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NAVY DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS

WASHINGTON

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**FILE**  
OCT 3-1942

SRNS 0171-0262

Summary of Japanese Naval Activities of October 1, 1942

I. Northwest Pacific

In the second air attack of Sept. 28 on Kiska 5 B-24's, supported by 16 fighters, in the afternoon bombed shipping from an altitude of 9,000 feet. Although there were several near misses no direct hits were scored. No air interception was encountered. 3 B-24's also bombed a freighter, but made only near misses.

On Sept. 30 at 1230 W a Japanese twin float seaplane flew over Adak Island and dropped one 100 lb. bomb, with no known resulting damage.

There is good evidence that at 1830 I, Sept. 30 units of the 5th Fleet Northern Force sortied from Ominato (N tip of Honshu). However, the composition and destination of this force are unknown at present.

II. Southwest Pacific

(a) Solomons:

Our Marine forces on Guadalcanal Island continued their patrols through Sept. 28 and 29, but no contacts were made with the enemy who remains in occupation of the Matanikau River line. At 1400 L, Sept. 29 twenty (20) zero fighters followed by a small group of bombers approached from the northwest. Upon interception the Japanese planes once again jettisoned their bombs and fled. Two (2) zero fighters were certainly shot down and probably four (4) others. We lost one plane and one pilot.

The Japanese radio on Guadalcanal Island sent out the information that allied planes were searching out their positions.

(b) Marshall Islands:

There is a strong indication that a new Japanese air base is being established on some island in this group to carry out operations extending over a period of two weeks. 27 bombers and 18 fighters are to be based there for this period.

III. U.S. submarine operations

It is now officially reported that USS TROUT intercepted a Japanese force of 2 CL and 2 DD escorting a large CV from the south not far from Truk on Sept. 28. The submarine succeeded in making two torpedo hits on the carrier

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which was last seen afire. There can be but little doubt that the carrier referred to was OTAKA (XCV) which is believed to be the new name given to KASUGA MARU. However, there is strong subsequent evidence that OTAKA did not sink, and there are indications that she now may be proceeding to Kure for repairs, and that she may transfer a part of her crew to CHUYO, a new CV or XCV which is now believed to be fitting out.

On Sept. 21 USS TROUT also was reported to have sunk one 6,000 ton auxiliary, probably also in the vicinity of Truk.

#### IV. General

(a) Survivors of the Japanese DD, YAYOI, who were captured on Normanby Island (off S.E. New Guinea) have stated that their ship was sunk by two aircraft bombs on the afternoon of Sept. 11, about 15 miles east of Normanby Island. (The attack was made by one B-17).

The diary of one of these prisoners stated that the KAKO (CA) was hit by 3 torpedoes and sank 7 minutes later on Aug. 10 in a position 60 miles east of New Ireland (This confirms the successful attack of USS S-44). These prisoners also admitted that MUTSUKI (DD) and KINRYU MARU (AP) were sunk early in September in the Solomons.

(b) A Tokyo despatch to Berne stated that on Aug. 31 a Japanese submarine attacked a U.S. heavy cruiser of the NORTHAMPTON class in Nazan Bay, Atka Island, Aleutians, causing heavy damage. It also stated that a Japanese destroyer in the same area had attacked and sunk 2 U.S. submarines.

(c) Of probable significance is a report that the Commander of the 11th Air Fleet in the Rabaul area is planning to use zero fighters as dive bombers. His despatch on the subject stated that when bombers were not available these zeros equipped with two bombs, probably of 60 kg., could be employed in attacks on allied converted carriers on which they could cause vital damage through dive bombing attacks. He directed that training in this employment of the zeros be expedited.

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*A.H. McCollum*  
A.H. McCollum  
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Summary of Japanese naval Activities of Oct. 2, 1942

SRNS 0172

I. Southwest Pacific

(a) General

Japanese shipping continues to funnel into the Rabaul area from the Indies and Japan proper, indicating an undeviating determination to concentrate strength in this theatre. There is good evidence now that even combatant carriers are being employed in ferrying planes south, and it is believed that SHOKAKU and the old HOSHO are the only two carriers now remaining in this theatre available for operations. The influx of combatant surface vessels has been principally of light forces. A large number of units of the Mandated Islands base forces have been sent down, including a heterogeneous assortment of subchasers, armed patrol vessels, converted gunboats and mining vessels; also nearly the entire strength of air flotillas and seaplane tender divisions has been assembled at the expense of the N.E.I.-Philippine areas. Several light cruisers have also either arrived or are enroute from Malay-N.E.I. waters.

(b) Solomons

No ground contacts have been reported up to Oct. 1 on Guadalcanal, but our planes continue aggressive operations. On Sept. 29 4 Japanese boats landing supplies at Visale were bombed and strafed, and on Sept. 30 supply dumps and troops at Tenaru were attacked. In missions to Rekata Bay our planes bombed AA installations and destroyed 2 seaplanes on Sept. 29, and on the following day hit and fired a gasoline supply with 9 - 250 lb. bombs.

A Japanese despatch from Guadalcanal stated that the army field hospital at Visale had 350 patients, of which 150 required evacuation.

Three or four Japanese submarines now appear engaged in attempting to bring in supplies to their forces on the island. A unit on Malapa Point has reported that due to frequent U.S. air patrols and the passage of allied ships a signal fire would not be lighted at night in order to contact an incoming submarine. On Oct. 2 one allied destroyer and another vessel were reported by the Japanese to be anchored in the vicinity of Lunga.

(c) Marshall Islands

It is now learned that the air base from which operations are planned for a period of two weeks (reported in this ~~secret~~ summary of yesterday, Oct. 1) is at Mili, whose location suggests the operations may be directed to the southeast.

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II. Northwest Pacific

Photographs taken during an air attack on Kiska on Sept. 30 by 9 B-24's show two direct hits and one near miss to have been made on a transport which was left burning. Three separate fires were started in the camp area. AA fire was heavy but inaccurate, and 2 Japanese fighters attacked one of our bombers without success.

On Sept. 29 a plane on a photographic mission bombed and strafed a small cargo vessel which had been previously attacked on Sept. 28. No opposition was encountered and no signs of life were apparent on the ship which had been possibly abandoned.

III. General

German officials in Tokyo have reported to their home government that effective Oct. 1 Japan promulgated new regulations on the calling of reservist classes in Japan to repel a possible sea and air attack on their homeland. No details of these regulations have been published.

*A. H. McCollum*  
A. H. McCollum

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~~SECRET~~ SUPPLEMENTSummary of Japanese naval Activities of October 3, 1942

SRNS 0173

I. Central Pacific

(a) Numerous contact reports from Japanese patrol craft operating off the coast of Japan were noted on 2 and 3 October, Japan date. These were apparently reports of contacts on U.S. submarines. On 2 October 1 submarine was reported 35 miles N.E. of Todo Saki (about half way between Tokyo and Hakodate) About 0335I/3 a submarine was reported in Lat. 38 N., Long. 150 E. About 1845I/2 1 submarine was reported in Lat. 34-33 N., Long. 139-02 E. (in the general vicinity of Hachijo Shima, south of Tokyo Bay).

II. Gilberts

It is indicated that mopping up operations were started on Apaing Island at 1030I/1. The forces engaged are believed to consist of one company of the Yokosuka No. 6 Special Landing Force supported by 4 XPG of the 6th Base Force.

III. Southwest Pacific

(a) Japanese radio on Guadalcanal has been quite active and it is evident that they have succeeded in establishing a good watch on our ship movements around Guadalcanal and Tulagi, which seem to be promptly reported to CinC 8th Fleet.

(b) The frequency with which Japanese ships operating in this area report air attacks by "Boeing type planes" followed by reports of no damage and the fact that the Japanese continue to operate large numbers of ships within easy bombing range of our horizontal bombers indicates that our horizontal bombing attacks are not proving to be very effective against ships.

(c) On 1 October 5 dive bombers and 5 torpedo planes from Guadalcanal attacked 4 Japanese DD in Lat. 9-05 S., Long. 158 - 05 E. 1 DD was damaged and was apparently unable to move when last seen.

IV. U.S. Submarine Operations

(a) On 3 September the USS SEAL operating off Camranh Bay, French Indo-China torpedoed and damaged a 4,000 ton freighter. The freighter was beached and it is believed that it sank or broke up later.

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Summary of Japanese Naval Activities of Oct. 4, 1942 **SRNS0174**

**I. Northwest Pacific.**

(a) Aleutians.

11 B-24's and 6 P-39's attacked Kiska again in the morning of October 2. Heavy demolition bombs were dropped on 2 AK, but no direct hits were observed. A large number of smaller demolition bombs were also dropped on the camp area and hits made throughout. One hangar at the seaplane ramp was hit directly. One enemy biplane was destroyed and 4 zero seaplane fighters were shot down. AA fire was heavier and more accurate than in the past, particularly from North Head. An observation flight made later the same day showed 3 AK, 2 of which were beached. Two or 3 small auxiliaries were also seen.

Japanese shipping now appears to be routed well north of Kiska, close to the track of Russian ships.

(b) Kuriles.

There are indications that Japanese ships are using Musashi Bay (on the SE end of Paramushiro Island) and Kataoka Anchorage (west side of Shimushu Island). It is also believed that Vitokappu Bay, Etorofu Island, is likewise used. There is an airfield at Musashi Bay, and possibly another on Matsuwa Island.

**II. Southwest Pacific.**

(a) Solomons.

On the night of Sept. 30 a force of nearly 100 Japanese was landed in Viru Harbor, New Georgia, in three motor barges. On Oct. 2 four additional barges arrived, all well camouflaged.

On Guadalcanal Island only one ground contact was made on Oct. 1. Small hostile groups from Kokumbona to Visale were strafed by both artillery and aircraft. At 2130L, Oct. 1 a lone Jap plane appeared over Guadalcanal and at 0405L, Oct. 2 three others arrived. A few bombs were dropped and a gas dump was ignited. At 1310 L about 30 fighters followed by a small group of bombers flew over Guadalcanal, but no bombs were dropped and 4 zero fighters were shot down.

On Oct. 2 Rekata Bay again was bombed, and a large explosion was heard in the palm grove.

In the afternoon of Oct. 3 one Japanese GA and 9 DD were sighted to the northwest of Guadalcanal. Subsequently one cruiser and 2 DD were attacked in Lat. 8° 32' S, Long. 158° 15'E at 1715L. No apparent damage was inflicted on the enemy units which continued on course 120°, speed 30 until 1800 when last seen.

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The Japanese watch on our shipping to Guadalcanal continues to send out information to Japanese forces in the area. The latest such report stated that U.S. transports and destroyers left the Lunga anchorage at about 1800, spent the night at Tulagi and returned the following morning. The report ended with the request that these ships be bombed.

(b) Greenwich Island.

A Japanese report has stated that 2 Boeing bombers appeared over Greenwich at 0915, Oct. 2 and remained overhead for about one hour. Eight 500 lb. bombs were dropped, and some unidentified ship apparently was struck, judging from a statement that water was entering the ship, probably in the forward engine room.

(c) General.

It appears that auxiliary powered sailing vessels have been assigned to the command of the 11th Air Fleet in Melanesia which has requested that they be sent south in succession as they are made ready.

III. Night Engagement of Aug. 8.

An old battle report sent out by the Japanese Commander of the 11th Air Fleet covering the night engagement of Aug. 8 near Savo Island (off Guadalcanal Island) is summarized as follows:

"The 8th Fleet sank four (4) allied heavy cruisers and damaged three (3) others seriously. One (1) light cruiser and four (4) destroyers were also sunk. The lookout station at Cape Hunter (SW coast of Guadalcanal) observed most of these cruisers explode and sink to the southward.

"Our air torpedo attack which was launched the following morning, Aug. 9, sank one (1) heavy cruiser. At this time the lookout station on Guadalcanal Island and the submarine RO-33 reported 1 CA, 2 CL, 13 smaller ships which were either DD's or AM's, and 19 AP at anchor off Guadalcanal, or steaming southwest of Tulagi. The 8th Fleet suffered moderate damage the night of the 8th, but our air groups incurred practically no casualties. Our air reconnaissance in the vicinity of Taivo Point was unopposed when flying at an altitude of 500 meters."

It would appear from the above that all major commands in this theatre sent out reports on this engagement based on the best information available to them regardless of whether they actually participated.

*for A. H. McCollum.*

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Date: 11/17/79

Summary of Japanese Naval Activities of October 5, 1942

I. Northwest Pacific

Photographs of the south beach at Kiska taken Sept. 27 show a marine railway with 4 midget SS and possibly two others under the covered part of its ramp.

A number of aircraft contacts were noted to have been sent out from Kiska on October 4. Also there appears to continue unidentified contacts in the N.W. Pacific, probably on U.S. submarines.

II. Southwest Pacific

(a) General

Throughout October 4 there were a number of scattered contact reports on allied aircraft noted in the New Britain - Solomons area, indicating widespread air attacks on Japanese installations and ships.

(b) Solomons

It is estimated that on the night of Oct. 3 - 4 750 Japanese troops were landed from destroyers near Tassafarong, northwest coast of Guadalcanal Island, and about 600, also from destroyers, at Visale.

The Chief of Staff of the Japanese Army's Second Division in the Rabaul area appears to have issued an operation order on October 4 covering a planned assault on the airfield at Guadalcanal. No details of this plan have been recovered.

Japanese submarines, about 3 or 4 in number, still appear to be employed in bringing required stores and provisions in to ground forces on Guadalcanal. One of these apparently approached Korombusu, at the mouth of the Gurabusu River, at 1800, Oct. 3. A boat was sent in which failed to contact the ground forces and, moreover, was damaged. The submarine planned to make another attempt on Oct. 4 and it was stated that she would take a position 2000 meters off the cape from where she would attempt to establish communications. The damaged boat, however, cannot again be used.

(c) Gilberts

One indication was noted of a Japanese armed merchantman, Hakkaizan Maru, believed operating with the raiding parties in the Gilberts, reporting an apparent air attack, which she later reported to have repulsed.

*A.H. McCollum*  
A.H. McCollum

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SRNS 0176

Summary of Japanese Naval Activities of October 6, 1942.

I. Northwest Pacific

(a) General

On October 5 an unidentified Japanese activity reported an enemy contact in 31°40' N, 142°03' E. This was followed by a warning broadcast by a Japanese commercial station.

(b) 6 B-24's, 4 P-38's, and 8 P-39's attacked Kiska on October 3. Hits were observed in the camp area. Our VF shot down 6 twin-float Jap fighters (5 at 16,000 feet). Enemy AA fire was light and inaccurate and our planes were undamaged. Two beached AK were observed in the harbor and in addition to 2 small DD's (probably torpedo boats) patrolling the harbor entrance, 3 AK's were sighted in the general vicinity.

At 0400 W, October 4, enemy planes dropped 39 bombs on Adak (Adreanof Islands).

II. Southwest Pacific

(a) General

Nauru Island is now believed to serve as a base for Japanese seaplanes.

Some slight evidence exists of a new Crudiv 11 which appears to be associated with the 8th Fleet. One new cruiser, the AGANO, has been identified by name.

Numerous contact reports concerning Allied planes have originated in the Bismarck-Solomon Islands area.

C-in-C 8th Fleet is at sea and there are some indications that C-in-C Combined Fleet and Comdr. 11th Air Fleet are in the Rabaul Area.

(b) Solomons

Strong indications continue of an impending Japanese attempt to recapture the Guadalcanal Airfield and submarines continue their activities with night landing operations. Guadalcanal radio continues to originate numerous operational priority dispatches.

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During the night October 3-4 enemy reinforcements were landed on Guadalcanal from 1 CA and 9 DD's. During the night our planes attacked this force and reported the CA hit in the vicinity of Savo. One SBD failed to return but its crew was later rescued. Morning search by our planes revealed 1 CA smoking aft and 7DD's at a point 20 miles NW of Guadalcanal. An air striking force made two torpedo hits into the CA. The retreating Japanese force was covered by 23 planes.

At 1300 L, October 3, 30 Zeros were intercepted over Guadalcanal by 7 Grumman fighters. 9 Zeros were definitely shot down and 1 probable. When an attempt was made to strafe the airfield, AA fire shot down 2 more and 1 probable. Our total loss was one plane but the pilot was saved. A formation of enemy bombers which was to follow the Zeros turned back 85 miles from Guadalcanal.

Except for minor patrol clashes along the Matanikau River on Guadalcanal, the ground situation remains static.

(c) Gilberts

Despite an air attack, as mentioned in yesterday's ~~Secret~~ Supplement, the Hakkaizan Maru is now indicated as having arrived safely in an undetermined port.

It is believed that the mopping-up of Apaiang, mentioned in the ~~Secret~~ Supplement of October 3, has now been completed.

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*for* A.H. McCollum.

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Summary of Japanese Naval Activities of October 7, 1942

I. Northwest Pacific

On October 4 an enemy AK carrying a deck-load of landing barges, was bombed but only 2 near misses were claimed.

II. Southwest Pacific

(a) General

The importance attached by the Japanese to the Tulagi area is indicated by the following summarized version of a translation of a captured document. The order was issued by Commander of 8th Base Force and is dated April 28, 1942.

"(1) Objectives in occupying Tulagi and Gavutu:

"(a) Will serve as an advanced air base for aerial operations in the Coral Sea and particularly against New Caledonia and New Hebrides.

"(b) Maintain control of seas S.E. of the Solomons and of the Pacific Ocean E. of the New Hebrides. Will serve as a ship base for operations against Australia, Fiji, New Caledonia and Coral Sea.

"(c) Will serve as a residence for governing officers.

"(2) Comdr. Occupation Force will be located at Tulagi, and will

"(a) Fully occupy Florida Island and establish lookout stations on the islands surrounding Tulagi, Guadalcanal, San Cristobal, Malaita, Isabel and others. In attacks on these islands arrange in advance to insure cooperation between Air and Sea Forces.

"(3) Government policy:

"(a) Evacuate white missionaries.

"(b) Germans will be strictly watched. Radios strictly prohibited.

"(c) Influential persons in the communities will be utilized".

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(b) New Britain

Slight indications continue of recent trends towards concentration or replacement of land-based planes in the Rabaul area. In addition to the possible withdrawal of the 31st and 35th Air Groups from Jogjakarta to Rabaul a number of planes of the 21st Air Group left the Truk area on October 6 for Rabaul.

(c) Solomons

1. General

On October 5 there were indications of the presence of vessels of several activities in the general area 3° S., 155° E (approx. 180 miles N. of Guadalcanal). This suggests the presence of vessels of the 8th Fleet, 11th Air Fleet, 8th Base Force, and possibly Combined Fleet.

Indications continue that Desron 3, Seaplatendiv 11, and submarines are directly concerned in the Guadalcanal operations.

According to captured documents, the enemy has made preparations for night mine laying and sweeping. It is also indicated that nets are occasionally used by ships at anchor.

2. Buin - Faisi - Tonolei Area.

In an attack upon Japanese ships in this area on October 5, an air striking force of 16 VF, 18 VSB, and 15 TBF obtained hits with heavy bombs upon 1 CA, 1 AP, and 1-10,000 ton AK. Near misses were also made by 3 heavy bombs upon a CA. The aerodrome at Kieta was also bombed. At Faisi, of 10 4-engined flying boats strafed on the water, 4 are believed sunk. A cruiser and 1 DD in the Shortland Islands area were strafed and a total of 4 enemy planes shot down. Our force suffered no damage or loss.


3. A number of sightings of enemy surface ships in the area E. of Bougainville and N. of Choiseul were made by our air reconnaissance during the morning of October 6. Either retirement northward or prospective concentration is indicated by the following:

- (1) At 0751L, Oct. 6, 2 BB, 3 CA, 2 DD in column, course 040°, speed 20, in 6° 13' S., 156° 45' E., and
- (2) At 0846 L, Oct. 6, 5 warships (2 very large), course 020°, speed 10, in 5°-22' S., 155°-42' E.

East of Bougainville, a total of 1 CA, 4 CL, 6 DD, and 4 AK were sighted in separated groups on generally southeasterly courses. No shipping was sighted at Buka, Shortlands, Buin, Tonolei, or Kieta.

In the Shortlands area, 4 DD's in two groups were sighted on westerly courses.

One enemy SS was probably sunk by depth charge attack in the southern Solomons area.

  
A.H. McCollum

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Summary of Japanese Naval Activities of Oct. 8, 1942

I. General

(a) In the absence of more tangible evidence, a suggested indication that Cardiv 2 (HAYATAKA and HITAKA) may have left Japan for the South should be received with reserve. Information concerning the movement of Japanese carriers has recently been of a most fragmentary and conflicting nature and the carrier situation bears further careful watching.

(b) Japanese contact reports of Allied units during October 7 have been sparse. Reports of this nature noted were the sighting of 2 carrier-type bombers in the Solomons and 1 B-17 reported by Rabaul.

(c) Continued Japanese preoccupation with the S.W. Pacific area is indicated, with the Northern area relatively quiet.

II. Northwest Pacific

On October 6 a force of U.S. Army medium bombers and fighters attacked enemy installations at Kiska and two large AK's in the harbor. 28 - 500 lb. bombs were dropped on the hangar area, 33 in the camp area, 8 on 1 AK in the harbor, and 12 on an AK and corvette in Gertrude Cove. The AK in the harbor was last seen afire in a sinking condition, fires were started in the camp area, and the radio station damaged. Of 5 zero seaplanes in the harbor, one was sunk by strafing and another damaged.

No signs of the enemy were visible to our reconnaissance over Attu and Agattu.

III. Southwest Pacific

(a) General

Japanese operational interest still appears to center upon the Solomons, with Guadalcanal as the focus. It appears reasonably certain that continued attempts will be made to reinforce Japanese units on Guadalcanal, using destroyers and smaller craft at night.

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WNS QZS Date: 12/19/79



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Guadalcanal radio is still active, and there is an indication that the Japanese Army is showing more interest in the southern Solomons than has heretofore been the case.

At 1330 I, October 7, a submarine, presumably U.S., was depth-charged in the Jaluit area by Japanese surface vessels, but the results are unknown.

The U.S. supply ship "ALBENA", torpedoed S.E. of Guadalcanal as reported in the ~~Secret~~ Supplement of September 30, has now reached port.

(b) Solomons

A striking force composed of B-17's which on October 5 was to make a coordinated attack upon the Japanese ships in the Buin-Faisi area was turned back by bad weather. One plane, however, bombed the parking area at Buka and damaged planes on the ground.


On the same day bombs were dropped on Gizo Island, New Georgia, with unobserved results. 8 planes from Guadalcanal destroyed 1 small enemy plane and one launch in Rekata Bay and shot down 2 of 6 enemy intercepting planes. Enemy installations were also bombed and strafed at Santa Isabel, Tassafarong and Marovovo (N.W. Guadalcanal).

During the night October 5 - 6, 6 enemy DD's on a southerly course were attacked, 1 was sunk and 1 reported damaged. 2 TBF are missing.

Kokumbona was bombed and strafed by P-40's on October 6, but ground action on Guadalcanal has been limited to patrol activity and minor skirmishes.

(c) Gilberts

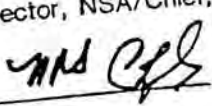
Makin appears to be the chief air base for Japanese operations in the Gilberts. At least a portion of the 1st Air Group (composed of bombers) is based here.

  
A.H. McCollum.

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**FILE**  
OCT 12 1942

SECRET SUPPLEMENT

Summary of Japanese Naval Activities of Oct. 9, 1942

SRNS 0179

I. General

(a) Except as otherwise noted herein, relative quiet has prevailed during October 8, with indicated activity limited to aircraft contacts, and short operational type traffic principally emanating from the southern Solomons area and to some extent, in the northern sector.

(b) No additional information on Japanese carriers is available. These units either remain unidentified or are maintaining radio silence.

(c) Much Japanese radio intelligence and radio D/F traffic from all areas is evident, indicating continued close attention by the Japanese Navy to this source of information.

(d) Additional slight evidence indicates that the flow of aircraft from Japan to the 8th Fleet area continues.

II. Northwest Pacific

Kiska has been busy with aircraft contact reports and with an air raid warning but otherwise the situation remains quiet.

III. Southwest Pacific

(a) General

1. The Chief of Staff of the 2nd Division (Army) has now apparently arrived on Guadalcanal and is in communication with the Chief of Staff of the 17th Army at Rabaul.

2. Japanese air transport, which previously extended scheduled flights only as far as Truk, now appears to have Rabaul as its southern terminus.

(b) Solomons

1. There are several indications that Buin, on the southern coast of Bougainville, is assuming increased importance as a Japanese advanced base.

8 K  
16 B  
11 B  
12 -  
3 B  
30 Q  
31 C

by Director, NSA/Chief, CSS  
Date: 10/13/42  
M. C. P.

~~SECRET~~

2. A number of enemy lookout stations are established on small islands in the Russell Group (approximately 60 miles W. of Florida Island).

3. An unidentified enemy activity reported sighting 6. dive bombers in this area at 1437 K, October 8.

4. During the night October 7-8, the enemy continued to re-inforce Guadalcanal. During the morning of October 8, 5 DD's were sighted on a retiring course N. of Guadalcanal, protected by a strong fighter escort.

5. S.E. of Faisi, at 1340 L, October 8 one of our planes sighted a CA or BB afire, escorted by 5 DD's.

6. At 1800 L, October 8, a U.S. Navy aerial striking force attacked 1 CA (KINUGASA class, 7,100 tons) and 5 DD at a point approximately 40 miles W.N.W. of Russell Island. One torpedo hit, 1 probable bomb hit and 4 near misses were made on the CA. Of 10 enemy seaplane biplanes, 4 were shot down and 2 probables.

7. Minor skirmishes, with close air support by SED's and P-40's, continued on Guadalcanal throughout October 7. Enemy infiltrations of our positions were attempted during the night.

(c) New Britain

Rabaul radio transmitters twice went off the air during the early hours of October 9 (LZT),

*for* *A. H. McCollum*  
A.H. McCollum.

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SECRET SUPPLEMENT

Summary of Japanese Naval Activities of October 10, 1942

(CONTINUED)

(b) Gilberts

It appears fairly certain that the Gilbert Islands operations are under the aegis of the Japanese Navy alone, with Yokosuka #6 Special Landing Force in command.

*R. A. Boone*

R. A. Boone

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**FILE**

OCT 15 1942

SRNS 0181

~~SECRET SUPPLEMENT~~

Summary of Japanese Naval Activities of October 11, 1942

I. Southwest Pacific

(a) Solomons

An increasing number of both Japanese army and navy ground force units appear to have either arrived or are enroute to Guadalcanal Island. The army units now on the island seem to be of the 17th Army, probably including the 2nd Division, the Kawaguchi Force and the Ogawa Pioneers. Special Navy Landing Forces include the Sasebo 6th and the Kure 6th. The Maizuru 4th Special Landing Force appears to be embarked in a convoy under the escort of the 2nd Destroyer Escort Force. It has by now possibly moved down to the Shortland Islands area, and is doubtless destined for landing on Guadalcanal. This convoy is believed to be receiving air support from sea-plane units from Rabaul and Kavieng.

Handwritten notes: *Ed*, *AN*, *REV*, *FD*, *FD*

The rising pressure on Guadalcanal is also seen in closer association of the 2nd Fleet and the 1st Air Fleet with activities in the Solomon Islands. This may mean that one or more carriers, additional heavy cruisers and destroyers are assembling in the Bougainville area, but it is by no means a certain indication.

Handwritten notes: *F2*, *F3*

From about 1335-1430 L, October 11, a total of approximately 35 Japanese bombers and 30 fighters came over Guadalcanal in 4 waves. Their bombs were dropped in an open field. 8 of their bombers and 4 fighters were shot down.

Handwritten notes: *30*, *OS*, *F31*

(b) New Britain

A number of new flying boat patrol bombers, probably not over 12 in number, appear to have arrived in the Rabaul area. This may be a new type 2 (1942) 4-engined ship.

The Rabaul radio went off the air again from 0630-1015 on Oct. 10, suggesting another allied air raid on that area.

(c) New Guinea

There is a slight indication that some few Japanese survivors may still remain on the northern bank of Milne Bay. A Japanese submarine in this area gave some evidence of attempting to gain contact with these possible survivors.

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(d) Gilbert Islands

The alertness of Japanese naval commands to the importance of radio security is reflected in instructions given by a command in the Gilberts in the middle of September to maintain radio silence at all times except in emergencies. The necessity for this, he pointed out, was due to the unrelaxing attempt by the enemy to gain radio intelligence on the Japanese.

II. Northwest Pacific

There is a strong indication that minesweeping operations are being conducted in an area close off the northeastern part of Honshu not far from Ominato. The only plausible explanation for the operations lies in the possibility that some mines may have drifted through the Tsugaru Straits, and are endangering Japanese shipping off the northeast coast.

*for* *A. H. McCollum*  
A. H. McCollum.

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**FILE**  
OCT 15 1942

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SRNS 0182

Summary of Japanese Naval Activities of October 12, 1942

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not be placed in any general file.~~

I. General

(a) Carriers

A slight indication suggests the presence in the Davao area of the HITAKA and HAYATAKA. At 1005K, October 10, a ZUIKAKU class CV, accompanied by a MOGAMI type CA and 1 DD were sighted approaching Truk from the northwest.

FX 5

II. Northwest Pacific

Air attacks by U.S. Army planes on Kiska and nearby shipping have continued. On Oct. 10 large fires in the camp-hangar area were started when 3 B-17's and 4 P-38's attacked from a low altitude.

F80 AN

On October 11, 6 attack missions bombed and strafed the Kiska area. Only a possible hit was made on 2 small AK in Gertrude Cove out of a total of 78 - 500 lb. bombs dropped. Enemy installations on North Head and the camp-hangar area were also attacked.

F81

F82

Only 3 enemy planes on the water were sighted on the 10th.

On Oct. 11, 4 Army planes were reported delivering an attack on an enemy vessel in 53° - 27 N., 175° - 14 E.

F83

F84

F81 C

III. Southwest Pacific

(A) Solomons

Large scale operations in the Solomons are indicated by numerous reports from Japanese patrol and scouting planes operating in this area. Indispensable Strait has been featured by the enemy, with at least one order directing planes from Buin to conduct a search in that area. Buin and Savo and Shortland Islands have also been prominent. The Army continues active communication between Guadalcanal, Rabaul, Palau and the Empire.

At 1222L, October 12, Allied cruisers and DD's were reported on course 320° in Lat. 8° - 40' S., Long. 156° - 20' E.

At 0640L, Oct. 9, a Guadalcanal Air Striking Force attacked 2 enemy CL and 4 DD's in Lat. 7° - 50' S., Long. 157° - 40' E. A hit and several near misses were made on 1 CL and a probable hit on the 2nd CL, but the damage is unknown. 3 enemy escorting planes were shot down. On the same day, search planes from Guadalcanal strafed 5 enemy biplanes and bombed AA installations at Rekata Bay with unknown results.

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Date: 7/11/83

On Guadalcanal, a two-day attack by ground forces supported by P-400's was concluded on October 9. Matanikau Village - Point Cruz area was completely mopped up but our troops have withdrawn to the east bank of the Matanikau River which is now held by a strong force and is being organized as a forward battle position. Jap dead during these operations are reported as 253.

During Oct. 10, an Air Striking Force from Guadalcanal reported hits on 2 enemy CL and 10 planes shot down. A later striking force found no ships and attacked Rekata with unreported results.

At 2355L, Oct. 11, one of our Task Groups engaged enemy heavy cruisers and DD's. The latter withdrew after about 30 minutes. The enemy was engaged west of Savo Island resulting in at least 4 enemy DD's burning and probably 1 CA hit badly. One of our DD's had to be abandoned and later sank but most of its officers and crew were rescued.

At 1020L, Oct. 12, planes from Guadalcanal registered a torpedo hit and bomb near misses on a CA. Another enemy cruiser was standing by the damaged CA in Lat. 9°- 00'S., Long. 157°- 15'E.

At 1600 L, Oct. 12, a direct hit and 1 very close miss were made by planes on the same cruiser, found dead in the water in 8°- 49 S., 157°- 14 E. A DD was also badly hit and apparently was sinking when the planes left. The cruiser was being abandoned. The second cruiser mentioned in the previous paragraph was not seen.

As a result of the above actions, it is believed that the enemy incurred the following losses:

- (a) 4 or 5 DD's sunk or out of action
  - 1 NACHI class CA sunk
  - 1 CA probably sunk
  - 1 AP sunk.

(b) U.S.S. AMBERJACK reports sinking # 3 Tonan Maru (19,400 gr. ton whaling factory) in Kavieng Harbor and 1 AK en route to Ponape.

(B) New Guinea

Indications continue of plans to evacuate the Japanese force (Sasebo # 5 Special Landing Force) from Goodenough Island to Buna, but some misunderstanding as to the methods to be employed is apparently delaying the withdrawal. Evacuation of survivors from the Milne Bay area, using submarines, continues.

Rabaul indicated an air raid on that base at 1945-2005 I, October 10.

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*T.P.A. Boone*  
R.A. Boone.

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Summary of Japanese Naval Activities of October 13, 1942

I. General.

(a) Correction: The report concerning "allied cruisers and DD's" mentioned in III (A), paragraph 2 of yesterday's ~~Secret~~ Supplement was in fact a Rabaul re-broadcast of an intercepted U.S. plain language contact report. The forces involved were Japanese.

II. Southwest Pacific.

(A) General.

Japanese 17th Army Headquarters at Rabaul is the apparent nucleus of increased and widespread association with Army units. Some indications have arisen of large army reinforcements being ordered to Rabaul from Japan and Malaya. A convoy, possibly carrying Army reinforcements, is thought en route to Palau from Davao, with Rabaul as its primary destination.

(B) Solomons.

1. Guadalcanal radio has continued supplying informational reports of our ship movements in Lunga Roads.

2. Numerous aircraft sightings continue and indicate an efficient system of lookout stations apparently established by the enemy throughout the Solomons and Bismarck areas.

3. Some indication of growing interest in the Solomons operations by C-in-C Combined Fleet is suggested by his association with the Chief of Staff of the 17th Army, Rabaul.

4. At least 10 or 11 enemy submarines, presumably of Subron 3, are actively engaged in the Solomons area. Employment varies considerably, including offensive missions against our ships, scouting, attack by gunfire at night against our shore installations, reinforcement of Japanese units on Guadalcanal, and evacuation of stranded units as may be necessary.

5. An enemy force of undetermined size plus 7 DD's has indicated its departure from Shortland Island at 1330 L, October 13 and gave its expected time of arrival at Guadalcanal as 2200 (time doubtful).

6. On Guadalcanal, no ground contacts took place during October 11. One of our patrols found an abandoned 75 mm twin-gun battery east of our positions.

7. Preliminary and inconclusive reports concerning the engagement

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of midnight, October 11 W. of Savo Island indicate the enemy suffered considerable damage. Details, however, are as yet unconfirmed. During October 13, two of our DM assisted by planes searched the Savo Island area. No signs of wreckage were discovered and no survivors from our ships found. One raft of 8 Japanese survivors who refused to surrender was destroyed but 6 enemy officers and 100 men were rescued.

8. At sunset, October 13 (LZT) enemy shore artillery on Guadalcanal shelled our beach and transports which were unloading. The enemy battery was silenced by DD fire and no damage was caused to our ships. Several enemy planes dropped flares on departure of the transports.

III. Northwest Pacific.

(A) Kiska Area.

It is indicated that Kiska now has a secondary radio station to provide for communications in the event of casualty.

In the attack on Kiska on October 10 by B-17's and P-38's, in addition to 45 incendiaries dropped in the camp area, 15 -100 lb. demolition bombs were dropped in the camp area and 6 -100 lb. bombs on a ship E. of Trout Lagoon. AA installations were strafed. Enemy planes on the water were reported wrecked, 2 ships in the harbor beached, 2 medium AK's south of North Head, and 1 small camouflaged ship in Gertrude Cove.

*R. A. Boone*

R. A. Boone

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OCT 19 1942

Summary of Japanese Naval Activities of October 14, 1942

SRNS 0184

I. General

(a) Following the action to the westward of Savo Island at midnight, October 11 (LZT), Japanese D/F and intelligence traffic has risen sharply and continued at a high level, particularly to and from Rabaul. No change in Japanese plans is indicated and no directives from the Naval General Staff have been noted. Heavy volume of operational type traffic from C-in-C 11th Air Fleet and Combined Operations Force may possibly foreshadow increased air support in a prospective push against the Solomons but available information is as yet too fragmentary to permit definite conclusions to be drawn therefrom.

FD ✓  
FD BW  
FD ✓  
FD B  
FD C  
FD C

(b) A reliable estimate of forces temporarily under control of the 8th Fleet follows (recent losses not taken into consideration):

- Flag, CHOKAI (CA)
- Crudiv 6 (3 CA's)
- Crudiv 18 (2 CL's)
- Desron 3 (12 DD's)
- Desron 4 (12 DD's) (Escort duty, Mandates to 8th Fleet area)
- Submarines ( none permanently attached but Subron 7 - 8 BO boats - may be based in 8th Fleet area; Subron 3 - 14 I boats - is also believed operating in this area)
- Subchaser Div. 32 (6 PC's)
- Minesweepers (4 AM's)
- Seaplane Tender Div. 11 (2 AV's)
- Minelayers (3 CM's)

(c) The warehouses at Bangkok are fairly bulging with huge quantities of raw materials awaiting shipment to Japan.

II. Southwest Pacific

(A) Solomons

(a) General

1. The careful disposition of enemy scouting forces is indicated by several sight contacts of our surface units. A U.S. striking force, including one carrier, was reported near Rennel Island at approximately

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Date: 12/19/79

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1155 L, October 13; and at 1035L, 5 U.S. vessels were reported on course 180°, bearing about S.E., distant 68 miles from an unknown point. At 1305L, October 14 an enemy (presumably U.S.) force of 1 BB, 1 cruiser, and 1 DD, together with location, course, and speed were reported.

2. An indication of planned enemy search operations between Guadalcanal and Russell Island throughout October 14 (LZT) possibly suggests an enemy determination to strike at any of our forces en route to or from our base in this area.

3. An enemy submarine patrol of Indispensable Strait has been ordered.

4. A slight indication has appeared that motor torpedo boats are about to be used by the enemy in the operating area in the Solomons.

(b) Operations

1. On October 11, a striking force of B-17's dropped 60-100 lb. and 2-1000 lb. bombs on Buka aerodrome. 5 of 15 Zero fighters on the runway were destroyed and many fires started.

2. In the engagement off Savo Island on October 11, the enemy force was intercepted by surprise 6 miles due west of Savo. Of the ships sunk, it is believed that 1 DD was of the AMAGIRI class (1700 tons), the others smaller. 1 CA was of the NACHI (10,000 tons) or ATAGO (9,850 tons) class. The CL possibly was of the SENDAI class (5,195 tons). The AP was about 5-6,000 tons. When the Japanese ships retired, our force also retired because of doubtful identification or location of some of our units. The U.S.S. BUCHANAN sank one Jap cruiser with 2 torpedo hits. So far only two enemy torpedoes have been reported but both missed.

3. Our Marines on Guadalcanal received heavy naval gunfire from 0140 - 0250 L, October 14.

4. On October 11 our Tulagi Battalion landed at Aola (N. coast of Guadalcanal) and attacked enemy forces at Gurabusu and Koilotumaria. At the former place, 32 of 53 Japs were killed and 3" AA, 2 large radio sets, ammunition and supplies were destroyed. Operations are continuing in the vicinity of Gegende where 100 Japs are located. Our losses were 2 killed and 1 wounded.

5. On October 13, 3 enemy DD's were bombed, presumably by Marine planes. 1 DD was badly damaged and is believed to have sunk.

6. Throughout the 13th (LZT), P-400's strafed rowboats along the coast of Guadalcanal and attacked enemy ground installations.

7. At 1200 L, October 13, 22 enemy bombers and a few Zeros attacked the Guadalcanal airfield, causing some damage. The field, however, is still in operation except for large planes. 15 enemy bombers again bombed the runway at 1400 L, causing slight additional damage. 1 Zero fighter was shot down.

8. On October 13, 12 - 1000 lb. bombs were dropped on Buka aerodrome. All hit on the runways. In Buin harbor 1 AK was left burning and a very near miss made on another AK. In the Buin area, a total of 36 vessels were sighted.

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Date: 11/15/94  
PAC

including a CA, CL's, DD's, and 14 AK's. 6 Zero fighters were shot down.

