navy Department or Federal Specifications which specify in most instances bristles imported from China, Siberia, or France. There has been practically no domestic bristle industry for the reason that the cheap labor obtainable in those countries has made it impossible for such an industry to exist here, and for the further reason that the bristles do not grow as long due to the slaughter of hogs in this country at a younger age and to climatic conditions. The importation of bristles from France at the present time has practically ceased and that from Siberia and China has been greatly curtailed. A considerable portion of the Chinese bristle industry has fallen into the hands of the Japanese. The above facts and the increased demand for brushes due to the Defense Program has resulted in a rise in the prices demanded for bristles. To meet this situation representatives of the brush manufacturers conferred recently in Washington with Navy Department representatives regarding the Government's need and the

3.

available substitutes for the purpose. A committee of the brush manufacturers is now working on recommendations for revision of brush specifications. It is probable that greater tolerance regarding the length of bristles may be necessary and due to the greater abundance of short bristles that sizes of brushes permitting shorter bristles may be added to the specifications. Where certain types of bristles, such as White French bristles, are not available substitution of other bristles will be necessary.

Contract, for Housing and Ammunition Facilities at the Naval Mine Depot, Naval Fuel Depot, Yorktown, Virginia and Newport News, Virginia, has been awarded on a cost-plus-fixed-fee basis to the Virginia Engineering Company, Inc., Newport News, Virginia, and Wise Contracting Company, Inc., Richmond, Virginia. The total estimated cost, including fee, is \$4,026,260.00. This contract was cleared through the National Defense Advisory Commission.

U.S.S. BEAR, arrives at the Naval Academy this afternoon and will leave Annapolis on 14 October for the Antarctic. The BEAR will pick up the 33 members of the Antarctic Expedition. The NORTH STAR is scheduled to leave Seattle, Washington, early in December to assist

the BEAR in this task.

U.S.S. SAILFISH and THRESHER (Submarines) will take an indoctrinal training cruise from 26 October until 22 December in American waters spending 49 days at Coco Solo, Canal Zone.

Senator Walsh, disclosed today that three Massachusetts national defense housing projects have been accorded tentative priority by the Navy Department. He said that priority would be given to 50 units at Squantum, an additional 50 units at Squantum, 50 units at the Boston Navy Yard, and 20 units at Chelsea.

Maritime Commission, records show 5 large passenger vessels and 25 freighters available in the Far Eastern waters for the evacuation of Americans.

Admiral Standley, speaking in Philadelphia last night, advocated sending a fleet of destroyers to take a "firm stand" against Japan. He also urged outright declaration of war against the axis powers.

Bureau of Yards and Docks - Contract has been awarded for three ammunition industrial buildings at the Naval Torpedo Station, Keyport, Washington, to Dally Construction and Engineering Co. and C.F. Dally of Seattle, Washington, for \$166,949. Time of completion 180 days.

~~Confidential~~

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

14 October 1940

Total Enlisted Strength, 12 October ..... 167,212

Fleet Reservists (enlisted) on active duty .... 7,122

Other Reservists " " " " ..... 4,565

Retired Men " " " " ..... 128

Total ..... 11,815

Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours) .... 421

Aggregate Discharges " " " " ..... 46

Gain ..... 365

Retired Officers returned to active duty as of 12 Oct:

Line Officers 649

Staff Officers 167

Warrant Officers 46

Total 862

Naval Reserve Officers ordered to active duty for enforcement of neutrality and the strengthening of the national defense within the limits of peace-time authorization, as of 12 October:

<u>Character of Duty</u>	<u>Number Allowed</u>	<u>Number Obligated</u>	<u>Number Ordered</u>
-V(G) Officers Afloat	300	300	316
Merchant Marines Afloat	225	225	282
-Aviation Instructors	248	248	81
I-V(S) Officers	125	125	115
CEC-V(S) Officers	125	125	135
Supply Corps Officers	125	125	150
Medical and Dental Officers	177	177	216
Communication Officers	100	100	136
CC-V(S) Officers	20	20	20
Administration of Reserve			
Midshipman Training Program	140	140	109
Miscellaneous	320	508	508
Total Estimated Number Allowed:	1905	2093	2068

2.

Bureau of Aeronautics, The Chief of the Bureau of Aeronautics, Rear Admiral J. H. Towers, will leave today by air accompanied by Lieutenant Commander W. A. Read of the Bureau of Aeronautics, to represent the Navy Department at the commissioning of the U.S. Naval Air Station, Jacksonville, Florida, on 15 October.

Contract for Cold Storage Building at the Naval Supply Depot, Oakland, California, has been awarded to K.E. Parker Company, San Francisco, California, for the sum of \$595,600. Time, 270 calendar days. This contract has been cleared through the National Defense Advisory Commission.

U.S.S. OMAHA, enroute from Lisbon, paid a courtesy visit to Monrovia, Liberia, on 9 October, departing 10 October. OMAHA is now returning to American waters.

Medical Corps, Medical School students finishing two years of medicine will be taken in to the new reserve classification HC(V)K with the rank of Ensigns. This classification (previously reported) will permit pharmacists, etc., to be taken in through the rank of lieutenant.

Organized Reserve Mobilization, deferments on requests to avoid active duty will be handled entirely within the Navy Department according to Volume 3 of the Selective Service rules. Deferment will be considered on requests

3.

because of essential industries classification and family reasons.

District Defense, Destroyer Squadron 41 has been designated for assignment to District defense forces on the West Coast as follows: Destroyer division 83 to the 12th Naval District; Destroyer division 82 plus the GILMER to the 13th Naval District. Upon the GILMER'S arrival at the Canal Zone and upon relief of Destroyer division 82, these 5 vessels will proceed to new stations. Destroyer Division 83 will proceed to new station on completion of overhaul about 25 November. Upon arrival on the West Coast of Destroyer division 82 plus the GILMER, 2 vessels will be temporarily assigned to the 12th Naval District until arrival of Destroyer division 83. Under the above assignments, Destroyer Squadron 41 will be disbanded.

Rear Admiral Greenslade, and party have left Port of Spain, Trinidad for Georgetown, British Guiana.

Degaussing, the YORKTOWN, MINNEAPOLIS, ASTORIA, NEW ORLEANS, and DOBBIN (destroyer tender) have been made available under first priority for degaussing immediately upon receipt of material and coil data at Pearl Harbor.

4.

Also available with second priority are the PORTER, CUSHING, PERKINS, PRESTON and SMITH. Completion of this work is to be expedited. The PHELPS and PLATE will be available for degaussing on arrival at Mare Island about 16 October. The maximum degaussing that can be accomplished at Puget Sound Navy Yard prior to 1 January follows:

- a) IDAHO, NEW MEXICO, MISSISSIPPI, complete degaussing and AA protection by 16 November;
- b) WEST VIRGINIA, COLORADO, MARYLAND, YORKTOWN and one auxiliary, complete degaussing and AA protection by 10 December;
- c) CALIFORNIA, TENNESSEE, ENTERPRISE and one auxiliary for degaussing only, completion 26 December.

These dates are predicated on wire being on hand by dates of arrival of ships in Yard. This work is Priority 1, over modernization of the SARATOGA and all new construction.

Bureau of Yards and Docks has awarded the following cost-plus-fixed-fee contract:

Quarters for officers and married enlisted men; laboratory building; extension of garage; extension of power house; locomotive crane shed; carpenter shop building; and barracks building for Marine guard at the Naval Proving Grounds, Dahlgren, Va., awarded to Jeffress-Dyer, Inc. of Washington, D. C. - Estimated contract cost - \$372,000.

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ ← File

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

15 October 1940

Total Enlisted Strength, 14 October..... 167,591

<u>Fleet Reservists (enlisted) on active duty</u> .....	7,122
<u>Other Reservists</u> " " " " .....	4,565
<u>Retired Men</u> " " " " .....	128
<u>Total</u> .....	11,815
<u>Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours)</u> .....	403
<u>Aggregate Discharges</u> " " " " .....	20
<u>Gain</u> .....	383

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

Line Officers	649
Staff Officers	167
Warrant Officers	46
<u>Total</u>	862

Naval Reserve Officers ordered to active duty for enforcement of neutrality and the strengthening of the national defense within the limits of peace-time authorization, as of 12 October:

Character of Duty	Number Allowed	Number Obligated	Number Ordered
V(G) Officers Afloat	300	300	328
Merchant Marines Afloat	225	225	292
Aviation Instructors	248	248	89
I-V(S) Officers	125	125	116
CEC-V(S) Officers	125	125	143
Supply Corps Officers	125	125	158
Medical and Dental Officers	177	177	238
Communication Officers	100	100	143
CC-V(S) Officers	20	20	20
Administration of Reserve			
Midshipman Training Program	140	140	111
Miscellaneous	320	504	504
Recruiting Organized Reserves	-	-	11
Total Estimated Number			
Allowed	1905	2089	2153

2.

Naval Reserve Enlisted Men Ordered to Active duty for enforcement of Neutrality and the strengthening of the National Defense within the limits of Peace-Time organization, as of 12 October:

Character of Duty	Number Allowed	Number Obligated	Number Ordered
Inshore Patrol Bases	340	215	89
Naval Res. Aviation Bases	2300	2300	696
Communications	85	83	76
Afloat	5000	1352	1211
Miscellaneous	(	1197	1073
Class V-7 Procurement Prog.	(2325)	224	218
Class V-7 for Midshipmen USNR	5000	1500	1505
Radio and Signal Schools	4000	534	354
<b>Total Men</b>	<b>19,050</b>	<b>7,405</b>	<b>5,222</b>

Marine Corps - Total Enlisted Strength, 14 Oct. ... 36,127

U.S.S. NORTH CAROLINA, while hoisting a 40 ton turret section on deck with two cranes one of the crane booms bent

dropping the turret section slowly to the deck. There were no serious injuries to personnel, though there was damage to the deck of the NORTH CAROLINA. This accident occurred this morning and extent of damage to ship will be reported in full when report of investigation now underway is received.

Airplane fatality, Lieutenant (j.g.) James N. Mayes and Aviation Machinist, 2nd class, L.H. Dillow were killed when their plane attached to Bombing Squadron 3 crashed near Camp Kearney, San Diego, yesterday afternoon. Cause of accident is as yet unknown.

3.

Bureau of Yards and Docks - Contract for Ground Machine

Gun Range, at the Naval Operating Base (Air Station), Norfolk, Virginia, has been awarded to Arnold M. Diamond, Brooklyn, New York, for the sum of \$15,334; time - 75 calendar days.

Contract for storage building at the Naval Supply Depot, Oakland, California, has been awarded to the K.E. Parker Co. of San Francisco for \$595,600. Time of completion, 270 calendar days.

S.S. MONTEREY and MARIPOSA of the Matson Line, in addition to the S.S. WASHINGTON (previously reported) will make special trips to bring back Americans from Asiatic points. The MONTEREY will sail from San Francisco today for Shanghai, Yokohama, and Hong Kong.

Alexander Kirk, Charge d'Affairs at Berlin, reached Lisbon to board a Pan-American Clipper for the United States.

War Sinkings, Mercantile shipping losses during the week ending 6 October were the lowest since the week ending 6 May, the British Admiralty reported today.

7 British ships totalling 24,943 tons; 2 allied ships totalling 2,464 tons, and 1 neutral ship of 3,687 tons were lost, a grand total of 31,094 tons.

4.

Navy Bombers, made practice flights over Manila last night, their first such maneuvers since arrival from the United States. These flights will be increased for experience to be gained by pilots.

Russo-Japanese relations, rumors that Russia and Japan will sign a non-aggression pact grow stronger. The Russians would continue to aid China, it is thought, while giving Japan free reign in Indo-China and the Dutch East Indies.

Rear Admiral Moreell, urged P.W.A.'s nine regional directors to speed up essential projects underway, sponsored by the Navy Department. The W.P.A. advised the Navy Department that 500,000 workers would be assigned to defense projects by mid-winter.

Voluntary Reserve, both Naval and Marine, have been advised to hold themselves available for possible mobilization on short notice.

Mediterranean Action, reported by the British said the cruiser AJAX had sunk two destroyers of 679 tons, and one destroyer of the ARTAGLIERE class of 1,620 tons. The Italians admitted the losses.

Lord Lothian, British Ambassador to the United States, left for London today by clipper plane.

~~Confidential~~ File

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

16 October 1940

Total Enlisted Strength, 15 October ..... 167,867

Fleet Reservists (enlisted) on active duty .... 7,222

Other Reservists " " " " ..... 4,565

Retired Men " " " " ..... 128

Total ..... 11,815

Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours) ..... 372

Aggregate Discharges " " " " ..... 96

Total ..... 276

Retired Officers returned to active duty as of 15 October:

Line Officers 649

Staff Officers 167

Warrant Officers 46

Total 862

Naval Reserve Officers ordered to active duty for enforcement of neutrality and the strengthening of the national defense within the limits of peace-time authorization, as of 15 October:

Character of Duty	Number Allowed	Number Obligated	Number Ordered
V(G) Officers Afloat	300	300	328
Merchant Marines Afloat	225	225	292
Aviation Instructors	248	248	89
I-V(S) Officers	125	125	116
CEC-V(S) Officers	125	125	143
Supply Corps Officers	125	125	158
Medical and Dental Officers	177	177	238
Communication Officers	100	100	143
CC-V(S) Officers	20	20	20
Administration of Reserve			
- Midshipman Training Program	140	140	111
Miscellaneous	320	504	504
Recruiting Organized Reserves	-	-	11
Total Estimated Number Allowed	1905	2089	2153

2.

Seaplane tenders, Bids were opened at noon today for the construction of ten. The Associated Shipbuilders, Puget Sound Bridge and Dredging Company, and Lake Union Dry Dock and Machine Works, Seattle, Washington, submitted the following bids with a fixed price and alternate bids with provisions for adjustments for costs of materials and labor:

<u>Fixed Price</u>	<u>Alternate Bids</u>
\$5,698,375 for each of two	\$5,198,395, for each of two
5,247,93, for each of four	4,747,923, for each of four

The Williamette Iron and Steel Corporation, Portland, Oregon, submitted the following bids, based on different types of propulsion machinery, with provisions for adjustments for cost of labor and material:

<u>Fixed Price</u>	<u>Alternate Bids</u>
---	\$2,260,645) For each of
---	6,485,645) Four.
---	\$6,196,645) For each of
---	6,387,645) Six.

