

2905  
1/3/34

Serial No. 5

SENIOR CLASS OF 1934

1859-A

TACTICAL PROBLEM V

BLUE SITUATION

Issued ----- 29 January, 1934  
Turn in Solutions to  
Captain Macfall prior to 1230, 9 February, 1934

DECLASSIFIED IAW DOD MEMO OF 3 MAY 1972, SUBJ:  
DECLASSIFICATION OF WWII RECORDS

Department of Operations  
Naval War College  
Newport, R.I.

-----  
**RESTRICTED**  
**RESTRICTED**  
CONFIDENTIAL

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

When no longer required this pamphlet should be returned to the  
Publication Section, Room N-11.

TACTICAL PROBLEM V.

BLUE SITUATION

- MOTIVES: (1) Estimating a tactical situation involving RED and BLUE.
- (2) Practice in the conduct of a fleet battle between RED and BLUE.

GENERAL SITUATION:

Strained relations exist between BLUE and RED. War is imminent. The Fleets of both countries are mobilizing - BLUE's in the NEW YORK - NARRAGANSETT BAY area, RED's in his channel ports. Both countries are mobilizing their armies, BLUE to operate against CRIMSON, RED to support CRIMSON.

The cause of friction is such that, should war come, the decision will probably go to the side that holds control of the Western ATLANTIC. Both BLUE and RED realize that in the war RED will have to base his fleet and a large train near the BLUE coast; and that, following this necessity, BLUE will attempt to destroy the RED fleet or/and train in their advance to that base.

So far as known neither nation has withdrawn any of its ships from ASIATIC, AUSTRALIAN, EAST INDIAN or NEW ZEALAND waters. On 15 March the status of the two fleets, which were mobilizing, was about as follows:

BLUE

	<u>BB</u>	<u>CC</u>	<u>CA</u>	<u>CL</u>	<u>CV</u>	<u>CM</u>	<u>DL</u>	<u>DD</u>	<u>DM</u>	<u>Subs</u>
In commission	13	--	10	10	3	1	2	58	2	6
In reserve	1	--	4	--	--	--	--	--	--	2
In reduced com- mission	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	13	--	--
<hr/>										
TOTAL	15	--	14	10	3	1	2	71	2	8

RED

In commission	11	3	9	14	2	1	6	48	--	18
In reserve	--	--	1	7	2	--	1	17	--	2
In reduced com- mission	--	--	--	--	--	--	2	11	--	--
Out of commission	1	--	1	2	--	--	--	--	--	2
<hr/>										
TOTAL	12	3	11	23	4	1	9	76	--	22

BLUE is having difficulty in mobilizing and training personnel, but will have most of his fleet in the NARRAGANSETT BAY area by 15 May in various conditions of readiness. RED is mobilizing without difficulty.

BLUE SPECIAL SITUATION:

On 15 May the BLUE Fleet in NARRAGANSETT BAY consisted of the following units, fueled and materially ready, except for CVs which have not yet received their allowances of planes:

BLUE Force

<u>Battleships</u>		Fleet Flag.		
38 PENNSYLVANIA		B.F. Flag.		
44 CALIFORNIA				
<u>Batdiv I</u>		<u>Batdiv II</u>	<u>Batdiv III</u>	
48 WEST VIRGINIA		34 NEW YORK	39 ARIZONA	
45 COLORADO		37 OKLAHOMA	40 NEW MEXICO	
46 MARYLAND		35 TEXAS	41 MISSISSIPPI	
44 CALIFORNIA		36 NEVADA	42 IDAHO	
43 TENNESSEE		33 ARKANSAS		
<u>Crudiv I (CL)</u>		<u>Crudiv II (CL)</u>	<u>Crudiv III (CL) (10 CLs)</u>	
8 DETROIT		11 TRENTON	10 CONCORD	
5 MILWAUKEE		12 MARBLEHEAD	6 CINCINNATI	
7 RALEIGH		13 MEMPHIS	4 OMAHA	
		9 RICHMOND		
CA-31 AUGUSTA	Flag S.F.			
<u>Crudiv IV CA</u>		<u>Crudiv V CA</u>	<u>Crudiv VI</u>	<u>Crudiv VII</u>
26 NORTHAMPTON		29 CHICAGO	34 ASTORIA	38 SAN FRANCISCO
27 CHESTER		28 LOUISVILLE	32 NEW ORLEANS	60
24 PENSACOLA		35 INDIANAPOLIS	36 MINNEAPOLIS	37 TUSCALOOSA
25 SALT LAKE CITY		33 PORTLAND	30 HOUSTON	
<u>Airdiv II</u>		<u>Airdiv IV</u>	<u>Mindiv I</u>	<u>Mindiv II</u>
CV-3 SARATOGA F.		AV-1 WRIGHT	DM-15 GAMBLE	AM-5 Tanager
CV-2 LEXINGTON		AZ-1 PATOKA	DM-16 RAMSAY	AM-21 LARK
CV-4 RANGER		AM-23 TEAL	CM-4 OGLALA	AM-15 QUAIL
AM GANNET		AM-51 SANDPIPER		AM-35 WHIPPOORWILL
<u>Subdiv III</u>		<u>Subdiv IV</u>		
SS-163		SS-167		
SS-164		SS-168		
SS-165		SS-169		
		SS-170		
		SS-171		

Flotilla I DL-1 Flag.