(B) New Guinea

Efforts to withdraw the remnants of Sasebo # 5 Special Landing Force from Goodenough Island, using I-1 (SS of 1955 ton displacement) continue.

*R.A. Boone*  
R.A. Boone.

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**FILE**  
OCT 14 1942

SECRET SUPPLEMENT

Summary of Japanese Naval Activities of Oct. 10, 1942 **SRNS 0180**

I. General

(a) Increased Japanese naval communications security since August, and particularly since October 1, has greatly added to the difficulties of obtaining intelligence from this source.

(b) Slight indications have arisen of Army movements via Shanghai and Davao to Palau and prospective Army reinforcements from Palau to Rabaul are suggested.

(c) Supply ships en route south from Kure are now apparently bypassing the Chichijima area and proceed directly to the Saipan area.

(d) Locations of enemy submarines by D/F:

- 1° S, 156° E; 6° S, 163° E;
- 7° S, 164° E; 9° S, 164° E;
- 11° S, 165° E.

II. Northwest Pacific

(a) On October 9, 6 B-24's, 3 B-17's, and 12 P-38's attacked Kiska from a relatively low altitude. Bombs and incendiaries were dropped on the camp area and at least three fires were started. An AK in Gertrude Cove was also bombed and defense installations bombed and strafed. No enemy aircraft were reported.

(b) Fifth Fleet Patrol Units indicated considerable activity, possibly a realignment of patrol lines occasioned by bad weather. Some 12 vessels have been plotted in the general area 32° to 41° N. and 136° to 150° E., indicating that a fairly tight patrol continues off both coasts of Japan proper.

III. Southwest Pacific

(a) Solomons

The situation in the Guadalcanal area remains static. Guadalcanal radio has been in active communication with 11th AIR FLEET and AIR FLOTILLAS, suggesting reports concerning our LUNGA area air and surface ship movements.

0289

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OCT 19 1942

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Summary of Japanese Naval Activities of October 15, 1942

I. General

1. The great majority of indications evident during the past 24 hours appear to be concerned with operations in the Southeastern Solomons. C-in-C Combined Fleet was a very heavy originator of traffic directly to the Solomons area.

2. The major commands involved by association with C-in-C Combined Fleet are 1st and 11th Air Fleets, 2nd and 8th Fleets, Combined Operations Force, and 17th Army. Comdr. Sub Force is probably also involved and the direct interest of Guadalcanal is indicated in practically all cases.

3. Two enemy CV's are reported as operating S.E. of the Solomons in the general area 12°S, 164°E. A plane of an enemy CV reported sighting 1 DD in 11°-40'S, 162°-50'E.

4. There are clear indications that the Japanese are actively engaged in the construction of new bases in the Kuriles and Northern Hokkaido. Available information indicates that at least three bases have been newly constructed or enlarged with approximately 85% of the work completed.

5. Japanese submarine circuits have been very active. Indications are that the greater part of submarine traffic is handled by Jaluit with Rabaul handling none. Jaluit transmits to Tokyo which then immediately broadcasts to all hands.

II. Southwest Pacific

(A) Solomons

(a) General

1. Major communications activity has apparently been concerned with the search for U.S. forces in this general area. A number of contact reports have been noted, including the sighting of a BB, indicated as possibly of the WASHINGTON class. Guadalcanal enemy radio reported sighting 3 DD's, 1 cruiser, and 2 AP's and stated that the originator, apparently an SS unit, would attack. Another large U.S. force was reported in an unknown grid position. In addition to the sightings mentioned, numerous plane contacts were reported throughout the 14th.

2. Japanese Army traffic has continued active,

The Chief of Staff of the 17th Army was indicated as having been in con-

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Date: 10/19/79

ference with the Combined Fleet Staff; this being followed by a lengthy directive to various units in the Southeastern area.

3. C-in-C 8th Fleet is now at sea in the CHOKAI.

4. An estimate of enemy intentions made for 0000L, October 15 indicated an intention to land large numbers of troops on Guadalcanal from 6 AP supported by surface ships. Enemy carriers and a force of cruisers were stated to be about 250 miles N. of Malaita.

(b) Operations

1. At 0724 L, October 15 an enemy force consisting of 5 AP's was reported 15 miles W. of Lunga Point. 1 BB, 2 CL's, and 4 DD's were reported N.W. of Savo Island.

2. A Jap force of 1 BB and 1 cruiser was sighted in Lat. 8°-45'S., Long. 165°-35'E (320 miles E.N.E. of Guadalcanal).

3. Our air force has reported 3 direct hits on an AP. 2 AP's were reported burning and 1 BB crippled. An additional 11 ships were reported in the vicinity (presumably Guadalcanal).

4. At approximately 0630 L, October 15 enemy troops were landed W. of Kokumbona on Guadalcanal from AP's, supported by combat vessels.

5. One of our Task Groups was bombed by 9 enemy planes at 1533 L, Oct. 15 in Lat. 13°-18'S., 163°-30'E. (60 miles S.S.E. of San Cristobal).

6. At 0700L, October 15, an enemy force consisting of 2 CL's and 4 DD's was reported moving along the N.E. coast of Santa Isabel Island.

7. The Jap Guadalcanal Radio reported an attack by 22 planes on a transport group at about 0600, Oct. 15 with no damage.

(B) Gilberts

An unidentified Japanese unit reported sighting an enemy ship in the vicinity of Tarawa at 1435 M., Oct. 15. At 1440 M, Tarawa reported being shelled and stated that planes from Makin and Mille were searching for the enemy.

(C) Espirito Santo

The airfield at Pallikula Bay was shelled for 5 minutes at 0140 L, Oct. 15, apparently by a submarine. No damage resulted.

III. Northwest Pacific

In the shelling of Kiska by a U.S. Naval Task Force on August 7, the Japanese indicated that some damage was suffered in the vicinity of their headquarters but that otherwise there was no change.

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IV. U.S. Submarine Reports.

1. U.S.S. TROUT reports having put 3 hits into a Japanese naval aux-

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iliary of the Nojima class (8,215 ton supply ship) in the vicinity of Truk. The ship broke in two and was listed 45° when last seen.

2. In amplification of a prior report, the TROUT reports having fired 5 torpedoes into a fleet type CV on September 28. The carrier was hit twice, stopped, minor explosions were heard and dense smoke was seen rising from the starboard side. The carrier had no island and was similar in appearance to the RYUJO but with a higher bow. The CV in question was undoubtedly the OTAKA (XCV, ex KASUGA MARU).

3. The S-44 reports having fired 4 torpedoes at one of 3 ASASHIO class DD's (1500 tons) on October 4, 8 miles N.E. of Thurston Inlet. Three explosions were heard after firing and only 2 DD's were heard during a subsequent depth-charge attack. 1 DD is believed sunk.

*R.A. Boone*  
R.A. Boone.

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Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of Oct. 16, 1942

SRNS 0186

I. General

A heavy flow of enemy traffic on all circuits continues, particularly stations from Truk southward. Analysis of traffic indicates that the Solomons are the primary area for Japanese operations.

II. Southwest Pacific

(A) General

1. Further confirmation has appeared that the C-in-C Combined Fleet is in direct tactical command of the Solomons operations, with C-in-C 8th Fleet definitely at sea and very active. Guadalcanal continues active with some dispatches addressed to 6 major commands.

2. The Japanese 17th Army at Rabaul continues its direct interest in the Solomons operations.

3. At least 12 D/F reports of U.S. units sent by Rabaul to 6 major commands have been noted. Numerous Japanese contact reports concerning our surface forces and aircraft have also been noted, the most important being the following:

(a) A U.S. force of 2 AP's, 1 CL, and 3 DD's was reported sighted in 11° 40' S., 164° 30' E. at 0655 L, Oct. 15.

(b) A Jap patrol plane reported sighting U.S. aircraft (presumably carrier-based) and to be receiving AA fire in position bearing 210° from Bellona Island (11° 16' S., 159° 45' E.), distant 60 miles at 1720 L, October 15.

(c) 15 U.S. planes were reported at 0930 L, Oct. 16.

(d) At 2138 I, October 15, a Japanese SS reported sighting 3 cruisers and 1 CV. No location was indicated.

(e) At 1010 L, Oct. 16, an unknown Japanese unit reported sighting a U.S. force of BB, CA and DD., speed 25. It was indicated that planes are trailing this force.

4. D/F places enemy carriers, which may be the SHOKAKU and ZUIKAKU, in the vicinity of 6°S., 168°E. Contact reports made by Jap planes

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to their carriers, however, seem to place them farther south and west, in the general vicinity of 11°S., 163°E. (1550 L, October 15).

5. In an old dispatch dated August 7, Comdr. Airflot 25 reported that 27 Type 1 bombers and 17 Type Zero fighters made the attack at 1320 L. U.S. Carriers were unlocated and attack was therefore made on the transport group. It is claimed that 32 U.S. planes of 60 attacking the Jap planes were destroyed. Jap <sup>losses</sup> ~~planes~~ are given as "more than 5" ship-based planes, 5 shore-based bombers, and some Zero fighters, with 5 Zeros not yet returned. Quite a few Jap planes made forced landings at Buka and several at Buin.

(B) Solomons Area

(a) General

1. Japanese radio on Guadalcanal reported at 1730 L, October 15 that our (U.S.) forces on Guadalcanal have only from 25 to 30 planes left, all types included.

2. Comdr. 6th Air Attack Force has been ordered to attack and destroy a U.S. carrier with torpedoes and bombs and to use the planes of an unknown unit to attack Guadalcanal. The attacking forces are to be covered by fighters from the 5th Air Attack Force. It is indicated that the attack will take place on October 17 (LZT) and that the time of take-off will be 0500-0530 from Buin and about three hours earlier from Buka. 18 large type planes and 18 unknown type will take part.

3. A strong enemy striking force is operating from the Buin-Shortlands area with a Screening Force operating along longitude 165°E and as far south as 11°S. The screen is believed to be composed of 1 CV, 2 BB's, about 4 cruisers, and 13 DD's. 1 CV is W of Ndeni (10°S, 165°E.) The strength of the enemy forces involved gives the appearance of an all-out enemy effort to recapture Guadalcanal and possibly other positions.

(b) Operations

1. An enemy force composed of 4 cruisers and 7 or 8 DD's was attacked by 4 PT's at 0300 L, October 15. 1 probable hit was made on a cruiser by 2 PT's which got in to attack. Searchlights were also put out on 1 DD. Vigorous fire was met from DD's, 2 of which chased one PT which escaped by using a smoke screen and depth charges.

2. At 1110L, October 16 a U.S. force and transports were indicated by an unknown Japanese originator to be advancing to Guadalcanal. The Jap air force was ordered to attack in the vicinity of Guadalcanal.

3. In a delayed message received from our forces on Guadalcanal it was indicated that the bombardment of our positions was carried out by BB's, cruisers, and DD's. 3 enemy DD's were reported hit by 5". Both runways were reported damaged in the air attacks of October 13 (LZT). At 1245 L, October 15, 27 enemy bombers again dropped bombs on our positions.

4. An enemy CV was reported in 9°S., 165°E, speed 25 at 1359 L October 15. Five B-17's were dispatched to attack.

5. At 1145 L, October 15, enemy AP's were reported returning towards the beach at Guadalcanal with 2 CL and 4 DD's. B-17's bombed these forces.

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At 1430 L, 3 AP's were beached and burning fiercely. In the vicinity of Savo Island, 2 AP's were reported milling around. 1 AP or AK disappeared to the westward. Near Savo Island, 1 BB or CA (hit by a bomb from a B-17), 1 CL and 5 DD were sighted.

6. At 1040 L, October 14 one of our search planes strafed 9 enemy biplanes on the beach at Rekata. It is believed that all were damaged.

7. As of approximately 2000L, October 15 the Japs had succeeded in emplacing artillery of longer range than ours on Guadalcanal and were shelling our positions and airfield at will. Enemy surface craft were moving freely in surrounding waters and shelling our positions day and night. It has been indicated that our gasoline supplies are low.

8. In two attacks by our SBD's at 1600 L and at 1820 L on October 14, only near misses were made on AP's.

(C) Gilberts

1. A flurry of activity involving Comdr. 6th Base Force at Jaluit and Yokosuka 6th Special Landing Force arose as a result of a U.S. attack on Tarawa. Ruotto, Jaluit, Makin, Wake, and Mille were involved. A U.S. force, reported as 3 cruisers, was indicated as having shelled Tarawa and to be retiring southward. The shelling took place at 1440 M, October 15.

2. A U.S. submarine was reported off Tarawa at approximately 1335 L, October 15.

(D) New Guinea

It has now been indicated that the evacuation of remnants from the Milne Bay area will be postponed until about the middle of November. Allied vigilance and plane patrols are assigned as the reasons for the delay.

III. Northwest Pacific

On October 14, 9 B-24's supported by 5 P-38's attacked Kiska. Many fires were started in the camp area and 3 enemy seaplanes on the water destroyed. A B-17 subsequently dropped 6-500 lb. bombs in the SS base area. 3 B-26's made a torpedo attack on ships in Gertrude Cove but the results were unsuccessful.

IV. Enemy Submarine Locations

Japanese submarines have been located by D/F as follows:

10° S, 159° E;	10° S, 170° E;	12° S, 156° E;
17° S, 166° E;	19° S, 161° E;	24° S, 153° E;
8° N, 150° E.		

There is an indication that the Jap SS recently off the Oregon coast is now returning to Japan.

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*R.A. Boone*  
R. A. Boone.

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Date: 12/19/99

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Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of October 17, 1942

OCT 21 1942

SRNS 0187

I. Southwest Pacific

(a) General

Not only do Japanese operations in the general Guadalcanal area continue with undiminished energy, but indications point to still further reinforcements to the Rabaul area from Singapore, Davao, Mandates bases and home ports in Japan. One Japanese light escort unit appears to have been directed to proceed from Kavieng, New Ireland to a position Lat. 01° or 02° - 40 S., Long. 148° - 50 E to arrive either on October 17 or 18 at 1600 I in order to escort one convoy to Rabaul.

Japanese radio traffic indicates that to date only a small fraction of the army forces in the Melanesia theatre has been moved down to Guadalcanal, although it has been estimated that on October 15 in the forenoon about 10,000 Jap troops were landed to form a concentration which was observed to be between Cape Esperance and Kokumbona. Although it is realized that an estimate of Jap army forces in this theater may be misleading, the following distributions are submitted to give an approximate idea of the scale of the Japanese effort:

Three full divisions (Nos. 2,16,55), 2 Regiments of the 7th Div., and two forces of unknown strength, totalling possibly over one division. Of these, two full divisions and one regiment are indicated still at Rabaul (#16 and #2), two regiments in New Guinea and the major portion of the two forces of unspecified strength now on Guadalcanal. In addition to the above, there are three additional divisions which are indicated to be possibly enroute to or shortly departing for Rabaul. One of these (the Guards Division) is now believed in Japan, the second (4th Div.) in the Philippines, and the third (3rd Div.) in Central China.

(b) Operations, Solomons Area

(1) The sighting some days ago of two, possibly three Jap CM's near Savo Island indicates the possibility that waters off Guadalcanal may have been mined offensively.

(2) At about 1100L, Oct. 16 a Japanese force of 1 BB, 1 CA, 1 DD was sighted in Lat. 5° - 55 S., Long. 155° - 40 E. on course 145, another force of 1 CV, 1 CA, 1 DD was also seen in Lat. 6° - 05 S., Long. 155° - 45 E. on course 135°. At about 1200 L, Oct. 16 a third force totalling 38 ships was sighted at Tonolei Harbor. It appeared to consist of 3 BB, 2 CV, 1 AV, 3 CA, 5 CL, 10 DD and 14 AK.

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(3) On Oct. 16 2 Jap AP, 7 DD were attacked by Navy dive bombers in Lat. 8°- 50 S., Long. 156°- 10 E. 1 AP was left burning and near misses were scored on the second AP.

(4) Late on Oct. 16 about 32,500 gals. of aviation gasoline was successfully landed on Guadalcanal to alleviate the recent shortage encountered by our aircraft.

(5) At 1830 I, Oct. 16, the Japanese made some mention in reference to what appeared to concern a SARATOGA type carrier.

(6) The Jap 6th Air Attack Force appears to have been ordered to execute air attacks on two separate objectives during the early morning of Oct. 17. One of these attacks is believed to have been planned for execution on U.S. ships at Lunga and Tulagi, and the other on one or more U.S. carriers.

(7) At about 0500 I, Oct. 17 Japanese forces on Guadalcanal reported 2 US DD's anchored in the vicinity of Lunga. Some 24 minutes later a second report was sent stating that one U.S. cruiser and one destroyer were at Lunga, and one destroyer at Tulagi. At about the same time there were indications of an allied air attack over Shortland Island.

(8) There is an indication of Japanese intention to reactivate the Rekata seaplane base.

(c) New Guinea

A Japanese force, apparently on Goodenough Island (D'Entrecasteaux Group) reported that from 0415-0900, Oct. 14, 2 or 3 allied planes bombed its area from low altitudes, but no damage was sustained. It was further stated that their landing boats remained undamaged because they had been so skillfully concealed. Considerable concern, however, was expressed over their planned contact with a submarine, I-1.

(d) Gilberts

Indications are that Jap air attack groups are still conducting searches for U.S. ships in the Gilberts.

II. General

USS HOVEY has reported that confirmation has been received from Japanese survivors of the sinking of the Jap CA, FURUTAKA. This sinking is believed to have occurred during the night engagement off Savo Island on Oct. 11.

III. Northwest Pacific

On Oct. 14 a total of 9 B-24's, 1 B-17, 3 B-26's, and 12 P-38's attacked Kiska. Many fires were started and there was a large explosion of a fuel or ammunition dump. Only 3 enemy planes were observed and these were destroyed on the water. Two beached and 2 sunken ships were sighted. The submarine base area was also bombed.

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*E. Watts*  
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Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of October 18, 1942

SRNS 0188

I. General

1. No significant new trends have appeared from an analysis of radio traffic during the past 24 hours. High channels were Rabaul and Truk to the Combined Operations Force, indicating continued Japanese primary concern with the southeastern Solomons area. In a negative sense, and based upon prior Japanese campaigns, it may be surmised that the Japanese plan of operations has now been crystallized, and will be modified in its broader aspects only if absolutely necessary.

2. The northern circuits have been relatively quiet, but a slight indication that increased air activity in the Kiska area may be expected has appeared.

3. D/F places two possible carriers off Kyushu waters, indicating the probable continued presence in this area of the HAYATAKA and HITAKA.

II. Southwest Pacific

(A) General:

1. Army traffic has continued active with continued indications of movements of Army units from the Indies Area through Palao to Rabaul. The 17th Army appears to be divided between Rabaul and Guadalcanal.

2. Indications continue of further movements of aircraft and supplies to the Rabaul area.

3. Considerable traffic in the Solomons area has been concerned with weather reports,

4. In amplification of yesterday's report concerning the sinking of the FURUTAKA, Jap naval prisoners state that the Japanese force on the night of October 11 consisted of CA's AOBA (F), KINUGASA, and FURUTAKA, screened by 3 DD's. While steaming at 30 knots enroute to Guadalcanal, they were completely surprised and attacked by U.S. ships north of Russell Islands. In addition to the FURUTAKA, the SHIRAKUMO (DD, 1700 tons) also sank.

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5. A contact report concerning one enemy battleship, and an unrecovered number of cruisers and DD's on course 60° as of 1830L, October 18, has been noted. The location is unrecovered. One addressee was the Combined Operations Force.

(B) Solomons:

(a) General.

Traffic in and out of Guadalcanal has been brisk. A number of plane contact reports, particularly over the Shortland Island area, have been noted throughout October 18 (LZT).

(b) Operations.

1. One of our DD's was somewhat damaged when attacked by 8 enemy dive bombers at 1745L, October 16. Four Zeros were shot down.

2. Our air forces attacked enemy troop concentrations, supplies, and battery positions throughout October 16. No ground activity was reported.

3. At 1750L, October 16, seven B-17's dropped forty-four 500 lb. bombs on enemy supplies on Kokimbona Beach, Guadalcanal. Several fires were started. One Zero fighter was shot down. A B-17 on search shot down 1 enemy 4-engined flying boat in Lat. 8°-55' S., Long. 160°-45' E.

4. In the PBV's attack at 0245L, October 16, one torpedo hit was made on the bow of one cruiser in a formation of ten cruisers and DD's in Lat. 9°-50' S., Long. 164°-55' E.

5. About 14 enemy dive bombers and 12 fighters appeared over Guadalcanal at 0715L, October 17. Our fighters intercepted and shot down 8 bombers and 2 Zeros. AA fire accounted for 6 bombers. Our loss was one plane missing.

6. At 1315L, October 17, Guadalcanal was bombed by 15 enemy bombers accompanied by fighters. Our planes were unable to gain altitude in time to intercept and only 1 enemy bomber was probably shot down.

(C) Gilberts:

The stations of at least four picket boats are indicated to be in Long. 175°, at intervals of 40 miles, from Lat. 3°-20' S. to 5°-20' S. Additional picket boats are undoubtedly similarly stationed further northward. Their orders direct withdrawal 30 miles to the east (or west) when contact with surface ships is made.

(D) New Guinea:

The marooned remnants of Sasebo #5 Special Landing Force on Goodenough Island continues its sad tale of the difficulties in which it finds itself.

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III. Northwestern Pacific:

1. On October 15, three B-26's attacked an AK in Gertrude Cove, Kiska with 300 lb. bombs. At least 1 direct hit caused an explosion and fire in the ship. One B-26 and crew were lost when shot down by AA fire.

2. On October 17, 20 miles NE of Sirius Point, Kiska, six B-26's bombed 2 enemy DD's reported as of the HIBIKI Class (1700 tons). Five hits were made on 1 DD and 4 hits on the other. Both ships were left dead in the water, burning, and the crews apparently abandoning.

IV. Japanese Submarines:

Submarine radio traffic has been moderately active. The majority of D/F fixes are well to the east of the Solomons, ranging from 7° to 10° S. and from 172° to 165° E. Traffic analysis indicates that at least two Subron commanders and approximately 7 lesser units - either Subdivs or SS's, are operating in the Solomons area.

V. Southeastern Asia:

1. Thailand is suffering from an acute shortage of lubricating oil. In an endeavor to obtain oil from Palembang, the Japanese Army has flatly refused to allow any non-Japanese nationals to enter that port. Arrangements are therefore to be made to charter Thai ships for this purpose but to man them with 100% Japanese crews. The route to be followed is indicated as Palembang to Singapore thence overland by rail to Bangkok.

2. A Japanese consular official who has just returned from a tour of Burma reported to his superiors that the Army in Burma has received orders for a new campaign. He intimates that of the four Divisions there, some are to be employed against China and the balance against India. The Indian operation is to come first. He warns, however, of growing American and British strength in India and recommends that chief emphasis be placed on the Indian campaign and that the operation against China should be postponed.

*R. A. Boone*

R. A. Boone.

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Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of October 19, 1942

SRNS 0189

I. Southwest Pacific

(A) General

1. Radio traffic during the past 24 hours has been conspicuous by a relatively small amount of high precedence and operational type traffic, indicating the possibility that the final period of adjustment and preparation for action on a major scale has been reached. Although the Japanese may be expected during this period to undertake a number of minor operations designed to soften up our forces in the Tulagi-Guadalcanal area, it is reasonable to assume that the main objectives of the Japanese plan will in due course be pursued with vigor and with the employment of the maximum forces that can be brought to bear.

2. No new important contacts have been noted and operational traffic principally concerned itself with scouting reports from planes and submarines. Guadalcanal radio continues to send reports concerning our destroyer and plane movements in the Tulagi area, but the volume has decreased somewhat.

3. There are further indications of continued movement of planes and aviation personnel from Yokosuka southward.

4. Throughout October 18 Army traffic has continued active, with widespread originators including Nagoya, Semba Bay, Manila, Singapore, Soerabaya, Tokyo Army, Palao Army, and Davao.

(B) Solomons

(a) General

C-in-C 11th Air Fleet continues to occupy an important position in the control of operations in the Solomons, indicated by his many dispatches to C-in-C Combined Fleet, information addressees being Naval General Staff and Comdr. 8th Fleet and occasionally Comdrs., 1st Air Fleet and 2nd Fleet.

(b) Operations

1. An undetermined enemy unit (less one possible cruiser) has been ordered to proceed on course 120° from a specified grid position, to

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arrive (possibly Tassaforong) at 2330 L, October 19 and at 0020 L, October 20 to undertake the bombardment of Guadalcanal Airfield, after which it will withdraw.

2. Following a conference of all commanding officers of our ships engaged in the engagement off Savo Island during the night of October 11-12, it is believed that the following enemy ships were sunk: 3 CA's (one each of KINUGASA, NACHI, and ATAGO classes), plus 1 CL of the SENDAI class possible; 4 DD's of which one was of the HIBIKI class, plus 1 DD possible. The AP which was originally reported is now believed to have been an old CL type.

3. On October 16 the enemy air base at Rekata Bay was strafed and bombed by U.S. planes. 12 enemy seaplanes were burned and a fuel dump and AA positions were hit and destroyed.

4. Guadalcanal was attacked by U.S. Navy planes on October 16. Four direct hits were made on the 2 AP beached there, resulting in breaking their backs and firing supplies. Enemy AA positions were strafed and silenced and landing barges from Kokumbona to Esperance fired. Enemy tents and supply dumps were also bombed with 500 lb. and 1000 lb. bombs. We suffered no casualties.

(C) New Britain

Air raid warnings were sent from Rabaul and Rabaul Radio went off the air from 0955 K to 1022 K and again from 1024 K to 1104 K, October 18.

(D) Gilberts

U.S.S. SAN JUAN sank 2 enemy patrol boats and captured 16 prisoners.

II. Northwest Pacific

On October 17, 5-24's dropped 48-500 lb. bombs on the Kiska camp area and 11-500 lb. bombs on a beached ship near Trout Lagoon. Clouds prevented observation of results. No ships were sighted except beached ships previously noted. No enemy planes were sighted and no trace of the 2 DD's bombed on October 16 found.

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for R.A. Boone.*

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2. An SED and PBY patrol was maintained over Jap positions, strafing and bombing, from 2000L Oct. 18 to 0100 L October 19.

3. At 1700 L, October 19, 3 enemy CA's were bombed by search planes in Lat. 7° - 45 S., Long. 157° - 05 E., but no hits are claimed.

(B) New Guinea

The surviving Japanese force on Goodenough Island now requests supplies weekly by air, until 3 SS's are available to accomplish a rescue in one operation.

III. Northwest Pacific

On October 18, 4 B-24's dropped 48-500 lb. bombs from 15,000 feet over Kiska. Hits were made in the camp area, followed by heavy explosions and fires.

IV. Economic

1. Grave floods in Thailand are seriously hampering trade and communications. The disaster is apparently so great that Japan has decided to send a relief ship, to depart from Japan during the latter part of this month, if possible.

2. There is a shortage of magnesium in Japan and an effort is being made to work out a mutual-aid plan with French Indo-China.

*R.A. Boone*

R.A. Boone.

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actively engaged in making scouting reports to at least three enemy bases in this area. The late hours of October 20 (LZT) were marked by a rise in high precedence traffic from Guadalcanal and also by a considerable increase in aircraft scouting operations. While this may be considered a normal enemy effort to keep informed concerning our surface dispositions, it may also possibly indicate that major operations are about to begin.

2. Between 0914 L and 1130 L, October 21 Guadalcanal radio in three dispatches reported on our ships as follows: 2 cruisers at Guadalcanal, 1 CL entering Tulagi Harbor, and 1 cruiser S. of Tulagi. One of our SS's was reported as sighted on the surface at 1520 L, October 21 in Lat. 8° S., Long. 156° 30' E. Although the originator is unknown, the report may have been made by a coast watcher on one of the Islands of the New Georgia Group.

3. Guadalcanal radio reported on October 20 (LZT) that our forces on Guadalcanal were believed to have available for that day 30 (fighter?) planes and (about) 10 B-17's.

(b) Operations

1. At 1810 L, October 19, 3 enemy DD's with an escort of 10 seaplane biplanes were bombed by SED's N.W. of Savo Island. 1 DD appeared damaged but continued on its course. 1 enemy plane was destroyed. At midnight, October 19, 2 enemy CA's and 2 DD's were bombed by 2 PBY's 1 mile W. of Point Cruz (Guadalcanal). One direct hit was made on a cruiser and two heavy explosions were heard. 4 other PBY's bombed the beach from Point Cruz to Tassafaronga. An enemy DD was bombed at 0100 L, October 20 off Kokumbona.

2. The enemy has continued air attacks on our positions on Guadalcanal during October 19 and 20. 15 Zeros, of which 2 were shot down, came over at 1330 L, October 19. At 1045 L, October 20, 30 Zeros attacked, followed one hour later by 18 Zeros with bombers, the latter raid resulting in numerous F4F's being damaged by fire from Zeros. The enemy lost 7 Zeros and 2 bombers shot down.

3. The above air tactics appear to be a return to methods successfully employed by the Japanese in Malaya. In that campaign, Jap fighters frequently attacked first to draw off protecting fighters after which the bombers appeared and drove home the main attack.

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SRNS 0192

Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of October 22, 1942

I. General

1. Many Japanese movements in the Rabaul area are indicated but the forces involved and direction of movement are not readily discernible. However, search lines for a Jap submarine unit have been established and reconnaissance of American forces ordered for 1600 L October 22. Although available readable evidence is conflicting, it appears most likely that either October 22 or 23 (LZT) has been designated as "Y-day".

6 H

10 A

1 G

This conclusion is strengthened by the reported sighting on October 20 (LZT) of approximately 250,000 tons of merchant shipping in Rabaul Harbor.

12 B

10 D

31 C

2. Only a few readable contact reports of our surface ships have been noted, but at 1000 I, October 22 a Japanese unit (probably an SS) reported 2 enemy BB's and 1 DD, giving the course, speed 20, and grid position. During October 21 (LZT), many short aircraft reconnaissance reports were noted being broadcast by Jaluit to Japanese submarines from 60 to 90 minutes after origin, indicating a rapid dissemination of information concerning the disposition of our forces. Rabaul also broadcast a series of urgent aircraft reconnaissance reports between 0935I and 1115I, October 21,

3. A clear indication has been noted that the Japanese are recording our call signs and attempt to track the units concerned by D/F fixes. In the instant case, Jaluit Radio reported its findings to Tokyo Radio Intelligence, stating that the unit concerned was in Hawaiian waters on October 4. Its call was given as V (9?) G2Y.

II. Southwest Pacific

(A) Solomons

(a) General

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*MAS CJS* Date: 12/19/77

1. Guadalcanal radio continues its reports of our ship movements in this vicinity. At 0530 L, October 22 a small U.S. transport and 1 DD were reported anchored E. of Lunga; unloading was noted at 0600L. At 0718L the Japs on Guadalcanal reported shelling by a U.S. DD off Kokumbona.

~~SECRET~~

2. Close liaison between the forces on Guadalcanal and the 8th Fleet, 11th Air Fleet, Combined Operations Force and Combined Fleet continues, with traffic fairly heavy and similar to that of the past several days. The Commanding General of the 17th Army continues on Guadalcanal.

(b) Operations

1. 4-motored flying boats are indicated as having attacked Buin anchorage at about 0230L, October 22 but the results were not reported.

2. On Guadalcanal, a small enemy force failed in an attempt to cross the Matanikan River. In the enemy air raids between 1045-1145L reported in yesterday's ~~Summary~~ Supplement it is now indicated that their bombs were jettisoned and that an additional enemy bomber was shot down.

(B) Gilberts

A Japanese unit, part of the picket line established on Long. 175° E., reported the sighting of several U.S. ships, giving their position as 03°S., 175°45' E. At 1000 M October 22 a report was broadcast stating that a Maru was being attacked by U.S. DD's in 04°S., 175°E. Milli was ordered to send its entire plane strength to attack, Makin received a similar order, and other planes were ordered to Makin. The Marshalls Defense Force was directed to send an unknown surface force to engage the enemy.

(C) New Guinea

The Jap survivors (about 200) on Goodenough Island now believe that they could successfully escape if a motor boat were brought by the TENRYU (CL, 3230 tons).

*R.A. Boone*  
R.A. Boone.

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SRNS 0193

~~This document contains information of a confidential nature and its disclosure to unauthorized persons is prohibited.~~

Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of October 23, 1942

I. General

1. The impression gained from Japanese traffic throughout October 22 (LZT) was one of detailed planning and orders rather than of action. Guadalcanal was a heavy originator, with the usual High Command addressees. Some indication has appeared of a detailed report of conditions on Guadalcanal having been sent to the forces directly concerned in this theater, viz., Combined, 11th Air, and 8th Fleets, Combined Operations Force, and 17th Army.

AB

2. No further information has been obtained concerning the movements of Japanese carriers which apparently continue radio silence or remain unidentified. Inclusion of some of these units in impending operations appears fairly certain, however, in view of the recurrent association of Comdr. and Chief of Staff 1st Air Fleet with Guadalcanal. It is estimated that the Japanese at the present time have available in the Bismarck-Solomons-S.E. New Guinea area the following total air strength:

AD

AW

(a) Land-based

VF	VTB VB	VOS	SEAPLANES	VPB	Total
89	190	6	41	24	350

B

D

(b) Four carriers with total plane complement of approximately 72 VF's and 132 VB's or VTB's.

(c) Approximately 150 ship-based seaplanes of various types.

3. An undetermined Japanese unit reported an attack by three U.S. torpedo planes but indicated that no damage was incurred.

II. Southwest Pacific

(A) Solomons

(a) General

1. C-in-C 8th Fleet in the CHOKAI (CA of 9,850 tons) was indicated in the Shortland Island area at 1930L, October 22.

2. It is believed that the Japanese on Guadalcanal have now installed and are operating a high-frequency direction finder. Reports of U.S. ship movements in the Guadalcanal area continue.

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3. Japanese aircraft scouting in the Solomons area continues. Several reports, probably from the same plane, from a grid position SSE of Rennell Island were noted.

(b) Operations

At 1115L, October 21 an attack on our airfield on Guadalcanal was made by 7 Jap bombers and 15-20 Zeros, of which 6 Zeros and 1 bomber were shot down, with 2 possible. Our loss was 2 Grummans missing. Several groups of Jap planes were over Guadalcanal 1300-1400L, October 22 but because of bad weather, contact was made with only 5 dive bombers, all of which were shot down.

(B) New Hebrides

At 0230L, October 23 an enemy SS shelled the airfield at Espiritu Santo but no report of damage has been received.

(C) Gilberts

1. At 0600I, October 22 an urgent contact report was made by the HAKKAISAN MARU (3311 gross tons), flagship of the picket line recently described in this ~~Report~~ Supplement. Shortly thereafter she was silent and subsequent omission of this ship as an addressee may possibly indicate that she was sunk by our attacking DD's.

2. Considerable Japanese air scouting forces are involved in a search for U.S. forces in this area.

3. In a delayed dispatch, U.S.S. PORTLAND reports apparent damage to 1 enemy DD in Tarawa Harbor by gunfire and 1 AK set on fire in this vicinity. No air attack developed against the PORTLAND, although a Jap flying boat trailed part of her run to Apamama. No shipping was sighted at Maiana or Apamama.

*R. A. Boone*

R.A. Boone.

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Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of October 24, 1942

SRNS 0194

I. General:

F8 V  
F80 W  
F81 S  
F82 B  
F83 D  
F81 C

1. Other than several operation orders apparently directing Japanese submarine units to take station and to operate against Allied forces beginning on "Y-Day", few new items of definite significance have been noted during the past 24 hours. The forces involved in Japanese dispatches are mainly submarines, but other forces are also indicated by associations and traffic analysis. It is believed that the impending Japanese offensive will be mainly directed against Guadalcanal, but other areas may also be included.

2. A roll call of Japanese naval forces involved in current operations is apparent from a "most urgent" dispatch from Rabaul at 1705K, October 23, to the Chiefs of Staff of Combined, 11th Air, 8th, 2nd and 3rd (possibly a new name for 1st Air Fleet) Fleets, Commanders Submarine Squadrons 3 and 4, and Commanders Combined Operations Force. Tokyo, Truk, and Jaluit were instructed to broadcast this dispatch.

3. Apparently C-in-C Combined Fleet maintains an intercept watch in coordination with Tokyo to facilitate the rapid receipt of radio intelligence information.

4. With the exception of the sighting of 1 possible CV in the Buin-Faisi area on October 22 (LZT), no additional intelligence concerning Japanese carriers has appeared. Likewise, no further sightings of Japanese BB's recently located in the Solomons area have been reported.

5. Only one important enemy contact report concerning U.S. surface forces was noted when 3 U.S. cruisers and an undetermined number of DD's were reported sighted at 1510I, October 23.

6. Several instances have recently been noted of Japanese interest in our planes operating from Midway. The latest instance noted was when Tokyo broadcast bearings of U.S. reconnaissance planes based on Midway.

II. Southwest Pacific:

(A) Solomons

(a) General:

1. A slight indication has appeared of an Army convoy at Shortland Island at 2200L, October 23, en route to Guadalcanal.

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2. Reports from the Japanese radio on Guadalcanal concerning our naval forces in this area continue.

(b) Operations:

Our radio on Guadalcanal reported that 18 enemy twin-engined and 3 single-engine planes were approaching, due about 1125L, October 23.

(B) New Britain

Rabaul gave indications of an air raid in progress between 0830K and 0856K, October 23.

(C) Gilberts

The HAKKAISAN MARU, to which reference was made in yesterday's ~~Supplement~~ Supplement, continues to be unheard.

(D) New Guinea

Sasebo 5th Special Landing Force (on Goodenough Island) sent a number of dispatches reporting an assault by about 100 white men, well-armed with machine guns. Two commanding officers (Japanese) were reported killed. In reply to a request for assistance, Crudiv 18 stated that air support was being arranged but that just when the real fight is developing on the main battlefield, it is impossible to give any real support.

*R. A. Boone*

R. A. Boone.

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*RR*

Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of October 25, 1942

SRNS 0195

I. Southwest Pacific

(a) Solomons

Judging from numerous contact reports made by our planes the somewhat delayed Japanese advance on Guadalcanal is now underway.

*FD*  
*FD*  
*FD*  
*FD*  
*FD*  
*FD*

At 0245 L, Oct. 23, 3 Catalinas made a night torpedo attack on Jap ships in the Shortland-Tonolei area. 2 torpedoes were fired at a CL anchored off Moila Point of which one was a certain hit and the other probable. A 500 lb. bomb hit was also scored on another CL or DD. One torpedo was also fired at a large ship believed to have been a BB, but results were unobserved due to the AA fire and searchlights. All planes returned.

At 1120 L, Oct 23, 16 Jap bombers and about 20 Zero fighters came over the Guadalcanal airfield and encountered our planes. 20 Zeros and 1 bomber were destroyed, and 3 other bombers were left smoking. At 1300 L Jap planes again came over, and a group of 5 dive bombers were shot down.

At 1315 L, Oct. 23 our search plane in Indispensable Strait shot down 1 Jap 4 engine flying boat.

At 2027 L, Oct. 23 our search plane contacted two enemy groups in Lat. 4°- 55 S., Long. 164°- 52 E.; one of these was described as consisting of CV, CL, DD, and the other of 1 CA, 1 CL, 2 DD. The CV was flat topped with no island and appeared about 600 ft. in length.

At 1800 L, Oct 23 the Jap forces on Guadalcanal laid down a heavy barrage on our front lines along the Matanikanu River with all calibers of guns including 6". When the barrage was lifted the Japs attempted a river crossing in force with tanks and massed artillery. Four attacks were thrown back and five large enemy tanks were destroyed. Our aircraft and artillery put a Japanese force observed in the early hours of the 24th attempting an outflanking movement to the left on the Matanikanu River under fire.

At 0110 L, Oct. 24 a Catalina contacted a Japanese force of 1 CA, 1 CL, and 3 DD, (probably the same group previously reported at 2027 L/23rd) in Lat. 6°- 09 S., Long. 164°- 14 E. and fired a torpedo at a CA described as of the MOGAMI class. Following the attack this force opened fire, and a large explosion was

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heard during the retirement, indicating a possible torpedo hit.

At 1010 L, Oct. 25 nine Jap ships were reported in Lat. 7°S., Long. 163°E. on course 155°true by one of our planes.

At 1052 L, Oct 25 our forces on Guadalcanal reported being under bombardment from 2 cruisers and 1 DD, and at 1159 L, enemy landings were said to be under way on the north coast of Guadalcanal. Somewhat later word was received that 28-30 Jap planes were expected to attack at about 1400 L, approaching from the northwest.