The Southern California Shipbuilding Company, Los Angeles, California, submitted the following bid with provisions for adjustments for cost of labor and material:

<u>Fixed Price</u>	<u>Alternate Bids</u>
---	\$5,887,907, for each of six

Revised bidders' data for Minesweepers Nos. 58 to 65 inclusive, will be issued on or about October 16, including provisions for the Department furnishing main propelling machinery. Bids will be opened October 30.

3.

Contract for Additional Facilities at the Marine Barracks, Parris Island, South Carolina, has been awarded on a cost-plus-fixed-fee basis to Charles W. Angle, Inc. and Potter & Shackelford, Inc., Greensboro, North Carolina. The total estimated cost, including fee, of this contract is \$3,900,000.

Contract for Storage Facilities at the Naval Operating Base, Norfolk, Virginia, has been awarded on a cost plus fixed fee basis to Doyle and Russell, The Central National Bank Building, Richmond, Virginia. The total estimated cost, including fee, of this contract is \$856,000. These contracts were cleared by the National Defense Advisory Commission. The total of the above contracts is \$3,925,000.

Allocation of ship construction, has been made to the following Navy Yards, the total cost of the construction being estimated at \$50,000,000:

- 2 Submarine Tenders - Navy Yard, Mare Island, Calif.
- 1 Submarine Tender - Navy Yard, Puget Sound, Wash.

These contracts were cleared through the National Defense Advisory Commission.

The Under Secretary, Mr. Forrestal is in Hartford, Connecticut at the Pratt & Whitney Company.

4.

Negotiations, are underway for the acquisition of 6 vessels for conversion into transports. Among those under consideration are the EXCALIBUR and 5 ships of the "City" class at present owned by the Baltimore Mail Line, subsidiary of United States Lines. These ships would fill out the program of 10 transports to be purchased, the President Grant, President Jackson, Santa Marie and Santa Barbara already having been turned over to the Navy and renamed the HARRIS, ZEILIN, McCAWLEY, and BARNETT.

Organized Reserve, the Second division of Baltimore has been ordered to active duty as of 18 October for the duration of the emergency, and will proceed to the Canal Zone.

British Admiralty, advises that no merchant vessel shall approach within 3 miles of the United Kingdom between sunset and sunrise except as organized in convoys which may proceed to any British port. Vessels proceeding from any other English port to any may enter ports of Northern Ireland and any English or Scottish port from Milford Haven, North. The Orkneys and Shetland Islands are excluded. In fog or low visibility no merchant vessel is to approach English ports unless permission has been granted by patrol vessels. Vessels failing to comply with these instructions will be fired on.

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

17 October 1940

Total Enlisted Strength, 16 October ..... 168,280

Fleet Reservists (enlisted) on active duty .... 7,122

Other Reservists ..... " " " " .... 4,568

Retired Men " " " " .... 140

Total ..... 11,830

Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours) ..... 420

Aggregate Discharges " " " " ..... 22

Gain ..... 398

Retired Officers returned to active duty as of 16 October:

Line Officers 691

Staff " 173

Warrant " 53

Total..... 917

Naval Reserve Officers ordered to active duty for enforcement of neutrality and the strengthening of the national defense within the limits of peace-time authorization, as of 17 October:

Character of Duty	Number	Number	Number
	Allowed	Obligated	Ordered
V(G) Officers Afloat	300	300	328
Merchant Marines Afloat	225	225	292
Aviation Instructors	248	248	89
I-V(S) Officers	125	125	116
CEC-V(S) Officers	125	125	143
Supply Corps Officers	125	125	158
Medical and Dental Officers	177	177	238
Communication Officers	100	100	143
CC-V(S) Officers	20	20	20
Administration of Reserve			
Midshipman Training Program	140	140	111
Recruiting Organized Reserve	-	-	11
Miscellaneous	320	504	504
Total Estimated Number			
	Allowed: 1905	2089	2153

2.

RECRUITING ACTIVITIES FOR WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 11, 1940:

Number of applicants accepted for first enlistment-1750	
Number of first enlistments .....	2133
Number of reenlistments, continuous service .....	69
Number of reenlistments, broken service .....	35
Total .....	2237

Bureau of Yards and Docks - The following cost-plus-fixed fee contracts have been awarded:

1042 housing units at the Naval Operating Base, Norfolk, Virginia, awarded to Byrne Organization of Norfolk, Va. - Estimated contract cost, \$2,284,000.

1200 housing units at the Naval Operating Base, San Diego, California, awarded to The Wm. Simpson Construction Company, Los Angeles, Calif. Estimated contract cost, \$3,800,000.

400 housing units at Long Beach, California, awarded to the McNeil Construction Company, Los Angeles, Calif. Estimated contract cost, \$1,263,000.

U.S.S. WASHINGTON, will carry the 5th Division of the Baltimore Naval Reserve to Panama for duty as local defense division, stopping at Norfolk on 20 October to pick up 1000 men (recruits) for the fleet. Washington will proceed to San Pedro from Panama. Fifth Division, Baltimore, consists of 4 Officers and 150 men. In addition it is expected in the near future that 2 local defense divisions of similar

3

size will be ordered to Guantanamo and 1 to San Juan.

Additional Tankers, will be taken over, 2 on 21 October and one on 25 October. They are the SEAKAY, Esso Trenton and Esso Raleigh, to be renamed SANTEE, WACHITA, and CASCASCIA respectively. After a brief period of outfitting and conversion they are expected to arrive on the West Coast by 1 December.

U.S.S. ARCTURUS (Mormachawk), has arrived at the Philadelphia Navy Yard for minor alterations that will be restricted to the time limit of a short fitting out period.

Commandant 13th Naval District, has urgently recommended purchase of S.S. DENALI of the Alaskan Steamship Company for service in transportation to new bases, supplementing the facilities now provided by the SPICA.

First Marine Brigade, was disembarked at Guantanamo on 16 October from transports Mc CAWLEY, MANLEY, and BARNETT.

U.S.S. CHEW (DD106), was commissioned at the Destroyer Base, San Diego, on 14 October.

EAGLE 32, was placed in reduced commission at Navy Yard, Puget Sound on 8 October.

U.S.S. SAILFISH (Submarine), reported to CINCUS for duty in the Submarine Force on 12 October,

4.

Squadron 40-T, has left Pernambuco for Norfolk, arriving at the latter on 22 October. Rear Admiral LeBreton, Commander, will then assume command of Battleship Division 5, on disbanding Squadron 40-T.

Commandant, 13th Naval District, reports by dispatch that all preliminary work at Dutch Harbor, Alaska, in accordance with details previously reported was completed on the arrival of the SPICA, 14 October. SPICA carried all detachment personnel not transported in the NORTHWESTERN and all specified equipment and supplies less the artillery lighter. Temporary shore construction is proceeding for completion by December with 145 contract employees now engaged.

Representative Darden, and members of the Congressional Committee inspecting Pacific Defenses reported today after a 15,000 miles trip into the Mid-Pacific to see naval defenses.

Planes for Sweden, 250 originally ordered, pursuit planes will be divided between the Army Air Corps and the Canadian Air Force, according to reports.

Alexander Kirk, Charge d'Affaires at Berlin departed for New York today by clipper plane from Lisbon.

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~~Confidential~~

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

18 October 1940

Total Enlisted Strength, 17 October ..... 168,629

Fleet Reservists (enlisted) on active duty ..... 7,122

Other Reservists " " " " ..... 4,568

Retired Men " " " " ..... 140

Total ..... 11,830

Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours) ..... 396

Aggregate Discharges " " " " ..... 47

Gain ..... 349

Retired Officers returned to active duty as of 17 October:

Line Officers 691

Staff " 173

Warrant " 153

Total .... 917

Naval Reserve Officers ordered to active duty for enforcement of neutrality and the strengthening of the national defense within the limits of peace-time authorization, as of 17 October:

<u>Character of Duty</u>	<u>Number Allowed</u>	<u>Number Obligated</u>	<u>Number Ordered</u>
V(G) Officers Afloat	300	300	328
Merchant Marines Afloat	225	225	292
Aviation Instructors	248	248	89
I-V(S) Officers	125	125	116
CEC-V(S) Officers	125	125	143
Supply Corps Officers	125	125	158
Medical and Dental Officers	177	177	238
Communication Officers	100	100	143
CC-V(S) Officers	20	20	20
Administration of Reserve			
Midshipman Training Program	140	140	111
Recruiting Organized Reserve	-	-	11
Miscellaneous	320	504	504
Total Estimated Number Allowed	1905	2089	2153

2.

Bureau of Supplies and Accounts, announces the following:

A contract has been awarded the Pioneer Instrument Division of Bendix Aviation Corporation for 1,000 drift Sights, at a unit price of \$247.00, total \$173,394.00

A contract has been awarded the Kollsman Instrument Division of Square D Company for 1,500 drift sights, at a unit price of \$539.00, total \$657,580.00

A contract has been awarded the Windsor Company for 505,000 linear yards of turkish toweling at an average unit price of \$.2168 per yard, total \$109,492.80.

All commodity price Index, on 12 October, was 78.1, up

.3 from the previous week...

U.S.S. LEXINGTON, has been assigned a revised date for completion and readiness as of 8 November. This will permit installation of bomb fush storage at the Navy Yard, Puget Sound.

U.S.S. PC453, 456, 450, (submarine chasers) were placed in commission at the Navy Yard, New York, on 16 October.

U.S.S. CHARLESTON, reported for duty to the Commander of the Alaskan Sector on 16 October, and will act as flagship.

Yachts, HIESMARO and LOTOS LAND were acquired on 16 October, the former at New London, and the latter at Sullivan Dry Dock and Repair Corp., Brooklyn, N. Y.

3.

Bureau of Yards and Docks, reports that the Commandant,

Twelfth Naval District has succeeded in chartering the river steamer S.S. Delta Queen to house the first battalion of the local defense division of organized Reserves. The Delta Queen was delivered on October 15th and moored on Yerba Buena Island, and the defense division moved on board on October 16th.

PC450 (submarine chaser) was preliminarily accepted at Annapolis, Md. on 17 October. This vessel was built by the American Car and Foundry Company.

The Under Secretary of the Navy, Mr. Forrestal, has returned from an inspection of Eastern aircraft factories and conferences on aircraft production.

U.S.S. S-1 and S-33 (submarines), were placed in full commission at Philadelphia Navy Yard on 16 October.

Destroyer Division 80, An indoctrinal training cruise of 10 days duration has been ordered for these vessels recommissioned at San Diego Destroyer Base. Upon completion of this cruise and when considered ready for duty each ship in group will proceed to Pearl Harbor and report to Commandant 14th Naval District for duty.

Merchant vessels, purchased for use as auxiliaries

4.  
since 25 September 1940, include 2 cargo ships of 6,200 tons, 1 submarine tender of 7,886 tons, 2 ammunition ships of 7,886 tons and 6,200 tons, 1 oiler of 6,200 tons, 10 minesweepers of 115 tons, 2 minelayers of 332 and 662 tons, 1 submarine chaser of 356 tons, and 16 district craft of various categories.

Bureau of Ships, reports that since 27 October 1939, 26 combatant and auxiliary vessels, exclusive of small craft have been completed and put in operation. They include: 1 aircraft carrier, 1 cruiser, 17 destroyers, 5 submarines and 2 tenders. Of these the following were delivered ahead of schedule: 2 destroyers, 7 months; 1 destroyer, 2 months; 2 destroyers, 1-1/2 months; 1 tender, 2-1/2 months. Of vessels now under construction the following are now ahead of schedule: 4 battleships, average of 2-3/4 months; 2 cruisers, 2 weeks; 8 destroyers from 2 weeks to 3 months; 19 submarines, average of 3-1/2 months, ranging from 7 weeks to 7 months; 1 repair ship, 8 months; 2 tenders, 4-1/2 months. One shipbuilder has recently reduced his estimated time of delivery of 6 new destroyers by 12 months.

U.S.S. HORNET (new aircraft carrier) will be launched at Newport News, Virginia, on 20 December.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
 REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

21 October 1940

<u>Total Enlisted Strength</u> , 19 October .....	169,124
<u>Fleet Reservists</u> (enlisted) on active duty ....	7,122
<u>Other Reservists</u> " " " " .....	4,568
<u>Retired Men</u> " " " " .....	140
<u>Total</u> .....	11,830
<u>Aggregate Enlistments</u> (last 24 hours) .....	389
<u>Aggregate Discharges</u> " " " " .....	111
Gain .....	278

Retired Officers returned to active duty as of 19 October:

Line Officers	691
Staff Officers	173
Warrant Officers	53
<u>Total</u> .....	917

Naval Reserve Officers ordered to active duty for enforcement of neutrality and the strengthening of the national defense within the limits of peace-time authorization, as of 19 October:

<u>Character of Duty</u>	<u>Number Allowed</u>	<u>Number Obligated</u>	<u>Number Ordered</u>
V(G) Officers Afloat	300	300	339
Merchant Marines Afloat	225	225	292
Aviation Instructors	248	248	92
I-V(S) Officers	125	125	112
CEC-V(S) Officers	125	125	149
Supply Corps Officers	125	125	164
Medical and Dental Officers	177	177	251
Communication Officers	100	100	149
CC-V(S) Officers	20	20	20
Administration of Reserve			
Midshipman Training Program	140	140	106
Miscellaneous	320	495	495
Recruiting Organized Reserve	-	-	107
<u>Total Estimated Number Allowed</u> 1905		2080	2279

2.

Bureau of Yards and Docks - Contract for Administration, Cafeteria and Heating Plant building at the Naval Supply Depot, Oakland, California, has been awarded to James I. Barnes Construction Company, Builders Exchange Building, Santa Monica, California, under items 1 and 5, for the sum of \$317,400; time, 180 calendar days.