Flotilla II DL-5 Flag.

Desron I  
DD-199 Flag

Desron III  
DD-249 Flag

Desron II  
DD-215 Flag

Desron IV  
DD-341 Flag

Desdiv I

Desdiv 7

Desdiv IV

Desdiv X

DD-232

DD-128

DD-133

DD-340

DD-231

DD-126

DD-132

DD-339

DD-234

DD-130

DD-131

DD-338

DD-235

DD-125

DD-134

DD-337

Desdiv II

Desdiv 8

Desdiv V

Desdiv XI

DD-149

DD-236

DD-117

DD-220

DD-151

DD-242

DD-146

DD-223

DD-148

DD-250

DD-118

DD-221

DD-150

DD-243

DD-147

DD-229

DD-187

Desdiv III

Desdiv 9

Desdiv VI

Desdiv XII

DD-145

DD-158

DD-78

DD-345

DD-144

DD-159

DD-76

DD-342

DD-142

DD-160

DD-214

DD-343

DD-143

DD-157

DD-75

DD-344

Desron V

DD-248 Flag

Desdiv XIII

Desdiv XV

DD-246

DD-237

DD-241

DD-116

DD-245

DD-113

DD-135

DD-114

Desdiv XIV

Desdiv XVI

DD-247

DD-211

DD-156

DD-210

DD-127

DD-347

DD-244

DD-346

DD-233

Train

AD-2,3,4,10,11

AS-3, 10

AR-1

AF-1

AE-1

AO-1 to 6

15 AP

AH-1

AG-10

AM-3,16,20,24,25,26,31,52,53

5 AT

The MACON is at LAKEHURST ready for service.

In the event of war the Basic Plan of the BLUE Army includes an offensive directed, primarily, against HALIFAX and the provinces of NOVA SCOTIA and NEW BRUNSWICK, designed to deny a naval base to RED on the CRIMSON coast; and, secondarily, to gain the line of the ST. LAWRENCE including the cities of QUEBEC and MONTREAL. By 15 May one division of Army troops and marines are aboard the 15 AP in NARRAGANSETT BAY, ready for a landing in MARGARET BAY to attack HALIFAX. A BLUE Army is mobilizing on the northern border of the NEW ENGLAND states.

The Basic Plan of the BLUE Navy is to gain and maintain control of Western ATLANTIC. Accordingly, the C-in-C of the BLUE Fleet has orders "to support the attack on HALIFAX and destroy the RED Fleet if it should approach the CRIMSON coast".

On 15 May the BLUE C-in-C received word from the BLUE C.N.O. that the RED Fleet and a large train passed the LIZARD on 14 May bound West. This, combined with past clashes and forays on the border and a small air raid on BUFFALO by CRIMSON civilians, so stirred BLUE public opinion that on 16 May BLUE Congress declared a state of war to exist.

At noon, 17 May, all units of the BLUE Fleet, less Airdiv 2, CV-4 and Desdiv 25, plus Train, proceeded to sea. The air force was delayed in NARRAGANSETT BAY to complete embarkation of planes and personnel. On the same day a scouting force consisting of the CA-31 Flag, Crudivs 4 and 5, Desron 1, and MACON departed and proceeded to the Eastward to search for the enemy fleet. Airdiv 4 less AZ-1, AS-10, AG-10 and 1 AP with 1000 marines left the fleet and proceeded to the Northward to establish an air base.

On 18 May the Train, less AS-10, 15 AP, AG-10 and 3 AT plus AZ-1, left the fleet and proceeded to FRENCHMAN'S BAY where they arrived on 19 May and established an advanced base.

On 20 May the Main Body succeeded in landing the troops at MARGARET BAY. On 21 May the land attack on HALIFAX began. 14 AP, CM-4, Mindiv 2 and 3 AT remained in that bay to secure the Army's base.

Airdiv 4, AS-10, AG-10, and 1 AP seized SYDNEY HARBOR, CAPE BRETON ISLAND, and began establishing an air base. On 23 May VTs 8 and 9, and VP-7, 8, 9 and 10 arrived at SYDNEY. They were fueled and ready for service at 0800 24 May.

At 1200 23 May the remainder of the Scouting Force located the RED Fleet with train in Lat.  $45^{\circ}$  N., Long.  $52^{\circ}$  W., on course  $270^{\circ}$ , speed about 10 knots. The Commander of the Scouting Force reported that CAs 33 and 35 were sunk and CA-24 30% damaged in the action resulting.

This news was received by the BLUE C-in-C at 1500 23 May. At 1500 23 May the BLUE Main Body was in Lat.  $44^{\circ}$  N., Long.  $63^{\circ}$  W. It consisted of the following units:

15 BBs

Crudiv 7

Crudivs 1, 2, 3 and 6

Airdiv 2

Mindiv 1

Desrons 2, 3, 4 and 10

Desdiv 16

Subdiv 3

Subdiv 4

Airdiv 2 and Desdiv 16 joined the Main Body, with full allowance of planes and personnel, at 1200, 23 May.