At 1200 L our SBD's from Guadalcanal attacked a Jap group of 1 CA, 1 CL, 4 DD 30 miles north of Florida Island. Near misses were scored on this attack, but another was made at 1700 L when a direct hit was scored on the CA and further near misses on the CL. At this time they were in Lat. 8°- 08 S., Long. 160° E. and were retiring to the northward. A Japanese report at about 1720 L reported one of these ships in Lat. 8°- 10 S., Long. 160°- 15 was on fire, having been hit by B-17's. It is believed that this ship was a CA of Crudiv 6.

At 0850 L 1 BB, 3 CL, 2 DD were reported in Lat. 7°- 55' S., Long. 159°- 10 E., and 2 DD with 2 AP in Lat. 7°- 40 S., Long. 159°- 30 E. at 0830 L. During the same day an enemy task force was reported in Lat. 8°- 20 S., Long. 162°- 10 E. heading east, another or possibly the same of 2 CV with supporting ships in Lat. 8°- 05 S., Long. 164°- 30 E. on course 145°, speed 25.

At 1240 L an enemy force of 1 CA and 5 DD were reported in Lat. 8°- 55' S., Long. 160°- 06 E. on course 120°, speed 20. A slightly later contact apparently on this same force described it as consisting of 1 CA, 1 CL and 3 DD. It is possibly this enemy force which at 1245 L reported being attacked by U.S. bombers. At 1340 L this group reported the presence of US surface units, and thereafter periodically reported being under attack by U.S. planes.

At about 1315 L there were indications that a U.S. striking force was sighted by a Jap SS on scouting mission. Although uncertain it is believed this force was said to consist of BB, possibly 6 cruisers and about 12 DD. The location likewise was not definite, but it appeared to be within 170 miles from Tulagi.

In the early morning of Oct. 25 a U.S. CL was reported to be anchored to the eastward of Lunga Point. Although plans appear to have been made to attack it, later reports made no mention of contacting her, although subsequently a Jap landing appears to have been carried out at Koli Point. This is probably the landing which our forces reported to have occurred at about 1200 L. There are some indications that TATSUTA (CL) and TSUGARU (CM) may have accompanied this landing force.

(b) New Guinea

A small Japanese force of the Sasebo 5th Defense Force on Oct. 23 appears to have moved from Welle Island to Ferguson Island in landing boats as a result of the landing and subsequent engagement with an allied force of about 200 men.

Renewed activity on the Salamoia and Buna aerodromes indicates that these fields may now be in operation.

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by Director, NSA/Chief, CSS

Date: 11/11/49



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(c) New Britain

Allied planes are indicated to have again attacked Rabaul on the night of Oct. 23/24. The Rabaul air raid alarm appears to have been secured at 0323 I, Oct. 24.

(d) Carolines

Confirmation of the existence of drydocking facilities at Truk is seen in a message from a Jap merchantman seeking to obtain a drydocking assignment there. It appears that this vessel informed that Truk's drydocking schedule was filled up to March, 1943. It is obvious that the destruction of this drydock would greatly hamper Japanese operations in this theatre.

(e) Japanese submarines

About 10 Jap SS are believed to be in the general Solomons - New Hebrides area. One is known to be in the vicinity of Tulagi, one in Lat. 8°S., Long. 163°, one in Lat. 7°S., Long. 174°E, and a fourth in Lat. 20°S., Long. 162°E.

*E. Watts*  
E. Watts.

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Date: 12/19/79

Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of October 26, 1942

SRNS 0196

I. Southwest Pacific

(A) Solomons

(a) General

Fd  
Fdd RW  
Fsi ✓

1. Japanese radio traffic during the past 24 hours has been extremely active with many important operational dispatches all apparently concerned with operations in the Solomons area. The increase in urgent and tactical type dispatches has been marked, furnishing good evidence that the Japanese offensive is now in full swing. From the indications available it appears clear that the objects of this offensive are (a) destruction of our surface forces in the Solomons area, (b) recapture of Guadalcanal airfield, and possibly (c) an advance further to the southeast.

Ffz B  
F3d Q

2. Japanese submarines are playing an important part in the Solomons operations. Two enemy submarine forces on two lines are indicated. The first force apparently consists of 12 SS's, the second of 8 SS's. In an operation order to one Jap submarine force, it was indicated that the U.S. main body, consisting of 2 BB's, 2 CA's, and 8 DD's was located W. of Indispensable Strait at 1205 L, October 26. The order to the Jap SS force indicated an intention "completely to destroy the enemy" and mentioned two Jap striking forces as converging upon the U.S. Task Force. (Time of intercept 1608 L, October 26.)

F31 C

3. An unknown Japanese force apparently engaged a U.S. force of 2 BB's, 3 CA's, and about 12-13 DD's, and auxiliaries N. of Ndeni at about 0700 L, October 26.

4. As of 1200 L, October 26 an unrecovered Japanese unit reported one U.S. carrier burning fiercely and sinking and also again reported the U.S. Task Force mentioned in the preceding paragraph.

5. There is an indication that some U.S. Marines from the Raider Battalion which attacked Makin in August were taken prisoner by the Japanese. From questions asked, it appears that the Japanese believe that submarines were used to transport the raiding party. Makin was directed to send the prisoners and captured equipment to Kwajalein.

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6. C-in-C 8th Fleet appears to be in direct tactical command of the surface forces involved in this operation, C-in-C 11th Air Fleet directing air action by the land-based air Attack Forces (5th and 6th), with C-in-C Combined exercising <sup>overall</sup> ~~strategic-tactical~~ command of the forces involved

7. Reinforcements for the Japanese units on Guadalcanal continue. At 2300 L, October 25 a Jap submarine reported that Army reinforcements had been landed on Guadalcanal. Two units of 350 and 380 men, respectively, have been embarked on 2 DD's, with an indication that something, possibly a landing, is to take place at 1700 L, October 26. Further indications have also appeared that DD's are being used to carry troops and equipment. The TSUGARU (CM) and TATSUTA (CL) are similarly employed.

8. There is an indication that the Japanese are of the opinion that 3 U.S. carriers are engaged in the Solomons operations.

9. At 1530 L, October 26 an apparent Japanese carrier was fixed by D/F at 6° S, 163° E.

10. It is indicated that Japanese carriers will refuel at dawn, October 27 (LZT). The latitude is unrecovered, but longitude is near 164° E.

11. A U.S. carrier was contacted by a Jap search plane at 1945 I, October 26. At 1955 I the plane was ordered to drop 2 flares over the carrier.

(b) Operations

1. During October 25, Japanese naval forces were approaching Guadalcanal from N.W., S.W. and N., with other forces operating to the N.E.

2. At 1115 L, October 25 one of our search planes shot down a Jap flying boat in Lat. 07° - 50' S., Long. 160° 28' E.

3. Amplifying yesterday's report of an attack by 4 SED's from Guadalcanal on a Jap force of 1 CA, 1 CL and 3 DD's, 1-1000 lb. bomb hit was made on the forecastle of the CA and another hit on the CA and near misses on the CL. B-17's made 2-500 lb. bomb hits on the CL at 1710 L. Both the CA and CL were left dead in the water, but at 1600 L on the 26th 1 CA and 1 CL, both smoking badly and accompanied by 2 DD's were sighted in Lat. 7° - 07' S., 158° - 05' E. course 300° (T), speed about 5 knots.

4. Although no details have been received, it is indicated that 2 enemy CV's have been damaged.

5. (a) At 0730 L, October 26, a Jap force of 2 BB's, 2 cruisers, 6 DD's and 1 auxiliary or small CV on course 300° (mag.) speed 20 was sighted in Lat. 8 - 10 S., Long. 163 - 50 E. (b) At approximately 0900 L, another sighting was made of a Jap force composed of 1 large CV, 3 CA's, and 4 DD's on course 050° speed 18, in Lat. 6° - 30', Long. 163° E. A force of B-17's departed at 1110 L to attack the CV, last reported at 1030 L to be in Lat. 6° 15' S., Long. 163° 17' E. Our planes apparently continue trailing this force. (c) One of our planes intercepted an enemy task force at 1430 L in 7° - 20' S., 164° 26' E., course 110, speed 25. The force consisted of 3 BB's, 4 cruisers, 7 DD's.

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6. On the ground on Guadalcanal, little action took place along the Matanikau River throughout October 24 (LZT). Beginning at mid-night through the early morning of October 25, the enemy attacked in the direction of our airfield from the south. The position was held throughout the night but the Japs were still attacking during the morning of October 25 (LZT).

7. In the air over Guadalcanal on October 25, Jap fighters appeared throughout the day at irregular intervals. 17 Jap fighters were shot down. At 1435 L, of 16 enemy heavy bombers which came over, 5 were shot down. At 1500 L, 9 Jap dive bombers attacked our positions but caused only minor damage.

(B) New Britain

An enemy convoy is indicated en route to Rabaul via Steffen Strait, with expected time of arrival at Rabaul indicated as early on October 27 (LZT).

(C) New Hebrides

S.S. COOLIDGE ran upon 1, possibly 2, mines upon entering Espiritu Santo Harbor at 1000 L, October 26. It is indicated that she has been beached inside the harbor.

(D) Gilberts

In the raid on enemy patrol vessels on October 22, two of our DD's sank a small patrol vessel. This is in addition to those previously reported.

(E) New Guinea

The remnant forces from Goodenough Island are proceeding to the N.E. coast of Welle Island, expecting to arrive early on October 26 (LZT).

II. Northwest Pacific

On October 24, 3 B-17's dropped 42-300 lb. bombs on the enemy submarine base at Kiska. The damage was unobserved. No enemy planes were sighted and no change reported in Japanese shipping.

*R.A. Boone*

R.A. Boone.

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SRNS 0197

Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of October 27, 1942

I. Southwest Pacific:

(A) Solomons Area

(a) General

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1. Japanese radio traffic has dealt almost solely with extremely heavy operational-type traffic, with other activities pushed completely out of the picture. Precedence has been given to Solomons tactical traffic on all circuits. A feature of traffic from the Major Commanders has been their concern with Japanese submarine operations in this theater. Submarine lines are indicated as E-W search lines.

2. Apparent directives from C-in-C Combined Fleet to C-in-C 2nd Fleet, 1st and 11th Air Fleets, Subforce, and 17th Army indicate the widespread scope of the operations and may foreshadow coordinated attacks on Guadalcanal by the Army in cooperation with naval surface and air forces.

3. It is indicated that the Japanese 17th Army has two headquarters on Guadalcanal, Chief of Staff 17th Army being at one and Commander 17th Army at the other. One of these headquarters has been closely associated with the TSUGARU (CM) which, carrying troops, apparently had not reached Guadalcanal at 0100L, October 27.

(b) Operations

1. Japanese submarines and planes have been very active with contact reports concerning our forces:

(a) In response to an order, a Jap plane stated that white flares were being dropped over one of our (U.S.) carriers (time of intercept, 2357L, October 26).

(b) At 0250L, October 27, a probable Jap SS reported sighting a U.S. Striking Force (tactical data unrecovered).

(c) It was indicated by an unknown Japanese command late on October 26 that our Task force is "retreating eastward and is to the north of Santa Cruz Islands." A search was therefore ordered for the

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27th (LZT), extending over all areas within 150 miles of Ndeni Island. There is some slight indication of an enemy intention to occupy Ndeni.

(d) At 0050I, October 27, a probable Jap SS reported sighting our striking force, course 170° (other tactical data unrecovered).

(e) At 0800L, October 27, a Jap SS sighted a U.S. force of 1 BB and 4 DD's, but at 0730I reported that it had lost contact. Weather was indicated as cloudy, visibility 5 miles. Another Jap SS at 0833I reported sighting a U.S. BB, but was depth-charged by our DD's. The SS reported no damage and indicated his course as 170°.

2. (a) One of our planes reported sighting 13 enemy warships in 7°-50' S., 166°-10' E. at 0902L, October 27, on course 350°, speed 20. The enemy force was composed of 2 BB, 6 CA, 3 CL, and 2 DD's. At 0950L, 1 CV, 1 CA, and 1 DD were reported by the same plane in the same position. Prior to these contacts, one of our planes at 2400L, October 26, reported an enemy force composed of 1 CV (large), 1 BB, 2 CA, and DD's on course 040°, speed 20 in 6° S., 165° 20' E.

(b) At 1215L, October 26, one of our planes reported 1 enemy CL, 2 DD's and 2 AK's anchored off Kavieng in 2° 35' S., 150° 48' E.

(c) At 1320L, October 26, 1 BB, 1 CA, and 2 DD's were sighted in 7°-45' S., 155°-35' E. on course 150° by a U.S. plane.

3. An unidentified Japanese unit, probably a carrier, reported having been discovered by U.S. planes at 0100I, October 27. He was hit by 1 torpedo but stated that no serious damage was caused. This is most probably the carrier torpedoed by one of our PBY's.

4. A CL in Crudiv 18 reported a bombing attack at 0810I, October 27, having previously sent out a report of sighting one large plane. This CL has been associated with the force recently stranded on Goodenough Island.

5. An operation order, timed at 0200I, October 27, directs a Japanese submarine division to carry out a torpedo attack on our Main Force.

6. The Japanese on Guadalcanal have indicated a raid on Kokumbona by six VF's at 1240I, October 27.

7. A Japanese cruiser has sunk one of our fleet tugs and one patrol craft in the Guadalcanal area.

8. At 1620L, October 26, Jap dive and horizontal bombers and torpedo planes made a second attack on one of our task forces in 9° 41' S., 167° 35' E.

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9. The weather forecast for October 27 in the Solomons area indicates clouds over the entire area with frequent showers. Visibility is indicated as 10 miles in the Solomons and New Hebrides areas and 20 miles in the Santa Cruz area. Flying and landing conditions are average.

(B) Gilberts

It is indicated that air searches in the Gilbert area continuing.

II. French Indo-China:

Tokyo has advised its representative at Vichy of an investigation made by the Japanese Gendarmerie in Indo-China concerning assistance afforded to U.S. submarines operating off that coast. Mention is made of boats transporting supplies and of a secret order concerning the sighting of Japanese troop ships, allegedly sent by a provincial governor.

*R. A. Boone*

R. A. Boone.

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Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of October 28, 1942

SRNS. 0198

I. Southwest Pacific

(A) Solomons Area

(a) General:

*It is requested that this document be  
limited to those to whom it is  
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is to be placed in any general file,*

1. Japanese radio traffic during the past 24 hours has revealed a sharp drop in operational traffic which in turn consisted chiefly of submarine and air traffic. Submarine traffic primarily indicated that all submarines in this area are employed on scouting assignments, principally in the Solomons-New Hebrides area. At least 20 Jap submarines are indicated as engaged in this assignment under the command C-in-C 8th Fleet. As variants from the general area of employment, Japanese SS's have been ordered to search the waters W. of Guadalcanal, and to carry out a reconnaissance of Espiritu Santo for the purpose of discovering (and attacking?) any U.S. battleship or carrier there.

2. The overall picture presented by intercepts indicates that the opposing forces have lost contact and that the Japanese are taking advantage of the lull to bring various administrative matters up to date.

3. Air units in the Rabaul and Marshalls areas are engaged in extensive scouting, and some suggestion has appeared of a shift of air strength from the Marshalls southward. Air reinforcements or replacements from the Empire are apparently moving southward via Marcus and Wake.

4. Fairly heavy association between the Chief of Staff 17th Army and the Naval High Commands, apparent hourly weather reports sent out by Guadalcanal, and the continued interest displayed by Guadalcanal in the TSUGARU (CM) and TATSUTA (CL) (both indicated for some days as carrying or convoying troops in the Solomons area) may possibly foreshadow an early general assault on Guadalcanal. In any event, continued Japanese attempts to reinforce Guadalcanal are indicated.

5. An unknown Japanese originator reported sighting a convoy of 5 vessels (location unrecovered) at 1630I, October 27.

6. The Japanese radio on Guadalcanal continues sending out reports of our surface ships and plane activity in this area.

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7. Best available evidence indicates that 3 Japanese carriers took part in the Santa Cruz battle. These were the ZUIKAKU, SHOKAKU, and ZUIHO. The first two mentioned were damaged, one by a torpedo hit made by a PBY (see (b), paragraph 3). There is no evidence that the ZUIHO was damaged.

(b) Operations:

1. At 0320L, October 27, the WASHINGTON was subjected to two submarine attacks in the general vicinity of Lat. 15° S., Long. 160° E. All torpedoes missed.

2. TREVER and ZANE (DMS's) were under fire of 3 Japanese new DD's for about 19 minutes in the Guadalcanal area. Four bombers from Guadalcanal intervened and engaged the enemy DD's, sinking two.

3. In amplification of a prior report of a torpedo hit made in a Jap CV by one of our PBY's, a later report reveals that the torpedo was dropped at the large carrier, distant 500 yards. Although our pilot failed to see the results, the Japanese have indicated that a hit was made but intimated that no serious damage was caused. The other PBY in a steep glide dropped 4-500 lb. bombs on a CA, two of which resulted in direct hits and two in very near misses. The damage to the CA is in addition to any previous reports.

4. During the night October 26-27, on Guadalcanal many small attacks were made by Japanese land forces but all were repulsed outside our wire. During the past five days, Jap losses have been 9 tanks (14-18 tons), 1 regimental battery, many heavy and light machine guns, and at least 2000 killed.

(B) New Britain

Rabaul broadcast an air raid warning at 0212K, October 28, "all clear" being indicated at 0230K.

II. Northern Area

A slight flurry was caused in the Ominato area when a submarine contact was broadcast at 0930I, October 28. The submarine involved was reported as withdrawing at high speed on the surface.

III. General

Discussions continue between Berlin and Tokyo with a view to establishing air communications via a northern route. Negotiations have, for the present, bogged down because of a difference of opinion concerning which agency should control the scheme and whether military or non-military planes should be employed.

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*R. A. Boone*  
R. A. Boone

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F01	✓
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Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of October 29, 1942

SRNS 0199

I. Southwest Pacific

(A) Solomons Area:

1. Once again Japanese radio traffic during the past 24 hours has been relatively quiet with few clear-cut trends established. The general impressions gathered from an analysis of the traffic are:

FD ✓

(a) No action is revealed by surface units.

FD ✓

(b) Little air activity, with continued indications of aircraft being moved southward.

FD ✓

(c) Considerable submarine activity (see Par. 4, below)

FD ✓

(d) Little action on Guadalcanal.

2. A few bearings obtained on the Major Command circuit give rise to a slight indication that the bulk of Japanese surface strength has withdrawn northward. However, it is felt that this evidence is as yet too slight to justify definite conclusions. In this connection, at 1200L, October 29, an unknown Japanese activity broadcast an intercepted Allied plane report to Port Moresby to the effect that 2 BB's, 1 CV, 2 AV's, — CA's, — CL's, and 11-8,000 ton AP's were sighted in Buin Harbor.

FD ✓

FD ✓

3. Indicative of the efficacy of Japanese radio intelligence is a dispatch by the 11th Air Fleet on October 28 to the effect that at least 5 instances have been noted in four days of Allied planes working the Radio Station NBV "at Epi" Base. From this he assumes that planes are being moved from Australia to the New Hebrides.

4. (a) Some light is thrown on Japanese operational technique by the setting of "X-Day" as October 15 for the beginning of submarine offensive searches in at least one sector, and of "Y-Day" as October 22 (delayed one day to October 23) for the establishment of two search lines involving two additional submarine forces. The cruising time for the latter was indicated to be about 10 days.

(b) It appears quite definite that Japanese concentration of submarines continues in the Solomons Area and that they are participating

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closely with surface craft. Bearings show Jap SS's to be located chiefly between  $6^{\circ}$  -  $16^{\circ}$  S. and  $164^{\circ}$  -  $177^{\circ}$  E.

(c) Japanese submarines on offensive patrol in the Solomons area are apparently assigned grid positions which are 20 miles square.

5. Research has indicated the establishment of Japanese communications units on Russel Island and at Kaminbo (N.W. tip of Guadalcanal) during the first 10 days of October. It appears likely that two SS's (I-2 and I-3) are assigned to the unit on Russel Island.

6. There is a slight indication that the enemy tanker which was to refuel Japanese carriers on October 27 (LZT) was attacked by U.S. planes (PBY's?) and suffered casualties.

7. Guadalcanal radio continues its careful lookout and reports of our plane and ship movements. At 0930L, October 29, it reported 22 U.S. fighters took off and climbed to a high altitude, that at 1600L twelve (U.S.) (small ships?) were headed for Tulagi, and at 1620L, that 6 heavy bombers were headed N.W.

8. It is indicated that some Japanese DD's will proceed from the Shortland Island area at 0700L, October 29, arriving at Tassafaronga at 2230L. It may be surmised that these DD's will carry reinforcements and supplies.

## II. Northwest Pacific

There is some possibility that Base "C", previously mentioned as under construction in the Kuriles, may be an air base on Matsuwa Island (Lat.  $48^{\circ}$  -  $05^{\circ}$  N., Long.  $153^{\circ}$  -  $12^{\circ}$  E.) If this is the case, the topography of the island would indicate that the airfield is on the southern side. Base "C" projects are now about 90% complete.

## III. General

It is indicated that a possible CL (KASHII, 5800 tons displacement, most probable) was struck by 1 torpedo off the coast of Indo-China and is now proceeding under escort.

*R. A. Boone*  
R. A. Boone.

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~~Secret~~ Supplement

Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of October 30, 1942

SRNS 0200

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I. Southwest Pacific

(a) General

8	✓
10	✓
11	✓
12	B
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31	C

1. The decrease in Japanese radio traffic during the past two days and the almost total absence of operational-type traffic suggests at least a temporary lull in major fleet operations, possibly pending the completion of air reinforcement from the Empire and further development of army dispositions. While definite evidence is lacking and conclusions derived solely from radio traffic analysis are subject to limitations, further slight indications have appeared of the withdrawal northward from the Santa Cruz area of Japanese heavy units.

2. Carrier traffic, if any, has not been heard or recognized but Truk is broadcasting to C-in-C 1st Air Fleet as well as to C-in-C Combined and 2nd Fleets and Comdr. Subforce. C-in-C 8th Fleet is also still at sea in the Buin area.

3. Japanese submarine traffic continues high and indicates that search operations continue from the Eastern Solomons to the area S.W. of the Gilberts. By D/F several SS's were fixed along parallel 9° S, between 165° E. and 175° E.

4. Army traffic is maintaining its usual high level and convoy activity from Palao to Rabaul apparently continues.

5. Guadalcanal radio at 0530L, October 30 reported that 5 single-stack men-of-war departed Lunga. At 0615L, October 30, one U.S. cruiser and 4 DD's were reported on patrol off Guadalcanal; and at 0820L an air unit was ordered to attack these ships.

(b) Operations

The Japanese DD's indicated in yesterday's ~~Summary~~ Supplement as due to arrive off Tassafaronga at 2230L, October 29 ran into difficulties when attacked by 3 PT's and aircraft. As a result the DD's changed their plans and withdrew. No indication of damage has been noted from Japanese sources.

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II. Northwest Pacific

S-33 reported sighting 3 NATORI class cruisers (5,170 tons) and 1 DD in Lat. 52°-53' N, Long. 168°-09' E. at 1130L, October 30. This force was on course 250°, speed 15. From information available it is believed that the cruisers involved are in fact the ABUKUMA, KISO, and TAMA (5,100 tons).

III. Economic

1. Japanese firms in Indo-China and Thailand were ordered to refrain from selling to Germany. It was indicated that the only commodities which can be spared for Germany are rubber, tin, and tungsten.

2. It was indicated on October 23 that a German blockade runner at Bangkok loaded rubber, shellac, tin, copper ore, and tungsten.

3. Tokyo authorities express satisfaction over the movement to Japan of crops from Cambodia, Indo-China and indicate that 90,000 kilotons had been loaded up to October 20.

*R. A. Boone*

R. A. Boone

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Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of October 31, 1942

I. Southwest Pacific  
(A) Solomons Area

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F04

1. The apparent lull in Japanese naval operations, suggested in yesterday's ~~Secret~~ Supplement, continues and an analysis of radio traffic for the past 24 hours, with one exception, indicates nothing significant in so far as surface-ship operations are concerned. The exception noted gives rise to strong indications of an impending air operation involving land-based and/or carrier-based planes, with the probability that both types will be involved. Associations point to Guadalcanal as the most probable objective, with the 5th Air Attack Force and Cardiv 2 as the likely participants.

2. In a battle report made by probable Comcardiv 2 for October 26 (LZT), it was indicated that in an attack made on the HAYATAKA (CV), the losses of that ship were 5 VF, 11 VB and 2 VT's and 1 VF, 5 VB, and 1 VT damaged. An indication is given that the HAYATAKA was not damaged by the report that (available?) planes for the 27th (LZT) were 11 VF's, 8 VB's and 5 VT's. This report appears definitely to place Cardiv 2 (HITAKA and HAYATAKA) in the Solomons Area in addition to Cardiv 1 (SHOKAKU, ZUIKAKU, and ZUIHO), believed to have retired northward of the Santa Cruz Islands to the Truk-Jaluit area.

3. Japanese submarines in the Solomons area have been active with non-urgent non-operational type traffic, but there is no indication that any important contacts with our surface forces have been made during the past two days.

4. (a) Guadalcanal has been busy with 6 long dispatches generally addressed to the Chiefs of Staffs of the 8th, 11th Air and Combined Fleets, with the Naval General Staff as information addressees. Although this traffic remains unread, it may foreshadow the next phase of the Japanese operation in the Solomons area.

(b) Guadalcanal radio reported at 1717L, October 30 that our air force on Guadalcanal has available for use a total of 25 small planes (VF's?) and 2 large planes (B-17's?). It also reported the arrival at Lunga of a probable U.S. cruiser and 1 SS.

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5. From all indications, the Japanese consider the Buin-Shortland-Tonolei Harbor area almost as important as Rabaul and continued concentration of air and surface-ship strength and convoys in that area may be anticipated.

6. U.S.S. AMBERJACK has reported having delivered gasoline, bombs, Army ground crew personnel, and mail to Guadalcanal.

(B) Gilberts

As a result of the Makin raid, instructions have been issued to the Marshalls Area Defense Forces to maintain a rigid lookout, particularly on the lee side of islands. In raids of the Makin type, the Japanese forces are warned, all publications must be destroyed immediately upon being attacked and thereafter all endeavor will be made to annihilate the enemy.

II. General

1. Agents of the Axis secret services continue to feed information from Africa to Lisbon and Madrid concerning Allied ship and convoy movements. One convoy of 22 ships, strongly escorted, is indicated as due to pass Lourenco Marques on November 2 or 3.

2. Considerable friction continues in Portuguese Timor between the Japanese Army and the local authorities, with steady pressure being applied by the Japanese both on the spot and through diplomatic channels. In the latter field, Morito Morishima (an experienced "trouble-shooter" for the Army in such localities as Harbin, Peking, Shanghai, Washington, and New York) is conducting the "negotiations" in Lisbon. It would appear to be only a question of time before the Portuguese are entirely ousted from their half of Timor.

*R.A. Boone*  
R.A. Boone.

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Summary of Japanese Naval Activities of November 1, 1942

SRNS 0202

I. Southwest Pacific.

(a) Solomons.

The lull in Japanese naval operations continues. The general impression gained from a study of enemy radio traffic is that a reorganization of surface units is being made to include recently arrived reinforcements, and plans for new operations are being worked out under the direction of the C-in-C, 8th Fleet, who is indicated to be in the Buin area. There is as yet no evidence of the nature or the time of the next large scale operation, but all indications point to the launching of a fresh movement in the near future. In the meanwhile convoys apparently continue to move down to the Rabaul area, small surface units are being sent on missions to Guadalcanal, air raids on our positions are being carried out, and Japanese submarines are being employed largely in the service of information. Japanese forces on Guadalcanal are also most active in reporting our ship and plane movements, the locations of our batteries, and weather reports every two hours on the even hour.

There is strong evidence that 5 enemy DD's have been ordered to a position a short distance to the eastward off Koli Point, Guadalcanal to arrive 2030 - 2100 I, November 2, but it is not clear whether their mission will be to land reinforcements or carry out a bombardment. Japanese SS's are being informed of their anticipated movements and every effort appears to be made to warn them of dangers to be anticipated.

A five ship convoy is believed to have departed Yokosuka on the 30th for the south, and there is some indication that convoy movements to Rabaul from home ports are being routed via Palao, possibly due to recent U.S. submarine concentrations near Truk.

The CincG, Combined Fleet is now indicated in the Truk area.

A U.S. search plane reports attacking a SS in lat. 13° - 10' S, Long. 163° - 44' E, but no hits were claimed. Other Jap SS positions recently received follow:

Lat.	9° S	7° S	9° S	9° S	20° S	1° N
Long.	157° E	166° E	168° E	162° E	171° E	165° E

The Shortland Anchorage is known to be used by these submarines.

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On Oct. 29 there were no important ground contacts on Guadalcanal. A small U.S. Marine patrol captured two Japanese 75 mm guns to the west of Matanikau River. Our planes continued attack missions. At 2235 L, Oct. 29 one SBG on patrol sighted 2 Jap DD's in the vicinity of Tasafarunga. Boats were dropped but no damage is known to have been made on the destroyers which withdrew toward Russel Island. At 0015 L, Oct. 30 three SBG's bombed destroyers west of Russel Island, possibly the same ones, but thereafter no further contact was made. One SBG is missing.

At 0510 L, Oct. 30 seven Grumans attacked Rabatz Bay. Three enemy biplanes were destroyed on the water, 3 were float planes and 2 biplanes in the air. The main building and fuel dump were set afire, and the camp was strafed.

~~CARDED~~ From 0630 L to 0845 L, Oct. 30 one U.S. cruiser and 4 DD's bombarded Japanese positions on Guadalcanal. Enemy artillery, boats and buildings were destroyed.

*AWK*

R. A. Boone.

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~~Secret Supplement~~

Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of November 2, 1942.

SRNS 0203

I. Southwest Pacific

(A) Solomons Area

(a) General

1. The general picture developed by analysis of Japanese radio traffic continues to be one of continued convoy activity from the north and Palao to Rabaul, with a further feeding into the Buin area of surface ship and army reinforcements. These forces will undoubtedly be employed as the western prong of an advance on Guadalcanal. The eastern prong is indicated as composed of the 2nd Fleet, with at least part of the 1st Fleet as its covering force. C-in-C 8th Fleet, in close coordination with C-in-C 11th Airfleet, apparently commands the "western" force, and C-in-C 2nd Fleet, in close coordination with C-in-C 1st Air Fleet, the "eastern" force. C-in-C Combined continues to exercise overall strategic-tactical command of the entire operation.

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2. A good D/F fix in 3° S, 163° E. on a (tentative) 2nd Fleet force at 0532L, November 2, together with a reliable estimate of an enemy force at 1500L in Lat. 6°-30 S, Long. 159°-26' E. indicate a strong possibility that the enemy intends a sweep through Indispensable Strait to attack our surface forces and perhaps bombard our positions while effecting further landings. This force reported being shadowed by one large plane at 1525L in Lat. 6° 28' S, Long. 159° 28' E. while on course 150°, speed 26, and at 2005L reported sighting 3 enemy planes in Lat. 8° 30' S, Long. 160° E. Our plane reports indicate this force to be composed of 11 DD's and 3 CL's.

32 B  
33 D  
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3. By D/F, (likely) 8th Fleet Flag is plotted near the New Georgia Group at 1700L, November 2.

4. At 0900L, November 2 Jap forces on Guadalcanal reported that 5 U.S. DD's and 3 AP's were anchored between 2500 and 3500 meters E. of Lunga. At 0755L the same source reported that U.S. DD's had started to bombard Japanese dispositions on Guadalcanal.

5. As broadcast by Rabaul Communications Unit at 1210L, November 2, the Japanese conclude that a U.S. force is moving from the New Hebrides area to the Tulagi - Indispensable Strait area. It is also deduced that 4 U.S. SS's are in the New Hebrides area. This information is indicated as based on D/F and radio traffic analysis.

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6. Japanese submarine traffic has been conspicuous by its absence and only one plane contact (reporting 1 DD and 1 AP, location unrecovered) has been noted. This may indicate less emphasis on search operations.

7. A Jap Maru, possibly a picket boat similar to those employed S. of the Gilberts, reported a submarine attack in 168°-30' E (Lat. unrecovered). He reported countering with depth charges.

8. At 0915L, November 1 Rabaul reported the position of "enemy vessels" in Lat. 17° S, Long. 156°-40' E. course 270°; at 0930L their position was reported as Lat. 18°-15' S, Long. 156°-46' E, possibly a correction of the first report.

9. Effective 0000I, November 1 the call system in use by the Japanese Navy was changed.

(b) Operations

An unidentified Japanese unit at 1453L, November 2 reported having received a torpedo hit about 11 miles S.E. of Shortland Island.

(B) New Ireland - New Britain

1. A seaplane patrol from Kavieng was ordered for November 2 and from Rabaul for November 3, indicating the possibility of a convoy arrival from the north.

2. It is indicated that a tanker has departed from Rabaul for Palikpapan, suggesting that the refinery at that place is being utilized as a source of fuel oil supply for the Japanese fleet.

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Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of November 3, 1942

SRNS 0204

I. Southwest Pacific

(A) Solomons

(a) General

1. Little concrete intelligence is available from an analysis of Japanese radio traffic during November 2, principally because of increased Japanese radio security and noticeable improvement in their communications as a whole. No new indications of the locations of C-in-C 2nd Fleet and C-in-C 1st Air Fleet have been noted. Traffic for Combined, 2nd, and 1st Air Fleets continues to be routed to Truk by Tokyo, indicating the possibility that the major portions of these forces are still in the general Truk area. However, at least one Chief of Staff of a major Fleet received traffic via Jaluit, giving rise to a slight suggestion that one or more of the forces mentioned may be eastward or southeastward from Truk.

2. The landing of Japanese troops E. of Koli Point during the night of November 2-3, the location of 8th Fleet Flag (mentioned in yesterday's ~~Secret~~ Supplement), and the close associations noted between the 8th Fleet, 17th Army, and 11th Air Fleet all assume the appearance of the beginning of a renewed offensive against Guadalcanal.

3. The Japanese continue to pay close attention to our radio traffic, with particular emphasis upon volume and precedence. Rabaul in a lengthy dispatch reported in detail on U.S. radio traffic and circuits in the southeastern area.

4. The Japanese radio on Guadalcanal gave the following information concerning our ship movements on November 3:

- At 0745 L, 1 apparent DD entering Tulagi
- " 0930 L, 1 DD and 1 AP left Tulagi for Lunga
- " 1300 L, 1 DD and 2 AP's leaving Lunga, headed E.
- " 1345 L, 3 DD's and 2 AP's anchored Lunga and 1 DD anchored Tulagi.

5. The Japanese force of 3 CL's and 11 DD's mentioned in yesterday's ~~Secret~~ Supplement as in Lat. 8° 30' S., Long. 165° E. at 2005 L, November 2 may have changed its intentions and there is some indication that it

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has withdrawn at high speed. Although the evidence is conflicting, it is possible that the 1 CL, 1 AF, and 1 DD from which landings were made were part of this force and that the operation was therefore only partially successful. The 8th Fleet landing operation from 5 DD's scheduled for 2230 L, November 2 apparently was called off.

6. (a) Information concerning location of Japanese carriers continues fragmentary. Four D/F fixes on suspected carrier activities show the general areas of Lat. 5° S., Long. 166° E at 0744 L, November 3 and Lat. 3° S., Long. 148° E.

(b) Japanese weather observation ships have been located by D/F at Lat. 7° S., Long. 172° E. and at Lat. 10° S., Long. 175° E.

(c) Japanese submarine locations by D/F are as follows:

Lat.	3° S.	6° S	7° S	11° S
Long.	180° E	163° E	156° E	166° E

(b) Operations

At 0350 L, November 3, MITSUSHIMA MARU (IAY) reported a submarine attack bearing 96° distant 18 miles from Alu Island (off S.E. side of Shortland Island).

(B) New Britain

It is believed that a convoy has arrived at Rabaul on November 3 (LST).

II. China

The Japanese have indicated that two U.S. planes crashed during the raid on Hongkong on October 25. Four men are said to have been taken prisoner with two still being hunted.

Japanese intelligence reports that at the end of September the American Air Force had 90 planes in China but that this number had increased to some 170 planes by the latter part of October.

III. French Indo-China

The Japanese Army continues to report "incidents" in Indo-China, involving an alleged attack upon 13 Japanese investigation agents and the disarming of two Japanese gendarmes. It is indicated that a severe protest will be made.

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of the possible use of (army?) parachutists.

(e) The continued presence in the general Solomons area of Flag 8th Fleet (New Georgia area), Flag Desron 3 (Shortlands), 11th Air Fleet (Buka area), and Seaplatendiv. 11 (Shortlands), as well as the large Army forces concentrated at Rabaul and in the Buin area indicates no let-up in the Japanese determination to carry through their basic plan.

(f) The 1st Air Fleet remains unlocated and no definitely identified carrier activity has been noted since October 26. One indication would place 1st Air Fleet in the Jaluit area. If it is assumed from what indications there are that the major heavy units and carriers are respectively in the Truk and Jaluit areas, it should be noted that they are a maximum 2½ to 3 days' leisurely steaming from Guadalcanal.

(g) From the above it would appear that the earliest probable date of a full-scale attack on Guadalcanal is November 7 (LZT).

3. The Japanese radio on Guadalcanal sent the following messages on November 4:

At 0515 L, "5-10 (U.S.) DD's and 2 AP's sighted (off?) Lunga"  
At 0730 L, "DD shelling Kokumbona".  
At 0800 L, "Being fired on by 1 cruiser"  
Originated by Subforce at 0816 L, "Enemy fleet at Lunga consists of 3 cruisers (CA's?), 10 DD's, and 3 (?) AP's."  
At 0930 L, "Undergoing enemy gunfire".

4. One slight indication suggests the possibility of Japanese air action against Guadalcanal on November 4 (LZT).

## II. U.S. Submarine Activities

1. U.S.S. WHALE has reported completing a mining mission off South Honshu and also reports 5 torpedo hits in 4 AK's.
2. U.S.S. PLUNGER made 2 torpedo hits on a NATORI class (5,170 tons displacement) CL in Indispensable Strait at 0415 L, November 3.

## General and Economic

1. The Japanese Foreign Office has continued to inform its representative in Vichy of alleged French quibbling, duplicity, and unscrupulousness in dealings in French Indo-China in so far as the recognition of Japan's leadership is concerned.

2. The TEISON MARU (Ex Ville de Verdun, 7,007 gross tons), the second definitely identified French ship taken over by the Japanese under bareboat charter, was sunk off Tansui, Formosa on October 14 by submarine action.

3. The four prisoners captured after the raid of October 25 on Hongkong were captured near the mouth of the Canton River. It is indicated that they have been turned over to Japanese gendarmes and are now being "secretly



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investigated". All of them are said to be Englishmen.

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~~Secret~~ Supplement  
Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of November 5, 1942.

SRNS 0206

I. Southwest Pacific  
(A) Solomons  
(a) General

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1. A series of definite identifications indicates that "1st Air Fleet" is in fact called "3rd Fleet" by the Japanese. Henceforth Opnav will refer to the Carrier Fleet as the "3rd Fleet" and it is requested that other activities do likewise.

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2. Many indications have arisen of increased reliance placed by the Japanese upon radio intelligence which appears to play an important part in the Solomons operations, with wide dissemination given to this type of dispatch. Practically no patrol plane traffic has been noted during the past 24 hours, indicating the possibility that the Japanese are satisfied with intelligence concerning our intentions and the dispositions of our forces obtained by intercepts, traffic analysis, and an active and efficient D/F system.

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4. Japanese radio on Guadalcanal has been a most prolific originator of high precedence traffic during the past 24 hours, the usual High Commands being addressees. This traffic, however, has not yet taken on a tactical aspect, except when reports are made of our surface-ship operations in this area. In the latter event, the usual action addressees are 8th Fleet, 11th Air Fleet, and 5th and 6th Air Attack Forces.

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5. A note of desperation is suggested by Guadalcanal's request at 0615L, November 4 to have any available ship bombard our positions in the vicinity of the Matanikau River, and an expressed desire to have an air bombardment undertaken on November 5. The former plea was apparently anticipated by 8th Fleet's order at 0520L, November 4 to have 2 DD's shell the Matanikau River vicinity on the 4th.