Destroyers to Britain, 10 ships were delivered at Halifax on 16 October making 40 to date. The last 10 will be delivered on 15 November.

Degaussing, the WEST VIRGINIA, COLORADO and MARYLAND will be available upon arrival at Seattle about 8 November for degaussing, splinter protection, and 3-inch gun installation already authorized. The WHITNEY, RALPH TALBOT, JARVIS and PATTERSON will be available on the same date for degaussing only. The battleships will be ready for sea on 10 December, the WHITNEY and other destroyers on 30 November. The BROOKLYN and PHILADELPHIA will undergo degaussing splinter protection and 3-inch installation, after guns only, at Mare Island. The SELDRIDGE will be available also at Mare Island for degaussing on 6 November. The DUNLAP, and BENHAM will be degaussed at the Los Angeles Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company, San Pedro, and the FANNING and ELLET at the Bethlehem Shipbuilding Co.,

3.

San Pedro. Probable arrival of these ships is 11 November and completion 25 November. The MARYLAND will undergo degaussing at Todds, Seattle, Drydocks on arrival 8 November. Completion date 30 November.

Chief of Bureau of Aeronautics, Admiral Towers on 25 October will make an address in New York City to the University Club and the Young Men's Board of Trade.

Bureau of Yards and Docks has awarded the following cost-plus-fixed-fee contracts:

Administration Building and Additional Facilities at the Naval Torpedo Station, Newport, R.I., has been awarded to O.D. Purington Co., Inc., 49 Westminster Street, Providence, R.I. - Estimated cost, \$544,500.

Extension of Barracks for School for Torpedo Men at the Naval Torpedo Station, Newport, R.I., awarded to Gilbane Building Company, Inc., 90 Calverley Street, Providence, R. I. - Estimated cost, \$135,000.

Bureau of Yards and Docks, Resume of work on new Navy dry docks and marine railways under construction or contemplated, present status and present plans for their completion, as follows:

Navy Yard Puget Sound, Washington - Dry Dock No. 4 -

This is a major dock with a length of 996', a controlling

4.

width of 133'3", and a depth over the blocks at mean high water of 43'. This dock has been completed and is now essentially available for dockings. Auxiliary facilities are now practically completed.

Dry Dock No. 5 - This is another major dock the same size as No. 4, but with a clear length of 1000'6". The contract date for completion is 6 November 1941, and progress is satisfactory for completion on this date. Projects covering facilities necessary for use of the dock will be expedited to correspond.

Navy Yard Mare Island, California - Dry Dock No. 3 - The controlling dimensions of this dock are 693'4" in length and 82' in width with a depth over the blocks at mean high water of 53'6". This dock is now available and being used for the regular docking of ships. Auxiliary facilities are now practically completed.

Dry Dock No. 4 - This double destroyer dock is 432'6" long 84' wide, and has a depth over the Blocks of 20' at mean high water. The original date for completion was 1 October 1941. However, it is now planned for substantial completion by 1 May 1941.

Hunter's Point, California - Title to the two dry docks and adjacent lands being purchased from the Bethlehem Steel Company will soon pass to the Government. Bids for the construction of a shop building will be opened 20 November. Preparation of plans and specifications for the improvement of services and quaywalls construction is progressing. Bids for the dry dock crane will be opened on 6 November.

San Pedro, California - Included in the development of a Fleet Operating Base at San Pedro, contract for which was let on 14 August 1940, is a major dry dock with dimensions corresponding in general to the new large dry docks at Puget Sound and Pearl Harbor. The length as planned, however, is 1088'. Contract for this dock has been awarded and work in the field has begun.

To be continued.

~~Confidential~~

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY  
22 October 1940

Total Enlisted Strength, 21 October ..... 169,450

Fleet Reservists (enlisted) on active duty .... 7,122

Other Reservists " " " " .... 4,568

Retired Men " " " " .... 140

Total ..... 11,830

Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours) ..... 367

Aggregate Discharges " " " " ..... 44

Gain ..... 323

Retired Officers returned to active duty as of 21 Oct.:

Line Officers 691

Staff Officers 173

Warrant Officers 53

Total 917

Naval Reserve Officers ordered to active duty for enforcement of neutrality and the strengthening of the national defense within the limits of peace-time authorization, as of 21 October:

<u>Character of Duty</u>	<u>Number Allowed</u>	<u>Number Obligated</u>	<u>Number Ordered</u>
V(G) Officers Afloat	300	300	339
Merchant Marines Afloat	225	225	292
Aviation Instructors	248	248	92
I-V(S) Officers	125	125	112
CEC-V(S) Officers	125	125	149
Supply Corps Officers	125	125	164
Medical and Dental Officers	177	177	251
Communication Officers	100	100	149
CC-V(S) Officers	20	20	20
Administration of Reserve			
Midshipman Training Program	140	140	106
Miscellaneous	320	495	495
Recruiting Organized Reserves	-	-	107
Total Estimated Number Allowed:	1905	2080	2279

2.

Bureau of Yards and Docks has awarded the following

cost-plus-fixed-fee contracts:

Extension and improvements of Fire Protection System at the Naval Ammunition Depot, Fort Mifflin, Pa., awarded to Riggs-Distler & Company, Inc., Philadelphia, Pa. -

Estimated cost, \$68,400.

Additional Facilities at the Fourteenth Naval District,

Pearl Harbor, T.H.; awarded to E. E. Black, Ltd., James W. Glover and Ralph E. Woolley, Honolulu, T.H. -

Estimated cost, \$1,458,000.

Laundry Buildings and Additional Wards at the Norfolk

Naval Hospital, Portsmouth, Virginia, awarded to R. R. Richardson & Co., Inc., C.J. Lindemann, and Tunstall-Johnson Co., Inc., Norfolk, Virginia - Estimated cost, \$437,000.

Contract for Erection of Two 175-ton cranes at the Turret Shop, Navy Yard, New York, has been awarded to Steel Erectors, Inc., New York, N.Y. under item 1, for \$21,315; time, 60 calendar days.

Bureau of Yards and Docks - Continued, Resume of work on new Navy dry docks and marine railways, under construction or contemplated, - present status and present plans for their completion:

3.

San Diego, California - Dry Dock No. 1 - This will be

a graving dry dock for cruisers. It will be 693'4" long, 45'11-3/4" wide, and will have depths over the blocks and sill of 32' and 36'6" respectively. Foundation explorations are now underway at the site.

Naval Station, Key West, Florida - A duplicate of the

new marine railway now under construction at the Submarine Base, New London, Connecticut, is to be built at this Station also. A contract has been negotiated covering this construction, and foundation explorations are now underway.

Navy Yard, Norfolk, Virginia - Dry Dock No. 8 - This

shipbuilding dry dock will be 1088' long, 150' wide, and will have a depth of water over the blocks at mean high water of 25'. Work on this dock has begun and is progressing rapidly.

Navy Yard, Philadelphia, Pa. - Dry Dock No. 4 - This

shipbuilding dry dock will be 1088' long, 150' wide, and will have a depth of water over the blocks at mean high water of 35'. Work on this dock has begun and is progressing rapidly.

New York Harbor - Funds are now available to the extent of \$10,000,000 for the construction of a capital

4. ship dock in New York Harbor. The dimensions of this dock will be the same as the new dock at Puget Sound except that its length will be 1088'. The Board is now in session charged with the selection of site for this dock.

Submarine Base, New London, Connecticut - A contract for a new marine railway at this Base has been awarded, and work in the field has begun. It will be of a size to accommodate destroyers, destroyer leaders and the larger destroyers now planned. Present estimated essential completion date for dockings is 1 October 1941.

Floating Dry Dock ARD2 - This dock is being built commercially in San Francisco under a contract awarded on 21 September 1940, but no location for this dock has as yet been assigned. This will be a seagoing shipshape gate type floating dry dock similar to the ARD-1, and will be capable of docking submarines, destroyers, destroyer leaders, tugs and other small ships with a draft not exceeding 21 feet. Its inside dimensions are planned at 406' in length and 51' in width. It is expected that this dock will be available for use with the Fleet by 1 October 1941.

To be continued.

~~Confidential~~

THE REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY  
23 October 1940

Total Enlisted Strength, 22 October .....169,584

Fleet Reservists (enlisted) on active duty .. 7,122

Other Reservists " " " " .. 4,568

Retired Men " " " " .. 157

Total .....11,847

Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours) .... 204

Aggregate Discharges " " " " .... 87

Gain ..... 117

Retired Officers returned to active duty as of 22 Oct:

Line Officers 691

Staff Officers 173

Warrant Officers 53

Total - 917

Naval Reserve Enlisted Men ordered to active duty for enforcement of neutrality and the strengthening of the national defense within the limits of Peace-time organization, as of October 19:

<u>Character of Duty</u>	<u>Number Allowed</u>	<u>Number Obligated</u>	<u>Number Ordered</u>
Inshore Patrol Bases	304	215	89
Naval Reserve Avia. Bases	2300	2300	729
Communications	85	83	76
Afloat	5000	1611	1202
Miscellaneous	(2325)	1198	1108
Class V-7 Procurement Program		224	217
Class V-7 for Midshipmen, USNR	5000	1500	1505
Radio and Signal Schools	<u>4000</u>	<u>740</u>	<u>555</u>
Total Men	19,050	7,871	5,481

2.

Bureau of Yards and Docks - Continued Resume of work on new Navy dry docks and marine railways under construction or contemplated, present status of work and present plans for their completion, as follows:

Marine Railways, at Boston, San Diego, and Pearl Harbor -

Work looking to the revamping of these structures for better handling of ships normally within their capacity range has had to be postponed indefinitely due to the urgent need for these structures in handling vessels of the Fleet. Plans and specifications for the work have been completed, however, so that it can be undertaken at any time on short notice.

Pearl Harbor, Hawaii - Dry Dock No. 2 - This dock is the same size as dry dock No. 5 at Puget Sound, but has a depth over the blocks at mean low water of 43'. The original completion date was 9 October 1942. However, it is now planned for completion one year earlier. Satisfactory progress is being made for essential completion by 9 October 1941. Studies for auxiliary service features are keeping pace with the main work of construction.

Dry Dock No. 3 - This is a double destroyer dock similar to dry dock No. 4 at Mare Island, but with a length of 497'9". The completion date for this dock has also been advanced from 9 October 1942 to 9 October 1941, and

satisfactory progress is being made for completion by the earlier date. Studies for auxiliary service features are keeping pace with the main work of construction.

YFD-2 - The floating dry dock YFD2, until recently located at New Orleans, arrived safely at Pearl Harbor, is moored in the permanent basin, and essentially equipped and available for group dockings of small ships and for cruisers and auxiliaries. This dock is 525' long, 100' wide inside of side walls, and can provide 28' over the blocks at mean high water.

San Juan, Puerto Rico - This dry dock is 655' long, 83'9" wide, and has 25'6" over the blocks at mean high water. Satisfactory progress is being made for essential completion by 1 March 1941. The dredging of the channel leading to the dock is expected to be completed by this date.

Dry Dock in the Caribbean Area - The construction of a dry dock in the Caribbean area has been authorized at a cost of \$7,500,000. Appropriation for the work has not yet been made.

Singapore Press, reports as of today that Japan is backing down on the Netherlands East Indies.

4. U.S.S. ARCTURUS (MormacHawk), will probably be ready to depart from Philadelphia on 26 October, taking her familiarization runs previous to that date. Voyage orders are still to be issued.

U.S.S. OMAHA, arrived Norfolk on 23 October from Lisbon. Rear Admiral LeBreton will raise his flag in the NEW YORK on 29 October.

FRENCH FLEET, has returned to Toulon after much speculation as to her destination during maneuvers in nearby waters.

U.S.S. NAVAJO (fleet tug), is in a heavy storm in Latitude 41 North, Longitude 132-30 West, with both barges adrift, and one in a flooded condition. NAVAJO is standing by to recover them if storm abates; weather very rough.

Bureau of Yards and Docks announces the award of the following cost-plus-fixed-fee contracts:

Contract for Additions to Bancroft Hall and New Recreation Hall at the Naval Academy, Annapolis, Maryland, awarded to Irwin & Leighton, Philadelphia. Estimated cost - \$1,786,500.

Contract for Dredging at the Naval Reserve Aviation Base, Squantum, Mass. has been awarded to Bay State Dredging & Contracting Company, East Boston, Mass. - Estimated cost, \$189,900.

Minelayers, there were no bidders for contracts on two ships opened today.

~~Confidential~~

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

24 October 1940

Total Enlisted Strength, 21 October ..... 169,987

Fleet Reservists (enlisted) on active duty .... 7,122

Other Reservists " " " " ..... 4,568

Retired Men " " " " ..... 157

Total ..... 11,847

Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours) ..... 417

Aggregate Discharges " " " " ..... 19

Gain ..... 398

Retired Officers returned to active duty as of 23 Oct.

Line Officers 691

Staff " 173

Warrant " 53

Total 917

Naval Reserve Officers ordered to active duty for enforcement of neutrality and the strengthening of the national defense within the limits of peace-time authorization, as of 23 October:

<u>Character of Duty</u>	<u>Number Allowed</u>	<u>Number Obligated</u>	<u>Number Ordered</u>
V(G) Officers Afloat	300	300	339
Merchant Marines Afloat	225	225	292
Aviation Instructors	248	248	92
I-V(S) Officers	125	125	112
CEC-V(S) Officers	125	125	149
Supply Corps Officers	125	125	164
Medical and Dental Officers	177	177	251
Communication Officers	100	100	149
CC-V(S) Officers	20	20	20
Administration of Reserve			
Midshipman Training Program	140	140	106
Miscellaneous	320	495	495
Recruiting Organized Reserves	-	-	107
Total Estimated Number Allowed 1905		2080	2279

2.

Aviation Cadets, 77 more have been appointed for flight training at Pensacola in the class now convening. They come from 14 Districts in all sections of the country.

