Authority: E.O. 13526

By: NDC NARA Date: Dec 31, 2012

MOST SECRET

442

26.3.1944 Sunday

War Diary

SITUATION REPORT

Home Commands

Operation "F.Y."

1. C.S.10 in DIADEM with Capt. D.23 in SAUMAREZ left Scapa at 1631 to-day for Loch Ewe to attend the Convoy Conference of Convoy J.W.58; and three M/Vs. of the Iceland Group left Reykjavik at 1722A to-day with FITZROY, CHAMOIS, CHANCE and SPOSA as Escort to R/V with Convoy J.W.58 in due course off N.E. Iceland.

East Coast.
Engagements
with E/boats.
One E/boat
damaged by
MACKAY.

2. Two groups of E/boats were operating off the East Coast last night, one off Smiths Knoll and the other off Orfordness. At 0003 to-day MACKAY. guarding the seaward flank of Convoy F.S.1, engaged seven of the Smiths Knoll Group and damaged at least one; and at about 0001 SHELDRAKE on patrol engaged the Orfordness group close to No.3. Buoy and drove them off to the S.E.

Engagement off Dutch Coast.

3. At 0109 to-day M.T.Bs. 203 and 229, while attempting to lay mines in the Zuydecoote Passage, engaged a trawler-type enemy vessel at 500 yards range which, after being hit several times, ceased firing. The minelaying was abandoned.

Mediterranean

Operation "Shingle"

4(a). It was reported this morning that flying is now possible from Montecorvino.
(b) 6309 tons were discharged at Anzio to-day. Two enemy aircraft were shot down during an air raid at 2049; no damage was caused but minelaying is suspected. Shelling was less heavy.

5. Evidence was received to-day showing that a U/boat was very likely destroyed by a H.M.T.MULL in 38.07 N. 09.44 E. (between Sardinia and Tunisia) on 10th March. MULL was the single escort of a small convoy.

6. B.26s. bombed Leghorn Harbour to-day with good concentration.

Aegean

7. UNSWERVING reports one probable hit with torpedo on the German MV. GERDA TOFT to-day.

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East Indies

8. 38. TJISAZAK, Melbourne for Colombo, was torpedoed by a U/boat and sunk to-day in 02.30 s. 78.40 g. (about 320 miles east-south-east of Addu Atoll).

The survivors were taken on board the Japanese submarine and massacred, the Captain and a Red Cross nurse being taken below and not seen again. 5 men escaped by swimming.

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Policy.

HAWKINS, PROBISHER. On arrival in U.K. HAWKINS about 29th March, FROBISHER about 5th April are to come under the orders of C. in C. H.F. (D.O.D.(H), 260154A to C. in C. H.F.)

Flag of C.S. 10.

Flag of Rear-Admiral R.R. McGrigor Commanding First Cruiser Squadron will be hoisted in KENT at 0800/27th Harch. (C. in C. H.F., 261019 to H.F.)

Operations.

patrol.

report number of torpedoes fired.
(F.O.(S), 260004A to SATYR.)
Your 160004A. 4 torpedoes expended. Position 61° 01°. (SATYR, 261716A to F.O.S.)

Biscey A/S operations. A/C attacking U-Boat in 46° 58' M. 10° 39' W. (C. in C. Plymouth, 260018A to SALADIN.)
D/F bearings at 2230Z indicate U-Boat in your vicinity.

(D.D.I.C., 260020A to VINDRX, E.G.6.) Friendly A/C continually homing and dropping flares on destroyers as neither have I.F.F. P.C.S. 47° 44' N. 10° 12' W.,

25°, 18 knots. (SALADIN, 260145A to Plymouth.) Your 260953. Fleres were dropped between destroyer and Ss. explosions felt at 2300A/25th in 046° 58' N. 010° 33' W. (SALADIN, 261045A to C. in C. Plymouth.)
Sub. sighted 46° 46' N. 11° 43' W., burning red flere.
Did not attack. Submerged as circled.
(A/C NTQ96, 261236A to 19 Group.)

Engagements off Smiths Knoll and Orfordness. 1 E-Boat damaged by MACKAY.