6. Indications of further probable arrangements to continue the reinforcement of Guadalcanal by employing Desron 3 units have appeared, with Tassafaronga as the most likely point of landing. The suggestion has been made that the ground forces of Airflot 23 may have been landed on Guadalcanal. It should be noted that the 3rd Air Group, containing an estimated 45 fighters, is part of Airflot 23.

7. Readable Japanese reports from Guadalcanal concerning our forces follow:

- (a) At 1617L, November 4: 1 DD and 1 AP left Tulagi.
- (b) At 1830L, November 4: Serviceable enemy (U.S.) aircraft 45, and a report that enemy (U.S.) vessels which today entered Lunga and Tulagi left at 1815L.
- (c) At 0716L, November 5: 1 CA, 7 DD's and 3 AP's are entering port.

8. Japanese submarine locations by D/F are as follows:

Lat. 22° N. 2° N. 2° S. 5° S. 6° S. 8° S. 23° S.  
Long. 129° E. 148° E. 152° E. 129° E. 154° E. 164° E. 170° E.

The interception of two dispatches from the Noumea area indicates submarine reconnaissance in that vicinity.

(b) Operations

On Guadalcanal during November 2 our attack W. of Matanikau continued with slow progress, supported by SED's and P-39's. 3 SED's took off at 1730L to attack the Japanese force of 4 CL's and 17 DD's mentioned in yesterday's summary but have not returned. Another SED which reported a Jap DD off Kokumbona failed to return.

B. Gilberts

Air searches in the Gilbert area apparently continue.

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~~Secret~~ Supplement

Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of November 6, 1942.

SRNS 0207

- I. Southwest Pacific  
(A) Solomons  
(a) General

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1. Intelligence reflected during the past 24 hours from Japanese radio traffic is conspicuous only because, in so far as major units are concerned, it is almost entirely negative in character. Traffic involving Combined, 2nd, and 3rd (carriers) Fleets, if any, was unreadable and there is always the possibility that one or more of these units are preserving radio silence.

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2. There is a strong indication that a Japanese force of undetermined size left its anchorage late on November 5, with the reinforcement of Guadalcanal as its objective. Point of departure is unrecovered but its position at 0500L, November 6 is indicated as Long. 158°-45' E. (Lat. unknown), speed 20-25 knots, suggesting Desron 3. In this connection, several urgent dispatches from Comdr. and Chief of Staff of 17th Army at Guadalcanal during November 5 (LZT) gave the appearance of urgent requests for additional equipment and/or reinforcements in connection with current operations on Guadalcanal.

11C

3. Japanese operational traffic during the past 24 hours was confined almost entirely to activities associated with Guadalcanal and during the past 12 hours was largely administrative in tone. A sharp drop, almost to the vanishing point, was noted in Rabaul's traffic to Combined Operations Force, suggesting the probability that final arrangements for an operation involving this command have now been completed.

4. Close cooperation between the Japanese Army and Navy continues in current operations, as indicated by the frequent direct communication of Army commanders on Guadalcanal with such naval commanders as C-in-C's 8th Fleet and 11th Air Fleet. Naval units on Guadalcanal have dealt directly with Comdrs. 5th and 6th Air Attack Forces, possibly quickly to get word to these commanders concerning our air and ship movements.

5. The trend of Japanese submarine dispositions continues to the southward. Three fixes indicate Jap submarines in Lat. 20° S., Long. 173° E., Lat. 21° S., Long. 161° E., and Lat. 23° S., Long. 155° E.

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6. (a) At 1830L, November 5 Jap radio on Guadalcanal reported that certain U.S. vessels which arrived on the 5th had left Tulagi, but stated that it was not known whether the 1 CA and 10 DD's have departed as yet.

(b) 4 (U.S.) DD's were reported sighted in an unrecovered location at 1925L, November 5.

7. The following additional information regarding Japanese carriers in the action of October 26 has been obtained from captured documents and collateral information:

(a) CV's present: SHOKAKU (F), ZUIKAKU, ZUIHO, HAYATAKA (Comcardiv 2).

(b) Planes from 3 CV were as follows:

CV 1	-	17	torpedo,	21	bombers,	25	fighters
CV 2	-	19	"	21	"	24	"
CV 3	-	18	"	None		7	"

(c) Planes from Rekata Bay took part in the action, probably as search planes and horizontal bombers.

(d) After launching planes a CV, believed to be the SHOKAKU, kept the planes advised of his position about every half hour.

(e) After dark enemy surface vessels searched for one of our carriers assisted by flares from planes.

#### (B) Gilberts

The Japanese are using Makin, Tarawa, and Apamama as seaplane bases.

#### (C) Timor

A slight indication of troop movements involving Timor has been noted.

### II. General - Economic

1. A reliable British source states that Japan has asked Germany to deliver 15 submarines. This is indicated as in return for rubber shipped in French ships via Cape Horn.

2. A message dated May 15 states that a communique to the Japanese Military Attache confirms the fact that at dawn on April 18 a (U.S.) naval formation including 3 (?) aircraft carriers was sighted far off the coast of Japan. The planes used were described as B-25's which, because of their wing span had to be used in reduced numbers.

3. The Japanese have made an official contract to deliver to the Italian Government 2000 kilotons of rubber (at Singapore or Batavia), 1108 kilotons of tin (at Penang), and a quantity of quinine. Manganese was

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39.6, 39.7, 39.8, 39.9, 40.1, 40.2, 40.3, 40.4, 40.5, 40.6, 40.7, 40.8, 40.9, 41.1, 41.2, 41.3, 41.4, 41.5, 41.6, 41.7, 41.8, 41.9, 42.1, 42.2, 42.3, 42.4, 42.5, 42.6, 42.7, 42.8, 42.9, 43.1, 43.2, 43.3, 43.4, 43.5, 43.6, 43.7, 43.8, 43.9, 44.1, 44.2, 44.3, 44.4, 44.5, 44.6, 44.7, 44.8, 44.9, 45.1, 45.2, 45.3, 45.4, 45.5, 45.6, 45.7, 45.8, 45.9, 46.1, 46.2, 46.3, 46.4, 46.5, 46.6, 46.7, 46.8, 46.9, 47.1, 47.2, 47.3, 47.4, 47.5, 47.6, 47.7, 47.8, 47.9, 48.1, 48.2, 48.3, 48.4, 48.5, 48.6, 48.7, 48.8, 48.9, 49.1, 49.2, 49.3, 49.4, 49.5, 49.6, 49.7, 49.8, 49.9, 50.1, 50.2, 50.3, 50.4, 50.5, 50.6, 50.7, 50.8, 50.9, 51.1, 51.2, 51.3, 51.4, 51.5, 51.6, 51.7, 51.8, 51.9, 52.1, 52.2, 52.3, 52.4, 52.5, 52.6, 52.7, 52.8, 52.9, 53.1, 53.2, 53.3, 53.4, 53.5, 53.6, 53.7, 53.8, 53.9, 54.1, 54.2, 54.3, 54.4, 54.5, 54.6, 54.7, 54.8, 54.9, 55.1, 55.2, 55.3, 55.4, 55.5, 55.6, 55.7, 55.8, 55.9, 56.1, 56.2, 56.3, 56.4, 56.5, 56.6, 56.7, 56.8, 56.9, 57.1, 57.2, 57.3, 57.4, 57.5, 57.6, 57.7, 57.8, 57.9, 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94.9, 95.1, 95.2, 95.3, 95.4, 95.5, 95.6, 95.7, 95.8, 95.9, 96.1, 96.2, 96.3, 96.4, 96.5, 96.6, 96.7, 96.8, 96.9, 97.1, 97.2, 97.3, 97.4, 97.5, 97.6, 97.7, 97.8, 97.9, 98.1, 98.2, 98.3, 98.4, 98.5, 98.6, 98.7, 98.8, 98.9, 99.1, 99.2, 99.3, 99.4, 99.5, 99.6, 99.7, 99.8, 99.9

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also desired by Italy but the Japanese indicated their inability to supply this commodity. Inquiries are also being made of the local military authorities concerning wolfram, lead, and antimony. The Japanese state that Japanese tea, camphor, and gelatine can be supplied at any time.

4. Orders placed in cooperation with German Firms in Thailand include rubber, tin, shellac, copra, and coconut oil.

*R. A. Boone*  
R. A. Boone.

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Summary of Japanese Naval Activities of November 7, 1942

SRNS 0208

I. Southwest Pacific:

(A) Solomons

(a) Operations.

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deleted as soon as possible  
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Although no reports from our forces in the southern Pacific have been received yet in confirmation, evidence is strong that on November 7 Japanese reinforcements were to be landed on Guadalcanal, probably in the vicinity of Tassafaronga, and that an air attack was to be made on the same date, possibly simultaneously. The reinforcements were very probably aboard units of the Japanese force reported to have been in Long. 158° - 45' E. on November 6 at 0500L. Although the exact composition of this force is unknown indications are that Desron 3 units are included, and that the reinforcements are from the Sasebo 6th Special Landing Force. The fact that 84 landing barges appear to have been requested suggests a landing in some force, but on the other hand there is no indication of any surface units heavier than destroyers being included in the escort.

Within the last few days a definite increase has been noted in Japanese aircraft activities which have been indicated to concern a major movement of planes and aviation equipment from the Rabaul area down to the Shortlands. It is noted, however, that this increased air activity is wholly from shore based units, not aircraft carriers. The present employment of these carriers at present is unknown, but there is an indication of a renewed carrier activity in home waters, suggesting the possibility that recently damaged ships of this type may have returned to a home yard for repairs.

(b) Air Search.

At 1618I, November 3, a Japanese reconnaissance plane reported searching an area between Tulagi, Malapa Islands and San Cristobal Island. At 1145I he appeared to have sighted several destroyers or torpedo boats 10 miles off Tulagi and heading for it. Later he sighted 2 medium AP's, between Malapa and San Cristobal heading for Guadalcanal, and subsequently some 6 AP's, position unrecovered. This is the first instance noted recently of air scouting in this area

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(c) Air Operations.

Japanese forces on Guadalcanal reported on November 6 that 4 transport planes arrived from the eastward, and that three of them subsequently departed to the eastward. Although it was not clear whether these planes were Japanese or U.S., it is assumed that they were the latter.

(d) Jap SS Operations.

I-16 at 1700I, November 6, is believed to have reported contact made on 2 CA. At 1113I of the same day another submarine reported attacking a US force described as consisting of 1 CHICAGO Class CA, 5 DD and 3 AP on course 120°, speed 12 knots. The results were unobserved, probably because of a subsequent depth charge attack by the escorting destroyers. The locations of the above two contacts are unknown, but are apparently in waters adjacent to Guadalcanal.

D/F positions obtained on Jap SS follow:

(1) 6° S. (2) 6° S. (3) 7° S. (4) 16° S. (5) 23° S. (6) 1° N.  
167° E. 161° E. 160° E. 161° E. 165° E. 167° E.

(e) Jap Forces on Guadalcanal.

A translation of Japanese documents captured on Guadalcanal within the last few days indicates the following forces now on the island:

(1) 2nd Division composed of the 4th, 16th, and 29th Infantry Regiments, the 2nd Reconnaissance, the 2nd Field Artillery, the 2nd Engineers and the 2nd Transport Regiments plus the 2nd Division Communication Unit.

(2) A part of the 38th Division composed of the 230th, the 124th, and the 28th (or 228th) Infantry Regiments.

Air operation order indicates that the Japanese attack elements in the action of October 26-27 were composed of the 2nd Brigade on the left, and the 29th Infantry, several artillery units with the 35th Brigade, 230th Infantry Regiment and the 3rd Battalion of the 124th Infantry and about one Battalion of artillery on the right. The 16th Infantry was held in reserve.

Identification has also been made of the 4th medium field artillery, the 2nd Battalion of quick firing artillery, and the 1st and 4th Field Hospital units. No data was obtained on the strength of any of the above units, nor on the strength and composition of forces landed on Koli Point on November 2-3.

(B) N.E.I.

A Japanese despatch from Soerabaya, Java, an addressee of which was the German naval attache, Tokyo, suggests the possibility that the German Navy has one or more representatives at Soerabaya.

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(C) U.S. Submarine Operations.

(a) On November 6 the Comdr. Desron 4, appears to have reported a submarine attack, but the location could not be determined more definitely than in the Solomon area.

(b) An unidentified Japanese vessel in the Truk area on November 6 reported shipping water, presumably from a submarine attack, and directed a nearby merchantman to come close aboard at once.

II. Northwest Pacific:

Naval units in this area were recently directed to transmit a number of fake messages in order to prevent a U.S. striking force from approaching. This practice of radio deception has been frequently resorted to in the past.

III. Japan Proper:

A weather broadcast from Tokyo at 2210I, November 6, was suddenly interrupted by an apparent air raid alarm.

*R. A. Boone*  
for *A. Watts*  
R. A. Boone.

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4. At 1919 L, November 7 a Jap SS (I-16) reported 1 (U.S.) CA, and at 2245 L an unknown Jap submarine force reported 1 CA and 1 DD (position unrecovered but Long. about 167° E.), on course 120°

5. Japanese radio intelligence late on November 5 concluded from its analysis of intercepts that additional U.S. reinforcements are enroute to the Solomons from Suva.

(b) Operations

1. On Guadalcanal, during the morning of November 7, our forces continued their advance 4 miles E. of Koli Point. P-400's made seven attacks on enemy positions, destroying a large ammunition dump and gasoline stowage.

2. At 0200 L, November 7 our PT's attacked 2 enemy DD's off Lunga, Guadalcanal. Later, considerable debris in the vicinity of Nugu Island, Sealark Channel was sighted and it is presumed that one of these DD's was sunk.

3. At 0930 L, November 7, U.S.S. MAJABA (AG) was struck amidships by a torpedo while unloading supplies at a point 2 miles E. of Lunga. She was later beached.

4. At 1730 L, November 7, an air striking force based on Guadalcanal and consisting of 7 SBD's, 3 TBF's, 8 P-39's, and 22 F4F's attacked an enemy force of 1 CL and 10 DD's in Lat. 7° - 10 S., Long. 159° - 40 E. Two torpedo hits, 1-1000 lb. bomb hit, and 1 near miss were made in the CL. One DD was damaged by a torpedo hit. At 1800 L the enemy headed E. and our planes saw an explosion after the ships were no longer visible. The Jap plane cover was also attacked and 5 float Zeros and 7 float biplanes reported destroyed. 4 of our F4F's failed to return but one pilot was rescued. The Japanese force at 2215L reported having been attacked and stated that 6 Zeros and 4 scout seaplanes of its Inner Air Patrol had been engaged with enemy aircraft at 1730L and that 3 scouts were missing. It was stated that without them there could be no Inner Air Patrol on the 8th.

5. The Guadalcanal Relief Force (see paragraph 4, above) made a number of contact reports on November 8, beginning at 0655L when 2 dive bombers were reported attacking. At 1000L another air attack was reported (area Lat. 6° - 40' Long. 158° 30' E.), indicating retirement at about 25 knots towards the Shortlands area. An unidentified originator at 1720 L reported sighting U.S. planes (possibly ship-board bombers) in Lat. 7° - 29 S., Long. 159° - 41 E. It is not clear whether the last-mentioned force and the Guadalcanal Relief Force are identical but if so, the position indicated would suggest a resumption of the effort to reinforce Guadalcanal, probably during the night November 7-8 (LZT).

(B) N.E.I.

There is a suggestion that Army air units from Formosa are replacing Naval air units withdrawn from the N.E.I. to the New Britain-Solomons area.

(C) Marshalls-Gilberts

Air units in this area have been very active with operational traffic but no recognizable contacts have been noted.

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II. Northwest Pacific

"Attu Air Force" was addressed by Commander Northern Force, indicating continued operation of aircraft from Attu in the Aleutians.

III. General - Economic

1. Tokyo again has recounted a number of alleged incidents in an obvious endeavor to prove that French Indo-China officials remain anti-Japanese.
2. Japan is making strenuous efforts to obtain 45,000 tons of ship-building material from Germany, to be shipped by blockade runners.
3. It is believed that two blockade runners from the Far East have reached Bordeaux on November 6. Another blockade runner was seen leaving the Bay of Biscay, apparently carrying supplies for Japan.

*R.A. Boone*

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dividual stations appear to be consolidated at four centers, viz., Tokyo, Saipan, Truk and Jaluit, with free exchange of interesting bearings between stations. Tokyo issues short "flash"-type signals to the Net—probably designations of U.S. frequencies presently active, and occasionally issues summaries to Major Fleet commanders. Rabaul, Ambon, and Singapore report bearings to Tokyo Control and to Major Commands, but do not appear to be coordinated into the "flash"-control system.

6. It appears that the OTAKA (APV - aircraft transport) is again in commission after having received a torpedo hit on September 28. OTAKA is now indicated as having resumed her previous task of transporting planes to Kavieng where they are flown off. Between 0955K and 1830K, November 9 about 23 Zero fighters and 7 bombers took off, presumably for the airfield at Kavieng.

7. The presence in the Truk area at 2200I, November 8 of a (probable) large convoy and indications of the departure of a convoy from Yokosuka and Kure to the south, via Chichijima and Saipan, are indicative of the growing Japanese strength concentrated in the Mandates-Bismarck-Solomons area.

8. (a) Japanese submarine radio activity in the southern Solomons area remains high. By D/F Jap SS's have been located as follows:

Lat. 7° S.	7° S.	8° S	9° S	9° S
Long. 162°E	164°E	161° E	161° E	162° E

(b) At 0751L, November 9 a Jap SS was ordered forthwith to proceed to the vicinity of Ndeni and Vanikoro and to attack (objective unknown).

(c) A Japanese weather ship reported its position as Lat. 9° 30' S., Long. 157° 25' E. at 1540 L, November 8.

9. The only Japanese contact report noted was a report by a Jap plane in Lat. 9°- 30 S., Long. 157° 25' E. (Tactical data unrecovered).

#### (b) Operations

1. At 2150 L, November 8, three of our PT boats encountered 2 enemy DD's midway between Savo Island and Cape Esperance. Five torpedoes were fired by two boats and one definite hit made. Although the bow of one PT was holed by a shell, there were no personnel injuries.

2. During the evening of November 8, our planes destroyed a two-man Jap submarine near Cape Esperance. U.S.S. GRAYLING has reported two torpedo hits in a CHIYODA type (9,000 tons) seaplane tender.

## II. Northwest Pacific

The accumulation to a considerable volume of Japanese Army cipher traffic to Attu in the Aleutians suggests renewed Japanese activity in that area.

*R. A. Boone*  
R. A. Boone.

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Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of Nov. 11, 1942

I. Southwest Pacific

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by Director, NSA/Chief, CSS

(A) Solomons

*MD* Date: *12/12/79*

(a) General

*30*  
*30*  
*31*  
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1. During November 9, 10, and 11 Japanese radio traffic has shown some increase in total volume, with the Solomons area traffic most productive of intelligence. During this period, large scale convoy movements of Army units towards Rabaul and Buin have been indicated, and dispositions of Japanese 8th Fleet Units, submarines, and air forces for direct employment in the projected operation against Guadalcanal have probably been completed by now. It appears fairly certain that a 2nd Fleet Striking Force, undoubtedly already formed and at sea (probably at present some distance from Guadalcanal), will take part. No indication has been noted that 3rd Fleet (carriers) is operating as a separate force but the possibility of at least part of 3rd Fleet combining with the 2nd Fleet Striking Force should not be over-looked and might well be accepted as a probability. Landings of Japanese reinforcements, including an A.A. unit and air ground forces, have continued.

2. Indications are strong that C-in-C 8th Fleet in CHOKAI will be directly concerned in the command and protection of two Army convoys indicated as scheduled to arrive at Guadalcanal on November 13 (LZT), giving rise to the presumption that the convoys concerned are large and important. Air patrol and cover for these convoys is also indicated.

3. Greater Japanese submarine activity in the Guadalcanal area may be expected, in view of the close association of Guadalcanal, submarine commands, 2nd, 8th, and 11th Air Fleets, and Airflots in this area. Regular broadcasts to Japanese submarine forces are maintained by Guadalcanal concerning arrivals and departures of Allied vessels.

4. There appears to be no abatement of movements of air forces into the Bismarck-Solomons area, with indications that the N.E.I. and Japan proper are being drawn upon for this purpose.

(b) Operations

1. At 1404L, November 11 an unidentified Jap SS reported sighting 3 cruisers and 2-DD's on course 320°, speed 20. It indicated having been attacked by depth charges.



2. The Japanese unit mentioned in yesterday's ~~Secret~~ Supplement as engaging about 20 U.S. planes indicated having been bombed but suffered no damage. Air coverage was requested for November 11 (LZT) At 0650L, November 11 an unknown originator reported a bombing attack by 5 U.S. bombers accompanied by Grumman fighters but indicated that no damage was caused.

3. At 1815L, November 10, 5 enemy DD's were attacked by SED's from Guadalcanal in Lat.  $7^{\circ} 55' S.$ , Long.  $157^{\circ} 40' E.$ , course 120, speed 20. No hits were made. Near midnight enemy ships were in the vicinity of Cape Esperance.

4. U.S.S. SOUTHARD (destroyer minesweeper) attacked and probably sank an enemy SS at 0230L, November 10 about five miles off Hada Bay (N.W. point of San Cristobal Island).

(B) N.E.I.

S.S. BIWA MARU (Japanese, tonnage unknown), with a cargo of 4,900 tons of sugar, sank in Lat.  $3^{\circ} - 54' S.$ , Long.  $109^{\circ} 13' E.$  on November 1 as a result of a collision with the S.S. SATSUMA MARU. The latter was damaged.

II. Northwest Pacific

1. In a dispatch dated 1543 I, November 5 an indication has appeared of an impending operation probably involving Attu and perhaps the 5th Fleet (charged with the defense of Northern waters). A "Y-4" day is mentioned. The date of "Y-day" is unknown but a not improbable "guess" would be November 10 to 12.

2. It is indicated that two Japanese AK's or AP's arrived at Attu Island at 0400I, November 11 (0700Y, Nov. 10).

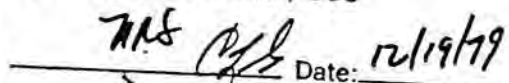
3. S.S. GERION (former British, 2,558 tons) reported a submarine attack at 2304I, November 9 in Lat.  $35^{\circ} 48' N.$ , Long.  $126^{\circ} E.$

  
R.A. Boone.

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Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of November 10, 1942

I. Southwest Pacific:

(A) Solomons

(a) General.

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SRNS 0211

1. In an operation order from C-in-C Combined Fleet timed 1830I, November 8, parts of which are as yet unintelligible, it is indicated that (a) an Army convoy will arrive at Guadalcanal on "Z" day, (b) air attacks will be carried out against our installations on Guadalcanal from "Z-3" day, (c) escorts, air patrol, and patrols of certain sectors will be provided for protection of the convoy from "Z-3" day, (d) air forces will be under the command of the Striking Force from "Z-3" day, and (e) the Striking Force will operate against Guadalcanal from "Z-1" day. It has now been determined that "Z" day is November 13, indicating that the operation chiefly directed against Guadalcanal and possibly other bases is now in course of development.

2. (a) Undoubtedly as an integral part of the above-mentioned operation, plane movements of some magnitude have been noted in the Bismarck-Solomons area. (b) A slight indication has also appeared of four (possible) Combined Fleet units having been scheduled to operate in waters normally under the jurisdiction of the 8th Fleet and 11th Air Fleet. (c) Japanese submarines were ordered to take stations on November 11 (LZT) and during the 9th D/F fixes on 9-12 Jap SS's continue to indicate the center of submarine activity to be in the Solomons-New Hebrides-New Caledonia area where it is estimated that 16 Jap submarines are located. (d) From all indications it appears reasonably certain that the dispositions of Japanese naval and army forces are practically completed and that an offensive on a major scale may be expected to develop shortly.

3. Contacts on November 10 by Japanese activities were reported as follows:

(a) At 0816L, a Jap SS sighted a 4-stack DD in (about) Lat. 11° S., Long. 163° E.

(b) At 1115L, 1 CA, 3 AP's, and 4 DD's were sighted in an unrecovered position on course 320°, Speed 14.

(c) At 1820L, 20 small-type U.S. planes were sighted and engaged in Lat. 8° 25' S., Long. 158° 05' E.

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4. The "Guadalcanal Relief Force" (most probably the Japanese force of 1 CL and 10 DD's which was attacked as described in the ~~Secret~~ Supplement of November 8, I(b), paragraph 4) reported the results of its operation in a dispatch timed at 0815L, November 8 as follows: 3 killed, 7 seriously wounded, some damage to electrical equipment in a turret, and two compartments flooded (in the CL?). At 2245L, November 7, landings at Tassafaronga were commenced (8 round trips of available landing barges required), and an unidentified unit (Navy?) and Army troops were landed. Two U.S. planes were over the anchorage at 2300L, but because of the weather the force was not detected. At 0220L, November 8, a landing at Esperance was completed.

(B) N.E.I. - Singapore.

There is an indication that two Japanese converted cruisers may be scheduled for operations, probably as raiders, to operate from Singapore and a base in the N.E.I.

II. Northwest Pacific:

1. Some indications have arisen of continued U.S. submarine activity in the Paramushiro and Yokosuka areas. A contact on a U.S. submarine in Lat. 34° 12' N., Long 136° 56' E. was made at 1822I, November 9.

2. Indications have arisen of contemplated Japanese troop movements or supplies being sent to the Aleutians area.

3. Kiska at 0715 I, November 10, sent a contact report of 9 U.S. planes sighted.

III. General - Political:

1. The Japanese Ambassador (SUMA) to Madrid, in strongly advising his government to be reasonable in its dealings with Spain, points out that the new Foreign Minister of Spain is not a Suner and states that if the Japanese do not act to suit him, "not only will he stop helping us in representing enemy interests, but he will also cease permitting his country to help us in espionage."

2. Minister Morishima in Lisbon has suggested to Tokyo that if his office is to be an efficient intelligence center for investigations concerning the U.S. and England, at least 13 additional specialists should be added to his staff. The new personnel should have lived in the countries concerned and should have experience with such subjects as war resources, transportation, manpower, finances, etc.

*R.A. Boone*  
R. A. Boone.

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SRNS0213

Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of Nov. 12, 1942

I. Southwest Pacific

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by Director, NSA/Chief, CSS

(A) Solomons Area

~~SECRET~~ Date: 12/19/79

(a) General

FD ✓

1. During the forenoon of November 11 (LZT), Japanese plane reconnaissance reports indicated that a large portion of the Southern Area, including the Marshalls, had been scouted, with the inference, by reason of their rebroadcast by major stations, that the reports noted must have contained positive information. At least two Japanese plane contact reports were noted at 1420L and 1515L, November 12, with tactical data unrecovered.

FD ✓

FD ✓

2. Guadalcanal at 0500L, November 12 reported a U.S. convoy anchored at Lunga and indicated that rain was threatened. At 0540L this convoy was reported as consisting of 5 AP's, supported by 3 BB's, 2 cruisers (?), and 11 DD's. In this connection, several operation orders issued from 2225L, November 11 to 0001L, November 12 indicated that all available planes of the forces addressed were to carry out attacks on objectives in the general Guadalcanal area, beginning November 12.

FD ✓

FD ✓

3. Active intensification of the Solomons campaign is indicated by the association of Japanese Guadalcanal activities with operational-type traffic, including continued reports to Japanese submarine units, presumably concerned with the sighting of Allied surface units. Guadalcanal has also advised C-in-C 2nd Fleet of the locations (of Japanese installations or facilities?) in the vicinities of Kokumbona and Tassafaronga.

FD ✓

4. In the absence of tangible evidence, the Japanese carrier situation remains obscure. One CV was reported by one of our SS's as departing from Palau on a southerly course at 1730I, November 11. This carrier may be the UNYO (ACV-aircraft transport), engaged in transporting planes. It appears fairly certain that C-in-C 3rd Fleet is not in the Southern area but this should not be understood as an indication that no carriers are scheduled to operate with the enemy Striking Force.

5. Japanese submarine traffic has been fairly active with indications that units formerly in the eastern Solomons area are gradually fanning out to the east and south.

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6. Japanese Army radio traffic continues to suggest further preparations for moving considerable Army forces to the Rabaul area.

(b) Operations

At 0930L, November 11, 10 enemy dive bombers and 12 zero fighters came over Guadalcanal. The U.S.S. ZEILIN (AP) was damaged by 3 near bomb misses while unloading.

(B) New Britain

A U.S. submarine was contacted and depth-charged at 1340K, November 11 at a point indicated as bearing 163°, distant 25 miles from Cape Gazelle.

II. Northwest Pacific

It is indicated that the KAMIKAWA MARU (XAV) is enroute to Attu, probably carrying further seaplane reinforcements for the Aleutians Area.

*R.A. Boone*  
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*MIS* Date: 12/19/79

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SRNS 0214

Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of Nov. 13, 1942

I. Southwest Pacific

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by Director, NSA/Chief, CSS

(A) Solomons

Date: 12/19/79

(a) General

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1. At 0302L, November 13, "Z" day (mentioned in the ~~Secret~~ Supplement of November 10) was ordered postponed from the 13th to the 14th. The reason for this delay is not readily apparent but it may have been caused by a partial disruption of the Japanese schedule as a result of the engagement off Savo Island at 0230L, November 13 (see (b), Operations, below). The possibility also exists that a last-minute decision was made to change the line-up of forces to be employed. If the latter is the real reason, it would appear reasonable to suppose that additional 1st Fleet heavy units either will directly participate in the operation, or that they will be disposed to afford better opportunity to act as a support force to the 2nd and 8th Fleets. In this connection, a single dispatch at 0730L, November 13, having the appearance of an order to fuel a large part of the Combined Fleet, lends some credence to this suggestion.

2. Japanese radio traffic throughout November 12 gave the appearance of an operation having begun, final checks being made to insure its success. Jaluit intelligence reports increased in volume and indicated intensified efforts to obtain information concerning the disposition of Allied forces as well as expeditious delivery to Major Commands. Other intelligence centers likewise contributed heavy radio intelligence traffic. Considerable plane activity on patrol frequencies was noted, some clearly indicating contact or sighting reports of U.S. units, and emphasis was placed on late weather reports from widespread weather stations as well as from Guadalcanal. Submarines in the Solomons were also active, apparently with search reports.

3. Available information concerning the Japanese reports of the Battle off Savo Island are collated under (b) Operations, below.

4. Japanese preoccupation with searches for U.S. units continued throughout November 13 (LZT) and a number of important contacts were noted:

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*M. C. S.*  
Date: 12/11/19

(a) At 0910L, an undetermined number of B-17's were reported in Lat.  $7^{\circ} - 24$  S., Long.  $156^{\circ} 42$  E.

(b) At 1133L a rebroadcast was made of a Jap SS report of sighting a U.S. force composed of 1 CV, 2 BB's and 4 CL's near Lat.  $14^{\circ} 10$  S., Long.  $161^{\circ} 45$  E.

(c) Tokyo broadcast a plane sighting at 1010L of a (possible) YORKTOWN class carrier.

5. In its Battle Report concerning the attacks on Guadalcanal on November 11, the 1st Air Attack Force stated that 30 Zero fighters from Rabaul joined the 6th Air Attack Force dive bomber squadron. It was indicated that the forces involved were based on Buin, Buka, and Rabaul Air Bases.

6. No further postponement of the Japanese operation directed against Guadalcanal is indicated. An undetermined Japanese force has been ordered to leave the Shortland area between 0500L and 0700L, November 13 to cover the arrival of a convoy at Guadalcanal with surface gunfire attacks on the Guadalcanal airfield. An air force is to provide cover for the convoy and further operate as directed. At 1730L, Yokosuka Landing Force was given explicit instructions to be followed after landing (time unknown) at Tassafaronga, and an unidentified Japanese force indicated its course as  $120^{\circ}$  from 2350 L, location at 0200L, November 14 about 8 miles N. (?) of Savo Island. This force, from traffic associations, has the appearance of a possible CV or Cardiv.

7. Japanese intentions based on readable radio intelligence received may be summarized as follows:

(a) The operation as originally planned, or with slight modification, will continue.

(b) Further "softening-up" air attacks on Guadalcanal may be expected throughout November 13 and 14 (LZT).

(c) A surface ship attack in some force against Guadalcanal airfield may be expected during the night November 13-14 (LZT).

(d) A landing operation against Guadalcanal from transports may be expected early on November 14 (LZT), with considerable numbers of troops involved.

(b) Operations

1. (a) At about dawn, 12 November, U.S. surface forces arrived off Kukum and heavily shelled enemy positions, silencing shore batteries and causing large fires and explosions. At 1415L, about 23 enemy torpedo bombers and 8 Zero fighters attacked our vessels but were intercepted by 28 fighters from Guadalcanal. Our planes shot down 16 torpedo bombers and 5 Zero fighters while the ships' fire accounted for an additional 9.

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(b) At 1453L, November 12th, Japanese radio on Guadalcanal reported a U.S. force of 3 BB's (?) (may be CA's), 2 CL's, 11 DD's, and 6 AP's headed for Lunga. This covering force apparently came into engagement with a Japanese force, the composition of which is unknown, at about 0230L, November 13. Intercepts of Japanese radio traffic as yet furnish little clarification of damage suffered by the Japanese force, but it is clear that one important unit (possibly the KONGO or a KONGO class BB) was damaged to the point where at 0500L she was ordered sunk by Japanese torpedoes. This order was later rescinded and at 1340L, Zero fighters from Buin were ordered to furnish air coverage which, it was indicated, would be provided at 1730L. Patrol units at Guadalcanal were ordered to escort this unit to the Shortlands. Her 1400L position was indicated as 7 miles N. of Savo Island. In addition, an unidentified Japanese unit reported a torpedo hit from a (U.S.) submarine at 1525L.

(c) At 0235L, November 13 Japanese radio on Guadalcanal reported 3 DD's hit and burning but their identity is unrecovered.

(d) At 0415L, November 13 the 8th Fleet ordered a withdrawal (?) of Japanese transports. It should be noted that a Jap force of 10AP's escorted by 12 cruisers or DD's was sighted N. of Vella Lavella Island on a north-westerly course at 0925L.

(e) Several Japanese dispatches (latest at 1808L, Nov. 13) indicated three U.S. ships (1 undetermined, 1 CL, and 1 DD) badly damaged and out of action in the vicinity of Florida Island. An undetermined force was ordered to attack and destroy these ships. At 1650L, a similar order was given concerning U.S. ships sighted off Malapa Island (E. tip of Guadalcanal).

(B) Japanese submarine locations by D/F are as follows:

Lat. 5 S	6 S	8 S	5 N	12 S
Long. 170 E	160 E	165 E	159 E	175 W

One SS is indicated in the area N. of Fiji.

*R.A. Boone*  
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SRNS 0215

Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of Nov. 14, 1942

I. Southwest Pacific

(A) Solomons

(a) General

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71 C

1. During the afternoon and evening of November 13 both C-in-C Combined and C-in-C 2nd Fleets originated numerous directives to the Japanese forces engaged in the Solomons area. The indications are clear that the latter Commander is in direct charge of the operations at present. Traffic was almost entirely operational in character during this time and very heavy. One outstanding addressee appeared, both for operational and radio intelligence type messages. This addressee apparently was either a Batdiv or Crudiv commander, and was indicated as having shifted his flag to another unit, probably as a result of air attacks (see below). 8th Fleet Commander also appears active in operations, as does C-in-C 11th Air Fleet whose traffic indicated an effort to obtain additional air strength for the Solomons operations.

2. Throughout November 14 (LZT) intercepted Japanese traffic was almost 100% from forces in the Solomons, with numerous contact reports concerning our planes noted. The latter type traffic began at 0652L and continued thereafter in considerable volume. All units kept C-in-C Combined fully advised and Tokyo frequently broadcast important contact reports. At 0830L 35 unidentified planes were reported in the area of Lat. 11°-30 S., Long. 159°-30 E.; at 1450 L, a YORKTOWN class CV was reported in Lat. 11°S., Long. 159°30 E., followed by shadowing reports from a Jap plane. At 2140L, 2 (U.S.) BB's (?) and 4 DD's were sighted, location indicated with reference to Savo Island. An earlier report (at 1955L), made by subforce planes, apparently referred to the same force and indicated speed as 18 knots, course northerly(?).

3. Despite air attack on a Japanese convoy (see (b), Operations, below), it was indicated by a dispatch timed 1430L, November 14 that the undamaged ships would nevertheless proceed to their destination, possibly Cape Esperance, Guadalcanal. The damaged portion of the convoy was directed to return to the Shortlands area. Although the dispatch is fragmentary, it appears that the undamaged portion of the convoy in question is composed of 4 AP's, escorted by 5 DD's, and is scheduled to arrive at its destination at 0200L, November

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15. An unknown originator indicated the arrival (place unrecovered) of transports at 1130L and stated they would depart for Guadalcanal at 1230L; a dispatch timed 0050L, November 15 reports that a convoy is expected to arrive some (?) miles W. of Savo Island at 0230L, November 15. It is believed that this is the main convoy.

4. Orders were transmitted by 11th Air Fleet at 1305 L, November 14 directing cooperation in a search for a Blue convoy. Previously (0548, November 13), two SS's were directed to search and attack U.S. shipping, location given with reference to Guadalcanal.

5. At 2358L, November 14, Japanese radio on Guadalcanal reported 1 unidentified ship sunk and 2 others on fire at 2340L, in the vicinity of Tassafarong. At 0200L, November 15, one of the Jap radios on Guadalcanal stopped transmitting in the middle of an urgent dispatch, reason unknown.

6. From the general appearance of Japanese traffic it appears that an all-out attempt to recapture Guadalcanal is now in full swing and that the Japanese High Command, having calculated expected losses, has decided to take the risks involved.

(b) Operations

1. Inability to identify many Japanese calls make it difficult properly to assess the number of Japanese ships sunk or damaged as a result of our air attacks during November 14, basing the evidence solely upon readable traffic. It appears, however, that no damage was caused in an attack at about 0800L. Other reports follow:

(a) 0840L, a dive bombing attack by 20 carrier fighters was reported by an 8th Fleet unit.

(b) 1000L, one bomb hit, unit burning, speed 8 was reported.

(c) At 0930L an unidentified unit reported an attack by Grummans, one bomb hit. At 1110L he reported the (unknown) number of ships hit.

(d) 1125L, several hits reported, unit burning, may sink.

(e) 1315L, attack by 30 U.S. planes, 2 AP's received direct hits, one burning, 2 planes shot down. The same originator at 1520L reported 4 AP's damaged and 1 plane shot down.

(f) 1435L, a convoy escort (placed in Lat. 8 S., Long. 158 E. at 1630L) reported an attack by 20 planes and at 1720L reported an attack by 17 shipboard planes. At 1730L this escort was directed to carry out his duties and to report results.

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-2-

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2. Some slight indications have appeared that possibly Japanese midget submarines are being used in the Solomons area.

3. At 1600L, November 14, 4 (U.S.) CA's and 2 DD's were reported by C-in-C 8th Fleet to be in the vicinity of Guadalcanal (location unrecovered) for the purpose of attacking Jap AP's. An unidentified force was ordered to attack.

4. Our forces in the Solomons believe that about 12 enemy AP's with a heavy covering force will strike Guadalcanal at about midnight, November 14 (LZT) This may be the force which indicated its expected time of arrival off Savo Island as 2330L, November 14.

## II. General - Diplomatic

1. Tokyo has intimated concern over the effect which our landings in N.W. Africa may have on Italy, Spain, and Portugal. Japanese diplomatic representatives meeting in Berlin have been asked for their opinions in this respect.

2. The Japanese diplomatic representatives in Chile have been instructed, via the Embassy in Buenos Aires, to carry out a secret investigation concerning the location of power plants in Tocopilla, Chanaral, and San Antonio which supply American copper mines. Information concerning harbor installations at Antofagasta, Iquique and Arica is also desired.

*R.A. Boone*

R.A. Boone.

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Summary of Japanese Naval Activities of November 15, 1942

I. Southwest Pacific:

SRNS 0216

(A) Solomons

(a) General.

While the fragmentary nature of incoming reports makes impossible an accurate narrative of the series of engagements which have taken place in the Guadalcanal area since the night of November 12/13, there are certain highlights which appear to stand out in spite of the fact that lack of identification of enemy units prevents an accurate assessment of damage inflicted on them.