Rear Admiral Cook, reported to Commander Atlantic Squadron on 23 October for duty as Commander Air, Atlantic, and Commander of Carrier Division 3.

Esso Richmond (oil tanker), was accepted by the Commandant First Naval District from the Maritime Commission on 22 October. Conversion was started immediately. Expected date of commissioning is 1 November.

Squadron 40-T, was disbanded on 22 October.

U.S.S. GLEAVES (DD423) reported to CINCUS for duty in the Atlantic Squadron on 23 October.

U.S.S. PLUNKETT (DD431) and NIBLACK (DD424) reported for duty on 19 October to Commander Squadron 2.

Joseph P. Kennedy, Ambassador to London, has been held up in his return by clipper plane due to bad weather in Lisbon.

SS. WASHINGTON, with 140 Naval Reservists for Panama defense arrived at Cristobal, Canal Zone today.

U.S.S. LOUISVILLE, sailed from Rio de Janeiro today for Montevideo where she is scheduled to remain until 24 November.

3.

Japanese ships, are bringing German chemical products, optical and film equipment and movies to Brazilian ports from Vladivostok according to reports.

A large quantity of rubber will be shipped to Germany in return via Japan.

Commander Stevens, just returned from London, addressed the General Board and selected officers this afternoon.

Contract (Bureau of Yards and Docks) for Barracks and Shipbuilding Facilities at the Navy Yard, Charleston, South Carolina, has been awarded on a cost-plus-fixed-fee basis to Daniel Construction Company, Anderson, South Carolina. The total estimated cost, including fee, of this contract is \$463,500.

Americans in Asia, seeking to return home on advice of the State Department, have been assured of passage at regular rates in first and second class accommodations. Emergency accommodations in cots will be available at lower rates. This would seem to satisfy complaints that first class fares were being charged for all accommodations for the three ships dispatched to evacuate Americans.

4. .

Two submarines, of unknown nationality were sighted off Buenaventura, Colombia, yesterday. Colombian planes dispatched from base refused to divulge any information on their return.

Non-Aggression Pact, between Tokio and Moscow will probably be the result of Saturday's meeting of diplomats from both nations at the latter capital.

Selection Boards, Reports are said to be ready on selection of colonels to Brigadier General in the Marine Corps. Other Selection Boards will convene as follows: November 15 to recommend Captains for promotion to Rear Admiral; December 4, to recommend lieutenant commanders for promotion to Commander; November 15, to recommend Brigadier Generals for promotion to Major General, Marine Corps; October 28, to recommend Lieutenant Colonels to Colonel, Marine Corps; November 12, to recommend Majors to Lieutenant Colonel, Marine Corps; December 2, to recommend 1st lieutenants and captains for promotion to next higher grade.

Shipments to Great Britain, from United States ports during the first year of the war totalled \$780,000,000, a 57 per cent increase over the previous year.

Spain, may soon align itself with the Axis powers, it was agreed by neutral diplomats in Madrid.

~~Confidential~~

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY  
25 October 1940

Total Enlisted Strength, 24 October ..... 170,393

Fleet Reservists (enlisted) on active duty ,,,7,189

Other Reservists " " " " ....4,663

Retired Men " " " " .... 157

Total ..... 12,009

Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours) ..... 415

Aggregate Discharges " " " " ..... 166

Gain ..... 249

Retired Officers returned to active duty as of 24 Oct.

Line Officers 691

Staff Officers 173

Warrant Officers 53

Total 917

Naval Reserve Officers ordered to active duty for enforcement of neutrality and the strengthening of the national defense within the limits of peace-time authorization, as of 24 October:

Character of Duty	Number Allowed	Number Obligated	Number Ordered
V(G) Officers Afloat	300	300	339
Merchant Marines Afloat	225	225	292
Aviation Instructors	248	248	92
I-V(S) Officers	125	125	112
CEC-V(S) Officers	125	125	149
Supply Corps Officers	125	125	164
Medical and Dental Officers	177	177	251
Communication Officers	100	100	149
CC-V(S) Officers	20	20	20
Administration of Reserve			
Midshipman Training Program	140	140	106
Miscellaneous	320	495	495
Recruiting Organized Reserves	-	-	107
Total Estimated Number Allowed:	1905	2080	2279

2.

Fleet Divisions of Organized Reserves - Orders to active duty. - Commandants of the Districts concerned have been directed to order the Fleet Divisions of the Organized Reserves shown below to the ships indicated when such ships are ready to take them:

CITY OF BALTIMORE	Sixth Division, Portland, Ore.
CITY OF LOS ANGELES	Thirtieth Div., Peoria, Ill.
CITY OF NEWPORT NEWS	Twenty-sixth Div., Chicago, Ill.
CITY OF NORFOLK	Third Division, Portland, Ore.
CITY OF SAN FRANCISCO	Fortieth Division, Kansas City, Mo.
ex-EXOCHORDA	First Division, Boston, Mass.

The U.S.S. SACRAMENTO, U.S.S. DUBUQUE, and U.S.S.

PADUCAH, now in the Great Lakes area, are being prepared for service at sea. It is proposed to send Fleet Divisions of the Organized Reserves to these vessels as indicated below:

U.S.S. SACRAMENTO	16th and 18th Divisions, Indianapolis
U.S.S. DUBUQUE	9th and 10th Divs., Detroit, Mich.
U.S.S. PADUCAH	49th and 50th Divs., Duluth, Minn.

British Destroyer, VENETIA, struck a mine and sank with some casualties, the Admiralty announced. The Admiralty also said that the Submarine SWORDFISH torpedoed and sank a German torpedo boat off the French Coast. The VENETIA was 1100 tons displacement and carried 4 4" guns and 6 21" torpedo tubes.

Mr. Knudson, said today he hoped to combine the efforts

of the airplane and automobile industries into a more efficient program for aircraft production. Spare parts for 12,000 bombers will probably go to the automobile manufacturers.

Joseph P. Kennedy, American Ambassador to Great Britain, left Lisbon today on the clipper plane.

U.S.S. SAILFISH (submarine ex-Squalus), refitted at a cost of \$2,000,000, was ready to sail today on a shakedown cruise with the THRESHER, recently commissioned. Cruise will extend along the East Coast to the Panama Canal.

U.S.S. TUTUILA (gunboat), was damaged considerably today. Forty Japanese planes bombed Chungking, dislodging a huge rock from the South bank of the river which at that point flows between high hills. This rock struck the TUTUILA. A full report will be forthcoming later.

Air Compressors, Contract was awarded today in the amount of \$505,542 to the Hardie-Tynes Manufacturing Company, Birmingham, Alabama. This contract was cleared by the National Defense Advisory Commission.

National Defense, During the current session of Congress, a total of \$13,106,227,930 has been appro-

4.

riated for National Defense and over 23 billion dollars for all purposes, according to the House Appropriations Committee.

Japanese Navy, announced that a Japanese submarine, the I-67 was lost on 29 August with all on board, including two Captains and one Commander. Bad weather conditions while diving was given as the reason. The I-67 carried 12 officers, 38 warrant officers and an undisclosed number of men. The accident occurred during fleet maneuvers off Tokyo.

Maritime Commission ships, to which Naval Reservists will be ordered will be taken over as follows:

- CITY OF BALTIMORE - 20 October
- CITY OF LOS ANGELES - 25 October
- CITY OF NEWPORT NEWS - 1 November
- CITY OF NORFOLK - 2 December
- CITY OF SAN FRANCISCO - 2 November
- EXCHORDA - 1 November

Bureau of Yards and Docks, announces the award of the

following cost-plus-fixed-fee contract:

Extension of Seawall at the Naval Torpedo Station, Newport, R.I., awarded to The Beattie Corporation of Fall River, Massachusetts. Estimated cost - \$49,500.

~~Confidential~~

File  
Personal

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY  
October 28, 1940

Total Enlisted Strength, 26 October ..... 171,031

<u>Fleet Reservists</u> (enlisted) on active duty	....	7,189
<u>Other Reservists</u> " " " "	....	4,663
<u>Retired Men</u> " " " "	....	157

Total ..... 12,009

Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours) .... 416

Aggregate Discharges " " " ..... 103

Gain ..... 313

Retired Officers No Change

Naval Reserve Officers ordered to active duty for enforcement of neutrality and the strengthening of the national defense within the limits of peace-time authorization, as of October 26:

<u>Character of Duty</u>	<u>Number Allowed</u>	<u>Number Obligated</u>	<u>Number Ordered</u>
V(G) Officers Afloat	300	300	349
Merchant Marines Afloat	225	225	313
Aviation Instructors	248	248	92
I-V(S) Officers	125	125	133
CEC-V(S) Officers	125	125	155
Supply Corps Officers	125	125	174
Medical and Dental Officers	177	177	259
Communication Officers	100	100	167
CC-V(S) Officers	20	20	24
Administration of Reserve			
Midshipman Training Program	140	140	100
Miscellaneous	320	537	537
Organized Res.Off.(Ashore)	-	-	196
Organized Res.Off.(Afloat)	-	-	24
Total Estimated Number Allowed:	1905	2122	2523

2.

Bureau of Yards and Docks announces the award of the following cost-plus-fixed-fee contract: Housing facilities at the Norfolk Navy Yard, Portsmouth, Virginia, has been awarded on a cost plus fixed fee basis to Allen J. Saville, Inc., Richmond, Virginia. Estimated

cost - \$713,000.

Contract for Refrigeration System at the Aeronautical Engine Laboratory, Naval Aircraft Factory, Navy Yard, Philadelphia, Pa., has been awarded to Carbondale New York Co., Inc., New York, New York, for the sum of \$287,287; time - 200 calendar days.

Contract for Boiler and Accessories at the Norfolk Naval Hospital, Portsmouth, Virginia, has been awarded to E. Keeler Company, Williamsport, Pennsylvania, for the sum of \$20,780; time - 120 calendar days.

Contract for Repairs to Pier at the Fuel Annex (Craney Island) Naval Supply Depot, Naval Operating Base, Norfolk, Va., has been awarded to Tidewater Construction Corporation, Norfolk, Virginia, for the sum of \$3,680; time - 45 calendar days.

Contract for Grading, Surfacing and Drainage Work at the Naval Net Depot, Tiburon, California has been awarded to

3.

Lee J. Immel, Berkeley, California, for the sum of \$32,200; time - 45 calendar days, except work on the net assembly slab shall be completed within 30 calendar days. Yacht HAIDA was accepted at San Pedro, California, on October 25.

Net Tenders, Teaberry, Peak, and Walnut (YN 29, 30, 31), keels were laid at J. H. Mathis Company Shipyard, Camden, New Jersey, on October 25.

U.S.S. DIXIE (destroyer tender), reported to CINCUS for duty in the Battle Force on October 25.

USS. THRESHER (SS 200), reported for duty to CINCUS on October 26.

U.S.S. ARCTURUS (cargo ship), was placed in full commission on October 26.

U.S.S. RANGER (aircraft carrier), reported for duty in Carrier Division 3 (Atlantic Patrol) on October 24.

Belgrade: a dispatch from official quarters said Yugoslavia would remain neutral in the Greek-Italian conflict.

Canadian Destroyer MARGAREE was sunk in the North Atlantic in collision, Ottawa announced: 140 of the crew were lost. Only 31 were saved.

4.

Empress of Britain, British Admiralty admitted loss of the 42,000 ton liner, attacked by enemy aircraft, set afire, abandoned, later towed, and then blew up.

Far Eastern Observers believe that Japan may allow her adherence to the Axis Alliance to wane if efforts to break the British-U. S. front are unsuccessful. Information from Shanghai would reorientate her policy along lines less likely to lead to trouble with the U. S.

Island of Crete: an unconfirmed report says British troops have landed there. Official Athens reports British troops are fighting now in behalf of Greece.

Bureau of Supplies and Accounts awarded contracts this date of more than \$1,500,000. Racks, pinions, and training gear were purchased from the Midvale Company and the Camden Forge Company in the amount of \$480,460.

Contract NOy-4410, for Light Shop Activities Building and Accessories at the Navy Yard, Boston, Mass. has been awarded on a cost plus fixed fee basis to Sawyer Construction Co., Boston, Mass. The total estimated cost, including fee, of this contract is \$550,000. This contract was cleared by the National Defense Advisory Commission.

~~Confidential~~ ↖ File personal

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

October 29, 1940

Total Enlisted Strength, October 26 ..... 171,031

Fleet Reservists (enlisted) on active duty ... 7,189

Other Reservists " " " " ... 4,663

Retired Men " " " " ... 157

Total ... 12,009

Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours) ..... 416

Aggregate Discharges " " " " ..... 103

Gain .. 313

Retired Officers returned to active duty as of Oct. 15:

Line Officers 691

Staff Officers 173

Warrant Officers 53

Total 917

Naval Reserve Enlisted Men ordered to active duty for enforcement of neutrality and the strengthening of the national defense within the limits of peace-time organization, as of October 26:

<u>Character of Duty</u>	<u>Number Allowed</u>	<u>Number Obligated</u>	<u>Number Ordered</u>
Inshore Patrol Bases	340	215	89
Naval Res. Aviation Bases	2,300	2,300	758
Communications	85	83	76
Afloat	5,000	1,716	1,193
Miscellaneous	2,324	1,208	1,134
Class V-7 Procurem. Program		217	217
Class V-7, Midshipmen, USNR	5,000	1,500	—
Radio and Signal Schools	4,000	833	571
Total Men	19,050	8,072	4,038

2.

Bureau of Aeronautics. In connection with the announcement of the appointment of Major General Arnold, present Chief of the Air Corps, as an additional Deputy Chief of Staff, it has been learned from General Arnold that the present plan is that he continue as titular Chief of the Air Corps in addition to his duties of Deputy Chief of Staff and that Major General Brett be made Executive Assistant Chief of Air Corps.

In the opinion of the Chief of Bureau of Aeronautics this arrangement is basically unsound and will not improve what is recognized as a very unsatisfactory situation in the War Department.