E-Boat Smiths Knoll. Gover Ijmuiden.
(C. in C. Nore, 260029 to Nore.)
My 0029. Indications E-Boat taking northerly
route as before.
(C. in C. Nore, 260150A to Nore.)
Severe interference to the Nore port wave (1780
k/cs) from what are believed to be army stations
using call signs STT and YNY and transmitting 5
letter code with 5 figure indicators on a
frequency of 1778.5 k/cs as measured by Baldock
lenced between 2100/25th and 0930/25th March.

has been experienced between 2100/25th and 0930/26th March.

has been experienced between 2100/25th and 0930/26th March. These stations were received R.5 on 1780 k/cs at Chataham, Harwich and Yarmouth and endangered the conduct of operations against an E-Boat attack on the East Cost Convoy Route and operations against the enemy on the Dutch cost.

(C. in C. Nore, 261225A to Admty.)

E-Boat action night 25th/26th March. SHELDRAKE reports
N-Boats first detected at 2355A by Radar 345° 3 Buoy 5.2 miles, general course 150/5°. Ships position 000° 3 Buoy 2.2 miles.
Three E-Boats sighted at 0010 in line shead in 070° 3 Buoy 2.4

/miles ...

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HOME COMMANDS.

Engagements off Smiths Knoll and orfordness. 1 E-Boat damaged by MACKAY. (Contd.)

miles. Fire opened with rocket illuminant 4 inch and Oerlikon from 076° 3 Buoy 1.5 miles, ship's course 060°. No hits claimed with mas No hits claimed with main armament, several near misses. Enemy made smoke and retired at speed on general course 120° in line abreast. 2. Not considered that enemy laid mines in channel but may have jettisoned while retiring. (F.O.I.C. Harwich, 261246A to C. in G. Nore.) Preliminary report of E-Boat activity last night.

1. E-Boats operated in two main groups.

Northern group near Smiths Knoll, southern at 3 Buoy. 2. Southern group came in on course of 270 speed about 16 knots They were detected by K.164 at 2535 at C/F unit K two miles N.W. of Z.50 made no making for 3 Buoy. range of 16% miles. contact although E-Boats passed within 11 miles. SHELDRA patrol 8A engaged 3 E-Boats at about 0001 close to 3 Buoy. SHELDRAKE on E-Boats at once turned S.E. and retired at high speed. other contact made. No evidence of minelaying. This other contact made. have been diversion for main attack further north. 3. Northern group were outside range of shore Radar. MACKAY (Patrol 5) guarding flank of F.S. convoy detected E-Boats by Radar on N.W'ly course 5 miles east of Smiths Knoll buoy. on being engaged they retired N.E. at 0038 contact was again made in about same positions. Seven E-Boats believed to have been contacted. These may have been same group reinforced. Enemy again retired N.E. on being engaged. Hits were scored and at least one E-Boat was damaged. C/F units at Z.16, Z.18 and Z.20 made no contact although apparently well placed. least 7 E-Boats in this group. Mines may have been laid of Smiths Knoll but MACKAY successfully saved convoy being Mines may have been laid east detected.

4. Shore Radar. K.164 and K.165 both plotted southern group. K.164 did well to keep continuous track of SHELDRAKE unit K and E-Boats, holding these to range of 24 miles. 5. Coastal Porces. It is disappointing that although both groups of E-Boats must have passed close to C/F units both coming in and retiring no contact of any sort was made. Aircraft. E-Boats passed through A.S.V. Wellington patrols without being detected.

(C. in C. Nore, 26130QA to Admty.)

Y supplement to my 26130Q.

(1) WINTERTON heard carriers intermittently on 45.6 m/cs from 0052 to 0130 and a snatch of R/T at 0058. Gorleston and Trimingham heard carriers at 0057 and 0111 respectively.

(2) During each action MACKAY heard R/T traffic. Signal long green and short green heard several times also KARI, and number during second action this signal has not been heard before. puring second action excited voices urging HUGO 5 times to repeat. Consider this may confirm MACKAY's claim to have damaged one E-Boat.

(3) No positive evidence minelaying.
(4) Smudge signals after 0130 indicate E-Boats possibly steering for the Texel.

(C. in C. Nore, 261657A to Admty.)

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26.3.1944.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations - Contd.

ULA sailed 0715A/26th unsscorted and on the surfaced at G.0's discretion till within 60 miles of Norwegian coast. Proceeding by route B to 069° 30' thence patrolling vicinity of S/M Patrols.

069° 35', 017° 25' %

(S.O. S/M Lerwick, 260815A to S/Ms.)
Submarines 0801/27th and movements for following 24 hours.