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The main Japanese striking force, probably under the command of the CinC, 2nd Fleet, approached Guadalcanal from a general north to north-easterly direction, and it is believed that this force was divided into a number of separate groups whose mission is believed to have been to engage and destroy our surface forces. There is no evidence that this force included any aircraft carriers which appear to have been held in reserve, but at least 2-BB, 6-8 CA, about 4-6 CL and a strong DD force participated, and at least the majority of these units engaged our task force the night of November 12/13. The Occupation Force seems to have advanced on southeasterly courses from their base in the Shortlands, and to have been most effectively struck by our aircraft some distance southwest of Santa Isabel Island on November 14 in spite of an air coverage from Japanese shore-based aircraft. However, the Occupation Force, under the command of CinC, 8th Fleet, appears to have consisted of at least two separate convoys, all under adequate escort, principally by DD's of Desron 3, and one group of 4 AP's and/or AK's succeeded in beaching themselves at about 0100L, November 15 somewhere in the general vicinity of Tassafaronga. They were, however, repeatedly attacked by air and by one of our destroyers, and at 1216L the U.S. Commanding General on Guadalcanal reported all four of them to be burning fiercely and destroyed. In so far as can be determined these were the only ships of the Occupation Force to have reached Guadalcanal, and it is not believed that they could have landed any substantial aid to Japanese forces on the island.

A study of Japanese radio traffic indicates that late on the night of November 14 the strength of U.S. surface and air forces in the Guadalcanal area caused a withdrawal order which appears to have effected both the Striking and Occupation Forces, judging from subsequent U.S. aircraft

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contacts on Japanese units, all of which were reported on northwesterly courses. However, late reports from Japanese sources on November 15 indicated that their submarines and some aircraft were ordered to converge and attack U.S. damaged ships retiring to the southeastward.

(b) Japanese Operational Reports.

(1) At 1320I, November 14, a convoy commander reported 4 ships damaged. They were believed retiring enroute to St. George's Channel.

(2) A submarine plane at 1625I, November 14, reported a U.S. force of 2 BB's, 4DD's and at 1940I this force was again contacted in a position not far from Savo Island.

(3) At 1911, November 14, an originator, believed to have been the Chief of Staff, 2nd Fleet, ordered a temporary withdrawal in view of the destruction of a large number of transports and the presence in the vicinity of a U.S. carrier.

(4) At 2140, November 14, Jap forces on Guadalcanal reported an unidentified ship in the vicinity of Tassafaronga to have sunk and two others on fire.

(5) At 2312, November 14, submarines appear to have been directed to cancel a planned bombardment of Guadalcanal.

(6) At 2304, November 14, a command, probably the CinC, Combined Fleet, seems to have ordered the withdrawal of a 2nd Fleet task force.

(7) At 0003, November 15, some Japanese surface units appeared engaged with a U.S. force described as consisting of 1 or 2 BB's, many cruisers and destroyers near Lunga Roads.

(8) The Commander of a Relief Force at 0004, November 15, reported that U.S. strength in the vicinity of Guadalcanal had forced the decision to beach 4 AP at Tassafaronga upon their arrival about 0100, and that they would be unloaded after being beached. On receipt of this despatch Japanese planes were ordered to give this convoy air support.

(9) At 0204, November 15, planes based at Buin were directed to destroy U.S. units attacking Japanese transports off Tassafaronga. Later this order was cancelled when Jap air units were sent to attack U.S. units reported as damaged and retiring.

(10) At 0216, November 15, Jap submarines were ordered to proceed at best speeds to converge on Guadalcanal.

(11) At 0900, November 15, a submarine plane reported sighting 2 U.S. BB's bearing 155° from Tulagi at a distance of about 100 miles on a southerly course.

by Director, NSA/Chief, CSS

Date: 12/1/59

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(12) At about 1345, November 15, a submarine reported sighting 2 U.S. cruisers on course 200°. Thereafter planes were directed to verify this report and trail the cruisers, if found. At 1837 the planes reported contacting the cruisers which were still on course 200°.

(c) U.S. Operational Reports.

(1) Many Japanese damaged ships are expected to arrive in the Buin-Faisi area the night of November 14/15.

(2) At 1820L, November 14, a U.S. plane reported 11 ships in an engagement in Lat. 8-25, Long. 158-15 with 1 enemy CL burning.

(3) At 1700L, November 14, a Buin coast watcher reported 2 NACHI Class CA's, 1 MOGAMI CA, 1 TATSUTA CL, and 4 DD arrived from the south-east.

(4) At 0730L, November 15, a U.S. plane reported 4 enemy cruisers, 4 DD and 3 small craft on course 340° in Lat. 8° S., Long. 160° - 20' E. at speed 20 knots.

(5) At 0740L, November 15, 3 Jap AP's were reported burning and abandoned in Lat. 8° - 30' S., Long. 158° - 45' E.

(6) At 0755L, November 15, a U.S. pilot reported 1 CL, 1 DD in Lat. 7-50 S., Long. 157-06 E. on course 300°, speed 25. This same Jap force was again reported at 0805L in Lat. 7-35 S., Long. 157-40 E. on the same course at speed 20.

(7) At 0905L, November 15, a U.S. pilot reported a Jap group of 1 BB or CA, 2 CL and 4 zero seaplane fighters sighted in Lat. 6° S., Long. 161° - 10' E. on course 320°, speed 20.

(8) At 0945L, November 15, a U.S. plane reported sighting survivors in the water near Savo Island.

(d) Miscellaneous Damages.

(1) U.S.S. SAN FRANCISCO reported that during the night engagement of November 12/13 she got numerous hits on a Jap cruiser which exploded and scored 18 main battery hits on a KONGO class BB at a range of 2000 yards. Her 5" battery was said to have sunk one destroyer.

(2) Japanese releases have admitted the loss of 2 DD's during the above night engagement and serious damage to 1 BB. The KONGO class BB (apparently the one admitted damaged by the Japanese) was repeatedly struck following the night action and subsequently seven torpedoes were reported to have been placed into her north of Savo Island by U.S. torpedo planes.

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by Director, NSA/Chief, CSS

*for* *A. O. Watts*  
R. A. Boone

*7/14* *12/19/79*  
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File

SRNS 0217 SM

Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of Nov. 16, 1942

I. Southwest Pacific

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(A) Solomons

Date: 12/19/79

(a) General

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1. Japanese radio traffic throughout November 15 (LZT) concerned itself almost exclusively with the Solomons area. Some indications of requests for increased aircraft replacements are suggested by the inclusion of Empire aircraft supply addressees. The general impression gained from traffic is as would be expected as an aftermath to the night engagements from November 12 to 15 and throughout November 14, with probable loss of surface and air contact. Air searches by U.S. planes bear out the conclusion reached yesterday that the Japanese forces have retired, and radio traffic indicates that the Shortlands-Rabaul-Kavieng areas are the probable retirement destinations, pending a possible realignment. Some change in Japanese plans may be indicated by the inclusion of Imperial Headquarters as an addressee. In the interim, Japanese submarines and air forces are on the alert to intercept and attack any of our forces, particularly damaged ships, which are sighted and within striking distance.

2. (a) D/F bearings of Japanese submarines on November 15 are:

Lat. 7° S.	13° S	23° S	0°
Long. 165° E	170° E	155° E	155° E

(b) Two Jap SS's at 0750L, November 16 reported their position and indicated their course as 180°, speed 12.

3. After darkness on November 15 (LZT) in the Solomons area, submarine traffic was very active. An undetermined originator in a despatch timed at 2125L, November 15 reported engaging 2 (U.S.) CA's and a number of DD's at 2030L (?) giving a bearing with reference to Savo Island. He reports having sunk 1 CA with torpedoes.

4. At about 0030L, November 15, the Comdr. of the Japanese Striking Force reported to C-in-C Combined Fleet an engagement with U.S. battleships, cruisers, and DD's. At the present time it is not known to which

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of our forces this refers but if correct, it would indicate a third night action in as many nights between opposing surface forces.

5. Nothing tangible has been uncovered concerning the location of Japanese carriers. 3rd Fleet apparently is under radio silence, or its traffic remains unrecognized. C-in-C 2nd Fleet is indicated as still in charge of surface operations, but C-in-C Combined continues to originate occasional operational directives concerning the action. By D/F, C-in-C 8th Fleet was in Lat. 6° S., Long. 164° E. at 0245L, November 16.

6. A fairly strong indication has appeared that a 5-ship convoy is to depart from Palao on November 16 (LZT). It is due to arrive at Point "E" (Lat. 1° S., Long. 142° E.) on November 19. It appears that this convoy will be only lightly protected as far as Point "E" where escorts from Rabaul are due to meet it.

7. A rendezvous, which includes Commander Striking Force (C-in-C 2nd Fleet), has been ordered at Rabaul at 0700K, November 17. While information concerning the types and numbers of units involved is unknown, it would appear reasonable to assume that a new Japanese advance in force on Guadalcanal, if planned, has been postponed at least until that time.

(b) Operations

1. A number of contacts with our planes were reported during November 15 (LZT) but no action of importance was indicated.

2. It is indicated that one of our SS's was depth-charged by a Jap unit in the vicinity of Savo Island on November 15. A Jap SS reported having been depth-charged by a patrol plane at 0809L, November 16.

(B) New Guinea

1. (a) Two most urgent operational dispatches were originated by Buna Air Base, the first at 1238K, November 16, and the second at 1530K, with the usual High Command addressees. These dispatches probably had some connection with reports at 1355K, stating that an enemy force of unknown composition was E. of Buna, and at 1620K that Allied AP's were arriving. At 1700 K, Buna Air Base reported 2 AP's anchored (location unrecovered).

(b) The above reports apparently gave rise to a shift in air strength. At 1545K, November 16 it was indicated that 14 Type 1 land planes took off for Kavieng, probably from Rabaul. Lae Landplane Base reported the arrival at 1830K of 15 Type Zero fighters and 9 other planes. Some indication has appeared that the convoy in question is to be attacked by Air Units on November 17 (LZT), as the location reference is given as Buna.

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II. General-Diplomatic

Tokyo has advised its representative in Buenos Aires concerning press reports to the effect that U.S. forces have occupied the Falkland Islands. If true, Tokyo states, it would indicate that the U.S. is attempting to secure a route between the Atlantic and Pacific, via the Straits of Magellan. Tokyo also suspects a U.S. plan to seize the Straits of Magellan, and the Juan Fernandez and Easter Islands in order to provide a route to Australia from South America, since the U.S. is about to lose in the Solomons. The B.A. representative was instructed to make investigations concerning these reports.

*R.A. Boone*

R.A. Boone.

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SRNS 0218  
SNA

Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of Nov. 17, 1942

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by Director, NSA/Chief, CSS

I. Southwest Pacific

(A) New Guinea

Date: 12/19/99

1. Continued Allied progress in the encirclement of Buna has apparently evoked sudden response in the Japanese High Command and considerable radio traffic has dealt with this sector during the past 24 hours. Buna Air Base Commander has been a prolific originator, involving as action or information addressees Commanders of Combined, 4th, 8th, and 11th Air Fleets, Commander 8th Base Force, and Navy Staff at Imperial Headquarters.

2. Relief of Buna by the Japanese is indicated and despite some apparent contradiction caused by inherent difficulties in reading the traffic involved, it appears fairly certain that the following have already been decided upon:

(a) An air attack in the Buna area, involving the 6th Air Attack Force and a unit from Lae, is indicated as planned from the morning of November 17.

(b) An attack possibly involving 8 DD's and 33 planes drawn from Rabaul and Kavieng is planned for an unknown time.

(c) A convoy of undetermined size will embark 1000 men and landing barges, departing from Rabaul and disembarking at Basabua (8 miles N.W. of Buna) at about 2300L, November 17. Upon completion of the disembarkation the convoy returns to Rabaul. Air coverage is to be provided by the 11th Air Fleet.

(d) What may be a separate Buna Relief Force, composed of 500 men, appears due to depart Rabaul during the afternoon of November 17 (LZT), due at Basabua about 1700L, November 18.

(e) A slight indication has appeared of an additional convoy to be dispatched to Buna from Rabaul on November 19.

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(B) Solomons

(a) General

1. Japanese radio traffic still does not furnish evidence of the whereabouts of individual Japanese carriers.

2. The Guadalcanal situation appears quiet and except for indications that Japanese submarines will attempt to land needed supplies and small numbers of key personnel, no immediate large scale action is indicated. Guadalcanal is now sending hourly weather reports,

After the recent debacle, it would appear logical to expect the Japanese to attempt encirclement of Guadalcanal by first capturing strategic bases, rather than once again plan a frontal attack. No indication of such decision has appeared, but the possibility thereof should not be overlooked.

(b) Operations

Complete information has not yet been received concerning the action in which our battleships took part during the night of November 14-15. It appears, however, that our BB's opened fire on what were believed to be cruiser targets. The accompanying DD's also opened fire. The PRESTON was hit by an 8" salvo and possibly a torpedo. The ship rolled over and sank within 30 seconds. The WALKER was also heavily hit and possibly torpedoed and sank in about five minutes. 24 officers and about 220 men were rescued from these two ships.

II. Northwest Pacific

During the morning of November 16, Army-type traffic was very active in the northern area and gives the appearance of troop movements.

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P.A. Boone  
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SRNS 0219

Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of Nov. 18, 1942

DECLASSIFIED per Sec. 3, E. O. 12065  
by Director, NSA/Chief, CSS

Date: 12/19/79

I. Southwest Pacific

(A) General

81 ✓  
82 ✓  
83 ✓  
30  
F31 c

1. The general impressions gained from Japanese radio traffic in this area are (a) relative quiet in the Solomons sector and (b) realignment of forces designed to lend air and ground assistance to the Japanese forces in southeastern New Guinea. In this connection, Kavieng is apparently assuming increased importance as a Japanese base, particularly for air units. Japanese air strength at Wake has been increased by 10 land-based attack planes originally ordered to Mille in the Marshalls. These signs, though relatively unimportant in themselves, may perhaps indicate the adoption of a temporary defensive attitude on the part of the Japanese.

2. C-in-C's Combined and 2nd Fleets are indicated at Truk by D/F and at least part of the 3rd (carrier) Fleet, possibly damaged units, appear to be at Kure. From all available information it is estimated that available effective Japanese surface strength in the Southern Mandates-Melanesia area consists of the following:

- 3 BB (including flagship of C-in-C Combined)
- 3 CV (including HOSHO which probably would be employed only in emergencies)
- 3 CA (undamaged)
- 3 CA (damaged, but probably sufficiently effective for operations)
- 5 CL (undamaged)
- 2 CL (damaged, but probably sufficiently effective for operations)
- 30 DD (about)
- 30 SS (about)

Combatant units outside the Southern Mandates-Melanesia area which might be called down as reinforcements:

- 2 BB (assuming 2 of 6 BB's in home waters might be ordered south)
  - 1 CV now in home waters
  - 3 CL now in N.W. Pacific
  - 5 SS
- (Probably no further DD's can be spared in view of escort requirements)

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3. It is believed that Batdiv 3 of the KONGO class (4 ships) has always been employed as the spearhead of major Japanese offensive operations, probably because of their relatively high speed. The night engagement of November 12-13, however, is the first instance of this Batdiv coming into a surface-ship engagement. It is suggested that their rather poor performance, perhaps in part due to their advanced age, may lead to the Japanese decision hereafter to employ newer BB's. At present it is not believed that any of Batdiv 3 ships remain 100% effective.

4. If CHOKAI was indeed in the night engagement of November 12-13, as stated by Jap survivors, it is evidence that the Japanese used all available CA's in that action. CHOKAI was flag of C-in-C 8th Fleet who shifted his flag from CHOKAI, according to radio intelligence indications. He doubtless was in immediate tactical command of the Occupation Force,

(B) New Guinea

1. Information beyond that indicated in yesterday's ~~Secret~~ Supplement concerning this sector is at best inconclusive. An air attack was apparently planned in the Buna area on November 18 (LZT) but it appears that Japanese planes were engaged by Allied planes in Lat. 8° - 25' S., Long. 148° 25' E at 1600 I, November 18. Salamoia and Lae are becoming increasingly prominent in radio traffic.

2. Wewak, on the N. coast of New Guinea (Lat. 3° - 30' S., Long. 143° 45' E) is about to be used as some kind of base by the Japanese, in support of their forces in New Guinea.

(C) Solomons

1. An unidentified Japanese unit reported being attacked at 0919L, November 18 by 14 twin-motored planes in a locality bearing 195°, distant 95 miles from Shortland Base.

2. Jap radio on Guadalcanal reported 1 U.S. transport anchored off Lunga at 0740L, November 18.

II. Northwest Pacific

The Northern Area is comparatively quiet except that further indications have appeared of MARUS en route to the Attu-Kiska area, with at least 1 AP possibly carrying troops. An indication has also appeared of an escorted convoy proceeding soon to the Northern Area (possibly Aleutians).

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R.A. BOONE  
R.A. Boone.

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SECRET SUPPLEMENT

SRNS 0220 *★*

Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of Nov. 19, 1942

I. Southwest Pacific

DECLASSIFIED per Sec. 3, E. O. 12065  
by Director, NSA/Chief, CSS

(A) General

*MS* Date: 12/19/49

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77 ✓ *AW*  
78 ✓  
79 ✓ *D*  
80 ✓  
81 ✓  
82 ✓  
83 ✓  
84 ✓  
85 ✓  
86 ✓

1. Japanese radio traffic during the past 24 hours has regained its former heavy proportions but analysis thereof does not indicate any immediate operations against the Solomons. The general appearance of Japanese naval and air dispositions, some of which are indicated below, gives further indication of the adoption of a defensive attitude in this area. It is as yet too early to arrive at definite conclusions in this regard, but the known Japanese propensity for offensive warfare suggests the possibility of planned operations elsewhere, perhaps in the Northern Area, with cooperative diversionary action by ground troops on Guadalcanal. Recent Japanese naval and air losses and damage have undoubtedly weighed heavily in favor of postponing a renewed offensive against Guadalcanal and it is not believed that a new major attempt will be made unless and until the Japanese believe that they can bring preponderant forces to bear.

2. Movements of Japanese aircraft are heavy and pronounced changes in dispositions of 11th Air Fleet units are taking place. These shifts and realignments are principally taking place in the Bismarck-Marshalls areas, with increases noted at Kavieng, Ruotto (Kwajalein), Wake, Taroa, Mille, and Imieji. Increased aircraft activity along training lines in Empire waters, having a defensive tone, is also indicated.

3. There has been a slight increase in Japanese submarine radio traffic, and it is indicated that some of the submarines recently active in the Solomons area may be on the move to the north and northeast from that area. It also appears that a section of Jap SS's is being shifted from the vicinity of Guadalcanal to the Buna area.

4. At least one indication has appeared of a shift of some DD's of Desron 3 (active throughout the Solomons campaign) to Kure for about two weeks overhaul.

5. The following reports of damage to Allied surface vessels may perhaps have contributed to Japanese confidence of prospective success in the recent effort to recapture Guadalcanal:

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(a) From C-in-C 11th Air Fleet:

Morning of Aug. 7:

1 DD sunk, 1 DD seriously damaged  
by bombing.

Morning of Aug. 8 by aerial  
torpedoes:

2 CA's, 2 CL's, 2 DD's and 10 AP's  
sunk; 1 CA, 1 AP seriously damaged.

(b) From Comdr. Crudiv 6:

During engagement, night Aug. 8-9: 6 or 7 cruisers and 5 DD's sunk;  
1 DD seriously damaged.

6. Army traffic volume was high during the late evening of November 18, with a large amount addressed to "Battle Command Headquarters on Guadalcanal". Because of the length of these dispatches, the context most probably deals with a plan of action for Army forces on Guadalcanal or possibly by a "Relief Force".

7. Numerous Japanese contact reports of sightings of Allied planes in the Solomons area have been noted, indicating continued Allied air activity in this sector. The number of such reports also serves as good evidence of an efficient Japanese system of lookout stations established in the Solomons.

8. As of 0230L, November 19 there was some indication that C-in-C 2nd Fleet (or a 2nd Fleet Task Force) is again at sea. C-in-C 4th Fleet is also indicated as at sea.

(B) New Guinea

1. Comdr. Buna Advanced Base reported that between 0500I and 0600I, November 19, about 700 Allied troops attacked but were driven off.

2. It is indicated that during November 18 a Japanese ship was damaged by air attack in the Buna area. This unit is now proceeding to Rabaul under escort at about 8-10 knots, its route being W. and N. of New Britain. The operation in which it was concerned apparently was called off. It is now indicated that a new landing at or near Buna will be attempted from 3 DD's which are scheduled to return to Rabaul during November 19, under fighter-plane cover.

II. Northwest Pacific

Additional signs of reinforcements for the Northern area continue to appear. Kiska has been active, with indications of increased Army interest and possible concern with an Army convoy. Radio traffic of and with the 5th Fleet is increasing.

III. Malay Area

Four suspected commerce raiders are in this area:

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<u>Name</u>	<u>Max. Speed</u>	<u>Gross Tons</u>	<u>Built</u>
HOKOKU MARU	21	10,500	1939
AIKOKU MARU	21	10,500	1940
SEICHO MARU		Unidentified	
One Unidentified	-	-	-

IV. General

On November 11, KOBE MARU (7,930 tons) and TENZAN MARU (3,142 tons) were in collision, resulting in the sinking of both ships.

*T.A. Boone*  
R.A. Boone.

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3. At 1420L, November 17 Munda Air Base (New Georgia) reported having been attacked by Allied bombers and requested reinforcements. The arrival of a Maru at Munda, presumably carrying the requested reinforcements, is now scheduled for 1800L, November 20.

4. Rekata Air Base (Santa Isabel Island) reported an air raid at 0700L, November 19 but intimated that no damage had occurred.

III. Northwest Pacific

1. In the north, the volume of traffic has continued high but other than indicated shipping movements between Kiska and the Empire, with continued troop reinforcements in the direction of Kiska and Attu, no definite trends have appeared.

2. The Advance Command Post at Kodiak has reported that a convoy consisting of 4 to 6 cargo vessels, escorted by DD's and possibly air units, is believed to be approaching Attu where it was expected to arrive at about 1930 LZT, Nov. 19. Naval air units were on patrol to establish contact with the reported convoy.

*R.A. Boone*  
R.A. Boone.

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SRNS 0222

Summary of Japanese Naval Activities of November 21, 1942

I. General:

There is no indication that naval surface forces in the Truk-Melanesia theatre are being reinforced as a result of recent heavy losses. CinC, 1st Fleet, who commands the remaining battleships in home waters, appears to be maintaining his normal duties in waters of Japan Proper and one unidentified unit of Cardiv 2 was located in approximately Lat. 32° N., Long. 140° E. However, organized surface forces in the southern area give no indication of any basic change in plans and army forces continue to be shown moving down to the Rabaul area. At 1458I, November 20, the Shanghai Base Force appears to have reported that troops that are to be transferred from Shanghai will arrive at Bako, Pescadores Islands on about November 27 and that they will proceed to Rabaul a few days later. Escorts are now being provided for the trip from Bako.

II. Southwest Pacific:

(a) New Guinea.

Evidence is strong that a Japanese relief force to reinforce the hard-pressed ground forces in New Guinea has been sent down to land in the vicinity of Buna. Although not entirely definite, it appears possible that this force is arriving in several groups since indications point to possible arrivals on both November 21 and 22. On the former date Basabua, a small village near Buna, appears to be the landing location, and in both cases the convoys are being escorted by one division of destroyers and air coverage is being provided. On November 21 heavy allied air attacks were reported by Japanese forces in this area to be attacking in clockwork regularity.

(b) Truk-Melanesia.

The locations of the Japanese carriers remains uncertain. However, some evidence has arisen that units of the 3rd Fleet (carriers) in this theatre are engaged in overhaul and in building up their personnel complements. It was reported that at least two carriers remain in the South.

(c) Solomons.

(1) At about 0855L, November 21, a Japanese convoy appeared to be unloading at the new air base at Munda (New Georgia).

(2) Japanese on Guadalcanal have reported the presence of 2 large US transports escorted by 5 DD's, anchored at Lunga.

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(3) There is an indication, although uncertain, that the so called AK reported to have been hit in the air raid on shipping in the Buin-Faisi area on November 18 may have been the SHIRATAKA (CM), which the Japanese reported to have exploded and sunk.

(4) There is some slight suggestion that on Ballale Island (Lat. 6-55 S., Long. 155-52) on which an AA battery was reported has an airfield either in operation or under construction.

(d) Marshalls.

Units of the 4th Air Attack Force, strengthened by additional planes, appear to have been directed to patrol from their base at Ruotto, maintaining a strict watch for a possible US attacking force. Various slight indications in the past few days have also suggested that for some unknown reason the Japanese appeared to expect a U.S. thrust in the general Marshalls area.

III. Japan Waters:

The Picket boat force patrolling off Japan Proper is now reported to consist of over 100 vessels in three groups of which two are continuously at sea. Each group remains at sea 16-18 days, and in port for 8-9 days.

IV. U.S. submarine action:

(a) It is now learned that on the night of August 5 in waters adjacent to Palao the Palao Maru was sunk, presumably by submarine action. On or shortly prior to August 8 SHOFUKU MARU, a small vessel probably classed as a converted sub-chaser, was torpedoed and sunk while on anti-submarine patrol off Wotje, Marshall Islands.

(b) At about 0705L, November 21, an unidentified Japanese ship was struck by three (3) torpedoes off the Shortlands. She reported being in imminent danger of sinking and requested immediate aid. This assistance was quickly sent out and at 1600L of the same day this vessel was reported under escort off Ovau Island proceeding to Tonolei Harbor.

(c) At 1945L, November 20, another unidentified unit reported being attacked by a submarine in Lat. 07° - 10'S., Longitude unrecovered. It reported sighting the wakes of two torpedoes and thereafter that the submarine was considered sunk as a result of depth-charge attacks.

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File  
SA

Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of Nov. 22, 1942

I. General

1. Japanese radio traffic during the past 24 hours has appeared normal and reflects administrative activity, including some reshuffling of personnel and further efforts to reorganize and strengthen air forces in the operational areas, with some indications that additional air units might be drawn from the Empire. Operational-type traffic was light and was principally concerned with the Shortlands-Rabaul-Buna areas.

F05

2. No definite indications have appeared of the locations of C-in-C's 2nd and 4th Fleets except that the latter is most probably at, or in the vicinity of, Jaluit. C-in-C Combined Fleet apparently remains at Truk.

F06 RW

II. Southwest Pacific

(A) Solomons

1. It appears that 8 Jap submarines will be used in transporting troops and supplies to Guadalcanal. Of these, 4 SS's have now been ordered to embark troops at Rabaul and to proceed expeditiously to the Shortlands where they are to join a Transportation Unit standing by there. After the requisite conference between unit commanders, the assigned transportation duty is to be carried out. While exact times are unrecovered, it appears that the attempted landing operation will most probably be carried out during the night of November 22-23 (LZT).

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F02 B

F3

F30  
31 C

2. Indications continue that further attempts are being made by the Japanese to reinforce Munda Air Base (New Georgia). Two Marus, escorted by 2 DD's, which were due to arrive at Munda at about 1830L, November 22, have apparently had their departure postponed until the weather clears and the sea is calm. It was indicated that no air protection was available on the 22nd and that Allied planes had been sighted in the vicinity.

(B) New Guinea

Two Marus have been assigned the task of transporting and landing base personnel and equipment of an air unit to Lae. It is indicated that 105 men and 35 tons of equipment are to be landed. The ships are due to depart from Rabaul on November 21, arriving at destination about 24 hours later, probably at 2100 (LZT). The route to be followed is S. and E. of New Britain, return via N. of New Britain.

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Date: 12/17/47

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(C) Truk

Torpedo nets, for ships or possibly for the harbor, are being transported to Truk by a Maru which is due to arrive December 9.

III. U.S. Submarine Activities

U.S.S. SILVERSIDES has reported sinking 1 AK off Truk and 1 DD off New Hanover (N.W. end of New Ireland).

IV. Diplomatic

The Japanese Ambassador in Spain has expressed the view that the U.S., England, and the Axis all agree on wishing to keep Spain neutral for the present. He warns, however, that the Axis must be careful not to allow Spanish aristocrats, plutocrats, communists, and other pro-Ally factions to sway public opinion in Spain away from the Axis and towards the Allies.

*R. A. Boone*

R.A. Boone.

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SECRET SUPPLEMENT

Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of November 23, 1942

SRNS 0224

I. General

Although Japanese radio traffic during the past 24 hours was heavy, its general tone was quiet and no evidence of important developments were noted. Preoccupation with convoy movements continues and some evidence has appeared of a large convoy leaving the Tokyo area for the south. There are also indications of further convoy movements from the N.E.I. to Rabaul via Palao. What appears like a convoy rendezvous is scheduled in Lat. 7° 25' N., Long. 142° 53' E. at 0600I, November 24. Some activity is also noted in the North and 5 ships have arrived at Horomishiro in the Kuriles on November 21, with indications that they are en route to Kiska and Attu.

II. Southwest Pacific

(A) Solomons

1. Considerable Japanese traffic has dealt with the contemplated reinforcement and supply of Guadalcanal, with a fairly large number of submarines dedicated to this purpose. Exact times and details concerning this operation appear conflicting or are unrecovered, but it seems clear that attempts will be made to make landings at Kaminbo and slightly W. of Tassafaronga River during the late afternoons or evenings of November 24 to 27. Boats are to be sent out about 1 mile from the beach to meet the submarines. Alternative schedules are provided for in the event that landings should become impossible at either point or on specified days. At least two SS's are indicated as taking gasoline on board at Rabaul, presumably destined for Guadalcanal.

2. Japanese submarine activity in the Solomons areas on the upgrade and is playing an increasingly important part in operations. Various signs make it apparent that several divisions have been organized into one command for operations against U.S. supply lines.

3. Traffic concerning the reinforcement of Munda Air Base (New Georgia) continues. Late on November 22 (LZT), it was indicated that 400 men at Buin and 600 men at Ballale (near Shortland Island) are due to be embarked for Munda. The departure of the convoy which was due to go to the new air base at Munda has now been held up until November 24 (LZT).

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(B) New Guinea

Considerable traffic concerned with the Buna operations has been noted and further efforts to reinforce or aid the Japanese forces there are undoubtedly contemplated. Airflots 25 and 26 have been closely associated with Lae Air Base

The naval activities directly concerned in the Buna operations are indicated as the 8th Base Force, 8th Fleet, and 11th Air Fleet.

(C) New Britain

It appears that a force of Japanese Army Type 1 fighters is being moved to Rabaul via Truk.

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Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of November 24, 1942

SRNS 0225

I. General

1. The general impression obtained from Japanese radio traffic is one of intense activity and preoccupation with reorganization and realignment of forces. The tone continues defensive and indicates refitting with possible preparation for future operations. In the north, reported single unidentified plane contacts, followed by "All clear" at 1200I, November 24 gave rise to a warning of a strong likelihood of an attack by a U.S. Striking Force. The various patrol forces in northern waters were alerted and this area is under search by Jap planes and ships. Similar uneasiness was reflected by reported Allied activity in the Darwin area and the possibility of action against Japanese-occupied Timor was intimated. From these signs it appears that the Japanese navy is to some extent infected with a "case of nerves" which it might be well to exploit to the fullest possible extent.

2. A vague suggestion obtained from traffic analysis might indicate the possibility that C-in-C's 2nd and 3rd (Carrier) Fleets are in the Empire reorganizing for the next step. Some indications have appeared that units of the 3rd Fleet are about to engage, or are engaging, in training maneuvers in Empire waters. CHUYO appears approaching readiness for sea and is possibly to engage in the transportation of planes and equipment to Truk. It is estimated that the bulk of the carriers are in Empire waters, with 1 or 2 carriers in the southern area, perhaps engaged in transporting planes to Airflot 26.

3. Concentration of attention on the Solomons area continues with operational traffic about evenly divided between Buna-Lae-Salamoa and Lunda-Rekata-Shortlands, the latter bases giving increased air support, with Comdr. Airflot 26 in control. Comdesron 3 is apparently controlling surface operations under the supervision of C-in-C 8th Fleet and Comdr. 8th Base Force.

II. Southwest Pacific(A) Solomons

1. Strong indications continue of scheduled operations to supply and reinforce Guadalcanal by submarines. Buin indicated at 1832L, November 24 that no patrol boats are between Savo Island and the N.W. part of Guadalcanal. One SS is scheduled to arrive off Kaminbo at 1630L, November 24, and another landing is indicated for the evening of the 26th. (See also yesterday's



~~Secret~~ Supplement, II(A), paragraph 1).

2. Destroyers are apparently also to be used for transportation purposes to Guadalcanal on some date between November 27 and 30, with the landing point probably at Cape Esperance. The number of DD's to be employed is not clear but may vary between 9 and 16, perhaps to be used in groups.

(B) New Guinea

A transportation schedule from the Shortland area to Buna, using DD's, was planned on November 20 as follows:

Nov. 29,	5 DD's
Nov. 30,	4 DD's
Dec. 3,	5 DD's
Dec. 4,	4 DD's

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In the event that Buna should fall before the above date, the reinforcements would most probably be sent to Lae and Salamoa where some landing barges or boats are indicated as available for use.

(C) New Britain

1. There is some suggestion of a movement of XCL's from the Malay area to New Britain. Presumably these converted cruisers would be utilized for the time being in place of cruisers damaged or sunk in recent operations.

2. Further evidence indicates that additional air supplies are being sent to Rabaul which undoubtedly is the hub of the Japanese logistic system in the general southwestern area.

(D) N.E.I.

A Japanese tanker schedule calls for loading crude oil at Surabaya, carrying it to Balikpapan, where fuel oil is to be loaded. The tanker then proceeds to Makassar, to await orders. This appears to be a good indication that the refinery at Balikpapan is again in operation and in use for the Japanese fleet.

III. Northwest Pacific

1. A "W-day" has been fixed for a (possible) operation in the northern area. The date remains unrecovered, nor is it known to what it refers. However, it should be noted that a convoy is due to arrive in the Semichi Islands - Lat. 52° 40' N., Long. 174° on November 28 and there may be some connection between "W-day" and the arrival of this convoy.

IV. Economic

It is indicated that 1108 tons of tin at Penang destined for Italy, are to be loaded on a German ship arriving at Penang on December 1. The ship is en route to Japan where further material for Italy is apparently to be loaded.

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R.A. Boone.

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Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of November 25, 1942

SRNS 0226

I. General

1. Judged by radio traffic, the general Japanese naval situation remains static with continued emphasis upon administrative matters and logistic problems. It is becoming increasingly clear that large quantities of commodities are being shipped to the Empire from southern areas, particularly oil from the N.E.I. (Surabaya, Palembang, Balikpapan), with unloading points indicated as Kure, Tokuyama (Naval Oil Depot), and Kobe. Other commodities include bauxite from Palao, and apatite (source of phosphorous), tin, zinc, antimony, zinc ore, and jute from Indo-China - to mention only a few. On the other hand, considerable shipping has been scheduled for carrying construction personnel and supplies to the southeastern theater, with Rabaul indicated as the primary unloading point early in December but with bases in the general Solomons area as the probable ultimate destination.

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2. Radio traffic concerning Munda (New Georgia) air base has been administrative in character and reflects continued efforts to establish this base on a solid basis rather than any attempt at immediate operations. The Munda convoy (mentioned in the ~~Secret~~ Supplement of November 23) is now enroute and has requested air coverage until 1500L, November 25. It is indicated that the requested coverage will be supplied.

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II. Southwest Pacific

(A) Solomons

1. It is indicated that the landing operations on Guadalcanal from submarines are underway, but it now appears that effective November 25 and thereafter only Kamimbo (N.W. tip of Guadalcanal) will be used as the landing point.

2. Guadalcanal Japanese radio has been active in reporting the arrival of U.S. transports, protected by DD's, off Lunga. At 1830L, November 24 and again at 0640L, November 25, it was reported that U.S. troops were landing from 2 AP's. At 1715L, November 25 it was reported that an enemy (U.S.) ship attacked Tassafaronga.

3. A Japanese cruiser or DD reported at 2000I, November 24 that it had been bombed and was on fire.

(B) New Guinea

Some slight indication has appeared that AOBA (CA) and possibly 4 DD's are engaged in covering a convoy en route from Rabaul to Salamao, Lae, or Buna.

(C) Ocean Island

Supply difficulties are suggested by a message from Ocean Island at 0815I, November 21 which reports the exhaustion of fresh vegetables and a possible outbreak of beri beri. Difficulties in provisioning patrol boats in this area are also indicated.

(D) Mandate Area

1. C-in-C Combined Fleet remains at Truk. C-in-C 4th Fleet in KASHIMA (CL) is indicated as still at sea, approaching the Marshalls and most probably is between Truk and Jaluit.

2. Five army transports are indicated as having arrived at Palao at 1702I, November 24.

(E) Malaya

KAMAKURA MARU was ordered, on November 12, to take on board about 1700 prisoners at Singapore bound for Nagasaki, where she is to arrive early in December. Thereafter she is to proceed to Sasebo.

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Summary of Japanese Naval Activities of November 26, 1942

SRNS 0227

I. Northwest Pacific:

It is becoming increasingly clear that the Japanese Navy now is engaged in transporting troops and equipment to strengthen Japan's position in the Western Aleutians by reinforcements of forces on islands she now occupies and most probably also to seize one or more additional islands. Involved in the operations appear to be four or five separate convoys all of which are indicated to be departing from Paramushiro, Kuriles to various destinations which are believed to be in the Western Aleutians. One such convoy of about four merchant vessels under destroyer escort appears to have been directed to arrive off Semichi Island, Near Islands (NE of Agattu Island) on November 28 or, in case of delay, to arrive by November 30. Another convoy is scheduled to depart Paramushiro on about December 6 for Kiska.

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Within the past few days at least three Japanese merchantmen in the South Pacific have had their present tasks cancelled or expedited in order that they may proceed at the earliest time back to home ports in Japan.

In spite of the information on convoys, there has been no indications received of any additional naval units being ordered to the Northwest Pacific:

II. Southwest Pacific:

(A) Solomons.

For the present submarines appear to be the only naval type which is attempting to run in supplies to the Japanese forces at Guadalcanal under the protection of night to either Kaminbo or Tassafaronga. One such SS on a recent night approach to within 2,000 meters of forces ashore was reported to have been unable to land her supplies and provisions due to U.S. air activity. However, it appears that one submarine has been ordered on this duty on each of the nights of November 28, 29, 30 and December 1, and it is believed probable that sometime in the near future destroyers will also be directed to attempt night landings of reinforcements and supplies. Captured documents have indicated such destroyer reinforcements to contain 500 men to each ship.

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A Japanese air search for U.S. forces appears to have been ordered for November 27 to cover sectors to the east and south of Tulagi. Small scouting planes from SS in Indispensable Strait also appear to have been ordered to search for U.S. forces.

Evidences continue of the building up of the Munda advanced base on New Georgia. A portion of the Sasebo 6th Special Landing Force is believed to be there now.

(B) New Guinea.

The CinC, U. S. Pacific Fleet has predicted that further Japanese attempts to reinforce Buna will be made within the next three or four days.

(C) New Britain:

Crudiv 9, which has been in the Manila area recently, is now indicated to have been ordered to the Rabaul area, possibly as escort of a convoy.

(D) Marshall Islands.

An indication has been received suggesting the possible defensive mining of waters adjacent to Jaluit and Kwajalein.

(E) Caroline Islands.

Moen Island (called Harushima by the Japanese) appears to be used as a fleet anchorage in the Truk Group, and the Truk South Channel is used extensively by shipping between Truk and northern ports in Japan.

III. Aircraft Carriers:

The CinC, U. S. Pacific Fleet has expressed the opinion that most of the carriers of the 3rd Fleet are now back in home waters near Kure. CHUYO, a new auxiliary carrier, which has been fitting out for some time, now appears moving to Yokosuka, and may be soon making a plane ferry trip to the South Pacific. This ship is now either just commissioned or soon will be.

IV. General.

(A) The CinC, U. S. Pacific Fleet has reported his belief that a northbound convoy is believed to have departed Singapore via Saigon about November 23.

(B) The results of the recent conference of Japanese diplomats in Europe has been sent to Tokyo from Berlin. The gist of their recommendations appeared to be that the fate of Japan was inexorably inter-connected to that

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of the Axis, and that Japan would be making a grave mistake to imagine that she can gain victory even though Germany was defeated. From this view point it was strongly urged that Japan collaborate more fully with Germany and plan operations leading to the common advantage of Germany and Japan, including military action in India leading to a juncture with the Axis through the Indian Ocean.

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Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of November 27, 1942

SRNS 0228

I. General

1. No definite new trends have appeared from Japanese radio traffic during the past 24 hours, nor is any radical change in Japanese fleet dispositions indicated. Strong indications have continued of convoy make-ups in the N.E.I. - Malaya and Empire areas, with the Mandates-Rabaul as their destinations.