Cotton and Asbestos for Flax. Since importation of flax from Belgium, Russia, and Northern France has stopped it has been necessary to provide substitutes for that material. An important use of flax in the Navy has been in packing the stuffing boxes of stern tubes and rudder posts of Naval vessels to keep the sea water from entering the ships.

Cotton and asbestos are being substituted for flax in the manufacture of this packing. The advantage of flax has been in the long fibres which can be easily

3.

woven into a strong packing. The technique of weaving the cotton fibre into a suitable packing has shown considerable promise, and will prove almost equally as suitable. Flax packing has also been used for packing of the air and water ends of the reciprocating air pumps on older vessels. A form of metallic packing is being substituted therefor.

A small amount of flax has been raised in Oregon, but the quantity grown there has not been sufficient to supply the needs of the Navy for a year.

Marine Corps: Total enlisted strength as of October 28 is 37,239.

Bureau of the Budget is holding continuous hearings in 1942 appropriations. They will continue for all bureaus through November 5.

Seaplane Tenders: Contracts for 6 will probably be awarded today or tomorrow to the Lake Washington Shipyard, Houghton, Washington, and contracts for 4 others to Associated Shipyards, Seattle; Washington.

SS EXOCHORDA will be acquired from the American Export Lines today and received tomorrow for conversion into a transport.

4.

Maritime Commission: 5 "City" ships will be acquired this week or early next week, formerly of the Baltimore Mail Line.

Wholesale Price Index for week ending October 19 was 78.4 up .3 from a week ago and up .6 from two weeks ago. It was the third consecutive weekly rise in commodity prices.

USS WHARTON (transport, former Southern Cross) had a damaging fire yesterday afternoon at the Robins Drydock Co., New York City, where she is undergoing conversion. Damage is estimated at \$50,000 and started in mattresses in forward hold. WHARTON is insured for \$300,000, so repair will not be at government expense. Completion date is estimated to be delayed two weeks, to Nov. 15.

USS GRENADIER (SS 210). It is planned to launch this vessel on November 29 at the Portsmouth Navy Yard.

Naval Communications: The following was intercepted on 500 kilocycles. Quote. All Greek ships immediately on instructions of the Greek Government in the Pacific if bound for the American Continent are to proceed. If bound for Asia they are to make for British or Dutch ports or ports in the U.S. In Atlantic ships are to proceed if West bound. If East bound they are to make for British ports. No Greek ships are to proceed to France or ports in French possession.

USS FLICKER (Minesweeper) was placed in full commission on October 26 at Atlantic Works, Bethlehem Shipbuilding Corp., Boston, Mass.

~~Confidential~~

← File personal

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

October 30, 1940

Total Enlisted Strength, October 29 ..... 171,481

Fleet Reservists (enlisted) on active duty .... 7,189

Other Reservists " " " " .... 4,663

Retired Men " " " " .... 157

Total ..... 12,009

Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours) .... 229

Aggregate Discharges " " " " .... 85

Gain ..... 144

Retired Officers returned to active duty as of Oct. 15:

Line Officers 691

Staff Officers 173

Warrant Officers 53

Total , , , , 917

Naval Reserve Officers ordered to active duty for enforcement of neutrality and the strengthening of the national defense within the limits of peace-time authorization, as of October 29:

<u>Character of Duty</u>	<u>Number Allowed</u>	<u>Number Obligated</u>	<u>Number Ordered</u>
V(@) Officers Afloat	300	300	349
Merchant Marines Afloat	225	225	313
Aviation Instructors	248	248	92
I-V(S) Officers	125	125	133
CEC-V(S) Officers	125	125	155
Supply Corps Officers	125	125	174
Medical and Dental Officers	177	177	259
Communication Officers	100	100	167
CC-V(S) Officers	20	20	24
Administration of Reserve			
Midshipman Training Program	140	140	100
Miscellaneous	320	537	537
Organized Res. Off. (Ashore)	-	-	196
" " " (Afloat)	-	-	24
<u>Total Estimated Number Allowed:</u>	1905	2122	2523

2.

NAVY RECRUITING ACTIVITIES WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 25, 1940:

Number of applicants accepted for first enlistment -	1381
Number of first enlistments .....	1963
Number of reenlistments, continuous service ..	73
Number of reenlistments, broken service .....	45
.....	2081

Bureau of Yards and Docks, has this date announced contract awards totaling \$2,251,700, as follows:

Contract for Rehabilitation of Submarine Base Facilities and Construction of Marine Railway at the Naval Station, Key West, Florida, awarded to W.P. Thurston Company, Richmond, Va. on a cost-plus-fixed-fee basis. The total estimated cost, including fee, is \$923,000.

Contract for Torpedo Assembly Plant at Naval Torpedo Station, Newport, R.I., has been awarded on a cost-plus fixed-fee basis to The Tredennick-Billings Company, Boston, Mass. Estimated cost, \$675,000.

Contract for Housing Facilities at the Navy Yard, Charleston, S.C., has been awarded to the Southeastern Construction Company, Charlotte, N.C., on a cost-plus fixed-fee basis. Total estimated cost, \$525,000.

Contract for Housing Facilities at the Naval Station, Key West, Florida, has been awarded on a cost-plus-fixed fee basis to Southeastern Construction Company of Florida Inc., Miami, Florida. Total estimated cost, \$128,700. (50 units for enlisted men). Contracts exceeding \$500,000 have been cleared by the National Defense Advisory Commission.

Non-Rigid Airship Construction Awards - The Navy Department

awarded contracts to the only bidder, the Goodyear Aircraft Corporation of Akron, Ohio, amounting to \$1,324,000, for non-rigid airships for patrol and training purposes. The patrol airships are each of 400,000

3

cubic feet volume and 246 feet in length. The training type are 123,000 cubic feet in volume and 147 feet in length. These blimps constitute the first of the 48 non-rigid airships authorized as part of the "10,000 Plane Program", for the expansion of naval aeronautics and have been appropriated for by the Congress.

Merchant vessels, delivered or to be delivered for use as auxiliaries since 18 October number 38 ships. They include 2 general stores issue ships, 1 provision ship, 9 oilers (Esso type 11,500 gross tons), 5 transports ("City" type, Baltimore Mail Line), 1 transport (Exochorda, 9,359 tons), 2 submarine chasers, 14 mine sweepers, and 4 District Craft (diesel tugs, yachts).

Bids for Minesweepers, Bids for the construction of eight minesweepers were opened today. Three companies submitted formal bids with fixed prices and alternate proposals with provisions for adjustments in costs of labor and material.

Following are the bids received:

1. General Engineering and Dry Dock Co., Oakland, Cal.

Fixed Price

\$1,850,000, for each of two.

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4. General Engineering and Dry Dock Co., Cont'd:

Bid with Adjustment Clauses for Labor and Material

\$1,750,000.00 for each of two.

2. Winslow Marine Railway & Shipbuilding Co., Inc.,  
Seattle, Washington:

Fixed Price

\$1,749,493.00 for each of two.

Bid with Adjustment Clauses for Labor and Material

\$1,699,493.00, for each of two.

3. Defoe Boat and Motor Works, Bay City, Michigan:

Fixed Prices

\$1,787,600.00, for each of two

\$1,745,000.00, for each of three

\$1,718,100.00, for each of four.

Bids with Adjustment Clauses for Labor and Material

\$1,647,000.00, for each of two.

\$1,604,400.00, for each of three.

\$1,577,500.00, for each of four.

A representative of the Toledo Shipbuilding Company of Toledo, Ohio, stated that that company had submitted a proposal which was placed in the mail on Monday, October 28th. It was not received prior to the opening of the bids.

Japanese Freighter, of 9,000 tons arrived at Manzanillo and ~~immediately~~ began loading mercury, copper, lead, mica, and florspar. The Mexican government lifted an embargo on \$200,000 worth of mercury for Japan. (Another Japanese ship will call soon at Manzanillo for 5,000 drums of gasoline and oil.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

October 31, 1940

*file*  
*Journal*

Total Enlisted Strength, October 30 ..... 171,747

Fleet Reservists (enlisted) on active duty ..... 7,189

Other Reservists " " " " ..... 4,663

Retired Men " " " " ..... 157

Total ..... 12,009

Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours) ..... 406

Aggregate Discharges " " " ..... 140

Gain ..... 266

Retired Officers returned to active duty as of Oct. 15:

Line Officers 691

Staff Officers 173

Warrant Officers 53

Total ..... 917

Naval Reserve Officers ordered to active duty for enforcement of neutrality and the strengthening of the national defense within the limits of peace-time authorization, as of October 29:

<u>Character of Duty</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Number</u>
	<u>Allowed</u>	<u>Obligated</u>	<u>Ordered</u>
V(S) Officers Afloat	300	300	349
Merchant Marines Afloat	225	225	313
Aviation Instructors	248	248	92
I-V(S) Officers	125	125	133
CEC-V(S) Officers	125	125	155
Supply Corps Officers	125	125	174
Medical and Dental Officers	177	177	259
Communication Officers	100	100	167
CC-V(S) Officers	20	20	24
<u>Administration of Reserve</u>			
Midshipman Training Program	140	140	100
Miscellaneous	320	537	537
Organized Res.Off.(Ashore)	—	—	196
" " (Afloat)	—	—	24
<u>Total Estimated Number Allowed:</u> 1905		<u>2122</u>	<u>2523</u>

2.

Bureau of Yards and Docks announces the following awards:

Contract for Foundations for Electric Shop, Steam Test Plant, Subassembly Facilities Extension to Building 382 and Galvanizing Plant at the Navy Yard, Mare Island, Calif. to DeLuca and Son, Inc., San Francisco, Calif., for the sum of \$92,480; time - 120 calendar days.

Contract for Improvements to Water System at the Marine Barracks, Quantico, Virginia, to Bass Engineering & Construction Co., Detroit, Mich., for the sum of \$178,800; time - 180 calendar days.

Fleet Repair Ships: Contracts for two ships have been awarded to the Los Angeles Shipbuilding and Drydock Co. of Los Angeles, California on a cost-plus-fixed-fee basis. The estimated cost of each vessel is \$14,284,500, making a total for two \$28,569,000. This contract was cleared by the National Defense Advisory Commission. These ships are similar in type to a previous award of one to the same company on September 9. Funds for these vessels were contained in the 2nd Supplemental Appropriation Act.

USS ALBEMARLE (Seaplane tender): The official report of fire (previously reported) on October 9 shows it occurred in the director tube on the main deck. Fire was caused by

3.

welder's sparks dropping on trash at the base of the tube. There was no evidence of sabotage, and no damage to the ship's structure. Damage was limited to 12 of the 50 cables in the director tube. The alarm circuits required renewal. The damaged cables have been replaced, apparently at less cost than the \$1,700 estimate.

Navy Yard, Pearl Harbor: SS WASHINGTON sails from the West Coast on October 30 with 1,000 civilians to build up the working force of Pearl Harbor. In addition 175 men will go to increase the force on Government contracts. Ship movements of the train and degaussing are the reasons for building up this Navy Yard force. These men will receive maximum pay rates subject to rating. Men have been checked as to experience and character. They have been fingerprinted by F. B. I. 2,626 additional men are estimated for Pearl Harbor needs by the end of 1941.

Temporary housing, cantonments, and subsistence for these men has been left to the authorities of Pearl Harbor to cope with on their arrival.

Add Bureau of Yards and Docks: Contract for Housing facilities at the Naval Training Station, Great

Lakes, Illinois, has been awarded on a cost-plus-fixed-fee basis to Leonard Construction Company, Chicago, Illinois. The total estimated cost, including fee, of this contract is \$574,000.00 (200 units for enlisted personnel).

Contract for Radio Towers at the Naval Academy (High Power Radio Station), Annapolis, Maryland, has been awarded to Vanguard Construction Corp., New York City, N.Y. for the sum of \$109,210; time - 120 calendar days. The contract exceeding \$500,000 has been cleared by the National Defense Advisory Commission.

Landing Force Equipment. Special tests will probably be held on new equipment off Virginia Beach on 1 November.

Commandant Boston, has requested authority to charter one Eastern Steamship Line vessel, Boston to New York run type, for housing naval personnel. Preliminary negotiations are underway for a 6 months time charter with possible renewal from month to month if necessary. Charter is desired beginning 12 November.

U.S.S. BEAR (Byrd Antarctic) will visit Galapagos on her trip South.

U.S.S. S-13 (Submarine) was placed in full commission at Navy Yard, Philadelphia on 28 October.

~~Confidential~~

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

November 1 1940

Total Enlisted Strength, October 31 ..... 173,147  
Fleet Reservists (enlisted) on active duty .... 7,230  
Other Reservists " " " " ..... 5,733  
Retired Men " " " " ..... 180  
Total ..... 13,143

Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours) ..... 401

Aggregate Discharges " " " " ..... 135

Gain ..... 266

Retired Officers returned to active duty, as of 1 Nov.

Line Officers 717

Staff Officers 176

Warrant Officers 57

Total 950

Reserve Officers ordered to active duty for enforcement of neutrality and the strengthening of the national defense within the limits of peacetime authorization, as of October 29:

<u>Character of Duty</u>	<u>Number Allowed</u>	<u>Number Obligated</u>	<u>Number Ordered</u>
V(S) Officers Afloat	300	300	349
Merchant Marines Afloat	225	225	313
Aviation Instructors	248	248	92
I-V(S) Officers	125	125	133
CEC-V(S) Officers	125	125	155
Supply Corps Officers	125	125	174
Medical and Dental Officers	177	177	259
Communication Officers	100	100	167
CC-V(S) Officers	20	20	24
Administration of Reserve			
Midshipman Training Program	140	140	100
Miscellaneous	320	537	537
Organized Res.Off.(Afloat)	-	-	196
"  "  "  "(Ashore)	-	-	24
Total Estimated Number Allowed	1905	2122	2523

3.

Bureau of Yards and Docks, awarded contracts as follows:

Contract for Aviation Facilities at the Naval Reserve Aviation Base, Atlanta, Ga., awarded on a cost-plus-fixed fee basis to Mion Construction Company, Atlanta, Georgia. Estimated cost, including fee, of this contract is \$750,000.

