

2874-A
7/13/33

1833

Senior and Junior Classes 1934

ORDER WRITING EXERCISE No. I.

Issued, 1200, Monday-----31 July
Solution to be submitted by
1200 Wednesday----- 2 August

DEPARTMENT OF OPERATIONS
Naval War College
Newport, R.I.
July 1933.

Not to pass out of the custody of officers of the U.S. Naval or
Military Service.

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Senior and Junior Classes, 1934

ORDER WRITING EXERCISE NO. 1.

GENERAL SITUATION:

War exists between BLUE and RED. Ten days have elapsed since a brief engagement occurred in the Eastern CARIBBEAN between the BLUE and RED fleets. In this battle, RED suffered severe losses and was forced to retire to RED base at TRINIDAD, which includes a very strong shore-based air force. The BLUE Fleet which was less seriously damaged than RED is based on SAMANA and is operating principally in the CARIBBEAN for the purpose of covering the ATLANTIC approaches to the PANAMA Canal, pending a favorable opportunity to again bring the RED Fleet to action.

BERMUDA is still in the hands of RED though as yet not very strongly defended. A BLUE Expeditionary Force has been assembled at HAMPTON ROADS for the purpose of seizing and holding BERMUDA, following a BLUE air attack to be launched within the next few days from a number of BLUE auxiliary aircraft carriers which have lately been fitted out and which are now assembled and ready for service at CHARLESTON.

SPECIAL SITUATION:

On 1 August 0100, the following BLUE force, which has been designated as the "Northern Detachment" of the Scouting Force, was at SAMANA BAY, fully fueled and in all respects ready for service:

Crudiv Four plus CF-52, (CA-27, CA-26, CA-24)

Crudiv Six, (CA 28, 29, 33, 35)

Desron One. (14 DD)

At this time, in an Operation Order received from the BLUE C-in-C, Rear Admiral BCA, Commanding the Northern Detachment, obtained information to the effect that a large

RED Expeditionary Force escorted by four heavy cruisers and about ten destroyers, left FAYAL on 31 July 1800, bound for BERMUDA. The estimated maximum speed of this force is 14 knots. Also, in this Operation Order, the following task was assigned to the Northern Detachment:

"Prevent RED Expeditionary Force from arriving at BERMUDA prior to six August, twelve hundred."

As a result of his estimate of the situation, Rear Admiral BCA arrived at the following decision:

"To capture or destroy RED Expeditionary Force at earliest time by locating it between BERMUDA and the AZORES and by engaging decisively the RED Escort and Convoy in order to prevent RED Expeditionary Force from arriving at BERMUDA prior to six August twelve hundred."

REAR Admiral BCA also decided on the following supporting measures:

(a) To direct Scouts consisting of Crudiv Six under the command of Rear Admiral BCK, to insure RED Expeditionary Force non-arrival BERMUDA unobserved prior to six August, twelve hundred by searching to northward by retiring search patrol.

(b) To direct Scouts to support Striking Group in decisive engagement with enemy.

(c) Primary duty of Scouts is information.

(d) To direct Striking Group composed of Crudiv Four plus CF-52 and Desron One to engage decisively the RED Escort and Convoy.

(e) To direct Striking Group to maintain position approximately fifty miles to westward of Scouts pending information of enemy's location.

(f) To depart from SAMANA on 1 August 0500.

(g) To use plus four time.

(h) To designate rendezvous as follows:

Rendezvous A - Latitude 28 -00' N.
Longitude 60 -00' W.

Rendezvous B - CHARLESTON, S.C.

Rendezvous C - SAMANA.

- (i) To use Communication Plan Baker.
- (j) To prescribe Battle Plan later.
- (k) To maintain radio silence except for contacts and vitally important messages.
- (l) To remain in Northampton with Striking Group.
- (m) To require Commander Scouts to inform him of plan of search and of any subsequent changes.
- (n) To make following distribution of Operation Order:

By Guard Mail to:

C-in-C, BLUE Fleet.

Comdr., Scouting Force.

Commander Cruisers, Scouting Force.

Comcrudiv Six and all Commanding Officers, Northern Detachment.

REQUIRED:

Student officers are required to formulate a written Operation Order (not in despatch form) to place Rear Admiral BCA's decisions into effect. This order will be typed and turned in after assembly on Wednesday, 2 August, at 1145.

NOTE: Discussion or criticism of Rear Admiral BCA's decisions is not a part of this problem.

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Senior and Junior Classes, 1934.

ORDER WRITING EXERCISE NO. 1.

Solution by a Member of the Staff.

Issued 1130, 2 August, 1933.

DEPARTMENT OF OPERATIONS
Naval War College
Newport, R.I.
July 1933.

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Military Service.

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7/13/33

Senior and Junior Classes, 1934

ORDER WRITING EXERCISE NO. 1

REAR ADMIRAL BCA'S OPERATION ORDER.

SECRET

BLUE Northern Detachment
Northampton, Flagship.

Operation Order
No. 10.

SAMANA,
1 August 193-, 0400.

TASK ORGANIZATION

- (a) Scouts, Rear Admiral BCK
Crudiv Six.
- (b) Striking Group
Crudiv Four plus CF-Fifty-three,
Desron One.

1. RED main fleet is at TRINIDAD. BERMUDA remains in possession of RED. A large RED Expeditionary Force escorted by four heavy cruisers and about ten destroyers left FAYAL on thirty-one July eighteen hundred. Reliable information indicates the destination this RED force is BERMUDA. Estimated maximum speed of convoy fourteen knots. A BLUE Expeditionary Force has been assembled at HAMPTON ROADS for the purpose of seizing and holding BERMUDA following a BLUE air attack to be launched within the next few days from a number of BLUE auxiliary aircraft carriers which are now assembled and ready for service at CHARLESTON.
2. This force will capture or destroy RED Expeditionary Force at the earliest time by locating it between BERMUDA and the AZORES and by engaging decisively the RED Escort and Convoy in order to prevent RED Expeditionary Force from arriving at BERMUDA prior to six August twelve hundred.
3. (a) Scouts insure RED Expeditionary Force non-arrival BERMUDA unobserved prior to six August twelve hundred. Support Striking Group in decisive engagement with the enemy. Search to the northward by retiring search patrol method. Assume enemy maximum speed fourteen knots. Primary duty information.
(b) Striking Group engage decisively the RED Escort and Convoy. Pending the receipt of information of enemy's location, maintain a position approximately fifty miles to westward of Scouts.
(x) Depart from SAMANA one August zero five hundred. Commander Scouts inform me of plan of search and of any subsequent changes.

4. -----
5. Communication Plan Baker. Plus four time. Rendezvous AFIRM Latitude twenty-eight degrees North, Longitude Sixty degrees West. Rendezvous BAKER, CHARLESTON. Rendezvous CAST, SAHANA. Battle Plan will be prescribed later. Maintain radio silence except for contacts and vitally important messages. Commander Northern Detachment in NORTHAMPTON with Striking Group.

BCA,
Rear Admiral, BLUE Navy,
Commander Northern Detachment.

Distribution:

By Guard Mail to:-

C-in-C, BLUE Fleet,
Comdr., Scouting Force,
Commander Cruisers, Scouting Force.
Comcrudiv Six.
All Commanding Officers Northern Detachment.

S.,
Commander, BLUE Navy,
Flag Secretary.