(A) SYRTIS off Bodo leaves patrol after dark 27th proceeding on surface 10 knots to pass through 66° 01' N. 06° 22' E. at 1400/28th.

(B) TAKU off Kys. (C) TERRAPIN off Lister.
(D) STURDY 65° 19' N. 001° 15' E.
(E) VOX arriving Lerwick from north.
(F) ULA 65° 40' N. 02° 20' E. probably on surface course 030° 9 knots. (F.O.(S), 261749A to Admty.)

Operation completed. Result satisfact (N.O.I.C. Newhaven, 261005A to C. in C. Portsmouth,) Result satisfactory. Operation "Knitting 3".

Operation F.Y.

Arrived RATTLESNAKE.
(N.O.I.G. Aultbea, 261021A to F.O.I.G.Aberdeen.)
A.M. 242039. HOWNINGSVAAG and WINDERMERE will
replace CHAMOIS and CHANGE.

(A.G.I.C., 261140A to Admty.)

Amsndment number 2. My 182553 refers.

Para. 4 (A). No local escort will be provided for R.A.58 but support groups are to remain with convoy until south of 058° 15° N.

N. Para. 4 (G). Delete COMBATANT. Para. 5 (F). Add after support group "less second escort group".

Para. 6 (C). First sentence add after 4 Fleet destroyers "and 2nd Escort Group".

Add new para. 4 (K). U.S. cruiser MILWAUKEE will be included in J.W. 58.

in J.W. 58.

(C. in C. H.F., 261200A to H.F.)

Intend sailing ELOY ALFARO, WILLIAM S. THAYER and JOHN T.

HOLT South Iceland escorted by FITZROY S.O., HONNINGSVAAG and
WINDERMERE at 1600A/26th to R/V with J.W. 58 (C. in C. H.F.

182555 para. 7 refers).

2. On completion escort duties (A) FITZROY to Nore (C. in C. H.F. (B) HONNINGSVAAG and WINDERMERE to Seidisfjord.

(A.C.I.C., 261404A to H.P.) Scapa deperture 10 C.S. in DIADEM with SAUMAREZ in

company.

Company.

(A.C.O.S., 261631 to N.O.I.C. Aultbea.)

Proceed at best speed to join FITZROY with convoy which
left Reykjavik at 1530Z and continue as escort until either

(A) HONNINGSVAAG (? can) overtake and join escort or (B)

another auxiliary vessel joins off scidisfjord.

2. S.O. Escort is to detach CHAMOIS and CHANGE when 2nd

auxiliary vessel escort has joined.

3. CHANGE and CHAMDIS are then to rejoin route ordered in my

S.O. 55 as nearest point west of meridian 015° W. and (? proceed)
in secondance with S.O. 35. in accordance with 8.0. 35. (A.C.I.C., 261714A to CHAMOIS, CHANCE.)

/My ...

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War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

operations.

Operation F.Y. (Contd.) My 261404 sailed. S.O.A. 8½ knots. (A.G.I.C., 261722A to H.F.)
Rosyth departure U.S.S. MILWAUKEE for Scapa. E.T.A. 0621A/27th.

Rosyth departure U.S.S. Milwaukse for Scape.
E.T.A. 0621A/27th.
(C. in C. Rosyth, 261737 to A.C.O.S.)
My 261404 and 261218. Owing to defects
HONNINGVAAG, CHAMDIS and CHANCE have been sailed as extra
escorts as far as Seidisfjord where they will be relieved by
A/S trawler from seidisfjord.
2. on relief CHAMDIS and CHANCE proceed to Granton joining route
in my 261218 in 015° W.
(A.C.I.C., 261946A to H.F.)

Coastal Force Patrols. (N.O.I.C. Dartmouth, 261039A.) (F.O.I.C. Gt. Yarmouth, 261225A.) (C. in C. Plymouth, 261259A.) (C. in G. Portsmouth, 261331A.)

Operation C.X.

Report forthwith your P.C.S. and proceed with despatch into HEZ. (F.O.(8), 261114A to SCEPTRE, E.G. 25.)

operation "Plane 44".

Carry out Operation "Plane 44" tonight.
(V.A. Dover, 261226A to S.O. L.G.P.L.)
My 261226. Operation abandoned as visibility
was too great.
(V.A. Dover, 262358A to Admty.)