Contract for Underground Electric Cable System and Pole Line Terminal at the Naval Academy (high Power Radio Station), Annapolis, Md., awarded to Plymouth Electric Co., Washington, D.C., under item 1, for the sum of \$33,572. Time, 90 calendar days.

Contract for Additional Ammunition Facilities and Low Cost Housing Units at the Naval Powder Factory, Indian Head, Maryland, has been awarded on a cost-plus-fixed-fee basis to The Harwood-Nebel Construction Co., Washington, D.C. Total estimated cost, \$1,945,400. (The housing units will be erected on the station: 50 for enlisted men, 300 for civilians). (Contracts exceeding \$500,000 have been cleared by the National Defense Advisory Commission).

Pratt and Whitney, has been awarded an additional contract for airplane engines totaling \$41,886,581.68.

3.

Bureau of Supplies and Accounts, awarded a contract to the Glenn L. Martin Company of Baltimore, for airplanes totaling \$106,125,396.33.

S.S. MARIPOSA, Matson liner, sailed today for Shanghai to evacuate Americans from Japan and China.

S.S. CITY OF NEWPORT NEWS, Panama Pacific liner, docks in San Francisco today from Yorktown, her last voyage before being taken over as a Naval auxiliary.

German Air Fleets, including dive bombers, claimed to have sunk nine merchant ships, and scored hits on a destroyer today.

Marine Corps Selection Board - Majors to Lieutenant Colonels - will convene in the Navy Department on November 12, 1940, to recommend 34 officers of the grade of Major, U.S. Marine Corps, for promotion to Lieutenant Colonel. This board will be composed of:

- President: Brigadier General Emile P. Moses; Members:
- Colonel Harry Schmidt, Col. Miles R. Thacher, Colonel Samuel L. Howard, Colonel Arnold W. Jacobsen, Colonel Earl H. Jenkins, Colonel Samuel A. Wood, Jr., Lieut. Col. Louis R. Jones, Lt. Col. Claude A. Larkin; Recorder: Lieut. Col. Joseph W. Knighton.

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Naval R.O.T.C., Approximately 2,000 graduates of the  
Naval R.O.T.C. units have been commissioned in the Naval  
Reserve since 1930, and a number have been appointed En-  
signs in the Supply Corps. At present there are 3,000  
members of Naval R.O.T.C. units, which are now established  
in nineteen Colleges and Universities. Officers of the  
Naval Reserve who were appointed therein upon graduation  
from the Naval R.O.T.C. are eligible for appointment to  
commissioned rank in the Regular Navy in such numbers as  
are deemed necessary. These officers must be less than  
25 years of age when appointed and have completed at  
least one year's continuous active duty aboard ship.  
These officers are eligible to promotion by line selection  
in accordance with the policy of the regular Navy.  
Officers are eligible for consideration for appointment in the  
Regular Navy, reserve officers must be recommended by  
their present commanding officers. Examinations must be  
conducted in Navy Regulations, Navigation, seamanship, ord-  
nance and gunnery, Marine Engineering, Electricity, and  
military law.

The Argentine Government, began a nation-wide pilot  
training program today designed to provide 5,000 reserve  
pilots for the Argentine Air Force.

~~Confidential~~

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

November 4, 1940

Total Enlisted Strength, November 2 ..... 173,655

Fleet Reservists (enlisted) on active duty .... 7,230

Other Reservists " " " " .... 5,733

Retired Men " " " " ..... 180

Total ..... 13,143

Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours) .... 391

Aggregate Discharges " " " " .... 133

Gain .... 258

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

Line Officers 717

Staff Officers 176

Warrant Officers 57

Total 950

Naval Reserve Officers ordered to active duty for enforcement of neutrality and the strengthening of the national defense within the limits of peace-time authorization, as of November 2:

<u>Character of Duty</u>	<u>Number Allowed</u>	<u>Number Obligated</u>	<u>Number Ordered</u>
V(G) Officers Afloat	300	300	363
Merchant Marines Afloat	225	225	339
Aviation Instructors	248	248	102
I-V(S) Officers	125	125	160
CEC-V(S) Officers	125	125	166
Supply Corps Officers	125	125	183
Medical and Dental Officers	177	177	266
Communication Officers	100	100	186
CC-V(S) Officers	20	20	25
Administration of Reserve			
Midshipman Training Program	140	140	89
Miscellaneous	320	580	580
Organized Res.Off.(Ashore)	-	-	214
Organized Res.Off.(Afloat)	-	-	87
Total Estimated Number			
Allowed	1905	2165	2760

2. Bureau of Yards and Docks:

Contract for Shore Protection Facilities at the Naval Air Station, Cape May, New Jersey, has been awarded on a cost plus fixed fee basis to Ole Hansen, Ventnor City, New Jersey... Total estimated cost, including fee, of this contract, is \$150,000.00.

Contract for Equipment for Cold Storage Building at the Fleet Supply Base, Oakland, California, has been awarded to York Ice Machinery Corporation, Philadelphia, Penna., for the sum of \$139,026; time - 150 calendar days. The contract awarded under this specification to this company on October 22, 1940, for the sum of \$139,150 has been cancelled.

Caribbean Area: 8 destroyers and 6 patrol planes assigned to the Patrol Force, Atlantic Fleet, are participating in scheduled exercises in the Guantanamo-San Juan-Culebra Area. This force has been the subject of much comment in the press due to Franco-German relations and their proximity to Martinique.

Aviation Cadets: 67 have been appointed for flight training at Pensacola in the class convening on November 4.

They come from 14 reserve bases situated throughout the country.

Marine Corps: 165th anniversary will be observed on

November 10. The National Broadcasting Company will carry a special program from 8:00 PM to 8:30 PM.

Wage Board Report will probably be released November 7, 1940. This report has taken several months in preparation, following exhaustive studies with labor leaders. Captain J. A. Furer has acted as senior member of the board. Findings will revise rates for Navy Yard work to compare with existing rates in their localities for various trades.

Airplane Crash of a training plane 12 miles north of Robertsdale, Alabama, was fatal to Ensign Hedges and Seaman Second Class McIntire, both of the Naval Reserve.

USS BISCAYNE (Seaplane tender) is scheduled to be launched at the Puget Sound Navy Yard about January 1, 1941.

War Sinkings: The British Admiralty announced the SS LAURENTIC, converted White Star Liner of 18,000 tons and the SS PATROCLUS (China Trade) of 11,000 tons, were sunk off Ireland. Both vessels were formerly passenger liners; there were casualties, numbers unannounced.

4.

Tangier: Spanish proclamation today converts Tangier to Spanish territory. Occupied a year ago by Spanish troops, Tangier had formerly been recognized as an international zone, situated across from Gibraltar. International mixed commissions have been suppressed.

British Admiralty announces light forces have destroyed 2 more Italian submarines.

Germany Claims 80,000 tons of merchant shipping sunk yesterday by submarines and airplanes. The Laurentic and Patroclus are included in their list.

H.M.S. CLEVELAND, British cruiser, was bombed by German planes while returning to England from the Mediterranean, with numerous casualties, the Admiralty announced.

Russo-Japanese negotiations now in progress embrace not only a non-aggression pact between Japan and the Soviets, but will probably grant Russia a free zone in the Manchurian city of Dairen, key port. It will doubtless grant Russia special privileges in shipments over the Manchurian Railway to Dairen from Siberia.

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~~Confidential~~

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY  
November 5, 1940

Total Enlisted Strength, November 4 ..... 174,074

<u>Fleet Reservists</u> (enlisted) on active duty	....	7,230
<u>Other Reservists</u>	....	5,733
<u>Retired Men</u>	....	180
	Total	13,143

<u>Aggregate Enlistments</u> (last 24 hours)	....	446
<u>Aggregate Discharges</u>	....	28
	Gain	418

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

Line Officers	717
Staff Officers	176
Warrant Officers	57
Total	950

Naval Reserve Enlisted Men ordered to active duty for enforcement of neutrality and the strengthening of the national defense within the limits of peace-time organization, as of November 2:

<u>Character of Duty</u>	<u>Number Allowed</u>	<u>Number Obligated</u>	<u>Number Ordered</u>
Inshore Patrol Bases	340	215	89
Naval Res. Aviation Bases	2,300	2,300	863
Communications	85	83	76
Afloat	5,000	1,723	1,686
Miscellaneous	(	1,238	1,238
Class V-7 Procurement Progm.	(2,325		
Class V-7 for Midshipmen, USNR	5,000	209	209
		1,500	1,500
Radio and Signal Schools	4,000	833	657
			(Tentative)
Total Men	19,050	8,101	6,318

2.

Marine Corps Strength, as of November 1:

Regular Enlisted Strength .....	37,418
Regular Officer Strength .....	1,394
Regular Warrant Officer Strength .....	171
Retired Officer Strength .....	117
Reserve Officer Strength .....	474
Reserve Enlisted Strength .....	358
Aviation Cadets Strength .....	44

Bureau of Yards and Docks, awarded contracts totaling

\$2,520,924.14: Contract for Housing Facilities at the Navy Yard, Mare Island, California, has been awarded on a cost plus fixed fee basis to Cahill Brothers and Ben C. Gerwick, Inc., San Francisco, California. The total estimated cost, including fee, of this contract is \$858,000 (250 units for enlisted men).

Contract for Housing Facilities in the vicinity of Newport, Rhode Island, has been awarded on a cost plus fixed fee basis to Gilbane Building Co., Inc., and Holt-Fairchild Company, Providence, Rhode Island (600 units for civilian employees). The total estimated cost, including fee, of this contract is \$1,655,000. Contracts exceeding \$500,000 were cleared by the National Defense Advisory Commission. Total contracts announced by the Navy Department today - \$22,790,309.14.

Bureau of Supplies and Accounts: Preliminary awards

3.

have been made, subject to later confirmation, to Spencer Lense Company for 2800 Telescopes, Mark LXXIV, for installation in 3"/50 calibre gun mounts at an estimated cost of \$1,036,000 and for 119 Periscopes and 508 Telescopes at an estimated cost of \$1,910,061, and special machinery equipment at \$750,000.

A preliminary award has been made, subject to later confirmation, to the Bausch & Lomb Optical Company for Rangefinders and Stereoscopic instruments at the estimated cost of \$6,042,259 and additional equipment at \$912,432.

Consul at Tampico. Mexico reports 4 German Merchant Ships (ORINOCO, IDARWALD, RHEIN, PHRYGLIA) are making preparation for departure and loading extra provisions. Crews have been restricted to ships. Sailing dates are still unknown.

State Department reports 4 French submarines previously stationed at Dakar are returning to Toulon for upkeep purposes and are being replaced by 4 others which passed Gibraltar 2 days ago. Prior notification was given by the French and no British opposition was experienced. Additional information indicates the French

4.

Admiralty has turned over approximately 20 small craft, tugs and minesweepers to Germany for use off French coast ports. Other similar craft are being constructed at St. Nazaire, Nantes, and LeHavre by German workmen.

USS KASKASKIA, SANGAMON, and SANTEE (oilers) will be ready to sail on November 18 to the West Coast via the Gulf of Mexico, and will carry fuel oil to Panama for storage and emergency purposes on the way West.

USS SWANSON (DD443) was launched at the Navy Yard, Charleston, on November 2.

Minesweepers: Construction of four will soon be awarded to the General Engineering and Drydock Company, San Francisco, Calif. An additional four will be awarded to the Defoe Boat and Motor Works, Bay City, Michigan.

Cost-plus-fixed fee Contracts: During October additional work was added to existing contracts in the amount of \$20,269,385. These included housing units in the following amounts: Honolulu, 1300; Kodiak, 250; Sitka, 125; Unalaska, 75; San Juan, 400; St. Thomas, 50; Guantanamo, 500; Alameda, 600; Quonset Point, 236; Dahlgren, 100; Parris Island, 50; Piney Point, 10.

~~Confidential~~

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

November 6, 1940

Total Enlisted Strength, November 5 ..... 174,400

<u>Fleet Reservists</u> (enlisted) on active duty	.....	7,230
<u>Other Reservists</u> " " " "	.....	5,733
<u>Retired Men</u> " " " "	.....	180

Total ..... 13,143

Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours) ..... 367

Aggregate Discharges " " " ..... 41

Gain ..... 326

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

Line Officers	717
Staff Officers	176
Warrant Officers	57
Total	950

Naval Reserve Officers ordered to active duty for enforcement of neutrality and the strengthening of the national defense within the limits of peace-time authorization, as of November 5:

<u>Character of Duty</u>	<u>Number Allowed</u>	<u>Number Obligated</u>	<u>Number Ordered</u>
V(G) Officers Afloat	300	300	363
Merchant Marines Afloat	225	225	339
Aviation Instructors	248	248	102
I-V(S) Officers	125	125	160
CEC-V(S) Officers	125	125	166
Supply Corps Officers	125	125	183
Medical and Dental Officers	177	177	266
Communication Officers	100	100	186
CC-V(S) Officers	20	20	25
<u>Administration of Reserve</u>			
Midshipman Training Program	140	140	89
Organized Res.Off.(Ashore)	-	-	214
Organized Res.Off.(Afloat)	-	-	87
Miscellaneous	320	580	580
Total Estimated Number Allowed	1905	2165	2760

2.

Proposals for furnishing all labor and material and performing all work for constructing nine sets of propelling machinery and Diesel engine driven generators for Minesweepers will be received at the Navy Department until November 20, 1940, when they will be publicly opened. A deposit in the form of a certified check for \$1,000 will be required as security for the safe and prompt return of the plans and specifications and other confidential bidders' data.

Submarine Operating Areas have been designated in approaches to Portsmouth Harbor, New Hampshire, in the vicinity of the Isles of Shoals. Vessels have been ordered to proceed with caution in these areas, as submarines will be operating within them from time to time. Prior notice of such operations will be broadcast by the Hydrographic Office.

Commandant, 10th Naval District, has left for Martinique by plane for conference with officials there.