80 ✓  
61 ✓

2. Indications continue that carrier groups are undergoing training in Empire waters.

61 ✓

Considerable traffic has been noted between Air Arsenals and Air Establishments in all parts of the Empire.

62 ✓

3. ASAMA MARU (16,975 gross tons) is indicated as engaged in the transportation of personnel to Formosa and the S.W. area.

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II. Southwest Pacific

(A) Solomons

ms CXL Date: 12/19/79

1. More traffic pertaining to the reinforcement of Guadalcanal has appeared and Guadalcanal Japanese radio continues to report the presence or absence of U.S. patrol vessels in the Tassafaronga area. The latest noted report of this type was at 1910L, November 26 when it was reported that no U.S. protective ships were present near Tassafaronga.

2. Two dispatches concerning the loading of supplies and torpedoes for Jap submarines have been noted:

(a) From the I-9: torpedoes to be loaded from 0900L to 1400L, November 28 at a point bearing 0°, distant 1500 meters from Popotala Island (approximately Lat. 6° 48' S., Long. 155° 51' E.)

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(b) From an unidentified SS: arriving Shortlands 0600L, November 28 and desires to load torpedoes (time unrecovered) at a point bearing 50°, distant 1½ miles from Erventa Island (off S.E. coast of Bougainville Island).

3. Indications continue of the further strengthening of Japanese bases in the Solomons area. Munda appears to be the shore base for Seaplatendiv 11 and the arrival at that base of a 2-ship convoy and 1 DD is indicated at some time before 2300L, November 27.

4. The arrival of U.S. convoys at Lunga, Guadalcanal, apparently continues without major opposition on the part of the Japanese. At 0535L, November 27 it was reported that 4 DD's and 2 AP's arrived at Lunga.

(B) New Guinea

The Buna area was prominent in operational-type traffic, with air traffic featuring Lae and Salamoa predominant.

IV. Diplomatic

Madrid continues to be the originator of frequent military intelligence reports to Tokyo concerning U.S. ship and troop movements and of conditions in the U.S.A. These dispatches carry considerable detail and bear an air of authenticity.

*R.A. Boone*  
R.A. Boone.

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Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of November 28, 1942

SRNS 0229

I. Northwest Pacific

A Japanese Northern Patrol unit appears to have been directed on November 23 to patrol a line in the Northwest Pacific to intercept a possible U.S. task force. The exact location of this line is not known but some idea in this respect may be estimated from the fact that a typhoon reported in Lat. 41° N., Long. 143° E. was expected to advance toward it. For this reason the patrol vessels were directed temporarily to return to their normal stations.

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II. Southwest Pacific

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(a) New Guinea

Evidence is strong that the Japanese plan nightly landings of troops and supplies in the vicinity of Buna from Nov. 29 through Dec. 4. It is believed that 8 destroyers have been assigned to this transportation duty, and that no other types of vessels will be involved, probably due to the great danger of losses from allied air attacks.

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(b) Truk-Rabaul

Persistent indications continue of Japanese convoys being sent from home ports in Japan as well as from the Singapore-NEI theatre.

(c) Solomons

The situation remains quiet at Guadalcanal, but it is apparent that a considerable number of Jap submarines are maintaining close contact with and attempting to deliver supplies to Japanese forces on the island. It is probable also that these submarines are receiving reports of U.S. vessels in these waters in order to attack them. It is indicated that these boats are operated from a tender in the vicinity of Erventa Island.

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(d) Marshalls

Within the past week activities in the Marshalls have taken a marked upward trend.

III. Japan waters

An indication has been received that aircraft carriers, the majority of which are now believed to have returned to home waters, are now engaged in aircraft exercises, but there is no present evidence to show whether these exercises are in preparation for a specific future mission or routine training of new personnel.

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Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of November 29, 1942

SRNS 0230

I. Northwest Pacific:

1. Although Ominato radio is engaged in practising radio deception by sending out dummy messages and by padding its traffic, considerable legitimate Northern area radio traffic was noted on November 27 and 28. "K" Convoy (one of four previously noted) was placed under command of the Comdr. Northern Force as of 1000I, December 3 ("V-day"). No position or point of arrival of this convoy is indicated but from November 28 on, weather, sea, and U.S. air patrol intelligence is requested. On "V-1" and "V-day" searches along the convoy's course are requested, and time of arrival is stated to be 1600I (probably on "V-day"). At 1100I, "V-day", course is 15°, speed 24 and at 1330I (?), course is 40°, speed 24. The high speed is not clearly understood, but may indicate that DD's are to be used. (It should be noted that 1600I, December 3 equals 2000X, December 2, assuming the destination of the convoy to be in the Western Aleutians.)

2. Several drifting mines were reported by Japanese units during November 27 and 28, indicating rough weather in the general Japan area.

II. Southwest Pacific:

(A) Solomons.

1. It is indicated that further transport. of personnel and supplies to Guadalcanal is shortly to be undertaken by 8 DD's and 6 AP's. Landing points are indicated as Tassafaronga for 4 AP's and off the Segilau River for 2 AP's. The date of arrival of the convoy is not clear but appears to be during the evening of November 30 (LZT).

2. Further indications have appeared that Japanese submarines are to load torpedoes 1 mile north of Erventa Island (off S.E. tip of Bougainville Island) on November 29.

3. An air attack on Guadalcanal airfield was indicated in an operation order timed 2056L, November 28. Presumably this attack is planned for November 29 (LZT).

4. Some indication of success in the employment of Japanese submarines in reinforcing Guadalcanal is furnished by a report that the CHIYODA Base Force finished moving to Kaminbo on November 28. It appears highly probable that this is a midget submarine base force.

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(B) New Britain-New Ireland.

1. Rabaul is still prominently concerned with Army Pacific traffic and indications continue of further convoy movements from widespread points to Rabaul. Hiroshima apparently is the Empire departure point for Army convoys, which proceed via Chichijima, Saipan, Truk to Rabaul.

(a) Plane squadrons of HITAKA (CV) have been temporarily placed under the command of Comdr. Base Force (C-in-C 11th Aif Fleet).

(b) Radio traffic of air activities in this area has been greater than usual and has the appearance of pre-operational directives.

(c) Kavieng continues to become increasingly important as a Japanese air base, and air reconnaissance from this base has been greater than usual.

(C) New Guinea.

Air coverage is now being provided for the Jap DD's carrying reinforcements to Buna.

(D) Marshalls.

1. Two ships are leaving Yokosuka on December 3 with anti-torpedo nets and are due to arrive at Truk on December 11. It is indicated that two additional ships will be provided to assist, presumably in rigging the nets.

2. It is indicated that Wake is receiving 90 mines.

III. Economic:

1. A preliminary estimate reveals that the 1942 rice crop of Japan proper is 6.1% greater than the average yield for the past 5 years and 22% above 1941. By using unpolished rice and increasing the use of wheat and other substitute cereals, it is hoped shortly to make Japan self-sufficient in food, thus alleviating the shipping shortage.

2. A Maru was ordered to Pomoro in the Celebes to take on 4000 tons of nickel ore for Yokohama. The ship was instructed to speed up the repair of her engines "in view of the acute nickel shortage in Japan."

IV. China.

As a result of the raid on Canton airfield by 12 Allied planes on November 23, the following damage was reported by the local Japanese representative to his superiors:

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Hangars: 1 damaged, 1 destroyed by fire.  
Planes: 4 smashed, 2 destroyed by fire.  
Army Personnel: 3 killed, about 30 wounded.  
Other casualties: about 30 or 40.

*R. A. Boone*  
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SRNS 0231

Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of November 30, 1942

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by Director, NSA/Chief, CSS

~~SECRET~~ Date: 12/19/79

I. Southwest Pacific

(A) Solomons

40  
46  
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48  
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1. Renewed Japanese air activity in the Solomons area is indicated by an increase in radio traffic concerned with air units. It is also suggested that renewed reconnaissance activity on the part of Japanese air units may be expected. Air raids of the "nuisance" type on Guadalcanal are planned and a possible protective air patrol covering landing operations may be anticipated for November 30 and December 1 (LZT).

2. There are strong indications that a Japanese attempt to transport supplies to Guadalcanal, using DD's and possibly transports, is now underway. The landing attempts by Japanese submarines previously mentioned in the ~~Secret~~ Supplement are also proceeding, but there is some indication of one or two days delay in so far as individual units are concerned. Association between Guadalcanal and submarines has continued, indicating not only pre-occupation with supply operations, but possibly also the usual reports concerning U.S. surface vessels sighted from Japanese positions in this area.

3. Our anti-submarine patrol detected a 100-foot Japanese submarine lying on the bottom of Verahua Cove near Lavofo on the N.W. end of Guadalcanal. Three bombs were dropped but the results were not observed.

4. In a battle report from Comdr. (Japanese) Striking Force timed 0025L, December 1, it was reported that he engaged U.S. battleship(s), cruiser(s), and destroyers off Tassafaronga. He reports sinking 1 BB, 1 CA, and 2 DD's. (Balance of dispatch as yet unrecovered). Earlier, at 2335L, November 30, Japanese radio on Guadalcanal reported 4 DD's burning off Savo Island, but stated that their identity is unknown. A U.S. plane was reported patrolling in the vicinity.

(B) New Britain-New Ireland

1. Rabaul continues to be the most important base for Japanese forces operating in the Solomons-New Guinea area. Not only is Rabaul constantly indicated as the destination of Army convoys, but with the apparent arrival there of the 1st Combined Communications Unit (corresponding to our Intelligence Units), it is clear that the Japanese High Command will most probably be established in this general vicinity.

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2. The volume of Army radio traffic suggests further substantial troop movements into the Rabaul area. It is indicated that one convoy from the Manila area is due to arrive on December 3. Its importance may be implied from the escort, viz., Crudiv. 9 and DD's.

(C) New Guinea

1. An unidentified unit, apparently in the Buna area, reported an attack by B-17's. Although it was claimed that the attack was repelled, one direct hit and other damage was reported.

2. It is indicated that the following Japanese forces are directly involved in the Buna action: Crudiv 18 (2 CL?), units of Desron 3, air units of the 6th Air Attack Force. AOBA (CA of Crudiv 6) has been associated with Buna during the past several days and may be assisting in escorting reinforcements to the New Guinea area.

(D) Marshalls

Heavy bombers which were recently shifted from Maloelap to Wake are now indicated as having returned to Maloelap.

(E) N.E.I.

At 1053 I, November 30 a Jap attack plane was ordered to investigate a report that 2 Allied AP's were sighted 30 miles distant from Koepang (bearing unrecovered).

II. Northwest Pacific

Except for indications of increased Japanese patrol activity in the Northern and Kurile Islands areas, no new significant trends have been noted.

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Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of December 1, 1942

SRNS 0232

I. Southwest Pacific

(A) General

1. With the exception noted below, Japanese radio traffic during the past 24 hours has been generally quiet and of a routine nature. Army traffic has continued high from widely scattered locations and indicates further heavy reinforcements being sent to Rabaul. One convoy of 4 Marus is scheduled to leave Singapore on December 2, proceeding via points A (Lat. 2° 40' S., Long. 109° 14' E.) at 1600 I, December 3, and B (Lat. 1° 40' S., Long. 118° 13' E.) at 1500 I, December 5, to a point 10 miles N. of an unidentified place on the N. tip of Celebes on December 6. From the last-named point it is to proceed on course 100°, speed of advance 14 knots, expected time of arrival Rabaul on December 12.

2. C-in-C's Combined and 2nd Fleets apparently continue at Truk and no indications have appeared that any 2nd Fleet Task Groups are in the Rabaul-Solomons area. However, various indications obtained from Japanese radio traffic lead to the conclusion that major Japanese strategy at the present time continues to center upon the recapture of Guadalcanal, despite the temporary adoption of a defensive attitude in this area.

3. A fragmentary report timed at 1514 L, November 29 appears to refer to a U.S. convoy under escort (?) of 2 BB's, 2 CV's, 8 CL's, and 13 DD's, proceeding to the Solomons area from Samoa. At the time of the report the force was stated to be between Santa Cruz and Espiritu Santo.

4. HITAKA (CV) fighter squadrons which had previously been ordered to shore-based status under command C-in-C 11th Air Fleet have now been directed to return to the HITAKA, making it highly probable that this carrier is, or will shortly arrive, in the Bismarck-Solomons area. One indication places UNYO (ACV) in the Java Sea, N. of eastern Java. There are some indications of carrier aircraft replacements being made from establishments throughout the Empire where the bulk of combatant carriers are apparently still located.

5. A message on November 9 to the Japanese Navy Minister reported the sinking of an (unidentified) unit by a U.S. PT-Boat. This apparently refers to the sinking of a DD by PT's on November 7, previously reported by our forces.

F-6  
F-6d  
F-61G  
F-6v B  
F-3  
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F-31 C

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0418

6. # 2 TONAN MARU, (19,400 ton ex-whaling ship) which was bombed by aircraft on November 13 in the Kavieng area is now being towed to Truk.

7. It appears that 8 DD's were additionally assigned on November 29 to the 8th Fleet. The units involved were normally attached to the 3rd Fleet.

8. It is indicated that the KAMAKURA MARU (17,526 gross tons) is due to arrive at Takao, Formosa at 0800I, December 4.

(B) Solomons

1. Japanese radio on Guadalcanal sent numerous dispatches during the night November 30-December 1 (LZT) in an endeavor to clarify the results of a battle in the vicinity of Savo Island. The net result of 5 such dispatches appears to be 2 unidentified DD's sunk, 1 U.S. cruiser burning, and 1 DD out of control. At 1101L, December 1 (Japanese) Subforce was ordered to send submarines to finish off a DD (either TAKANAMI or OBORO) which was in sinking condition 6 miles S. of Savo Island.

2. Close association between Guadalcanal and Japanese submarines continues and the Japanese forces on Guadalcanal are apparently making further efforts to obtain reinforcements.

3. On November 30, Japanese radio on Guadalcanal reported the arrival of 9 U.S. transports and 12 DD's off Lunga. On December 1, 2 AP's and 2 DD's were reported in the same location.

(C) New Guinea

Indications have appeared that the sending of reinforcements to Buna, temporarily postponed, will shortly be resumed, probably with increased air support.

II. Northwest Pacific

In a dispatch to 5th Fleet on November 28 it was reported that SS CHERIBON MARU (4,016 gross tons) was sunk as a result of an air attack. Collateral information indicates that this ship was sunk by U.S. Army bombers on November 26 (LZT) in Holtz Bay, Attu.

III. U.S. Submarine Activities

One of our submarines just returned from patrol has reported the following results:

18 Oct. - possible hit on a JINTSU class CL.  
6 Nov. - 1 hit in an AMAGIRI class DD  
9 Nov. - 2 hits in an ASASHIO class DD.

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Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of December 2, 1942

SRNS 0233

I. General

1. A study of Japanese radio traffic reveals a trend similar to that leading up to the last major engagement. It is as yet too early to arrive at definite conclusions concerning the future course of Japanese action, but a number of important indications undoubtedly will assist in making a proper estimate of Japanese intentions.

FD 1  
FD 2  
FD 1 E  
FD 2 B  
F3  
F3 1  
F3 1

(a) Considerable surface and air traffic of varied types continues to funnel into Rabaul, including supplies of all types, plane reinforcements, and important convoys already arrived or due shortly. Several combatant units are known to be en route from Truk to Rabaul.

(b) Truk has apparently attained the status of Japan's major Naval base in the southern area and appears to be the rendezvous point of the Japanese Navy's main combatant strength.

(c) Although C-in-C 3rd (Carrier) Fleet and part of his Staff appear to be in the Empire, association with the 8th, 11th Air, and 2nd Fleets, particularly the latter, together with some evidence of departure of 3rd Fleet units from the Empire, serve to indicate an involvement of 3rd Fleet Units in the immediate New Britain-New Guinea-Solomons areas.

(d) The proportion of operational-type traffic has shown an increase and traffic pertaining to the Solomons area includes greater than usual association with the Empire.

(e) C-in-C 4th Fleet in KASHIMA is at sea, with probable destination as the Marshalls area, indicating a possible strengthening of the Japanese left flank in a major southward operation originating from the Truk area. Likewise, the sending of UNYO (ACV) with Desdiv 7 to the Java Sea area may indicate a strengthening of the right flank.

(f) Repeated indications of Japanese commitments in the southern area, as exemplified by the development and strengthening of bases in the Bismarck-Solomons area.

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2. Clear evidence has now been received that the Japanese BB which received a 1000-lb bomb hit and 7 torpedo hits 10 miles N. of Savo Island on November 14 was the HIYEI (29,300 tons displacement, completed in 1913 and formerly demilitarized). The BB sunk by our battleships during the night of November 14-15 is indicated as the KIRISHIMA (29,300 tons displacement, completed in 1915). It is now considered that the KIRISHIMA is definitely sunk and the HIYEI presumed sunk.

II. Southwest Pacific

(A) Solomons

1. At 1000L, December 2 Japanese radio on Guadalcanal reported the arrival of 2 AP's and 2 DD's off Koli Point.
2. Further efforts by the Japanese to transport supplies to Guadalcanal, using submarines and possibly DD's and minesweepers (Marus), are indicated. Loading is carried out at Rabaul after which the units proceed to the Shortland area pending departure for Guadalcanal.

(B) New Guinea

1. Radio traffic from the Buna area suggests urgent efforts at reinforcement and the center of activity in the 8th Fleet area appears to have shifted from the Solomons to New Guinea. One slight indication has appeared that some activity connected with carriers is located at Buna.
2. During December 1 (LZT), an unidentified Japanese force reported a total of five attacks by B-17's and B-25's. It mentioned damage to at least one of its warships (at 1345I) as well as personnel casualties. It was indicated that one Allied plane was shot down (at 1530I).

(C) Truk Area

# 3 TONAN MARU (19,400 gross tons, ex-whaler) is due to arrive at Truk late on December 2 or early on the 3rd. It is indicated that she is carrying 17 planes, about 700 cu. meters of provisions, and about 300 men. After unloading cargo at Truk she is due to proceed to Miri, Borneo to load about 18,000 tons of crude oil for Japan. At 1200I, December 1 her position was indicated as Lat. 7° 37' N., Long. 147° 35' E.

III. Northwest Pacific

"D" Convoy, recently reported as en route to Semichi Islands from Paramshiro, Kuriles on November 30 sent a message indicating that the speed was reduced to about 6 knots by reason of a strong wind. This may explain the delay in arrival recently noted, although it is not clear whether the convoy on November 30 was still en route to the Aleutians or was returning to Japan.

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Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of December 3, 1942

SRNS 0234

I. General

1. Japanese radio traffic has revealed few if any trends which might represent a departure from indications noted in the ~~Secret~~ Supplement during the past few days. Some indication has been noted that an "Advance Force" is being strengthened, or losses replaced, by the assignment of ISUZU (CL, 5,170 tons displacement) and several DD's to this force. It is probable that the "Advance Force" is in fact a Task Force under command of C-in-C 2nd Fleet.

F-1 ✓

2. A slight suggestion has been noted that C-in-C Combined is in the vicinity of Yokosuka, with his administrative staff remaining at Truk. Pending further clarification, no particular significance can be attached to his presence in the Empire at this time.

F-2 ✓

F-3 ✓

II. Southwest Pacific

(A) Solomons

F-3 ✓

1. It is believed that Japanese midget submarines employed in the Guadalcanal area are basing at or near Kaminbo.

F-4 ✓

2. Japanese efforts to transport men and supplies to Guadalcanal are continuing with typical Japanese persistence. Some suggestion has appeared that a convoy or DD's are headed for Guadalcanal during the night December 3-4 (LZT). Further supply by submarines also continues, suggesting a measure of success in landing men, fuel, and supplies by this means during the past 4 or 5 days.

F-5 ✓

3. Japanese forces on Guadalcanal have been associated with the customary line-up of commands in operational-type traffic, viz., Chief of Staff Combined, 8th, and 11th Air Fleets, Reinforcement Force, Comdr. Subforce, and Buin and Munda Air Bases.

4. (a) A Japanese submarine in position Long. 162° 20' (Lat. unrecovered) reported sighting a 2-funnel battleship, and at 1906L, December 2

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a Jap submarine force was ordered to search for U.S. ships reported to be approaching S. of Ulawa Island (off the S.E. tip of Malaita). The search sector center was indicated between Lat. 10° S. and 11° S., and Long. 162° 40' E. and 163° 40' E.

(b) In a fragmentary message, some activity by U.S. Forces was mentioned and an unidentified Jap commander was ordered to undertake (a search?) on December 3. San Cristobal Island was mentioned and it is possible that this message refers to suspected U.S. Forces in this general vicinity.

5. At 0540L, December 3 Japanese radio on Guadalcanal reported 3 AP's and 6 DD's off Koli Point. An identical message was again sent at 1430 L.

(B) New Guinea

Some indications have appeared that ammunition is being transported by air to Japanese forces at Buna.

(C) Bismarck Archipelago

Kavieng and Rabaul are indicated as the destinations of a Japanese convoy carrying air reinforcements.

III. Aleutian Area

Two Japanese submarines are due to arrive at Kiska from Ominato within the next several days.

IV. Economic

1. An official in Yokohama reported that at 1345 I, November 30 an explosion destroyed the German tanker Uckermark (also known as the ALTMARK or UTMARK, an armed blockade-runner tanker of about 10,000 gross tons, speed 19), as well as the German merchantman LEUTEN (unidentified), German Auxiliary Cruiser # 10 (unidentified), and a Japanese steamer.

2. Hanoi (Indo-China) has reported that about 300,000 tons of coal are kept in storage in Haiphong, Redon, Hongei, Kanfua, and Kuorube (all in Indo-China) and that despite regular shipments of coal to Japan, it is believed that this amount can be maintained.

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SRNS 0235

Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of December 4, 1942

I. General

1. The most significant feature of Japanese radio traffic during the past two days has been the amount of shipping dispatches from Transportation Offices, involving a large number of Marus. This traffic suggests continued attention to logistic problems in all theaters, with particular emphasis placed on oil shipments from the Southwest to Japan. A number of convoys have been noted moving along the coast of Japan, but as the average Japanese convoy is composed of a small number of ships, usually 4 or 5, this is probably normal traffic only.

2. (a) In general, Japanese radio traffic during the past 24 hours suggests at least a temporary return to normal, but association between the 2nd and 3rd (Carrier) Fleets continues with typical pre-operational type traffic. Indications continue of the assemblage of ships in the Shortlands area, specific instances noted including 4 DD's (probably loaded with supplies for Guadalcanal) and two unidentified units of probable importance, as air coverage was ordered for them from 1500L, December 4. A number of supply vessels are also proceeding to this area, including a tanker previously prominently associated with offensive operations.

The tanker in question is indicated as due to arrive Shortland Island at about 0730L, December 5.

(b) Traffic for the Staffs of Combined, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Fleets and Comsubforce has all been routed to Truk.

(c) Excessive drill traffic in the Empire has been noted on former Striking Force frequencies, with some apparent deception circuits being used.

3. C-in-C 4th Fleet has just completed an inspection of ships and stations under his command and of the defenses of Wake, Marshalls, and Gilberts. He returned to Truk on December 2. It was indicated that HITAKA (CV) with DD escort will shortly depart from Truk for Japan.

## II. Southwest Pacific

### (A) Solomons

1. (a) According to a report received from our forces on Guadalcanal, at 1830L, December 3 an air striking force of 8 SBD's, 7 TBF's, 6 P-39's, and 4 F4F's attacked a Japanese surface force consisting of 2 CA's, 2 CL's, and 6 DD's bearing 300°, distant 150 miles from Guadalcanal course S.E. As a result of this attack, 2-1000 lb. hits on one cruiser, 1-1000 lb. hit on a second cruiser, 2 torpedo hits on the first ship and 2 possibles on the second ship in the middle column were reported. In addition, 10 Jap float biplanes were shot down.

(b) Possibly referring to the above action, the following Japanese messages were noted on December 3:

1. At 1830L, "20 U.S. planes sighted".
2. At 1832L, "We are engaged with enemy".
3. At 1900L, Desron 3 reported "No damage to striking force".
4. At 0100L (Dec. 4), Desron 3 reported "Supplies arrived".

2. (a) Plans continue for the supply of food and ammunition to the Japanese forces on Guadalcanal by submarines. Landings are indicated as scheduled for December 3rd, 5th, 7th, 8th and 9th, apparently all at Kaminbo and/or Tassafaronga. It has been noted that small boats or landing barges are to be carried on at least 2 SS's.

(b) At 0730L, December 4 a warning was sent by Guadalcanal Jap radio that PT boats are operating between Koli Point and the vicinity of Savo Island.

3. A Japanese broadcast at 1730I, December 3 reported U.S. submarines in the following locations:

At 0700I, Dec. 3, Lat. 7° 05' S.  
Long. 155° 30' E.  
At 0900I, Dec. 3, Lat. 2° 15' S.  
Long. 155° 14' E

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### (B) New Guinea

Four land-based attack planes are scheduled to depart from Vunakanau Airdrome at 0800K, December 4 with provisions and medical supplies, presumably for Japanese forces at Buna.

### (C) N.E.I.

Radio traffic of the 2nd Southern Expeditionary Fleet (N.E.I.)

0427

and of the general N.E.I. area has increased during the past few days but no definite trends can as yet be ascertained. It should be noted that this coincides with the arrival of UNYO (ACV) in the Surabaya area.

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Summary of Japanese Naval Activities of December 5, 1942

I. Northwest Pacific:

SRNS 0236

The situation with respect to the movement of Japanese convoys to the Western Aleutians from Paramushiro, Kuriles remains somewhat obscure. [An indication of the recent arrival at Kiska of Japanese shipping is suggested by a directive to one merchantman to return to Kataoka Bay, Paramushiro from Kiska due to crowded shipping conditions at Kiska.]

A sailing schedule provides for the arrival at Attu about December 9 of two convoys, presumably from Paramushiro.

A Japanese unidentified unit at 0745I, December 4, reported having failed to sight any US ships during a search in an unspecified area.

II. Southwest Pacific:

(a) Solomons:

A Japanese Striking Force, composed principally of destroyers and possibly of a few cruisers, units of which are believed to have been the force engaged on November 30 - December 1, and subsequently struck again on December 3 by our aircraft, possibly after having been reinforced, is still operating under air cover in Central Solomon waters. The presence is also indicated in these waters of two convoys, but there is at present no evidence of a prospective renewed advance on Guadalcanal. Currently Japanese submarines only are engaged in transporting food and supplies to their ground forces on Guadalcanal. At least up to December 13 daily arrivals are scheduled in the vicinity of Kaminbo.

At 1930L, December 3, Jap forces on Guadalcanal reported US units were bombarding their positions on the coast in the vicinity of Kokumbona and that two US planes were overhead. At 2000L it was reported that the US ships retired to the eastward toward Lunga Pt. The following day, December 4, 2 US AP's under escort of 5 DD's were stated to have arrived in the general Lunga Pt. area, retired during the night to Tulagi, and reappeared on December 5.

At 0705L, December 3, a Japanese midget submarine reported attacking 4 AP's in waters between Lunga Pt. and Koli Pt. and succeeding in getting two torpedo hits on one of them which, it was stated, was certainly sunk. However, after about 1 1/4 hrs. of submerged retirement 4 depth charges exploding nearby opened the seams and caused her subsequent sinking.

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(b) New Guinea:

Units of the Japanese 18th Army are believed to be scheduled for a landing in the Buna area within the next two or three days probably from destroyers.

(c) New Britain:

Rabaul remains the focal point for Japanese convoys which continue to arrive from other theatres. There is now also a slight indication of an aircraft carrier in this general area.

(d) N.E.I.:

Indications point to Ambon as now being the principal base of the 2nd Expeditionary Fleet stationed in NEI waters.

(e) French Indo-China:

Japanese shipping off F.I.C. has been instructed to avoid passing through an area within 10 miles of the coast between Cape Padarang and Cape Kega.

(f) Gilbert Islands:

A seaplane base is being established at Nauru Island. ✓

III. Japan Proper:

It is indicated that coastwise shipping has been reduced as a result of a measure recently taken to transport coal and other commodities by rail. In order to make this possible passenger travel in Japan was restricted on November 15. This step is apparently taken to cut down shipping losses from submarines.

IV. China:

Taking advantage of every possible means of increasing her capacity to transport goods overseas Japan appears to have taken steps to seize all possible Chinese seagoing junks.

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Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of December 6, 1942

SRNS 0237

I. General

1. Japanese radio traffic on December 5 has been brisk, with the major circuits involved in heavy traffic. All major commands, except the 1st Fleet, were included in this traffic. The general impression received is of continued activity centered between Rabaul and Truk, with an increasing number of supply ships indicated as proceeding to Rabaul, and Truk more and more taking on the appearance of the rendezvous point for combatant ships. 1st Fleet has not been heard for some time and either maintains radio silence or remains unidentified.

2. TOKI MARU, a 3rd (Carrier) Fleet tanker, and the unidentified tanker previously noted as frequently associated with the 3rd Fleet, are en route to the Shortland area, the latter now being due at 1400L, December 7 (a two day delay over the previous report). Other indications also suggest the possibility that at least part of the 3rd Fleet is en route or already in the southern area. If this suggestion is correct, the main strength of practically the whole Japanese Navy (Combined, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 8th Fleets) is now in the general southern area, with only 1st Fleet's location doubtful.

II. Southwest Pacific

(A) Solomons

1. A submarine force of undetermined size has been stationed in the general Kaminbo, Guadalcanal area, to remain on station during and after the approach of the Guadalcanal "Reinforcement Force". While the composition of the latter force is unknown, DD's and SS's carrying supplies are certainly involved, with additional types possibly so. December 7th is strongly indicated as a likely day for one approach with the period December 6 to 12 indicated as one of intensified effort to supply and reinforce Guadalcanal. At 1000L, December 6 a transport, with a patrol boat escort, departed Buin for Rekata (San Isabel Island).

2. (a) Air reinforcements or replacements continue to be routed to Rabaul. From Tenian (?), 18 land-based (torpedo?) attack planes are due to depart for Rabaul at 0600L, December 7.

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(b) The December Japanese naval aircraft replacement schedule for the southern area, as recovered from an order issued on December 2, indicates that 2 or 3 ACV's will be employed to transport planes from Yokosuka to Kavieng and Truk as follows:

- (1) 121 Fighters and 21 torpedo-bombers for specified Air Groups.
- (2) 90 fighters and 37 torpedo-bombers for the 11th Air Fleet.
- (3) 10 fighters, 48 unidentified types, and 8 torpedo-bombers for Cardiv 2(?)

This makes a total transported by this means of 221 fighters, 66 torpedo-bombers (and/or dive bombers), plus 48 unidentified types. It should be noted that the period involved is approximately 1 month and that the ACV's will probably therefore make at least two trips each.

3. On December 5 (LZT), C-in-C 8th Fleet was apparently still at sea, as was Comcrudiv 18. Presumably these two command one, or possibly two, Task Forces in the Solomons area.

(B) N.E.I.

There are indications that C-in-C 2nd Southern Expeditionary Fleet (N.E.I. area) is at sea. Traffic in this area is increasing but no definite trends have been noted.

(C) New Guinea

Buna Defense Force continues its association with 8th Fleet, Comdesron 3, 11th Air Fleet, 8th Base Force, and various air bases but traffic has been rather quiet.

III. Northwest Pacific

1. An operation report by Commander Northern Force indicates that the Attu Landing Force, escorted by 2 (possible) CL's and Desdiv 21, departed Otaru on November 20 and arrived at Attu on November 25. The force consisted of the 24th AA Company (?), 302nd Company, 7th Independent Platoon, and part of a Hospital Unit.

2. Indications continue that troop movements are either planned or are in progress in the entire Yokosuka-Kiska area. Two ships were ordered on anti-submarine and weather patrol in a locality about 100 miles S.E. of Paramushiro from December 6 to 12.

3. A broadcast by Tokyo at 1108I, December 5 reported an unexplained contact (submarine?) in Lat. 33° 08' N., Long. 122° 30' E.

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IV. Economic

1. In the raid by U.S. planes on Canton on November 27, RYOKUSEI MARU received 3 bomb hits, starting fires in two bunkers and causing her boilers to explode. The fires were brought under control in about 2 hours.
2. (a) On December 1, Tokyo advised Nanking that in view of the shipping situation, an attempt is being made to restrict ships to carrying ores only.  
(b) Canton advised that about 25,000 tons of goods have accumulated at that port awaiting shipment.

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Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of December 7, 1942

SRNS 0238

I. General

1. On the Anniversary of Pearl Harbor, at least two instances have been noted of Japanese Force Commanders enjoining their commands to be on the alert against attacks. The Northern Patrol Force was warned against a surprise attack on Japan, and a similar warning against large-scale air attacks was broadcast in the Bismarck-Solomons areas.

2. Although information is at best fragmentary, no indication has been noted that any important Task Force is at sea in the Solomons area. There is, however, a suggestion that a Task Force involving Crudiv 18 (2 CL's) may have been organized and is possibly at sea. Slight indications also continue of the possibly early involvement in this area of the 2nd and 3rd Fleet commands.

II. Southwest Pacific

(A) Solomons

1. The Solomons-New Guinea area apparently continues as the primary Japanese theater of action. Considerable traffic pertaining to Guadalcanal reinforcement schedules has again been noted, and some measure of success in these operations is indicated by the report of a subforce commander to the effect that "unloading was begun at 2005L, December 6 and completed at 2330L. Food and ammunition were put ashore, and landing barges were used". The following messages are pertinent to the Guadalcanal supply operations (all times are "L"):

(a) A submarine indicated its expected arrival at Kaminbo during the evening of December 7.

(b) Destroyer transport to the vicinity of Cape Esperance will be carried out on December 7, time of arrival about 2200, and on December 11.

(c) At 1930, December 7, seven vessels were directed to Esperance and a Tassafaronga landing cancelled. This may refer to the landing mentioned under (b).

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(d) Submarine landings are scheduled as follows ( 1 SS each):

- December 9, 2030 (about)
- " 11, 2130 ( " )
- " 12, 2330 ( " )
- " 13, 2300

2. Munda and Rekata Bay air bases are assuming an increasing importance in providing air coverage for Japanese supply and reinforcement forces between the Shortlands and Guadalcanal. At 1615L, December 6 a patrol boat en route to Rekata with 1 AP reported being bombed by a U.S. twin-motored plane.

(B) New Guinea

The Buna area remains relatively quiet in so far as radio traffic is concerned, although a landing attempt at Buna from DD's was indicated for December 6 (LZT), and an air attack unit at Lae was ordered to attack Allied shipping in the Buna area early on December 7 (LZT).

(C) New Britain

A Maru is due to arrive at Rabaul on December 20, carrying the # 19 Pioneer Group of about 500 men, 2 landing craft, pioneers' equipment, and 1000 tons of oil.

III. Northwest Pacific

Correction: In the ~~Secret~~ Supplement of December 5, the 2nd sentence of paragraph 1, beginning "An indication of the recent arrival....." should be disregarded.

1. At least one Maru with Army supplies on board departed Paramushiro at 1500I, December 5 and expects to arrive in the Aleutians at 1800 X, December 7. Another Maru is due to depart Paramushiro at 1430I, December 7, with Attu as its destination.

IV. Attacks by U.S. Submarines

1. # 3 HINOBU MARU (4,391 gross tons) at 1630I, December 7 reported two attacks by an enemy SS in Lat. 23° N., Long. 138° 30' E. She reported no damage.

2. In a submarine warning broadcast by a Japanese station at 0830 I, December 7, torpedo wakes were reported as sighted at about 1600I, December 6 in Lat. 8° 11' N., Long. 149° 45' E. and in Lat. 8° 14' N., Long. 149° 08' E.

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SRNS 0239

Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of December 8, 1942

I. Southwest Pacific

(A) General

F-0 ✓	F-02 ✓	F-30 ✓
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*RUC*

1. Japanese radio traffic presented a mixed picture, with no startling developments apparent, although a number of indications continue to foreshadow the possibility of a new major attempt in the Solomons. 1st Fleet remains unheard, 2nd Fleet is unlocated but maintains association with Solomons forces, and C-in-C 3rd (Carrier) Fleet is believed to have left the Empire with carriers (probably two). A slight indication has been noted that a Cardiv unit is in the vicinity of Saipan, and indications of extensive air exercises in the Guam area tend to confirm the possibility that one or more carriers are en route South. CHOKAI is due to arrive Kavieng on December 8 (LZT), but 8th Fleet Flag appears temporarily ashore at Rabaul.

2. Strong activity of surface patrols in the Marshalls and Gilberts is indicated, together with the strengthening and realignment of Special Landing Forces at or destined for the Gilberts, Tarawa being specifically mentioned.

3. Several indications point to imminent shifts of Airflot 24 from the Marshalls to the Bismarck-Solomons area and of Airflot 22 from the Empire to the Marshalls with headquarters at Taroa and Rottor. At least one (unidentified) Air Group is accompanying Airflot 22 Headquarters.

4. It appears fairly certain that a number of Japanese submarines are being shifted from the Penang area to the Arafura Sea,

5. HITAKA (CV) and 2 DD's have been reassigned to a Striking Force as of 1156I, December 7. It should be noted that HITAKA was previously indicated as enroute to the Empire via Truk. The Striking Force is undoubtedly a force either organized or in process of organization for operations in the Solomons area.

(B) Solomons

1. An unidentified Japanese force reported an attack by a number of U.S. planes S. of Savo Island between 2330L and 2344L, December 7(?). It reported no damage but indicated 2 killed and 8 wounded as a result of strafing. The remainder of the dispatch is somewhat fragmentary but seems to state that supplying (of Guadalcanal?) was begun at 0030L, December 8 and discontinued when U.S. planes and torpedo boats appeared. Presumably this is the force of 7 vessels ordered to Cape Esperance, noted in yesterday's ~~Secret~~ Supplement. No indication has appeared that

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the Guadalcanal supply and reinforcement efforts by the Japanese will not be carried out as planned.

2. It is indicated that 3 companies of Sasebo # 6 Special Landing Force were ordered to Rekata Bay as of 1642L, December 4.

3. At 0820L, December 8, Japanese radio on Guadalcanal reported 5 (U.S.) AP's and 9 DD's anchored off Lunga.

(C) New Guinea

Further reinforcement of the Buna area by the Japanese, using DD's, is indicated.

II. Northwest Pacific

1. A convoy schedule of ships departing Paramushiro for Attu and Kiska indicates the following:

Convoy #	Marus	Departed Date	Escort	Destination
1	2	24 Dec.	1 ship	Attu
2	1	29 Dec.	1 ship	"
5	3	- Jan.	1 ship	Kiska
6	2	- Jan.	1 DD	"
7	1	- Jan.	1 DD	"
8	2	- Jan.	1 DD	"
9	1	16(?) Jan.	1 Ship	"

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Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of December 9, 1942.

*SRNS 0240*

I. General

1. (a) Close association between 3rd (Carrier) Fleet units and major forces in the Solomons area was the outstanding feature of Japanese radio traffic during the past 24 hours.

(b) On December 8, traffic from the 2nd Fleet Command and Staff continued to originate from Truk or in its vicinity.

2. At the request of the Japanese Army, the Combined Fleet was directed to furnish three or more ships for transport purposes. Fusan (Korea) was mentioned in connection with the theater of operations

II. Southwest Pacific

(A) Solomons

1. At 1801L, December 8 C-in-C 8th Fleet, in referring to a transportation plan, cancelled an operation apparently scheduled for the 13th and changed to 11 the number of DD's to be used on December 11. No indication was given concerning the operation of December 11

2. Japanese radio on Guadalcanal requested an immediate reply regarding destroyer landing operations scheduled for December 9 (LZT). Numerous indications have also appeared that submarine reinforcement and supply operations involving Guadalcanal are continuing on a fairly large scale, and that combat submarines in this area continue on patrol.

3. At 0550L, December 9 Japanese radio on Guadalcanal reported the arrival off Lunga of 5 (U.S.) AP's and 8 DD's. At 1550L, this group's departure was reported but 2 AP's and 4 cruisers (?) were indicated as having left Tulagi for Lunga.

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4. (a) The I-15 (SS of 2,180 tons) at 1540I, December 8 reported having withstood a plane attack although some crew casualties were suffered.

(b) One of our planes reported having sunk a 2-man submarine on the surface 10 miles N. of Lunga Point.