Engagement off Zuydecoote

Passage.

At 2100 yesterday Group X M.T.Bs. 203 (S.C.) and 229 with Group Y M.T.B.705 as support sailed to lay mines in the western entrance to the Zuydecoote pass.

2. At 0020, when approaching to lay, Group X sighted enemy vessel of trawler type at a range of about 800 yards and withdrew undetected to

R/V with Group Y.

3. At 0049 Group X again proceeded to initial laying position but, sighting two --Boats lying stopped at a range of 600 yards, again withdrew to R/V.

4. At 0109 units were challenged from the eastward with letter 'L' and enemy fired one star-shell. Units engaged a vessel of trawler type at a range of five hundred yards and numerous hits were observed on the target which, after the initial burst, ceased firing.

5. Our forces sustained neither damage nor casualties. Lay was not carried out. (V.A. Dover, 261312A to Admty.)

Operation "Tunnel".

Carry out Operation "Tunnel" tonight in accordance with memo O.P.T.U. 2. Information - Enemy.

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25.3.1944. Sunday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Operations.

Operation "Tunnel". (contd.)

2 KLBINGS and 4 T.Bs. in Havre and none in Cherbourg or Brest on 25th March. E-Boats are M-class based on Cherbourg or further west. M/S may be in Cherbourg or Brest. R-Boats probably on patrol in the vicinity Triagoz Bank. 3. Own - Coastal Force patrols as signalled in

my 261259. 4. Execution Force 26 comprising ships addressed is to pass Gate at 2000A today and proceed to pass through position (SS) 000° Ile Vierge Light 9 miles at 0015 and thence through (IT) 300° Ile de Bas Light 9 miles to (UU) 006° Ile de Bas Light 8½. 5. From (UU) Force 26 is return to Plymouth.
6. Disregard Q.Z.X.1255 if in contact with enemy light forces.
Q.Z.X.1247 Force 26 is not to proceed east of 004° w. unless in action with enemy not to cross the line Les Hadb to Heaux.
(G. in C. Plymouth, 261326A to TARTAR, HAIDA, ASHANTI.)

Mining.

Operation N.L. 120.

Hy 251603. Operation N.L. 120 abandoned due to interference by enemy patrol. (V.A. Dover, 261335A to Admty.)

Humber.

Magnetic mine detonated at 1634 in 323° H. 5 Buoy 5.5 miles. (F.O. Humber, 261939A and 261949A to C. in C. Nore.)

Enemy Intelligence.

TIRPITZ, MONTE ROSA, TJELSUND.

B.2 source reports SS. MONTE ROSA left Kaafiord 15002/24.

Comment: As repairs to TIRPITZ have now been completed this vessel is probably returning to Germany.

(D.D.I.C., 261755A to C. in C. Rosyth, C. in C.

A.M. 261755A. Further B.2 report states MONTE ROSA passed Finnsnes (69° 13.5° N. 17° 59° E.) at 0330Z/25th and TJELSUND at 0800Z the same day.

(D.D.I.C., 261827A to C. in C. Rosyth, F.O.(S), C. in C.

B.1 report timed 2000A/26 states no change in position of TIRPITZ. A.M. 252302A refers. (D.D.I.C., 262226A to A.I.G.21, A.I.G.47.)

U-Boats.

U-Boat reported. Submarine reported 290° No.6 Post Scourie 10 miles, course 360, speed 3 knots at 1307. (N.O.I.C. Aulthea, 261453A to C. in C. W.A.)

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26.5.1944. Sunday.

War Diary.

HOME COMMANDS.

Navigational.

Portsmouth. Port of Portsmouth eastern entrance and Needles

channels closed due to fog. (C. in C. Portsmouth, 260646 to Admty.)

Casualties and Defects.

Intend to sail ORESTES by searched channels and Minches to Loch Ewe at 1100 today. (A.C.O.S., 260931 to N.O.I.C. Aultbea.) Scapa departure ORESTES.

(A.C.O.S., 261102A to N.O.I.C. Aulthea.) Arrived ORESTES.

(N.O.I.C. Aulthes, 261919 to A.C.O.S.)

FLINT CASTLE. FLINT CASTLE arrived with defects. (Cdre. (D) W.A., 260940A to C. in C. W.A.)

J.P. CRESSEY. Have encountered Ss. J.P. CRESSEY off Niest Point. He has boiler trouble and one day's coal. Am standing by.