Supply Corps: As of November 1 seventy-two retired officers had returned to active duty.

Naval Supply Depot, Bayonne, New Jersey: A \$5,000,000 project consists of 160 acres of made land jutting out

3.

into Upper New York Bay. 9,200 feet of berthing space is included in this area with a channel 35 feet deep at mean low water. Rail and road connections over a causeway lead to trunk rail lines and main highways. This depot, when fully developed, will be of real value in relieving the current fleet supply load on the Navy Yard, New York, and East Coast yards in general. This supply depot with the one at Oakland, California, a \$9,000,000 project, the latter to be completed by July 1, 1941, will give the fleet major supply bases on both coasts. The Oakland Depot will provide storehouses for aviation material, reserve material, and medical supplies as well as all other materials.

Berlin Comment, editorially, on the American election said the result proved that a vast majority of the American people opposed intervention in the European War. Government spokesmen did not comment on the election.

Air Raid: London experienced the longest night raid of the war, the all clear signal being given only at 8 A. M. with anti-aircraft taking up again scarcely two hours later.

4.

Virginio Gayda today warned the Swiss press against pro-English comment on the invasion of Greece.

Navy Department employees who wish to greet the President's return will be excused from work until 10 A. M. tomorrow.

USS TRITON (submarine) will operate submerged off Portsmouth, New Hampshire, on November 7 and 8 in areas prescribed by the Hydrographic Office.

Air bases: Contracts for additional work (reported yesterday) include the Pacific Air Bases, Alaska Naval Air Stations, Naval Air Station, San Juan, Pensacola, Jacksonville, Dahlgren, Guantanamo, Alameda, Puget Sound, Charleston, Quonset Point, New York, Philadelphia, Parris Island, and Indian Head. Besides housing units, storehouses, assembly shops, ammunition facilities, fuel storage, and recreational facilities were included in contracts. Work on all bases is still up to schedule and proceeding to speedy conclusion. Most contracts can hardly be expected to be completed ahead of schedule as they were negotiated in as fast time limits as could reasonably be expected. Additional work is embodied in twenty different contracts.

~~Confidential~~

← file personal

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY  
November 7, 1940

Total Enlisted Strength, November 6 ..... 174,812

Fleet Reservists (enlisted) on active duty .... 7,230

Other Reservists " " " " .... 5,733

Retired Men " " " " .... 180

Total .... 13,143

Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours) .... 470

Aggregate Discharges " " " " .... 58

Gain .... 412

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

Line Officers	717
Staff Officers	176
Warrant Officers	57
Total	950

Naval Reserve Officers ordered to active duty for enforcement of neutrality and the strengthening of the national defense within the limits of peace-time authorization, as of November 6:

<u>Character of Duty</u>	<u>Number Allowed</u>	<u>Number Obligated</u>	<u>Number Ordered</u>
V(G) Officers Afloat	300	300	363
Merchant Marines Afloat	225	225	339
Aviation Instructors	248	248	102
I-V(S) Officers	125	125	160
CEC-V(S) Officers	125	125	166
Supply Corps Officers	125	125	183
Medical and Dental Officers	177	177	266
Communication Officers	100	100	186
CC-V(S) Officers	20	20	25
Administration of Reserve			
Midshipman Training Program	140	140	89
Organized Res.Off.(Ashore)	-	-	214
Organized Res.Off.(Afloat)	-	-	87
Miscellaneous	320	580	580
Total Estimated Number Allowed	1905	2165	2760

2.

USS HARRY LEE (Ex-Exochorda) was placed in commission in ordinary on November 5.

USS S-12 (submarine) was placed in full commission at the Navy Yard, Philadelphia, on November 4.

USS GREGORY (DD82) and LITTLE (DD79) were placed in full commission at the Navy Yard, New York, on November 4.

Transport Group is being formed by the CINCUS on the West Coast, consisting of "City" boats recently purchased from the Baltimore Mail Line.

Patrol Force, Atlantic, went into effect as such on November 1, so called because of acquisition of submarines, destroyers, planes, and additional training vessels, making a much larger force. It contains Compat Wings 3, 5, and 7, and 2 aircraft carriers.

Aviation gasoline: shipments to Japan in October were said to be 4 times as large as any recent previous shipment.

Naval Reserve Nurses: By January 40 will have been called to active duty, the first Reserve nurses to be summoned under the present National Emergency. 8 will report on November 15, 12 in December, and 20 in January. Since September, 1939, 887 nurses have been appointed in

3.

the Naval Reserve Nurse Corps.

Tin: contracts have been signed between the Metals Reserve Company and tin ore producers in Bolivia for the purchase of tin ores and concentrates sufficient to produce 18,000 tons of fine tin annually for the next five years.

War Sinkings: Large merchant sinkings reported in the past two weeks seem to be due to German long-range patrol planes finding convoys well off Ireland and coordinating their efforts with submarines. British originally protected convoys with men o'war and then thinking it unnecessary turned to armed merchantmen, which were not of much help in troublesome waters as results show. Our observers in Canada believed convoys of 100 vessels and less were insufficiently protected, at least in leaving this side of the Atlantic. Fate of a British convoy attacked by a German raider in mid-Atlantic was still unknown. Raider is believed to be of the Graf Spee Class, and to be able to attack British convoys in mid-Atlantic at her leisure.

German Government has refused to give safe conduct guarantees for an American ship to go to a port on

4.8

the West Coast of Ireland to repatriate American citizens. There are about 1200 Americans in the British Isles still desirous of returning home. The Reich Government claimed to be in no position to give any assurances in armed areas around Britain.

Chilean Government laid claim today to all Antarctic territory lying between Meridians 53 and 90 West of Greenwich. This does not include Little America, but does include a small part of the area explored by the Byrd Expedition.

Bureau of Yards and Docks awarded contracts totaling \$2,275,465 which were cleared by the National Defense Advisory Commission, as follows:

Contract for Bulkhead and Fill at the Naval Academy, Annapolis, Maryland, has been awarded to Day & Zimmerman, Inc., 620 Packard Building, Philadelphia, Pa., for the estimated sum of \$331,400; time - 180 calendar days.

Contract for 600 housing units for the Navy Yard, Portsmouth, New Hampshire, to be erected in the vicinity of Kittery, Maine, has been awarded to J. Slotnik Co., Boston, Mass. for the estimated sum of \$1,944,065; time 360 calendar days.

~~Confidential~~

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY  
November 8, 1940

File  
Personal  
&  
Confidential

Total Enlisted Strength, November 7 ..... 175,172

<u>Fleet Reservists</u> (enlisted) on active duty ...	7,230
<u>Other Reservists</u> " " " " ...	5,733
<u>Retired Men</u> " " " " ...	219

Total ... 13,182

<u>Aggregate Enlistments</u> (last 24 hours) ....	489
<u>Aggregate Discharges</u> " " " " ....	168
Gain ....	321

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

Line Officers	717
Staff Officers	176
Warrant Officers	57
Total	950

Naval Reserve Officers ordered to active duty for enforcement of neutrality and the strengthening of the national defense within the limits of peace-time authorization, as of November 7:

<u>Character of Duty</u>	<u>Number Allowed</u>	<u>Number Obligated</u>	<u>Number Ordered</u>
V(G) Officers Afloat	300	300	363
Merchant Marines Afloat	225	225	339
Aviation Instructors	248	248	102
I-V(S) Officers	125	125	160
CEC-V(S) Officers	125	125	166
Supply Corps Officers	125	125	183
Medical and Dental Officers	177	177	266
Communication Officers	100	100	186
CC-V(S) Officers	20	20	25
Administration of Reserve			
Midshipman Training Program	140	140	89
Miscellaneous	320	580	580
Organized Res.Off.(Ashore)	-	-	214
Organized Res.Off.(Afloat)	-	-	87
<b>Total Estimated Number Allowed</b>	<b>1905</b>	<b>2165</b>	<b>2760</b>

2. Class V-7, Reserve Midshipmen: Graduation exercises for

the first class of Reserve Midshipman will be held in the ILLINOIS on November 14. The Assistant Secretary, Mr. Compton, will present commissions as Ensigns in the Naval Reserve to approximately 260 graduates. With few exceptions, all are requesting active duty with the Fleet.

This class, beginning with 300 men, are those selected from 500 who took the first cruise in the WYOMING from July 15 to August 9, and have completed 3 months intensive training ashore. Over 3,000 of Class V-7 have now completed the training period of one month at sea. 1,500 are now on the training cruise to be completed on November 23. 1,500 additional candidates will make the fifth and last cruise scheduled for this program. Over 6,000 men will have completed the training cruise from whom it is hoped 5,000 will complete the entire course and receive commissions in the Naval Reserve. 379 reserve midshipmen are now under instruction at Northwestern University.

The second class in the ILLINOIS will report on November 22. Four classes are scheduled in the ILLINOIS, 4 at Northwestern, and 1 at the Naval Academy which will begin on February 14 following graduation of the first class.

Navy Recruiting Activities for Week Ending Nov. 1:

Number of Applicants accepted for 1st enlistment 1401

Number of 1st enlistment 2007

Number of reenlistments, continuous service 77

Number of reenlistments, broken service 44

Total 2128

Selection: The line selection board of which Rear Admiral Edward C. Kalbfus, U. S. Navy, has been appointed the president, and which will convene on November 15 will be instructed to recommend not more than 16 captains for promotion to the grade of rear admiral and not more than 68 commanders for promotion to the grade of captain in the line of the Navy to fill vacancies in those grades.

This board will, in addition, be instructed to recommend not more than 4 captains for promotion to the grade of rear admiral to fill vacancies in that grade among officers restricted by law to the performance of engineering duty only.

Naval Reserve Appropriations: Supplemental 1941 bill, not yet submitted to the Bureau of the Budget includes increased funds to retain on active duty 110 aviation

4.

reserve officers following completion of 4 years minimum active duty requirements. 6,170 additional general class officers including 3,150 graduates of the Naval reserve midshipmen's training school. 12,950 additional enlisted men have been asked for which will bring this number to 18,000 on active duty by March 1, 1942. Forty Naval Reserve nurses are also included in appropriation request. In 1942 there will be a decrease in Naval Reserve appropriations asked for Naval reserve aviators as 450 are expected to be transferred to the regular Navy. In 1942 Naval reserve officers on active duty are expected to total 8,236. Enlisted men should be increased up to 44,000 by June 30, 1942, and it is expected that 7,500 of Naval reserve midshipmen will have been trained during the fiscal year 1942.

Selection Board, Brigadier Generals to Major Generals, USMC: will convene in the Navy Department on November 15 to recommend three officers of the grade of Brigadier General, USMC, for promotion to the grade of Major General.

QUEEN ELIZABETH is reported ready to leave New York on Monday for service as a troop transport, probably to carry soldiers from Australia to the British Isles.

~~Confidential~~

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY  
November 12, 1940

*File*  
*Special*

Total Enlisted Strength, November 9 ..... 175,959

Fleet Reservists (enlisted) on active duty .... 7,504

Other Reservists " " " " .... 5,733

Retired Men " " " " .... 219

Total .... 13,456

Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours) .... 354

Aggregate Discharges " " " " .... 113

Gain .... 241

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

Line Officers	717
Staff Officers	176
Warrant Officers	57
Total	950

Naval Reserve Officers ordered to active duty for enforcement of neutrality and the strengthening of the National Defense within the limits of peace-time authorization: as of November 9:

<u>Character of Duty</u>	<u>Number Allowed</u>	<u>Number Obligated</u>	<u>Number Ordered</u>
V(G) Officers Afloat	300	300	602
Merchant Marine Res.Afloat	225	225	347
Aviation Instructors	248	248	113
I-V(S) Officers	125	125	171
CEC-V(S) Officers	125	125	176
Supply Corps Officers	125	125	193
Medical and Dental Officers	177	177	274
Communication Officers	100	100	191
CC-V(S) Officers	20	20	26
Administration of Reserve			
Midshipman Training Program	140	140	89
Miscellaneous	320	610	610
Organized Res.Off.(Ashore)	-	-	235
Organized Res.Off.(Afloat)	-	-	115
<b>Total Estimated Number Allowed 1905</b>		<b>2195</b>	<b>3142</b>

2. Bureau of Aeronautics: Admiral Towers reports that the Germans, having found that it was too costly to bomb England on the wholesale scale in daylight hours, because of the losses inflicted by the Royal Air Force fighters, have resorted to extensive bombing of merchant ships well out over the sea areas where they are almost entirely free from the British Fighter interception.

The means to counter these activities of the German bombers lies in the long-range fighter, capable of patrolling over the convoys during daylight.

USS HORNET (aircraft carrier) will be launched about December 14, at the Newport News Shipbuilding Corporation.

All Commodities: Price Index for the week ending November 2 was 78.5 in comparison with 78.6 on October 26 and 78.4 on October 19. This price index which had previously showed a steadily rising trend the previous four weeks, seems to have flattened out.

Bureau of Supplies and Accounts awarded a contract for airplanes to the Consolidated Aircraft Corporation, San Diego, California, in the amount of \$75,313,000. This contract was cleared by the National Defense Advisory Commission.

3. USS ALBATROSS (minesweeper 71) was placed in full commission at Navy Yard, Boston, on November 8.

USS HEYWOOD (Ex-City of Baltimore) was placed in ordinary commission at Portland, Maine, on November 8.

USS GAR (Submarine) was launched at Groton, Connecticut on November 7.

German Raider has been reported 150 miles off Rocas, Argentina, on November 11 by the English who are holding ships in port.

USS DALE (destroyer) had 36 foot section of bilge keel on the port side forward torn away apparently due to heavy rolling. The DALE was overhauled, leaving the Navy Yard September 20. Forces afloat are cutting off torn sections which will not restrict the DALE from carrying out operating schedule.

State Department reports City of Rayville is believed by members of Australian Navy to have been sunk by a mine in Bass Strait. A number of mines have been discovered there by a mine sweeper, and are said to be of Italian or German origin.

USS NEW YORK will be available for emergency docking and repairs upon arrival at the Navy Yard,

4.