(B) New Guinea

A Japanese supply operation in the Buna area was cancelled at 1310I, December 8 by reason of bomb damage to a DD. Traffic associations, however, indicate the possibility of increased air, and perhaps of surface-ship, involvement in the Buna operations.

(C) Truk

The 1200I, December 7 position of # 2 TONAN MARU (19,400 gr.tons, ex-whaling factory), under tow to Truk, at a speed of 5.5 knots, was indicated as Lat. 00° 31' S., Long. 150° 50' E.

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Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of December 10, 1942

SRNS 0241

I. General

1. Although the Japanese radio traffic general picture appears to continue substantially the same as for the past several days, a number of trends have apparently crystallized sufficiently to assist in arriving at tentative conclusions based on radio intelligence concerning Japanese intentions.

(a) Despite the absence of Japanese air operations in strength in the Solomons for some time, no doubt appears but that land-based air strength in this area has been built up considerably in the Rabaul area, at Buin, and to a lesser degree at Munda and Rakata Bay. Kavieng most probably is the air reserve center.

(b) It is believed that C-in-C 3rd (Carrier) Fleet is en route south and a strong indication has now appeared that C-in-C 3rd Fleet has assumed ( or will shortly do so) command of a Striking Force.

(c) C-in-C 2nd Fleet's movements have been nebulous but there are growing indications that he will shortly become involved in operations in the Solomons sector. The assemblage of all available CA's (including CHOKAI, former 8th Fleet Flag) and some CL's by this command, together with DD's as necessary into a Task Group under C-in-C 3rd Fleet is a distinct possibility.

(d) C-in-C 8th Fleet appears to have been assigned the subsidiary role of supplying Buna and Guadalcanal, with the assistance of SS's, DD's, and limited air coverage, and possibly at least 2 CL's.

(e) Information concerning Japanese BB's is too fragmentary at this time to venture an opinion concerning the part which they might play in forthcoming operations.

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(f) C-in-C Combined apparently retains at least strategic control of operations in the southeastern theater.

2. A fragmentary Japanese plane report at 1140L, December 10 mentions Lat.  $13^{\circ} 55' S.$ , Long.  $160^{\circ} 40' E.$  The report was rebroadcast by a Subforce

3. A 4-ship convoy en route to Palao, without escort, is due in position Lat.  $10^{\circ} N.$ , Long.  $134^{\circ} E.$  at 1000L, December 15. It is to be met at this point by 2 XPC's (converted sub-chasers) and escorted to Palao. A small aircraft anti-submarine patrol is also to be supplied on December 15.

4. In a dispatch dated December 3 from Tokyo to Madrid, Berlin, and Lisbon, it was stated that the Japanese government desires to employ 6 hospital ships in addition to 13 recognized at present. The ships mentioned are the following:

NAME	GROSS TONS	MAX SPEED	BUILT
CHICAGO MARU	5,886	14.5	1910
ARABIA MARU	9,480	16	1918
FUSO MARU	8,195	17	1908
BUENOS AIRES MARU	9,625	17	1929
YOSINO MARU	8,990	15	1906
MIKASA MARU	3,143	16	1928

✓ 5. A new Japanese Navy Call List is to go into effect on January 1, 1943.

6. Limitations on individual ship-to-shore use of radios became effective for Japanese shipping as of December 9. It is also now apparent that a convoy system has been adopted for Japanese coastwise shipping.

7. (a) A revised 6th (Submarine) Fleet report dated December 5 stated the following damage to U.S. ships:

Oct. 21 (?), 1-class BB definitely sunk  
Oct. 27, 1-class BB damaged  
Nov. 13, 1-class cruiser definitely sunk

Four ships previously reported sunk are now considered "probables". Japanese losses were 2 (unidentified) I boats, I-172, and 2 Midget Subs sunk.

(b) The Japanese report of the battle of October 26 off Santa Cruz states that a U.S. force of 4 CV's, 4 BB's, and 10 cruisers and DD's were engaged of which 1 CV was sunk, 3 CV's seriously damaged, 2 BB's burning (?), 1 BB damaged, 3 cruisers lightly damaged, and 3 unknown types

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II. Southwest Pacific

(A) Solomons

1. (a) The supply operation involving 11 DD's mentioned in yesterday's ~~Secret~~ Supplement is now clearly revealed as intended for Guadalcanal. Apparently 5 DD's are to act as transports, the landing point is Cape Esperance, and time of arrival and departure are respectively scheduled for 0045L and 0130L, December 12. An officer on Guadalcanal was ordered to report on U.S. search operations during the night of December 10 and the number of landing barges available on the night of December 11. An SS Division and a CL Division were mentioned in the same dispatch

(b) A number of indications have been noted of a gradual deterioration of the food and supply situation of Japanese forces on Guadalcanal.

(c) A Japanese Subforce commander reported the sinking of I-3 (1955 tons displacement) at about 2100L, December 9 while engaged in landing boat operations.

2. An unidentified air force was ordered to use most of its available Zero fighters to cover Munda against Allied air attacks during some (unrecovered) period on December 10. This possibly suggests the arrival of planes, supplies, or personnel at that place.

3. At 0600L, December 10 Japanese radio on Guadalcanal reported the arrival of 2 (U.S.) AP's and 2 DD's off Lunga.

(B) New Guinea

The estimate concerning Buna operations mentioned in yesterday's ~~Secret~~ Supplement remains unchanged.

(C) Marshalls

An indication has appeared that fairly large quantities of cement, construction materials, and additional construction personnel are to be sent to Kwajalein, Wotja, Taroa, Mille, and Wake during the month of January.

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Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of December 11, 1942

SRNS 0242

I. General

Except as noted below, intelligence developed from Japanese radio traffic during the past 24 hours is of an intangible nature only. Traffic was heavy in volume but operational traffic was relatively small.

Chiefs of Staff 2nd and 3rd (Carrier) Fleets were included among the addresses and C-in-C 2nd Fleet receives all traffic of operational or pre-operational nature

II. Southwest Pacific

(A) Solomons

1. The Reinforcement Force composed of 11 DD's due to land at Cape Esperance at 2345L, December 11, as mentioned in yesterday's ~~Supplement~~ Supplement, is to be provided with air cover from 1835L to 1905L December 11 and from dawn to about 0630L, December 12. Plane patrols are also provided, with one patrol of 3 Zero floatplanes over Indispensable Strait. The omission of the words "light cruiser division" in a revised translation referring to this operation sheds doubt on the possibility of a CL division taking part as was suggested yesterday. The place of landing from this force was apparently changed to Kaminbo by an order timed 1730L, December 11.

2. Probably as a diversion during the landing operations mentioned above, it is indicated that flying boats based in the Shortlands are to make an attack on Henderson Field, Guadalcanal with a view to destroying aircraft on the ground. Special type bombs are to be used and the time of the attack is about 2000L, December 11 to 0100L, December 12. A "Covering Force" has been ordered to rendezvous in the vicinity of the Shortlands Flying Boat Base during the night December 11 but its part in the operation is not revealed.

3. At least one submarine landing operation (I-2) scheduled for December 11 (LZT) has been cancelled and the submarine involved assigned to patrol duties instead.

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4. Considerable Allied air activity in the Solomons area was indicated by a number of sighting reports by Japanese activities. One such report indicated the loss of 2 HITAKA pilots and planes, confirming previous indications that some HITAKA planes are operating with the 11th Air Fleet.

5. (a) An unidentified air unit on December 9 in reporting on an (unidentified) airfield stated that land-based attack planes can land and take off during daylight but that night operations would be hazardous. It was also stated that a 70 X 1100 meter runway is scheduled for completion about December 25.

(b) On December 9 aerial photographs revealed that a large enemy airfield at Munda is 90% completed and it was estimated that the field is now usable by fighters. AA positions, dispersal areas, and shelters were under construction.

6. Some indications have been noted that at least a portion of Maizuru # 4 Special Landing Force may be transported to Guadalcanal in submarines, with Tassafaronga indicated as the landing point.

7. An unidentified unit, apparently in the Solomons area, reported having been hit by 2 torpedoes at about 1735L, December 10 (time of intercept 1832L).

8. Japanese radio on Guadalcanal at 0600L, December 11 reported the arrival at Lunga of 3 AP's and 4 DD's.

(B) New Guinea

At least two sub-chasers (probably Marus) have been ordered to transport duty from Rabaul to Buna on December 11 (or 12?). There is also a slight indication that submarines will shortly be used for this purpose. Aerial coverage is provided for the Buna Reinforcement Force as of December 11.

III. Northwest Pacific

1. Japanese radio traffic in the Northern area has continued normal and no changes in the general situation are indicated.

2. An unidentified Japanese unit reported its arrival at Kiska at 1000I, December 10 and departure at 1500I on the same day.

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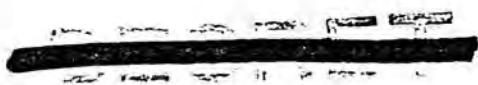


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Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of December 12, 1942

SRNS 0243

I. General

1. As indicated below, the Japanese apparently realize the gradual deterioration in their position in S.E. New Guinea and are therefore taking steps to halt, or delay, a final collapse in this area. In this sector, at least, the Japanese attitude appears to be defensive, despite indications of further reinforcement operations being scheduled for Buna.

2. In the Solomons, on the other hand, the Japanese are definitely striving to regain the initiative and indications are many that efforts directed to this end will continue.

3. Slight indications continue of the building-up of C-in-C 2nd Fleet's command by the addition of DD's and of further cooperation between this command and the 3rd (Carrier) Fleet.

II. Southwest Pacific

(A) Solomons

1. On December 10 (LZT) Comdr. 1st Air Attack Force was ordered to send the greater part of his planes to Rabaul Air Base where they are to come under the command of Comdr. 6th Air Attack Force. At 1644L, December 11 an operation order of the latter Command provided for an attack on December 12, the primary objective of which was the U.S. Air Force. Secondary objectives were given as our Guadalcanal positions and Tulagi, in that order.

2. (a) The following is a chronological summary of the most important Japanese messages noted in connection with the Guadalcanal reinforcement operation scheduled for 2345L, December 11 (it should be noted that most of the information is fragmentary):

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Originator	Time (L Zone)	Message
Guadalcanal	1355/11	2 Grumman fighters headed N.W.
"	1850/11	21 Grumman fighters and B-25's headed NW
Reinforcement Force (?)	1855/11	Sighted enemy aircraft in Lat. 7° 52' S., Long. 157° 22' E.
Guadalcanal	1900/11	No planes in this vicinity
"	2000/11	2 planes patrolling coast
Reinforcement Force (?)	0145/12	Mentions burning and engaged
"	0155/12	Mentions - off Savo - burning
Guadalcanal	0225/12	Mentions - burning - inability to steer
Reinforcement Force (?)	0300/12	Contacted DD off Esperance - inability to steer - engaged.
	0400/12	6 launches full of (material) (loaded or unloaded).
	0630/12	1 large plane in Lat. 7° 40' S., Long. 157° 40' E.
	0823/12	1 large plane in Lat. 7° 20' S., Long. 157° E.

(b) The only information available from our forces at this time concerning this operation reports contact and hit(s?) by our dive bombers on 6 DD's.

3. On December 8, an unidentified Japanese ship was ordered to load 25 mm AA guns and personnel at Rabaul and to proceed to Munda. In a message timed at 1827 I, December 10 it was indicated that this ship was sunk by a (U.S.) submarine which, though depth-charged, nevertheless pressed home its attack. Personnel were picked up and taken to the Shortlands.

4. Further Japanese landing attempts from submarines are scheduled at Tassafaronga and Kaminbo on December 13 (2300L) and December 14 (2400L).

5. Further indications of increased midget submarine operations in the Guadalcanal area have been noted.

(B) New Guinea

1. It is indicated that 5 (Jap) DD's will arrive in the vicinity of the Kumusi River mouth (25 miles N.W. of Buna) during the late afternoon of December 14 (LZT). Landing boats are ordered to be available about 30 minutes prior to landing time.

2. It appears that Crudiv 7 (2 CA's?) and about 8 DD's are to proceed to Lorengau (Admiralty Islands), fuel and depart, thence carry out transportation to Buna. Time of arrival at Lorengau is indicated as December 12. It is not known whether this operation is separate from the above but it may be, as time of arrival off Buna could possibly be during the afternoon of December 13.

3. Cardiv 2 (less HITAKA) will be temporarily assigned to the Southeastern Force (C-in-C 11th Air Fleet) during an operation known as the

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"Newak Occupation", scheduled for December 18(?)

4. At least 1 Japanese DD is scheduled to arrive off Buna from Rabaul to disembark supplies and/or reinforcements at 0700K, December 12.

*R.A. Boone*  
R.A. Boone.

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SRNS 0244

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Summary of Japanese Naval Activities of December 13, 1942

I. Southwest Pacific:

(a) General.

F-0	B	F-02	B	F-30	2
F-01	E	F-03	B	F-31	2

No new developments of significance in Japanese naval operations have been noted in the past twenty-four hours in either the New Guinea or Guadalcanal areas. Considerable shipping continues to flow down from Japan Proper to Truk and Rabaul, and evidence is quite strong that additional carrier units of the 3rd Fleet have been enroute to Truk from home waters.

(b) Solomons.

In the evening of December 11L Guadalcanal dive bombers supported by Aircobras attacked a formation of 11 Japanese DD's apparently enroute to Guadalcanal with reinforcements and supplies. Five of the DD's were reported to have been hit. The enemy formation continued on its mission, and at 0035L, December 12, it was vigorously attacked by our motor torpedo boats with the following reported results: 1 DD sank, another set on fire which exploded and probably sank, and a third damaged. At 1907L, December 12, a Japanese despatch reported the safe return of a destroyer force, assumed to be the same one which had been earlier struck by both our planes and MTB's, except for 1 DD. This indicates that only one destroyer was actually sunk, and that this unit turned back following its second attack. Three survivors were reported to have been picked up from the sunken DD. Preliminary examination indicates that their ship was the Teratsuki which is believed to be one of the new destroyer leader type.

In the early morning of December 12 L Japanese forces on Guadalcanal reported that 3 US DD's bombarded their positions in the Kaminbo-Visale area and that MTB's were patrolling the area. At 0350L, December 12, they reported fire sighted to the westward of Savo Island, and later that a submarine was either damaged or sunk in this area, but it was not known whether this was a friendly or enemy SS. Later yet these forces reported a suspected landing being made in the Marovovo Mission area, but details on this were lacking. In addition to the above US ship movements in the Guadalcanal-Tulagi area were sent out.

Japanese submarine advances on Guadalcanal appear to continue. One such craft is scheduled to arrive off Kaminbo at 2300L, December 14.

by Director, NSA/Chief, CSS  
Date: MLL

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Assistance appears to have been ordered by a Japanese commander for a broken down destroyer reported to be lying off Cape Esperance.

On December 11 two Japanese seaplanes after carrying out a search to the southwest of Guadalcanal reported that no enemy unit was sighted.

(c) New Guinea.

Plans for the reinforcement of the hard pressed Japanese forces on New Guinea appear to be progressing along lines previously reported, but latest information indicates that possibly the 5 to 8 DD, after fueling from Crudiv 7 at Lorengau, may proceed alone to the Buna area arriving off the mouth of the Kumusi River on December 14. Crudiv 7 may remain at Lorengau possibly to participate in the anticipated operations at Wewak on December 18 in which Cardiv 2 units may join.

(d) N.E.I.

Japanese air patrols have been noted as operating from Dobo, Aroe Islands.

II. Japan Proper:

During the night of December 12/13 an air raid alarm was sounded in the Sasebo Naval District, and reports thereof extended through a wide area in Japan Proper.

III. U.S. Submarine Operations:

An unidentified ship, possibly a carrier and certainly a unit of some importance, appears to have been struck by a submarine torpedo on December 12 while enroute south to Truk from Japan. At 0959I she reported herself as being under attack, at 1012I that she had been hit, and at 1058I that great damage had been incurred. *only facts are that a ship was hit by one torpedo.*

At 1630I, December 10, an unidentified merchantman was sunk in waters near the Solomon Islands. Her personnel was taken aboard the CHIYO MARU which proceeded to Shortland Island.

IV. General:

A Japanese report from Madrid to Tokyo states that there is a persistent rumor that operations on an unprecedented scale will be started in the Pacific on February 11, 1943.

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*A. Matts*  
for R. A. Boone.

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F-0 ↓	F-02 B	F-30 Q
F-01 E	F-3 B	F-31 W

Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of December 14, 1942

SRNS 0245

I. Northwest Pacific

In view of the strengthened strategic position afforded in the Aleutian area by the U.S. development of Kuluk Bay airbase (Adak Island), serious consideration has been given by the Japanese to the feasibility of counter measures. It appears that a decision has been made to launch an attack against Adak from landing boats, at least part of which will probably be transported by submarines. Although part of the information is fragmentary, over 2000 men and a maximum of 30 large landing boats are mentioned. Amchitka and Semisopchnoi (in the Rat Islands) are also mentioned and may be on the scheduled occupation list.

II. Southwest Pacific

(A) General

Although considerable Japanese traffic involving New Guinea has appeared during the past 48 hours,

it is not believed that Japanese preoccupation with the Solomons will diminish in the near future. The occupation of points along the northern coast of New Guinea, mentioned below, appears to be defensive.

It may be expected that the occupation will be made in force as obviously the entire Japanese Mandate structure would be jeopardized were Allied bases to be established at Wewak or other points in its general vicinity.

(B) New Guinea

1. From Japanese reports, it appears that a force of DD's proceeding to Buna has been under constant air attack during December 13-14. At 1110K, December 14 a Jap Desdiv reported "no damage" from an air attack, and again at 1140K reported an engagement with 3 B-24's.

2. Comdr. Outer South Seas Force (C-in-C 8th Fleet) has been ordered to provide coverage for the transport of occupation troops and supplies

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to Madang, Wewak, and possibly other points on the northern New Guinea coast.

(C) N.E.I.

1. At 1139I, December 13 intelligence was requested regarding Allied activity and air strength in Dutch New Guinea and in the Arafura Sea area. Previous indications have appeared of increased Japanese air and submarine strength in this general area.

2. The Japanese are beginning an anti-submarine campaign in the Sumatra-Penang area.

(D) Solomons

1. In general, the Solomons area has been quiet, the Japanese being primarily concerned with logistic problems. What may be 3 DD's were ordered to sortie from the Shortlands at 1430L, December 16 and proceed to Rekata Bay Seaplane Base. On December 16 flying boats will transport one month's supply of provisions to the same destination.

2. The "Reinforcement Force" of DD's which made the trip to Guadalcanal on December 11 has been ordered to proceed to Rabaul, thence to engage in the transport of an (unidentified) Force to Kunda.

3. Japanese submarine associations with Guadalcanal have continued and at 2145L, December 13 midget subs were ordered to attack - presumably U.S. shipping in this area. At 0625L, December 14 Jap radio on Guadalcanal reported a total of 8 (U.S.) AP's and 9 DD's off Lunga.

(E) Nauru Island

1. Strong indications have appeared that the Japanese are strengthening Nauru. The HEIYO MARU (9,815 tons) is scheduled to arrive at Nauru at 0400 I, December 15 with anti-submarine patrol provided from Tarawa. She is then to proceed to Mille.

2. On December 13 (LZT), the TAIHOZAN MARU (1805 tons) while unloading at Nauru was fired upon by a submarine but both torpedoes missed. The submarine was attacked by gunfire and depth charges but the results are unknown. Airflot 24 was ordered to equip planes with depth charges and to search for submarines in the Nauru vicinity on December 14.

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(F) New Britain

The Army 11th Air Corps has been ordered to move to Rabaul, probably from Truk, beginning December 16.

III. General

1. It has now been established that the BB's HIEI and KIRISHIMA were definitely sunk in the engagements of November 12-15.
2. Greenwich Island has been noted making regular weather reports, including upper air soundings, during the past 48 hours.
3. Possibly indicative of a growing Japanese tanker shortage, 6 tankers of the Combined Fleet are to be employed in bringing fuel from Balikpapan, Tarakan, and Sandakan (?).

*R. A. Boone*

R. A. Boone.

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Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of December 15, 1942

FO 1 ✓	FO 2 ✓	FO 3 ✓
FO 4 ✓	FO 5 ✓	FO 6 ✓

I. Southwest Pacific:

(A) General.

1. Japanese radio traffic during the last 24 hours has centered chiefly upon the operation involving the occupation of Wewak, Madang, and other points on the northeastern coast of New Guinea. In the meantime further efforts are being made to reinforce the air bases at Munda and Rekata, and to lend succour to the Japanese forces in the S.E. New Guinea area. No surface-ship advances towards the Solomons have been noted, but increased air vigilance in the N.E. Coral Sea area has been indicated. Details appear below.

2. If another major operation involving Guadalcanal is in the offing, radio traffic has not as yet furnished any definite clues: the location of 3rd (Carrier) Fleet units is obscure, and the 1st Fleet heavy units remain anonymous. However, in view of the relatively heavy Japanese air concentration in the Bismarck-Solomons area, the possibility of radio deception, and the Japanese propensity to do the unexpected, the situation bears careful watching.

(B) New Guinea.

1. The Wewak-Madang Occupation Force is scheduled to leave Rabaul on "X-2 day", and landings at Wewak and Madang are to begin at 1900I and 2100I respectively, on the same day. The landings are to be completed on "X plus 1" day. It is indicated that this force will pass northward of the Admiralty Islands. The best "guess" for "X day" is December 18.

2. Probably as part of the above Occupation Force, a number of Japanese DD's are scheduled to leave Rabaul at about 1900K, December 15, arrive Kavieng at 0630K and 0830K, December 16, and depart from Kavieng on December 18.

3. The 5th Air Attack Force, reinforced by 1 Air Group, has been ordered to conduct offensive patrols in the N.E. Coral Sea area and to destroy any Allied Striking Force which might be encountered.

4. Strong indications have been noted of increased participation by submarines in the Buna area operations. A tactical force called the "New Guinea Area Operations Submarine Force" has been organized. At least 1 SS is scheduled to land about 20 tons of Army rations and possibly some personnel, at about 2330K, December 16 at the S.E. mouth of the Mambare River.

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(C) Solomons.

1. Japanese radio traffic originated by Guadalcanal has been largely concerned with the movements of U.S. Forces in the vicinity of Guadalcanal. At 0800L, December 15, this radio reported 3 (U.S.) AP's at anchor and 9 DD's patrolling offshore. Jaluit, which handles much of the Jap submarine traffic, has also had much operational-type intelligence.

2. A transport operation to Rakata Bay, probably originally scheduled for December 16, is now planned for December 15.

3. Transportation operations to Munda are apparently planned for December 16, 17, and 18. One supply force destined for Munda and consisting of 6 ships (including a protective screen of 2 ships) is scheduled to leave the Shortlands area at 1700L, December 16 and to depart Munda at about 1730L, December 17. Another reinforcement is scheduled to arrive Munda at 2200L, December 16, carrying 16 guns and personnel (under 1000).

4. A Japanese DD which was previously reported sunk during the night of December 11-12, is now indicated as having been scuttled by its crew at 0315L and to have sunk at 0440L. The Desdiv Commander, Captain, 15 officers and warrants, and 139 crew members reached Kaminbo.

(D) Bismarck Archipelago.

1. The Army 11th Air Corps, which was indicated in yesterday's ~~Secret~~ Supplement as having been ordered to Rabaul, is now indicated as having 50 Type 1 fighters. These planes will be flown from Truk to Rabaul.

2. During December 13 there were indications of increased Japanese Air reconnaissance from Kavieng and Rabaul.

II. Northwest Pacific:

The Northern Area has been relatively quiet except for one (fragmentary) contact which was sent to Ominato by the AWATA MARU (7,398 gross tons) at 1110I, December 15. The report possibly referred to sighting enemy vessels.

III. Economic:

1. In accordance with the Japanese plan to utilize Chinese junks to assist in overcoming the shipping shortage as mentioned in the ~~Secret~~ Supplement of December 5, trial trips are to be made between Shanghai and Tsingtao, Amoy and Shanghai, and Keelung and Shanghai during December. Junks of from 200 to 300 tons are to be used in these trials.

2. Japan has ordered 700,000 rounds of explosive shells from Italy. This order was apparently placed at Italy's request. Delivery was scheduled in Italy for early December and presumably will be carried to Japan by one of the German or Italian blockade runners.

by Director, NSA/Chief, CSS

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3. Tokyo requested Berlin to provide for 1,000,000 tons of steel and 200,000 tons of aluminum in its production schedules, delivery to be made by the end of March, 1943. Similar amounts are requested during the next two years.

*R. A. Boone*  
R. A. Boone.

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Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of December 16, 1942

SRNS 0247

I. General

Japanese radio traffic indicates little change over the past few days. Operational traffic has been chiefly concerned with the Buna area and indicates continued association with submarine units. Guadalcanal has been inactive in radio traffic, although its associations with submarines also continue.

II. Southwest Pacific

(A) New Guinea

1. A consideration of the distances involved and other collateral information leads to the conclusion that Wewak and Madang will be occupied at 1900I and 2100I respectively on December 18 (best guess for "X-day"). The actual landing will most probably be made during the night and is to be completed by "X plus 1" day. Relatively heavy offensive air cover is provided and a vigorous air attack prior to the arrival of the convoy is indicated. In view of the fact that no known Allied forces are in possession of Wewak and Madang, the thorough Japanese preparations probably indicate a growing caution on their part, possibly misinformation concerning forces to be encountered, or perhaps a combination of both factors.

2. (a) Growing reliance upon submarine transport on the part of the Japanese in the Buna area is indicated by the following schedule for SS transportation to (some point near) Buna:

Submarine	Date of Landing
I-4	0030I, December 19
I-25	0100I, December 20
I-32	0100I, December 22

(b) Possibly including the above schedule, it was also indicated that submarines will be used for the same purpose on December 16, 18, 19, 20, 21.

(B) Solomons

1. Increased Japanese air reconnaissance in the Solomons area is indicated by an order to the 6th Air Attack Force to carry out a daily search of sea areas southeastward of New Georgia and southwest of San Isabel. It should

by Director, NSA/Chief, CSS

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also be noted that 1st Air Attack Force fighters were attached to 6th Air Attack Force on December 15. At 0930L, December 15, the Bismarck Air Force reported having patrolled S.W. of Munda and that no Allied forces had been sighted up to 0600L.

2. It has now been ascertained that the 6 ship convoy for Munda, as mentioned in yesterday's ~~Secret~~ Supplement, is composed of 6 DD's (2 acting as a screen), will depart from the Shortlands at 1700L, December 16, and proceed on course 162°, speed 30. Time of arrival at Munda is 2200L, December 16, departure at 0300L, December 17.

3. (a) Japanese submarine I-2 (1955 tons displacement) reported a depth charge attack at 1430L, December 14 but stated that no damage had been incurred.

(b) In a report timed at 1515L, December 15, commander of midget submarine # 22 reported that his sub had run aground and drifted to a point 2000 meters from Aruligo (10 miles N.W. of Tassafaronga) and was there "disposed of". The crew reached safety.

4. An indication has been noted of a shortage of landing boats in the Kaminbo vicinity. A Japanese command on Guadalcanal also reported that replenishment of fuel is urgently required.

5. At 1340L, December 16, Japanese radio on Guadalcanal reported that 3(U.S.) AP's and 3 DD's had departed Lunga for Tulagi.

### (C) Gilberts

OKAJIMA MARU is due at Tarawa Air Base on December 18 with 1000 tons of cement, departing December 22. 4th Civil Engineers are also on board for Makin Air Base, date of arrival at Makin, December 23. These items lend further confirmation to a recent statement in the ~~Secret~~ Supplement concerning the development of bases in the Gilberts.

### III. Northwest Pacific

In a Japanese dispatch dated November 4, it was reported that RO-65 (988 tons displacement) was sunk off Kiska. It was indicated that 19 men were lost, 51 saved.

### Miscellaneous

1. It is indicated that a cable is either being laid or repaired by the Japanese at the following points:

- (a) Lat. 1° 18' S., Long. 117° 01' E.
- (b) Lat. 1° 17' S., Long. 117° 21' E

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2. A German ship (possibly the raider RIO) is scheduled to arrive at Singapore at 1300I, December 17.

3. TOYO MARU (3,719 gross tons), leaving Sasebo on December 19, will carry about 500 recruits from Shanghai to Hongkong, Saigon, and Hainan.

4. The following two messages from Madrid to Tokyo, embodying intelligence from Washington, have been noted:

(a) November 26: Six repair ships left Philadelphia for the Pacific via Panama.

(b) December 3: a convoy of 9 AP's and 10 AO's left New York, bound for Africa via Natal.

*G. Matto*  
for R.A. Boone.

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F.C.	F.C.2	F.30
V	B	
F.4	F.5	F.31
V	B	C

Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of December 17, 1942

SRNS 0248

I. General

1. During the past 24 hours Japanese radio traffic has continued relatively quiet and presented a general aspect of continued administration and reorganization. In the southern theater, however, Staffs of 2nd and 3rd Fleets were prominent and considerable communication was noted between major commands. Considerable traffic involving Air Commands has also been noted.

2. It appears that Japanese Army Air Divisions of some kind are becoming involved in the southeastern area by reason of their association with the 18th Area Army (Rabaul). By one of the quirks of the Japanese language, it is not as yet clear whether the word for these divisions (HIKOSHIDAN) signified a division of combat planes or an air-borne division although usage would indicate that the former is correct.

3. Indications continue of much supply movement to the Truk-Rabaul area from the Empire and N.E.I., and considerable ship movements in and out of Truk are evident. C-in-C's Combined and 4th Fleets and Comsubforce remain at Truk.

II. Southwest Pacific

(A) New Guinea

1. In the Japanese move on Wewak and Madang the 6th Air Attack Force is providing cover for the Madang Occupation Force, and the 1st Air Attack Force has been ordered to conduct a search for enemy air bases at Wewak and Hollandia (?). The date of the occupation is definitely fixed as December 18 (X-day).

2. The Buna area has been relatively quiet. I-171, engaged in transporting supplies to Mambare River mouth, reported a failure to make contact on the night of December 16 but stated that another trial would be made late on December 17 at the same place.

(B) Solomons

1. (a) The Japanese are continuing their efforts to establish air bases in this area and strenuous efforts are being made to reinforce and supply Munda. Air cover for the YUBARI (CL) and 1 DD was ordered for the 17th and 18th, from 1500L to 1830L and from 0630L to 1000L, these ships apparently engaging

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in some ~~supp~~ operation involving Munda.

(b) Comdr. 6th Air Attack Force was ordered to have a portion of his Zero fighters proceed to Munda base as soon as possible after a specified date (unrecovered) and to participate in the Solomons area operations.

(c) The airfield at Ballale Island (near Shortland Island) has been reported about 90% completed. #

2. Guadalcanal has remained quiet except for reports concerning U.S. activities. At 0600L, December 17 it was reported that 3 (U.S.) AP's and 5 DD's arrived off Lunga from an easterly direction and at 0650L, 5 B-17's, 8 fighters, and 4 Grummans were reported heading N.W. from Guadalcanal.

3. The rapidity of Japanese radio communication is illustrated by a contact report concerning 5 planes sighted near Munda, originated at 2245 L, December 16. Rabaul completed a rebroadcast of this message at 2249L, and Truk at 2251L.

4. (a) At 0600L, December 16 an unidentified Japanese activity reported an attack by 1 B-17 but indicated "no damage".

(b) At 1205L, December 16 it was reported that a convoy was bombed by U.S. planes but again "no damage" was indicated.

5. It is indicated that 1 SS will leave Truk on each of six days after December 20 for the 8th Fleet area (Solomons-Bismarck-New Guinea).

(C) Gilberts

A 2-ship convoy carrying about 1700 men of the # 111 Pioneers is en route to Tarawa via Kwajalein. It departed Tokyo on December 10 and arrives at Kwajalein at about 1600I, December 20.

III. Northwest Pacific

The northern area remains quiet although an intensified Japanese air patrol has been ordered after December 15.

IV. Miscellaneous

1. KINUGASA (CA, 7100 tons displacement) has been ordered stricken from the Japanese Navy List as of December 15.

2. # 2 TONAN MARU (19,400 ton ex-whaling factory ship) is to depart Truk at 0500I, December 16 for Japan, under tow. Expected time of arrival off Tateyama is indicated as December 31, ultimate destination, Yokohama.

3. In a message from the Minister at Tokyo it was reported that only on November 26 did Admiral Nomura make a statement to the press concerning the final phase of negotiations with the U.S. The purpose of this statement was to convince the people that Japan was forced to declare war. The Minister intimated that this statement was indubitably ordered by the Government and that there is great prevailing uneasiness in Japan.

4. ASAMA MARU and TATSUTA MARU (16,975 gross tons), former luxury liners, are both being employed as transports. The ASAMA MARU is scheduled to depart Sasebo on December 28 for Truk (via Kure and Yokosuka), arriving Truk January 10 with about 2660 troops for Truk and Rabaul.

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*R.A. Boone*  
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Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of December 18, 1942

FO V	FO2 B	F3 ①
FO1 ②	F3	F31 ②

I. General

1. The Japanese naval code from which the major portion of important operational intelligence has been derived was changed on December 17.

2. In a message from Chief of Staff Combined Fleet it was stated that a study of radio traffic of Allied submarines operating in the southwestern area indicates that at least 10 submarines are based at Perth. It was intimated that not only do these submarines attack Japanese shipping, but also that they may be utilized for landing-party raids. Strict caution was enjoined against such raids and constant air reconnaissance was advised.

3. Considerable Japanese radio dispatches deal with U.S. submarine locations, sightings, and warnings. It is apparent that increasing efforts are being made by the Japanese to combat the effectiveness of our submarine operations.

4. Dispatches from Commander Striking Force dated October 26 indicate that carriers SHOKAKU and ZUIHO were sent to Truk under destroyer escort immediately after the Santa Cruz battle. The Flag was shifted to ZUIKAKU, indicating that the first-named two carriers were damaged.

II. Southwest Pacific

(A) Solomons

The principal Japanese radio traffic noted in this area was concerned with logistics:

(a) A Maru carrying aviation gasoline, bombs, and torpedoes left Rabaul at 1600I December 17 for the Shortland Area. After stopping at Buka, aviation gasoline and bombs are to be delivered at Ballale Island (mentioned in yesterday's ~~Secret~~ Supplement), and bombs at Nusave Island (Lat. 7° S., Long. 155°-55' E.)

(b) A Maru, presumably unloading at Munda, reported having been attacked by two Allied submarines at 2350L, December 17 but apparently no damage was incurred and it was intimated that material was successfully landed.

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(c) A fragmentary dispatch originated by a Desdiv at 0915L, December 17 mentioned cooperation with Japanese Defense Forces at Kaminbo, stated that malaria was very bad, and requested that mosquito nets and certain chemicals be dropped from aircraft.

(d) The gist of a dispatch dated December 13 indicates that after December 26 Guadalcanal will be supplied by one submarine daily.

(B) New Britain

At 0700I, December 18 two flights of Army fighters were scheduled to depart from Truk for Rabaul. A total of 57 planes, closely resembling Navy Zero fighters, are involved. It is also indicated that a fighter detachment of the 252nd Air Group will shortly depart from Japan for Rabaul.

(C) New Guinea

A slight indication has been noted that airfields are to be constructed at Hollandia (N. coast of New Guinea) and on Wakde Island (Lat. 2° 01' S., Long. 139° 15' E.)

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*md cll* Date: 12/20/79

*for* *R.A. Watts*  
R.A. Boone.

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SRNS 0250

Summary of Japanese Naval Activities of December 19, 1942

I. Southwest Pacific:

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F-0	✓
F-01	✓
F-02	B
F-3	✓
F-30	✓
F-31	C
F-34	W

(a) New Guinea.

Throughout December 18 the Japanese force advancing toward the northeastern coast of New Guinea to Madang and Wewak appears to have been struck repeatedly by allied aircraft in spite of its air support and the fact that its commanders were kept closely informed on allied radio activity. Since no reports from our forces in this area have yet been received the extent of damage inflicted on the Japanese vessels is not fully known. At 1514I, December 18, a Japanese despatch reported no damage from an air attack but at 1816I mention was made of one merchantman on fire from a near miss, and at 2100I of a small vessel which had lost steering control due to damage to her rudder. Despite these air attacks, it is indicated that landings were effected, judging from an 8th Fleet directive at 0013I, December 19 to commence landing operations at once, and a subsequent report at 0215I from an unidentified unit reporting departure from Wewak.

A significant indication of operations which may be expected from these Japanese forces landing in this area is seen in a report that pioneer groups are to be brought in almost immediately for the purpose of constructing airfields at Hollandia and Wakde Island and very probably others including locations at or near Madang, Wewak and Moemi. In addition to the above operations a destroyer division of the so-called Buna Relief Force also appears to have been hit in the late evening of December 18 by allied aircraft while enroute to the Buna area, but no details have been received.

(b) Solomons.

The situation in this area remains quiet. Japanese forces on Guadalcanal continue to send out movement reports on U.S. vessels in these waters.

(c) Carolines:

An indication has been received of the delivery at Truk of anti-torpedo nets.

(d) Wake.

Construction and engineering projects appear most active on this island.

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II. General:

(a) Japanese radio intelligence has reported two instances of a U.S. submarine transmitting a message to Honolulu and gave its position by D/F; an unidentified U.S. ship was also reported to have addressed Honolulu.

(b) #2 TONAN MARU, large whaling factory vessel, which was seriously damaged off Kavieng, New Ireland, has been in tow to a repair yard in Japan, and under escort. At 1200I, December 18, she was in Lat. 10°-53' N., Long. 148°-50' E. on course 313°, speed 6.2 knots.

*for G. Matto*  
R. A. Boone.

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F0	F3
F01	F30
F02	F31

Secret Supplement

Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of December 20, 1942

SRNS 0251

I. Southwest Pacific

(A) New Guinea

1. Japanese operational traffic has continued to center about the northeastern New Guinea area, probably indicating the final phases of the Wewak-Madang Occupation operation. A study of the traffic involved leads to the conclusion that C-in-C's 2nd and 3rd (Carrier) Fleets were not directly involved in this operation, nor was a 2nd Fleet Task Force at sea. The Escort Force was apparently under command of Comdr. Crudiv 18 (2 CL's?) and included Desdivs 10 and 30 (?). Most of the air coverage was provided by Airflot 21 operating out of Kavieng and Lae, and Hayataka (CV) probably was not in the immediate area of the operations.

2. Despite a large number of Japanese reports of sightings and bombings by Allied planes, the indications are quite clear that the landings at Wewak, Madang, and possibly other points were successfully completed. The construction or consolidation of airfields at various points on the northeastern coast of New Guinea may be anticipated. One airfield with a runway of 50 X 1100 meters was reported as barely usable by bombers.

3. The only definitely identified Japanese ship which was badly hit by our bombers is the MOCHIZUKI (DD of 1315 tons displacement). Late on December 19 the MOCHIZUKI was proceeding to Rabaul. Her casualties appear to be 25 (?) killed and 21 wounded.

(B) Solomons

1. Guadalcanal has been relatively quiet although Japanese reports concerning U.S. shipping and planes continue. At 0600L, December 20 it was reported that 3 (U.S.) AP's, 4 DD's, and 1 (unidentified type) ship arrived off Lunga.

2. A (fragmentary) contact report timed at 0305L, December 20 indicates the sighting of a U.S. Force. At 0935L, Flying Boats were ordered to investigate. Traffic associations indicate this contact to have been in the Solomons area.

3. U.S. air activity is indicated by a number of sighting reports by various Japanese activities during December 20 (LZT).

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(C) Marshalls

Further indications have been noted of construction work being carried out at Kwajalein, Taroa, Wotje, Wake, Imieji, and Mille.

II. Malaya

It is indicated that Japanese torpedo boats are based at Penang.

III. Northwest Pacific

1. In a dispatch timed at 1830I, December 20 Japanese patrol forces were warned that a U.S. Striking Force is preparing for operations. An especially close watch was ordered.

2. On December 19, Tokyo D/F gave the position of a U.S. naval vessel communicating with radio station NPC which was correctly indicated as in the Puget Sound area.

3. Various indications have been noted of extremely rough weather in the Japan area during the past several days.

IV. Economic

1. The Japanese Ambassador to Berlin, in a strongly worded dispatch to Tokyo, points out how Germany more and more is forced to depend upon the cooperation of Japan. He states that in effect Germany is fighting the European war alone and must assist her allies economically. While appreciating the difficulties of transportation, he strongly recommends that Japan should supply Germany first with needed commodities and not demand immediate delivery of steel, aluminum, and heavy machinery from Germany.