(SOUTHERN WAVE, 261015 to N.O.I.C. Oban.)

My 261015A. Have taken ship in tow and proceeding south.

Request destination where his repairs can be carried out and bunker replenished.

(SOUTHERN WAVE, 261115 to N.O.I.C. Oban.)
Your 261115A. Report: (A) where was tow bound originally.

(B) Extent of damage. (C) Bunker requirements.
(N.O.I.C. Oban, 261425A to BOUTHERN WAVE.)
Proceed forthwith to take overtow of SS.J.P. CRESSEY from
H.M.T. SOUTHERN WAVE. P.C.S. at 1140A/26th, 57° 26' N. 06'
46' W., course 180', 3 knots. Ship is to be towed to Aulthea.

(F.O.I.O. Greenock, 261453A to ALLEGIANCE.)
Your 261425A. (A) Belfast.
(B) Leaky bunker tube and 40 tons of coal. I am now approaching Ardnamurchan Point. (SOUTHERN WAVE, 261530 to N.O.I.C. Oban.)

Your 261453A.

Now approaching Sound of Mull. J.P. CRESSEY bound Belfast will

anchor himself Bloody Bay.

(SOUTHERN WAVE, 261635A to F.O.I.C. Greenock.)

My 261453A. Finsl para. For "Aultbea" read "Belfast".

(F.O.I.C. Greenock, 261717A to ALLEGIANGE.)

SS. J.P. CRESSRY disabled by leaky tubes and bound for

Belfast is anchoring in sound of Mull. ALLEGIAN proceeding to take in tow to Belfast. (F.O.I.C. Greenock, 261945A to F.O.I.C.N.I.) ALLEGIANCE is

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26.3.1944. Sunday.

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FOREIGN STATIONS.

North Atlantic.

U-Boat

2 U-Boats estimated bound S.S.W. with 80 miles of 38 degs. 00° N. 18 degs. 00° W. at 12002/26th. (D.D.I.G. 260930A to Escorts of S.L.152, G.T.G.21.12. C.T.G.21.11. Info. F.O.G.M.A., C. in C. W.A., H.Q.C.C.)

DZIK, ANTIOPE. Intend sailing P.52 (DZIK) for U.K. ANTIOPE for Bermuda and fleet tender (corrupt group) wearing red ensign (7with) SS. TENDER HEART escorted by H.M.S. HAARLEM S. of A.82ktst.Route etc. (F.O.G.M.A. 261149A as amended 261905A)

Tank barges. See from M.W.T. London telegram Mast 2301(N.T. in W.R.) that it is proposed to tow tank barges from Freetown to Gibraltar for onward towage to U.K. as opportunity offers.

(2) There are a number of damaged ships awaiting

towage to the U.K. as opportunity offers.

(2) There are a number of damaged ships awaiting towage to the U.K. which are already buying up valuable berths in a crowded anchorage. Request M.W.T. may be informed that these further additions are unacceptable. (F.O.G.M.A. 261447A to Admty.

THYRAS.

Danish THYRAS seized. (C.C.S.O. Gibraltar, 261520A)

South Atlantic.

GARIBALDI,

Sailed 18192/25. (S.O.(I) Freetown, 2610272).

N.D. Servicing Request A.M. 250448 may be cancelled Capetown of ships.

forms part of Saldanha Bay N.D. Depot and all servicing of ships is carried out in Capetown Dock where work is done alongside Servicing is not at present available at Saldanha Bay unless special arrangements are made. (C. in C. S.A. 261100B to Admty.)

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26.3.1944. Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean.

HINSERRVING.

From 035° 41' 023° 15' at 2230/28th proceed to R/V with escort in 035° 49' 015° 18' at 0750/31st. Thence to Malta by Eastern Channel arriving Marsamxett 1230/31st.

2. You are to proceed diving by day on 29th your surface speed is estimated as 82 knots. (Capt. S.1 260943 to UNSWERVING.)

Sitrep 65 5690 tons discharged in moderate swell. Operation L.S.Ts. from Naples contributed 1024 tons L.C.T.67 tons L.G.I.(D) 17 tons. "Shingle".

2. Intermittent shelling no air raids. 3. URCHIN bombarded German strong points in bridge-

head area on 24th firing 105 rounds.
4. Flying now possible from Montecorvino. (F.O.W.It. 261020.)