Norfolk, and will be assigned number one priority. No dock was available at New York.

Tokio: Best advices report strong possibility of Soviet mediation to end Chinese hostilities. Both Germany and Russia are said to be anxious to enable Japanese forces now in China to be withdrawn for operations against Malaya and Netherlands Indies. There is also possibility of a Soviet-Japanese agreement under which the Soviets will stop assistance to China.

Violent explosion rocked the plant of the United Railway Signal Corporation at Woodridge, New Jersey, this morning. Between 10 and 20 persons were taken to the hospital with injuries.

Chilean Copper: Japan has resumed heavy purchases of this commodity. Japan was also said to be purchasing large amounts of foreign copper held in bond in the United States.

Priorities Board today created a Machine Tool Priorities Committee to coordinate National Defense needs with commercial and export demands to eliminate bottlenecks. Commander E. R. Henning was named a naval member of this committee.

~~Confidential~~ *Personal*

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

November 13, 1940

Total Enlisted Strength, November 12 ..... 176,265

Fleet Reservists (enlisted) on active duty .... 7,504

Other Reservists " " " " .... 5,733

Retired Men " " " " .... 219

Total .... 13,456

Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours) ..... 332

Aggregate Discharges " " " " ..... 16

Gain ..... 316

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

Line Officers 717

Staff Officers 176

Warrant Officers 57

total 950

Naval Reserve Officers ordered to active duty for enforcement of neutrality and the strengthening of the national defense within the limits of peace-time authorization as of November 9:

<u>Character of Duty</u>	<u>Number Allowed</u>	<u>Number Obligated</u>	<u>Number Ordered</u>
V(G) Officers Afloat	300	300	602
Merchant Marine Res.Afloat	225	225	347
Aviation Instructors	248	248	113
I-V(S) Officers	125	125	171
CEC-V(S) Officers	125	125	176
Supply Corps Officers	125	125	193
Medical and Dental Officers	177	177	274
Communication Officers	100	100	191
CC-V(S) Officers	20	20	26
Administration of Reserve			
Midshipman Training Program	140	140	89
Organized Res.Off.(Ashore)	-	-	235
Organized Res.Off.(Afloat)	-	-	115
Miscellaneous	320	610	610
Total Estimated Number Allowed	1905	2195	3142

2.

Naval Supply Depot at Bayonne: plans and specifications are in process of preparation. Captain Stanley (SC) in charge.

Marine Corps: total enlisted strength, November 12, 37,802.

Regular Navy had 10,828 commissioned officers as of November 1, including staff and warrant officers.

Naval Reserve, as of November 1, consisted of 15,538 officers and 44,801 enlisted men. There are approximately 4,180 officers in the Merchant Marine Reserve.

Amphibian Tractors: 200 have been ordered, capable of transporting 45 marines with their equipment in ship-to-shore movements. These tractors are capable of 9 knots speed through the water, can run up a beach, and are powerful enough to knock over an 8" tree. It is not expected that they will displace, but rather complement the Higgins boat in landing force operations.

SS SHOOTING STAR to be converted into an ammunition carrier will probably be taken over from the Maritime Commission tomorrow or November 15. This is one of 3 ships to be acquired from the Tampa Shipbuilding Corporation, all of which have been in the process of

3..A

construction. The other two will probably be converted into submarine tenders, though this is tentative.

Reserve Midshipmen, graduating as Ensigns D(V)G in the USS ILLINOIS tomorrow, nearly all have requested active duty with the fleet and have been assigned to battleships, cruisers, and aircraft carriers. Orders have been issued. This active duty constitutes the third and final phase of their training and will determine their actual qualifications after a 6 month period afloat, after which time the Bureau of Navigation can judge their efficiency through two quarterly fitness reports from commanding officers. The Assistant Secretary, Mr. Compton, will give the graduation address.

Bureau of Supplies and Accounts reports a preliminary award has been made, subject to later confirmation, to the Waterbury Tool Company for Electric Hydraulic Equipments, electric motors and controllers, and spare parts at an estimated cost of \$575,000. (Not for release)

A preliminary award has been made, subject to later confirmation, to General Motors Corporation for 100 sixteen cylinder, two-cycle, 1200 horsepower, light-

4.

weight radial Diesel Engines and spare parts at an estimated cost of \$10,000,000. (Not for press release)

A preliminary award has been made, subject to later confirmation, to the Willys Overland Motors, Inc., for 2,000 breech housings and 2,000 recoil cylinders, with spare parts, at an estimated cost of \$1,939,000. (Not for press release)

A preliminary award has been made, subject to later confirmation, to the Timken Roller Bearing Corporation, for 50 sets of 5"/38 caliber roller paths and rollers, at an estimated cost of \$95,889.50. (Not for press release)

Pratt and Whitney have been awarded an additional contract for airplane engines in the amount of \$57,856,179. This contract was cleared through the National Defense Advisory Commission.

Italian Fleet was struck a heavy blow by British bombers at their main base in Taranto. One battleship of the Littorio class was left with her forecastle under water and heavily listed. One battleship of the Conte di Cavour class was beached. A second battleship of the Cavour class was also said to be badly damaged. This is an official report of the British Admiralty.

~~Confidential~~

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY  
November 14, 1940

Total Enlisted Strength, November 13 ..... 177,109

Fleet Reservists (enlisted) on active duty .... 7,504

Other Reservists " " " " .... 6,525

Retired Men " " " " .... 219

Total .... 14,248

Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours) .... 204

Aggregate Discharges " " " " .... 152

Gain .... 52

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

Line Officers 717

Staff Officers 176

Warrant Officers 57

Total 950

Naval Reserve Enlisted Men ordered to active duty for enforcement of neutrality and the strengthening of the national defense within the limits of peace-time organization:

<u>Character of Duty</u>	<u>Number Allowed</u>	<u>Number Obligated</u>	<u>Number Ordered</u>
Inshore Patrol Bases	340	215	89
Naval Reserve Aviation Bases	2,300	2,300	864
Communications	85	83	80
Afloat	5,000	2,043	2,558
Miscellaneous	(	1,284	1,281
Class V-7 Procurement Program	(2,325	215	215
Class V-7 for Midshipmen, USNR	5,000	1,500	1,504
Radio and Signal Schools	<u>5,000</u>	<u>1,030</u>	<u>958</u>
Total Men	19,050	8,670	7,549

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Bureau of Yards and Docks announces the following awards: Contract for Power Wiring at the Navy Yard, Pearl Harbor, T. H., has been awarded to Severin Electric Co., San Francisco, Calif., for the sum of \$66,900; time - 120 calendar days.

Contract for Outfall Sewer for 600 Low Cost Housing Units in the vicinity of Vallejo, California, has been awarded to A Teichert and Son, Inc., Sacramento, Calif., for the sum of \$29,800; time - 120 calendar days, except Section 1 of the sewer shall be completed within 60 calendar days.

Contract for Aviation Facilities at the Naval Reserve Aviation Base, Dallas, Texas, has been awarded on a cost plus fixed fee basis to Henger Construction Company, Dallas, Texas. The total estimated cost, including fee, of this contract is \$750,000.

Contract for Receiving Barracks and Accessories at the Navy Yard, Philadelphia, Pa., has been awarded on a cost plus fixed fee basis to Henry E. Baton, Inc., Philadelphia, Penna. The total estimated cost, including fee, of this contract is \$450,000.

Contract for Construction of Pier No. 3 at the Navy Yard, Puget Sound, Washington, has been awarded on a cost plus

fixed fee basis to Puget Sound Bridge and Dredging Co. and Rumsey and Company, Seattle, Washington. The total estimated cost, including fee, of this contract is \$2,000,000.

USS GUDGON (SS211) will be launched on January 25, 1941.

Contract has been awarded to Higgins Industries, Inc. for "Eureka" type boats in the amount of \$2,177,500.

Submarine Chasers, 454, 456, 560, and Net Tenders 33 and 34 departed from Guantanamo for the Canal Zone on November 10.

USS LUDLOW (Destroyer) was launched at the Bath Iron Works, Bath, Maine, on November 11.

USS RAVEN (Minesweeper) was placed in full commission at the Navy Yard, Norfolk, Virginia, on November 11.

SS CITY OF NEWPORT NEWS was received by the Commandant 13th Naval District from the Maritime Commission at Lake Union Drydocks, Seattle, and placed in ordinary commission as the USS FULLER (transport) on Nov. 12.

Seaplane Wrecking Derricks 20, 22, and 23, keels were laid at the Navy Yard, Boston, on November 12.

Vessels for Conversion: As soon as practicable after

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the Navy takes possession of any vessel for conversion into yachts, coastal patrol boats, submarine chasers, gunboats, or minesweepers, recommended conversion features will be forwarded to the Navy Department for the information of the Bureau of Ships and the Bureau of Ordnance, including cost estimates and time to complete, by Commandants of all Naval Districts concerned.

Rumanian Oil: production for the first ten months of 1940 dropped 158,000 tons under the production for the similar 1939 period. Drilling was 22 percent under 1939 figures. During the first ten months of this year Germany imported 32 percent of over  $2\frac{1}{2}$  million tons of Rumanian oil, England 17 percent. Since invasion by Germany the Reich is importing virtually all of available Rumanian oil.

British Convoy said to have been wiped out in Mid-Atlantic by a German raider, is slowly returning home. Only 8 of the 38 ship convoy are now missing according to a late British report.

Japanese are withdrawing all available forces from China. There have been no air raids in Central China for two weeks.

~~Confidential~~

← file

REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

November 15, 1940

Total Enlisted Strength, November 14 ..... 177,542

Fleet Reservists (enlisted) on active duty .... 7,504

Other Reservists " " " " .... 6,525

Retired Men " " " " .... 266

Total ..... 14,295

Aggregate Enlistments (last 24 hours) ..... 455

Aggregate Discharged " " " " ..... 69

Gain ..... 386

Retired Officers returned to active duty as of Nov. 15:

Line Officers 748

Staff Officers 182

Warrant Officers 58

Total 988

Naval Reserve Officers ordered to active duty for enforcement of neutrality and the strengthening of the national defense within the limits of peace-time authorization as of November 14:

<u>Character of Duty</u>	<u>Number Allowed</u>	<u>Number Obligated</u>	<u>Number Ordered</u>
V(G) Officers Afloat	300	300	602
Merchant Marine Res. Afloat	225	225	347
Aviation Instructors	248	248	113
I-V(S) Officers	125	125	171
CEC-V(S) Officers	125	125	176
Supply Corps Officers	125	125	193
Medical and Dental Officers	177	177	274
Communication Officers	100	100	191
CC-V(S) Officers	20	20	26
Administration of Reserve			
Midshipman Training Program	140	140	89
Miscellaneous	320	610	610
Organized Res. Off. (Ashore)	-	-	235
Organized Res. Off. (Afloat)	-	-	115
Total Estimated Number Allowed	1905	2195	3142

2. Bureau of Aeronautics: The Chief of the Bureau, Rear Admiral J. H. Towers, stated: "The attack by torpedo planes from British aircraft carriers upon the Italian vessels in the Harbor of Taranto was a perfect demonstration of the effectiveness of this form of attack where targets had no freedom of maneuver.

"The torpedo plane is admittedly a weapon of opportunity but when that opportunity is afforded its effect is far greater than that of a bombing attack."

Bureau of Yards and Docks awarded the following contracts: Contract for Receiving Barracks and Accessories at the Navy Yard, New York has been awarded on a cost plus fixed fee basis to White Construction Co., Inc., New York. The total estimated cost, including fee, of this contract is \$1,300,000.

Contract for Warehouse and Accessories at the Marine Corps Depot of Supplies, Philadelphia, Penna. has been awarded on a cost plus fixed fee basis to Day & Zimmerman, Inc., Philadelphia, Penna. The total estimated cost, including fee, of this contract is \$1,170,000.

Contract for Housing Facilities at the Submarine Base, New London, Conn. has been awarded on a cost plus fixed

3. fee basis to The Wadhams, May & Carey Company, Hartford, Conn. (100 units for enlisted men). The total estimated cost, including fee, of this contract is \$277,000.

Consolidated Aircraft Corporation was awarded a contract for airplanes in the amount of \$18,529,500. This contract was cleared by the National Defense Advisory Commission.

USS HOBSON (DD464) keel was laid at the Charleston Navy Yard on November 14.

Motor Torpedo Boat, PT-11 was delivered to the Navy Yard, Brooklyn, on November 12. This is the second of the Elco boats to be completed.

USS VULCAN (Repair Ship) is scheduled to be launched at the plant of the New York Shipbuilding Corporation, Camden, New Jersey, on December 14.

Airplane Crash: Lieutenant (jg) T. D. Cummins and Aviation Chief Machinist's Mate, L. B. Staniewski were killed instantly when their plane crashed near Pearl Harbor on November 14. Both men were members of Bombing Squadron 5, USS YORKTOWN.

USS SAMPSON (DD394) will observe the following itinerary in carrying an Economic Mission headed by Mr.

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Charles W. Taussig of New York City and including Lieutenant Colonel Kiebler, U.S.A. and Lieutenant Commander W. S. Campbell to the following: November 20-22, Barbadoes; November 23-28, Trinidad; November 29, Granada and St. Vincent; November 30-December 1, St. Lucia; December 2, Dominica; December 3-6, Antigua, including adjacent islands. The Mission will board the SAMPSON at Barbadoes on November 20.

Army-Navy Munitions Board: Preliminary discussion on priority of contracts was held in the Navy Department followed by a meeting of the joint board this afternoon.

High Speed Tankers scheduled to be taken over by the Navy on December 1 from the Maritime Commission will remain in service with the Standard Oil Company and the Keystone Oil Company during the winter months to supply winter heating requirements on the East Coast. These tankers, the ESSO ANNAPOLIS, ESSO NEW ORLEANS, ESSO RALEIGH, and MARKEY are similar to the CIMARRON in construction and speed, and are readily convertible to Naval auxiliaries. They are subject to call by the Navy at any time on immediate notice.