2. The Japanese Army has made a demand upon the Governor-General of French Indo-China to lend Japan the rest of all available ships. He replied that of 12 ships which remained, 3 have been sunk and the balance of about 10,000 tons is urgently needed. The Japanese Army then stated that if the request is denied, the ships will be requisitioned. The Greater East Asia Ministry, however, is attempting to satisfy the Army's wishes by indirection and hopes thereby to keep the promises originally made to the French.

3. The shortage of rice for civilian consumption in Hongkong is indicated as having become acute.

*R. A. Boone*  
R. A. Boone

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F0 M	F02 B	F30 J
F01 G	F32 W	F31 W

Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of December 21, 1942

SRNS 0252

I. General

1. The cessation of Japanese operational traffic in the northeastern New Guinea area indicates that the Wewak-Madang Occupation operation was completed at about 1300 I, December 20.

It should be noted, however, that associations between Guadalcanal, Munda, and Buin were almost entirely with aircraft and submarines.

2. (a) Truk apparently continues to be the center of Japanese naval activity, with some indication of the presence there of the Staffs and Chiefs of Staff of Combined and 4th Fleets, and of the Chief of Staff 2nd Fleet. From the best evidence available, it appears probable that G-in-C 3rd Fleet and Staff are at one of the major bases in Japan. OTAKA, UNYO, CHUYO (ACV's) and possibly the HITAKA (CV) appear to be engaged in ferrying aircraft from Japan to Truk and Kavieng. 3 CV's (ZUIKAKU, SHOKAKU, and ZUIHO) are most probably in the Empire, two of which give indications of being engaged in exercises. HAYATAKA (CV) is believed in the New Guinea-Truk area. Either RYUJO or HOSHO is considered sunk. No information concerning the 1st Fleet is available but the best estimate places the bulk of this Fleet in the general Empire area.

(b) On December 21 at least 6 arrivals are scheduled at Truk with 3 departures (including CHUYO which departs at 1000I).

II. Southwest Pacific

(A) Solomons

1. The only prominent feature of Guadalcanal Japanese radio traffic was its association with submarine commands, indicating the continued use of submarines as transports.

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2. Japanese patrol plane activity was high during the morning of December 20 (LZT). An Allied ship(s) or convoy was reported in Lat. 14° 55' S., Long. 160° 18' E. at about 1000L and another in Lat. 12°(?) 03' S., Long. 159° 04' E. at about the same time. A third sighting was reported in Lat. 14° 02' S., Long. 158° 30' E. at 1200L.

(B) New Britain

It is indicated that a submarine division was due to arrive at Rabaul at 1100K, December 21.

(C) N.E.I.

Associations indicate increased Japanese activity in the Tanimbar-Aroe Islands area.

III. Northwest Pacific

1. Some slight suggestion of an operation, possibly a convoy movement, arises from an order to KAIHO MARU to depart from Paramushiro on December 20 and to proceed to the general vicinity of Lat. 47° N., Long. 160° E to make meteorological observations and carry out an anti-submarine patrol until December 27.

2. Anchorages have been assigned in Kiska Harbor for the following two ships (date of arrival not indicated):

- NICHIYU MARU: bearing 130°, distant 1200 meters from Observation Point.
- URAJIO MARU: Buoy D-3 (bearing 100°, distant 1180 meters from Observation Point).

The convoy commander indicated that he intends to discharge dangerous cargo immediately and desires to use his engines at once in case of an air raid.

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R.A. Boone.

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Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of December 22, 1942

SRNS 0253

I. General

1. The present inability to read the principal Japanese radio traffic-increases the amount of reliance which must be placed upon the traffic associations of the principal Japanese naval Forces in arriving at conclusions concerning prospective Japanese intentions. Traffic from the Wewak-Madang areas is now becoming administrative in nature and there are slight indications that the Forces concerned in this operation have returned to Rabaul.

2. A number of converted merchantmen, possibly six, some of which are known to have operated as raiders in the Indian Ocean and at least 3 of which were involved in the Wewak-Madang Occupation, now appear to be scheduled to operate in the Solomons area.

3. A slight suggestion that some decision has been reached by Combined Fleet Staff concerning further operations involving Guadalcanal may be inferred from a long message (unread) from Chief of Staff Combined Fleet to Guadalcanal Operations Force. This message was relayed to Tokyo. It is as yet too early to speculate upon prospective Japanese moves, but the occupation of various points along the N.E. coast of New Guinea (Wewak, Madang, Wakde, Hollandia, and possibly others), as well as the rapid completion of new air-fields or air bases in the Solomons area (Ballale Island, Munda, Rekata Bay) in addition to those already in operation, clearly indicates a rounding-out of the Japanese strategical picture in this area.

II. Southwest Pacific

(A) Solomons

1. Operationally, the Solomons have been quiet and no indications have been noted from Japanese radio traffic of any surface-ship movement towards Guadalcanal. Presumably efforts continue to reinforce and supply Guadal-

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canal, using submarines. What may be a submarine transport reported having completed landing supplies at 2230I, December 21, although the location of the landing is not definitely disclosed.

2. Japanese radio on Guadalcanal reported that 4 (U.S.) AP's and 8 DD's arrived at Lunga at 0645L, December 22.

3. Jap Patrol Boat # 34 reported having had 5 torpedoes fired at her at 2200I, December 21 while on convoy duty in Lat. 5° 12' S., Long. 156° 07' E., but indicated that no damage was suffered.

(B) Marianas

At 1230I, December 21 the SUWA MARU (10,672 gross tons) reported that the # 2 TONAN MARU (19,400 gross ton ex-whaler) is towing well, despite a N.E. wind of force 6. The noon position of the tow on December 21 was given as Lat. 15° 24' N., Long. 143° 47' E., course 340 (T), speed 5.3 knots. The YUZUKI (DD of 1315 tons displacement) and YAMAGUMO (DD of 1500 tons displacement) were scheduled to take up the escort on December 21.

(C) N.E.I.

It is indicated that the TATSUTA MARU (16,975 gross tons) will not go to Surabaya as originally scheduled but will disembark 124 men destined for Surabaya at Makassar instead.

III. Malaya

1. The German ships ROSS BATH (ROSSBACH?) and BURGENLAND arrived at Singapore on December 17 and 18 respectively. The former ship is the ex-NANKIN (7131 gross tons), a British freighter captured on May 10 in the Indian Ocean. The BURGENLAND apparently has arrived from Bordeaux.

2. SAN DIEGO MARU (7,269 gross ton tanker) is towing a "special transport" to Singapore. In view of mine-fields, however, the tow is to be taken into the harbor by a guard vessel.

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IV. Japanese Merchant Shipping

1. Numerous instances have been noted of Japanese naval transports being ordered to load raw materials, such as phosphates and ore, for carriage to Japan upon completion of unloading supplies for Forces in the southern theater.

2. all Japanese shipping not in convoy and navigating along certain specified routes within the Kwantung-Fukien Sea Area have been ordered to proceed "hugging the coast line".

*R.A. Boone*  
R.A. Boone.

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F-01	F-3	F-31

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Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of December 23, 1942

SRNS 0254

I. General

1. As intimated in yesterday's ~~Secret~~ Supplement, increased reliance must, for the time being, be placed upon traffic associations in arriving at conclusions concerning Japanese intentions. In this connection, however, it should be borne in mind that such conclusions are often necessarily based upon uncertain information and it might therefore be well if they are accepted with caution.

2. The general picture presented by Japanese radio traffic is one of relative quiet, with slight indications of greater interest being manifested in the Solomons than was the case just prior to the Wewak-Madang Occupation campaign. (In this connection, however, attention is invited to the heavy concentration of ships at Rabaul, mentioned in the attached Summary).

3. Traffic reflects continued movement of Japanese aircraft from the Empire to the Southern Area. Considerable traffic involving aircraft carriers in the Japan area has also been noted, suggesting continued drills and exercises, although no signs of imminent departure have been noted.

II. Southwest Pacific

(A) Solomons

1. TSUGARU (CM of 2,000 tons, estimated) which was previously involved in a Guadalcanal landing attempt, has again appeared in traffic which gives a distinct appearance of another landing or supply operation, possibly during the night of either December 22-23 or December 23-24. At 1600L, December 22 a staff officer addressed TSUGARU (and possibly other addressees) to the effect that landing boats for unloading fuel be supplied upon arrival of TSUGARU at Kolombangara (New Georgia Group). In view of the proximity of this island to Munda it is possible that these supplies are intended for that base.

2. (a) A radio intelligence report from the 1st Combined Communication Unit (radio intelligence center at Rabaul) suggests two task groups in this area. One of these is a Subdiv or Subron and is more closely associated with Buna

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Defense Force. The other, unidentified as to type, is linked with Guadalcanal and may also be composed of submarines for supply operations as well as other types allotted to this purpose. Even in the absence of specific information, indications are fairly clear that efforts to supply Guadalcanal are continuing.

(b) I-21(?) is due to arrive at Shortland at 0600I, December 25 where about 25 tons of provisions and other cargo are to be loaded for the Army. The same submarine was engaged in transportation to Guadalcanal early in December.

3. # 1 Combined Communication Unit at 1920I, December 22 reported that a Jap submarine had located a U.S. submarine about 20(?) miles W. of Lunga Point.

4. A (fragmentary) report from Guadalcanal apparently dealt with a Japanese estimate of U.S. forces on Guadalcanal. It mentioned approximately 30,000 troops, 10 to 15 B-17's, 10 (unrecovered type), Lockheeds, 50 Navy F4F's (?), and 25 SED's.

5. YAMASHIRO MARU, upon completion of present duties, has been ordered to tow SANYO MARU (8,360 gross tons) from Shortland Island to Truk.

(B) Carolines

A heavy roller was ordered shipped to Mereyon Island (in Woleai Atoll, Lat. 7° 21' N., Long. 143° 55' E.). It was previously suspected that a seaplane base was located in the Atoll, but the topography of the islands makes the construction of an airfield easily possible.

(C) Marshalls

At 2117I, December 23 the Commander at Wake reported a large scale attack by B-17's. At 2140I he reported having driven off the planes.

III. Northwest Pacific

1. On December 23 and 24 Convoys # 5 and # 1 are scheduled to leave Paramushiro. # 5 Convoy consists of the NICHYU MARU and the URAJIO MARU to which anchorages in Kiska Harbor have been assigned. The KAIHO MARU, previously referred to in the ~~Secret~~ Supplement of December 21, is scheduled to leave as soon as its preparations are completed. Northern Force traffic volume on December 22 was normal although an unusual number of ships appeared to be in the Ominato communication zone.

2. A (possible) transport was reported at 0000I, December 22 as having been hit by a torpedo in the Ominato Area.

3. All Japanese shipping entering Tokyo Bay from the South was ordered to take the route W. of Oshima Island because of a U.S. submarine report in Lat. 34° 52' N., Long. 139° 49' E.

4. Among the "picket boats" in the Northern Area are the ZENYO MARU (6442 gross tons) and the EIFUKU MARU (5866 gross tons).

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IV. Miscellaneous

1. It is indicated that Wang Ching Wei (head of the Japanese-controlled Puppet Government in China) "desires" to enter the War at an early date. Although Japanese "permission" will be forthcoming, it was stated that no definite decision as to the time can be reached prior to mid-January.

2. It is indicated that SYDNEY MARU (5,425 gross tons), which was torpedoed and beached on October 16 near Goh Pak, Thailand, will have temporary repairs completed by January 10 and proceed to Japan with a miscellaneous cargo of about 1720 tons, including tin, tungsten, rubber, etc.

*R. A. Boone*  
R. A. Boone.

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Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of December 24, 1942

FO ✓	FO1	FO2 B
F3 ✓	F30	F31 C

I. General:

1. The outstanding features of Japanese radio traffic noted during the past 24 hours appear to be shipping and convoy movements to Truk and Rabaul from the N.E.I., Japan, Palao, the Yangtse Valley, and Taiwan, and a resurgence of Japanese activity in the Buna area (see New Guinea, below). The general Solomons area has remained quiet and no new significant indications have appeared during the past several days.

2. In a message dated November 14, CinC 3rd Fleet estimates the dates of completion of repairs to vessels as follows:

ZUIHO (CV)	About December 20
SHOKAKU (CV)	Latter part of January (perhaps mid-January)
CHIKUMA (CA)	" " " " " "
AKIGUMO (DD)	December 18
AKITSUKI (DD)	Latter part of December ?
1 DD in Desdiv 4	January 15

The above schedule corroborates previous indications that ZUIHO and not ZUIKAKU was damaged in the action off Santa Cruz on October 26. Furthermore, CHIKUMA's status is now clarified.

3. Regular weather reports to the SUWA MARU (towing #2 TONAN MARU from Truk to Tateyama) continue to be noted.

4. A message from Yokosuka to TAKASAGO MARU (AH) indicates that Jap hospital ships carry codes and ciphers and possibly are linked in with the general Japanese naval communications system.

II. Southwest Pacific:

(A) New Guinea.

1. The 1st and 6th Air Attack Forces are scheduled to carry out attack missions against Allied positions in the Buna area on December 24 and 25. Apparently the #1 Air Attack Force will operate until 2400I, December 24, at which time #6 Air Attack Force will continue. What may be specific attacks are planned for 1030I (12 planes) and 1230I (25 planes) December 24. These attacks are indicated as coordinated with the ground forces. This air activity most probably was decided upon after an exchange of most urgent dispatches between Comdr. Buna Defense Force and 11th Air Fleet late on December 23, apparently stressing an urgent need of air support.

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2. A (fragmentary) Japanese dispatch at 1225I, December 23, stated in part, that information on Allied army operations is being acquired through the interception of (Allied) Army Air Communications in the Buna area at about 1200I.

(B) Palao.

A two-ship convoy (NICHIZUI MARU and TATSUMIYA MARU, the latter of 6,344 gross tons) carrying the 1st and 2nd Sections of 17th Pioneer Force is expected to arrive in Lat. 8° 50' N., Long. 132° 15' E. at 0500I, December 25, course 175° (T), speed 10.5 knots. At this point it will be joined by two Marus for escort to Palao.

(C) Gilberts.

SHOHEI MARU (7,250 gross tons) and SHOAN MARU (5,624 gross tons), carrying 1700 men of the 111th Pioneers are to be met by ASANAGI (DD of 1270 tons displacement) off Jaluit on December 24 en route to Tarawa.

(D) Wake Island.

1. The air raid on Wake caused a considerable flurry of traffic, with an imposing list of addressees indicated. Comairflot 24 addressed, among others, all flagships in the Combined Fleet, 11th Air Fleet, and the Gilberts and Marshalls Defense Forces. At 0100I, December 24 (after the raid), Wake set "condition three" and a strict anti-aircraft watch was ordered. However, as early as 2325I, December 23, Wake originated an ordinary service message to Tokyo, indicating that Wake radio and administration was functioning at that time.

2. At 0720I, December 24, #1 AMAKASU MARU (tentative identification) was torpedoed and sunk near Wake. Gunboats on patrol in the vicinity were engaged in rescuing seamen.

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(E) Solomons.

On December 22 the air bases at Munda, Rekata, and Buin were closely associated with Guadalcanal

*[Signature]* Date: 12/20/79

III. Northwest Pacific:

#5 Convoy, bound for Kiska as mentioned in yesterday's ~~Secret~~ Supplement, was ordered to be in position at 0600I on the day before arrival so that entry can be made between 0400I and 0600I. NICHIIYU MARU's anchorage was changed to 1460 meters distant, bearing 179° from Observation Point (see ~~Secret~~ Supplement of December 21).

~~SECRET~~

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IV. Diplomatic:

The following is a summary of a dispatch from Japanese Foreign Minister Tani to Buenos Aires and Santiago.

1. Chile, as a neutral, is to be used as a starting point to begin operations against Peru, Bolivia, and Ecuador, the weakest members of Pan-Americanism. The time is now ripe and opportune for this purpose.

2. As America concluded a secret pact with Peru, recognizing Peru's paramount position on the Pacific Coast of South America, this point is to be used in approaching key men with Axis leanings in the Chilean Army and Navy who should be informed that:

(a) If Chile remains neutral, Japan will recognize her dominant position.

(b) To remove the threat of Peru and Bolivia against Chile, Japan will bring the war to the coast of Peru at Chile's request.

(c) Japan will entertain the idea of concluding a secret agreement to aid Chile in case of attack. These proposals are to be made by the (Chilean) military leaders to the Chilean government. Careful selection of the Chileans to be chosen for this plot is enjoined, in view of the serious consequences should any leaks occur.

*R. A. Boone*  
R. A. Boone.

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by Director, NSA/Chief, CSS

*mtc* Date: 12/20/79

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Room 3612,  
December 25, 1942.

TO:

F-0 VS

F-3 3/2

F-31 W

F-01 VS

F-30 VS

F-12 SRNS

F-02 B

SUMMARY OF RADIO INTELLIGENCE

SRNS 0256

General

1. Traffic is average except Army traffic which continues heavy. Numerous shipping movement reports are noted.

Empire Area

2. No significant developments are noted. The presence of U.S. SS in coastal waters has caused Yokosuka to direct all ships to proceed inshore and to keep a strict lookout.

3. 3rd Fleet Flagship (CV) continues to be addressed in the Empire.

Mandate Island Area

4. The Flagships of Combined, 2nd and 4th Fleets and SubFor continue to be addressed at Truk.

5. Wake Island sent several despatches (unreadable), probably containing action reports. Comdr. 6th Base Force also sent several messages to all commanders in Gilbert area, which are probably directives regarding alert against other raids.

Southern Island - Australia Area

6. Much high precedence traffic involving Buna, Rabaul, CruDiv 18, and AirFlots 21 and 26 is noted. This appears because of requests for weather data by the AirFlots, to indicate air operations in support of the Buna garrison.

7. The 5th Air Attack Force is to make a bombing attack on an unidentified place near the Northwest tip of Guadalcanal on 25 December.

8. An unidentified MARU was hit in an attack by 3 B-17's near Rabaul about 1520 L/24 December.

*H. H. Smith-Hutton*  
H. H. SMITH-HUTTON.

Copy to: ✓  
F-34;  
F-111.

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~~Secret~~ Supplement

Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of December 26, 1942

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F-01	✓	F-3	✓	F-31	C

SRNS 0257

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I. General

1. During the past two days, Japanese radio traffic has been normal, with little operational-type activity noted. The principal trend noted has been one of continued attention to logistics, with chief concern directed to convoy movements from the west towards the east, Army transportation traffic being relatively high and involved with the Truk area. Origins as far as Singapore were noted. In the Marshalls, considerable air activity has been noted, giving a picture of much shifting and moving around. This may be caused by the indicated concentration in the Marshalls of Airflots 22 and 24, the Headquarters of the former being at Taroa. Some indication has appeared of the possible shift of a part of the Marshalls air units to the Solomons area, probably to strengthen the air forces there.

2. Indications have been numerous of air maneuvers on a grand scale in the Japan area, with carrier and land-based planes taking part. By D/F, it appears that two carrier groups are operating in widely separated areas, one to the westward of Kyushu, the other eastward of Honshu. The maneuvers apparently are concerned with the defense of Japan proper. Traffic association also suggests that CV's are receiving new aircraft and equipment preparatory to returning to their operating areas.

3. One instance has been noted of a Jap submarine being ordered to trail a southbound Japanese convoy, presumably to intercept any attacking U.S. submarine. Ships along the coast of Japan were ordered by Yokosuka to hug the coast as a result of a number of U.S. submarine reports.

4. By association, some evidence has appeared that at least one Air Group (14th?) may shortly depart from the Empire for the South.

5. As late as 1030I, December 25 a weather report was sent to SUWA MARU, towing #2 TONAN MARU. It was indicated that the weather would remain unchanged.

6. #3 TONAN MARU (19,400 gross tons) with 20,000 kilolitres crude oil on board departed Miri, Borneo on December 20 and is due at Shimotsu (Lat. 34° 04' N. Long. 135° 05' E.) on December 31.

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II. Southwest Pacific

(A) Solomons

1. Guadalcanal Japanese radio traffic has been quiet, although a slight indication has been noted of coming renewed landing attempts. During the interim, supplies are being dropped from transport planes (which may in fact be bombers) over the Cape Esperance region. One such supply unit of 8 planes departed at

*MAJ [Signature]* Date: *12/26/42*

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0010L, December 25 and apparently completed its mission successfully. A second air unit dropped supplies during the early hours of December 26, and a third attempt is indicated as scheduled from 0330L to 0400L, December 27. Although the base of these planes is not clearly known, there are indications that at least part of them are based at Munda.

2. Munda Air Base has featured prominently in radio traffic in the Solomons. By association, it appears as if Airflot 21 will shortly be based at Munda. At 1900L, December 25 a (fragmentary) dispatch to the Munda Defense Force changed the number of landing barges from 6 to 10, indicating further plans to supply this base, despite heavy raids during the past 10 days by U.S. aircraft.

3. On December 23 the "A" Attack Wing of Airflot 26 was at Munda. It was probably this force which attempted interception of U.S. planes as described in the attached Summary.

(B) Gilberts

Undoubtedly as an aftermath of the recent raid on Wake, all ships in the Gilberts Defense Force were ordered to maintain a strict lookout in view of possible enemy action.

(C) Bismarck Archipelago

1. At 1920K, December 25 an unidentified Japanese ship (possibly a DD) reported having been hit by a torpedo in the vicinity of Cape St. George (probably in Lat. 5° 10' S., Long. 152° 30' E.), and stated that it was unable to steer and was in danger of sinking. Two destroyers were ordered at full speed from Rabaul to assist the stricken ship and to bring her into Rabaul. At 0915K, December 26, the ARIAKE, one of the rescuing DD's, received a direct bomb hit when attacked by 1 B-25 in the vicinity of Lat. 5° S., Long. 152° 40' E. and reported that she was afire. A slight suggestion was noted that the ship first disabled sank at 0015K, December 26.

2. A (garbled) message timed at 1600I, December 24 originated in the Rabaul-Solomons area reported an attack by 3 B-17's which disabled an unidentified Maru.

(D) New Guinea

During December 24 many urgent requests for weather information were made of Buna Defense Force by Airflots 21 and 26, suggesting large-scale air operations in support of the Buna Garrison. Traffic association, however, gives rise to a slight indication that the Buna Garrison may be withdrawn shortly.

*W. J. Boone*  
for R. A. Boone

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SRNS 0258

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Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of December 27, 1942

F-D ✓	F-02B ✓	F-30 ✓
F-01 ✓	F-03 ✓	F-31 W

I. General:

1. The only significant feature of Japanese radio traffic during the past 24 hours is some further corroboration of yesterday's estimate of the location of 3rd (Carrier) Fleet units (a) to the westward of Kyushu, with an indication that these are or will shortly be in the general vicinity of Moji, and (b) a Task Force to the eastward or northeastward of Honshu. The latter indication arises out of a radio intelligence report in which the only combatant addressee is Chief of Staff 3rd Fleet and the inclusion of Kiska Communication Unit. The available evidence, however, is still too slight to arrive at definite conclusions in this regard.

2. Some slight indications have appeared of a Japanese reorganization in the Southeastern Area, with the appearance of a new "Southeastern Area Fleet", command apparently being vested in either CinC 11th Air Fleet or in CinC 2nd Fleet.

II. Southwest Pacific:

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(A) Solomons.

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Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Munda air base continues to appear in Japanese radio traffic, indicating that considerable importance is attached by the Japanese to completing and operating this airfield and suggesting that further attempts to reinforce Guadalcanal may depend upon air coverage supplied by Munda. Rabaul radio addressed Munda Defense Force and Kure #6 Special Landing Force, suggesting the departure from Rabaul of some unit either supplying or reinforcing this Landing Force at Munda. Strong indications have been noted that Munda Base is supplied by way of Kolonganbara Island (New Georgia Group).

2. Guadalcanal remains quiet but presumably the supply operations by aircraft and submarines previously mentioned will be carried out as planned.

(B) Gilberts - Marshalls.

Considerable traffic has been noted concerning the Gilberts Area Sea Defense Force as well as Wotje, Taroa, and Mille. This probably arises out of a Japanese conviction that further raids will be made against these places.

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(C) Bismarck Archipelago.

At 1052I, December 26, it was indicated that one of the Jap DD's, which were disabled in this area as described in yesterday's ~~Secret~~ Supplement, was able to proceed. Rescues ships which had put out from Rabaul were ordered to return.

(D) New Guinea.

On December 25 (LZT) a PT-boat reported sinking a Jap submarine off Kumusi River. It was in this vicinity that Japanese submarines were landing supplies for the Buna Defense Force.

III. Northwest Pacific:

1. The anchorage of URAJIO MARU (mentioned in the ~~Secret~~ Supplement of December 21) for daytime entry into Kiska Harbor is indicated as follows:

Bearing 90°, distant 1280 meters from Observation Point (cliff on the peninsula on the north side of the Bay). Other vessels will proceed toward the South Channel.

2. A review of Japanese traffic concerned with the Northern Area during the past several weeks gives rise to a strong suspicion that radio deception is being employed in this theater. Clear-cut intimations of prospective operations on the part of Japanese forces in the Aleutian Area should therefore be accepted with reserve.

IV. U.S. Submarine Operations:

1. At 1545I, December 25, a Jap army transport received a torpedo attack in the vicinity of #1 Buoy of the Surabaya North Channel. No further details are known.

2. SUMATRA MARU (5,863 gross tons) reported at 1310I, December 25, that no damage was incurred when 4 torpedoes were fired at her (location unrecovered).

3. At 2237I, December 26, 1st Combined Communication Unit at Rabaul broadcast a warning that a U.S. submarine using "NERK" was located on bearing 193° from Rabaul, distance believed to be close.

4. U.S.S. SEADRAGON reported sinking Jap submarine I-68 (this should read I-168 as this class has been renumbered) in the vicinity of St. George's Channel.

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*Handwritten initials* Date 12/20/79

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V. Japanese Merchant Shipping:

1. A further weather report was sent to SUWA MARU, towing #2 TONAN MARU at 1600I, December 26. Assuming a course of North along Long. 140°, speed 5.5 knots, the approximate noon position of this tow on December 26 is estimated as Lat. 24° 30' N., Long. 140° E.

2. Schedule of #3 TONAN MARU, apparently a continuation of the schedule given in yesterday's ~~Secret~~ Supplement, follows: depart Yokohama January 6, arrive Singapore January 20, load full cargo of crude oil and depart for Yokohama on January 25, arriving February 9. A number of instances have been noted of tankers hauling crude oil from Singapore to Japan. This suggests that the Japanese are using tank stowage at Singapore for crude oil brought from the N.E.I., probably by coastwise tankers.

3. Three Marus in company are scheduled to depart Buin at 1100I, December 27, for Rabaul where they expect to arrive at 2000I, December 28.

*R. A. Boone*  
R. A. Boone.

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Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of December 28, 1942

SRNS 0259

I. General

1. Japanese radio traffic during the past 24 hours gave little indication of operational-type traffic. Of the operational-type traffic noted, more than a usual amount was concerned with Rekata Sea-plane Base and Munda Air Base, particularly the latter. Some increase in submarine warning broadcasts to merchant vessels has been apparent during the past several days, probably caused by increased ability to read this type message as well as an improvement in the Japanese warning system.

2. Traffic routing indicates that C-in-C's Combined, 2nd, and 4th Fleets and Comsubforce are at or in the Truk area. The 3rd (Carrier) Fleet has appeared in traffic more frequently during the past two days but nothing new can be added to the estimate concerning carriers contained in yesterday's ~~Secret~~ Supplement.

3. A number of sightings of U.S. planes in the Solomons Area were made by Japanese activities during December 27 and intercepted reports indicate increased Allied air activity over Rabaul.

4. The SUWA MARU/# 2 TONAN MARU tow is scheduled to arrive in the vicinity of bearing 170° distant 30 miles from Mikurajima (Lat. 33° 55' N., Long. 139° 35' E.) at 1200 I, December 30. At this point the escort will be taken over by the Tokyo Bay Force. Yokosuka tugs will take over the towage from SUWA MARU at the entrance to Tokyo Bay.

II. Southwest Pacific

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by Director, NSA/Chief, CSS

(A) Solomons

7115 Date: 12/20/75

1. Munda and Buin Bases appeared as the center of activity on December 26 and 27. From the appearance and urgency of traffic, it appears as if a group of Jap DD's ran into difficulties in attempting a supply and replenishment operation of Munda (or Guadalcanal) from Buin during the night December 26-27. Late on December 27 Munda Base again appeared in high precedence traffic. At 0100L, December 28 a supply operation was reported completed and although the locality is not mentioned, associations indicate either Guadalcanal or Munda.

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2. Further indications have appeared that submarines are still active in replenishment operations for the Jap army on Guadalcanal.

3. From a captured document, it appears that CHOKAI and KINUGASA (CA's) fired a total of 752 rounds in the bombardment of Guadalcanal airfield during the night of October 14-15.

(B) New Guinea

1. On December 28, Comdr. Buna Defense Force sent a very long, most urgent message to a wide list of addressees, including Crudiv 18, Desron 3, and 1st Section Naval General Staff.

2. (a) 19th Pioneer Unit, having been incorporated into # 24 Special Base Force (at Ambon) is shortly to leave for Hollandia, on the northern coast of New Guinea, where an airfield is most probably to be constructed.

(b) HEIYO MARU is scheduled to depart from Yokohama on January 7 for the New Guinea area with arms, military supplies, etc. for the 8th Construction Section, and 1600 personnel and 4 landing boats.

(C) New Britain

A ship sunk in Rabaul Harbor on December 27, located at 188°, 2550 meters from the Southern range mark, is indicated during daytime by a red flag, and at night by a red light.

III. Northwest Pacific

1. KAIHO MARU, mentioned in the ~~Secret~~ Supplement of December 21, indicated her position at 2100I, December 27 as Lat. 49° N., Long. 157° 08' E. This vessel is engaged in weather observation and anti-submarine patrol, probably for convoys en route to the Aleutians.

2. At 2250I, December 26 Tokyo D/F broadcast intelligence of a suspected (U.S.) submarine using the call NERK in position south of Kiska and communicating with station NPG at San Francisco.

IV. U.S. Submarine Activities

1. U.S.S. WAHOO, returning from patrol in the Solomons Area reports as follows:

On December 10 sank a 5,644 ton cargo or passenger vessel.

On December 14, sank an I-2 class submarine.

2. U.S.S. SAILFISH reported torpedoing a Japanese submarine near New Britain.

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*Handwritten:* 7/14/88 12/20/89 Date:

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3. A total of 14 depth charges were dropped by 2 Jap DD's against a suspected U.S. submarine off Cape St. George, New Ireland on December 27.

*R. A. Boone*  
R. A. Boone.

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Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of December 29, 1942

SRNS 0260

I. General

1. Japanese traffic associations on December 28 and 29 clearly indicate carrier activity of some kind. Although it has been suggested that a carrier or Cardiv of the 3rd Fleet is at Rabaul or en route there, and the possibility also arises that a similar unit may have Truk as its destination (by virtue of associations with C-in-C's Combined and 2nd Fleets), it is believed that information at present available is too conflicting to warrant definite conclusions. No indications have been noted from radio traffic that any important Japanese Task Force is at sea, nor is any important new operation suggested by recent analysis of intercepted Japanese traffic.

2. At 1303I, December 14, I-2 (submarine of 1955 tons displacement) reported having been bombed but received no damage. It should be noted that U.S.S. WAHOO reported sinking the I-2 on December 14. Since that date I-2 has remained unheard.

3. A weather forecast at 1850 I, December 28 to the SUWA MARU/# 2 TONAN MARU tow stated that the weather would be generally clear but overcast for a time and would also be generally clear on the "day after tomorrow".

II. Southwest Pacific

(A) Solomons

1. Greater Japanese submarine activity in this area has been noted. By D/F, two submarines are indicated S.W. of Rabaul and several others appear in the general area of Lat. 8° S., Long. 154° to 159° E.

2. Rabaul Radio Intelligence reported that at 1800 I, December 27 call, NERK, thought to be a U.S. submarine in position Lat. 7° 30' S., Long. 155° 30' E., sent an urgent message to Brisbane. It was commented that the submarine had probably sighted "one of our ships".

(B) Wake

Numerous dispatches between a Civil Engineering Section on Wake Island and Tokyo Engineering activities probably indicate reports of damage and requirements.

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(C) New Guinea

A fragmentary message at 1510I, December 28 appears to order the Buna Guard Force to move from Buna to Giruwa (about 2 miles N.W. of Buna Village).

(D) New Britain

Rabaul originated a number of air raid warnings on December 27 and 28. At least four such warnings were noted between 0310 I and 0745I, December 28.

Diplomatic

1. Ambassador Suma (Madrid) in a lengthy dispatch to Tokyo purports to give the gist of his conversation with the Duke of Alba, recently returned from his post in London. A summary of Alba's alleged remarks as quoted in the dispatch follows:

(1) The British are imbued with tremendous confidence that the war will be won.

(2) The British and Americans say that by March, 1943 they will have all of North Africa and that the Germans and Japanese will be prevented from meeting by steps to be taken in the Middle East.

(3) There is a rift between British and American strategy in that the U.S. still emphasizes the Pacific while England considers Europe first. Prime Minister Churchill is quoted as having said to Alba, "The U.S. is certainly anxious to whip Japan. She is going to fight her to the bitter end....But.... in England there are plenty of people who remember the Tokyo-London alliance and who say it was a mistake to have forsworn it for the sake of America..."

(4) Although this estrangement between London and Washington will crop up now and then...during this war we cannot but regard them as one complete solid block.

2. A message dated December 10 from Bangkok to Rome stated, in part, that the order for the diminution of Japanese activity against India came from Tokyo. The local reasons assigned are (a) recent developments on the African Front, and (b) the importance of the Solomons situation.

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R.A. Boone

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FOI RZ	F31 W	FO2 ✓

Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of December 30, 1942

SRNS 0261

I. General

1. Japanese radio traffic has been generally below normal with relatively few high precedence dispatches. One significant dispatch from 1st Combined Communications Unit (radio intelligence center) at 1100I, December 30 was addressed for information to the Chiefs of Staff of Combined, 2nd, and 3rd Fleets, Chief of Staff of Subforce, Guadalcanal, and a tanker previously used to fuel carriers. This association is new and unusual

2. Associations between Airflots 25 and 26, 3rd Fleet, Yokosuka Air Arsenal and other activities suggests the use of one or more carriers to transport planes and supplies from Yokosuka to Airflots 25 and 26 in the southern area.

3. Possibly as an aftermath of the Midway campaign, a general order to all Japanese naval activities on July 30 instituted the system of cover calls, designed to conceal the originator of dispatches. Forces afloat were particularly instructed to employ this method of communication in important messages in view of the intense Allied radio intelligence activity. Careful instructions were also promulgated to insure increased communication security.

4. At 0905I, December 29 an unidentified Maru was attacked by a U.S. submarine off the coast of Japan (location unrecovered). It was indicated that the submarine was attacked at 1120I, and a DD proceeded to the scene at 1300I to engage in combating the submarine.

II. Southwest Pacific

(A) Solomons

1. Except for a number of plane contact reports on December 29 and some reports concerning U.S. submarines, this area has been relatively quiet. An unidentified unit in the Shortlands area at 0411L, December 29 reported that a U.S. submarine had fired two torpedoes but missed.

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Summary of Japanese Naval Activities as of December 31, 1942

SRNS 0262

I. General Appraisal

(a) The relatively small volume of Japanese operational radio traffic, as well as inability to read the most important code, continues to present a serious problem in any proper evaluation of suggested Japanese intentions. However, radio intelligence and collateral information seem clearly to indicate that the focus of Japanese attention continues in the Southern Area, with specific emphasis placed in the Solomons.

(b) For some time, radio traffic has consistently indicated an intensification of the repair, fitting out, replenishment, and training of 3rd Fleet carriers and it appears that this program will make all combatant carriers ready for operations by about January 15. Carriers have in the past consistently spear-headed Japanese advances and it is reasonable to assume that any further offensive operation would be similarly conducted. Nor is it unreasonable to suppose that any major Japanese operation will await the availability of maximum carrier strength.

(c) The period of apparent Japanese inactivity (from an operational viewpoint) has been marked by intense efforts to ring Guadalcanal with air bases at Munda, Rekata Bay, Ballale Island, and the further consolidation of bases previously established. Efforts to gain foot-holds in the New Georgia Group have also been noted recently.

(d) Replenishment of both Guadalcanal and the Buna area has deteriorated to small-scale operations, obviously designed merely to keep the Japanese forces in these areas sufficiently supplied to enable them to hold out. In the meantime, however, Army convoy movements have been active and considerable forces and supplies have undoubtedly been accumulated in the general Rabaul area. The Marshalls and Gilberts have been further strengthened and considerable realignments of forces (including air units) in these Islands appear to be completed. Various points along the N.E. coast of New Guinea (Newak, Hollandia, Madang) have been occupied and are in process of consolidation.

(e) The above considerations appear to lead to the tentative conclusion that a major operation by the Japanese is in the formative stage and will have the southeastern area (Guadalcanal, and Island Groups to the southeastward) as its

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7114 12/20/79

objective. Operations in the Aleutians will most probably be confined to consolidation moves preparatory to launching diversionary attacks in coordination with a major operation in the South.

II. Miscellaneous

1. An unexplained Japanese contact report was intercepted at 1835I, December 31 which stated that a large enemy force was sighted at 1824I, December 31.

2. At 1300I, December 30 it was indicated that the SUWA MARU was relieved and the # 2 TONAN MARU taken in tow to Yokosuka. The position at that time was indicated as Lat.  $32^{\circ} 43'$  N., Long.  $143^{\circ} 41'$  E., course  $303^{\circ}$ , speed 7.

3. At 1252 I, December 29 Jaluit broadcast a message to the effect that an observation plane from Midway was sending distress signals to Midway from its (D/F) position in Lat.  $25^{\circ} 30'$  N., Long.  $179^{\circ} 45'$  E., beginning at 1058I.

4. When UNYO (ACV) was ordered to Surabaya on November 22, the reasons for the movement were not clear. It is now indicated that the purpose of her trip was to transport Army planes, bound for Rabaul, to Truk. The unit transported consisted of 4 squadrons of Type-1 fighters (49 planes), 36 reserve planes, and 300 men.

III. Southwest Pacific

(A) Solomons

1. In general, this area has appeared quiet although a number of U.S. plane sighting reports originating from Japanese lookout stations were noted.

2. An unidentified unit reported its arrival at Rekata at 2130L, December 30, departure at 2215L.

(B) Truk

1. It is indicated that a 5-ship convoy was scheduled to depart from (off) Truk at 1400I, December 31 and will head North at 7 knots without escort.

2. AKITSU MARU is to be met by 1 DD in the vicinity of Truk and escorted into Truk. Her noon positions are given as follows:

Date	Dec. 31	Jan. 1	Jan. 2
Lat.	$14^{\circ} 19'$ N.	$10^{\circ} 46'$ N.	Arrive
Long.	$146^{\circ} 44'$ E.	$150^{\circ} 55'$ E.	0600I

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3. KIMISHIMA MARU reported that the buoys for anti-torpedo nets are to be moored in about 37 meters of water. It requests additional lengths of chain of about 10-15 meters.

(C) Gilberts

A Japanese unit, possibly on Taroa or Makin, reported hearing explosions from 0045I to 0150I, December 30 on bearing 180°, distant 40,000(?) meters(?).

(D) Palao

A 5-ship Army convoy is to be escorted into Palao, rendezvous with the escort having been arranged at 1200I, January 3 in Lat. 5° 35' N., Long. 138° E.

IV. U.S. Submarine Activities

1. At 2000I, December 30 HITERU MARU (5,857 gross tons) was hit by 2 torpedoes in Lat. 0° 34' N., Long. 148° 58' E., and sank at 0745I, December 31. This ship was part of a convoy which scattered after the attack. UME MARU, part of the same convoy, reported that 2 torpedoes passed under her but that no damage was done.

2. An unidentified Japanese unit in the 8th Fleet area reported an attack at 1300I, December 31 by 3 torpedoes, all misses.

3. An unidentified ship, believed to be in the Yokosuka area, was reported on fire and a search ordered at 1800I, December 30.

4. An increased number of intercepted dispatches in the Yokosuka vicinity suggests U.S. submarine activity in that area.

V. Diplomatic

In a message from Hsinking to Tokyo on December 24, it was indicated that when China enters the war, Manchuria is to make a simple statement that will not alarm Russia and others.

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*for* *A. P. Matts*  
R. A. Boone.

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*MA* *off* Date: *12/20/79*