Operation "Crust" completed as far as possible but Operation original plan impossible. My position 1203/26th 037° 11' N. 018° 57' E. E.T.A. Outer end Malta N.E. Channel 1505/27th. (P.49 (UNRULY) 261046A.) "Crust. "

RICHELIEU. Onward route to Port Said. (F.O.L.E.M. 261120B.)

Intend (P.65) UPSTART to sail for patrol in zone SS at 1430/28th (route). (Capt. S.10 261143A.) UPSTART.

EMPTRE Extent of damage. 2. Certificate has been grante STRONGHOLD. for one voyage. (P.S.T.O.M.E. 261206B.)

CENTURION. CENTURION is now in dock and it is hoped to undock her on April 8 and to sail her after degaussing and compass adjustment with M.K.S.46 for U.K. (F.O.L.E.M. 261224B.)

P.49 (UNRULY) in 037° 11' 018° 37' at 1201/26th UNRULY. proceeding on the surface at 8 knots to Malta N. E. Channel. (Capt. S.1 261401A to all concerned.)

Escort group Concur in para. 2 of F.O.G.M.A. 231150 but there are no support groups available at present.

If you wish, the 4th E.G. could be retained temporarily at Gibraltar if you can arrange onward for Gib. escort for K.M.F. 30 and return escort for M.K.F. 30 to Gibraltar. (A.C.N.S.H. 261450A to C. in C.Med.)

/UNSWERVING...

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26-3-1944-Sunday.

War Diary.

FOREIGN STATIONS.

Mediterranean. - Contd.

UNSWERVING, Torpedo expenditure. Missed GERDA TOFT 19th secured one probable hit 0600/26th. Sank armed caique 20th. Radar ?fix Cape Spada. Weather report, position 3624.

(UNSWERVING 261951A.)

2. Destroyers and coastal craft sighted mothing during night 24/25th March while patrolling in Situation report 322. Dalmatian Islands.

3. 200 R.M. Commandos landed at Gromin Dolac, (Hvar)

without opposition night 22/23 and returned safely night 24/25 March with all craft intact.

4. 13 ton caique carrying Citrus and Olive Oil captured by coastal force in (?Aegean) on 20th March.

5. On 10th March H.M. Trawler MULL carried out U-Boat attack in 038° 07° N. 009° 41° E. Subsequent evidence shows promise of destruction of U-Boat.

(C. in C.Med. 262033.)

Authority: E.O. 13526

By: NDC NARA Date: Dec 31, 2012

MOST SECRET.

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27.3.1944. Monday.

War Diary.

SITUATION REPORT.

Home Commands.

TIRPITZ.

1. A B.2 report states that on 25th March TIRPITZ was painted a light colour fore and aft and dark amidships.

Operation F.V.

2(a) The Convoy J.W.58, consisting of 47 M/V's, left Loch Ewe at 2046 to-day for North Russia.
(b) At OS14A KEPPEL with three other Destroyers of the Support Group left the Clyde for Skaale-fiord (Paeroes), and at 2005A Capt. D.17 in ONSLOW with six other Destroyers of the Fleet Destroyer Escort left Scapa also for Skaalefiord. C.S.10 in DIADEM arrived at Scapa from Aultbea at 1805A, and the Escort Carriers ACTIVITY and TRACKER with four Destroyers arrived at Scapa at 2040 from Aultbea.
(c) The U.S.S. MILWAKEE, which will accompany the

(c) The U.S.S. MILWARKEE, which will accompany the Convoy to be lent temporarily to the Russian Government, arrived at Scapa at 0712; and at 2104A the three M/V's from Convoy H.X. 263 who are also to join the Convoy were estimated to be about 100 miles South of Seidisfiord escorted by RITZROY, CHAMOIS, CHANGE and SPOSA.

Engagement off Ymuiden.

3. At Ol41 a Patrol of seven M.T.B's engaged three trawler-type auxiliary vessels about ten miles West of Ymuiden and scored several hits on two of them.

U-Boat off Scillies. 4. At 2026 to-day an A/C on patrol reported having sighted a U-Boat 27 miles N.N.W. of the Scillies.

North Atlantic.

U-Boat hunting forces to be established. 5. Subject to escort commitments F.O.G.M.A. intends to establish one fast and one slow U-Boat hunting force: the former of 4 destroyers, the latter of 2 destroyers and 2 corvettes.