The BLUE C-in-C at 1600, 23 May, stood to the eastward with the Main Body to destroy the RED Fleet as per his orders, and issued Operation Order Two.

Operation Order Two

FROM: COMMANDER IN CHIEF  
TO: BLUE FLEET  
INFO: COMMANDER BLUE ARMY FORCES NOVA SCOTIA  
CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS

0023 INFORMATION SCOUTING FORCE LOCATED RED FLEET CONVOY IN COMPANY TWENTY THREE MAY TWELVE HUNDRED IN LATITUDE FORTY-FIVE LONGITUDE FIFTY TWO COURSE WEST SPEED TEN PARAGRAPH GENERAL PLAN WILL DESTROY ENEMY BY FLEET ACTION IN ORDER TO GAIN CONTROL OF WESTERN ATLANTIC PARAGRAPH SCOUTING FORCE MAINTAIN CONTACT JOIN MAIN BODY IN FLEET ACTION MAIN BODY STAND TO EASTWARD AND SEEK ENGAGEMENT KEEP TO WESTWARD OF ENEMY ENDEAVOR TO DRAW HIM WITHIN RADIUS OF SHORE BASED PLANES AIR FORCE GAIN INFORMATION ACCORDANCE PLAN ONE AFIRM (student's plan) BASE GUARD PROTECT BASES SUBMARINES OPERATE IN ACCORDANCE WITH PLAN THREE SAIL (student's plan) PARAGRAPH XRAY SUBJECT TO FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS FLEET GUIDE WILL PASS THROUGH POINT EASY LATITUDE FORTY FOUR FORTY LONGITUDE FIFTY EIGHT ZERO FIVE ON COURSE TWO SEVEN ZERO SPEED TWELVE AT TEN HUNDRED TWENTY FOUR MAY PARAGRAPH LOGISTICS FLEET ADVANCED BASE FRENCHMAN'S BAY ARMY BASE MARGARETS BAY SEA PLANE OPERATING BASE SYDNEY HARBOR PERIOD FUEL AT FRENCHMAN'S BAY PARAGRAPH SPECIAL PROVISIONS CRUISING DISPOSITION TWO CAST (student's plan) SCOUTING PLAN THREE SAIL (student's plan) COMMUNICATION PLAN THREE CAST BATTLE PLAN LATER RENDEZVOUS AFIRM POINT EASY BAKER FRENCHMAN'S BAY PLUS FOUR TIME PARAGRAPH OPERATION ORDER THREE 1600



A dense fog came down at 1900, 23 May, and was still existing at 1000, 24 May. At 1000, 24 May, the fleet guide of the BLUE Main Body was in Lat.  $44^{\circ} 40'$  N., Long.  $58^{\circ} 05'$  W., course  $270^{\circ}$ , speed 12. At 0930 the BLUE C-in-C had reversed course by station unit simultaneous movements. No further news of the enemy had been received up to this time, and the exact location of the BLUE Scouting Force was not known.

Dense fog has rendered air and surface force scouting ineffective since eighteen hundred, twenty three May. Planes may be in the air over own force (as designated) at ten hundred, twenty four May.

Reliable information indicates that RED has raised the elevation of his turret guns to  $30^{\circ}$  on 7 BB, in addition to BBs 19, 20 and CC-4.

ASSUMPTIONS:

(1) Weather 1000, 24 May, fog, sea smooth, barometer normal and rising, visibility 4000 yards, wind 0-1 from west.

(2) All BLUE ships have steam for full power and clean bottoms. Submarine batteries are fully charged.

(3) Sunrise 0700; sunset 1930. No moon.

(4) Plus 4 time.

(5) Smoke apparatus and 1000 lb. and 500 lb. bombs and torpedoes are available on AS-10 and AG-10 for the VP and VT squadrons. VT-8 carry torpedoes, VT-9 1000 lb. or 500 lb. bombs. VF planes are Model FF-1. VP planes are Model P2Y-1. The mines carried by BLUE DM, AM and CM are Mark VI; adjustable to any depth up to 150 fathoms; may be converted to drifting mines of the antenna type; charge 300 lbs. TNT.

(6) BLUE spotting planes can only spot for the ships to which attached.

(7) Naval appropriations in BLUE country just before the war did not provide sufficient funds to complete the modernization of BLUE battleships as originally contemplated. Therefore, BBs 43, 44, 45, 46 and 48 are limited to a maximum individual speed of twenty (20) knots.

REQUIRED: The BLUE C-in-C's:

(1) Pre-battle estimate of the situation as of 1000 24 May. (This need not be typewritten).

(2) A Battle Plan. (Typewritten). Battle Plan will indicate general principles to be followed in fire distribution.

(3) Battle Disposition(s) (graphic), as annex to Battle Plan.

(4) Approach Disposition(s) " " " " " "

(5) Cruising Disposition(s) (graphic).

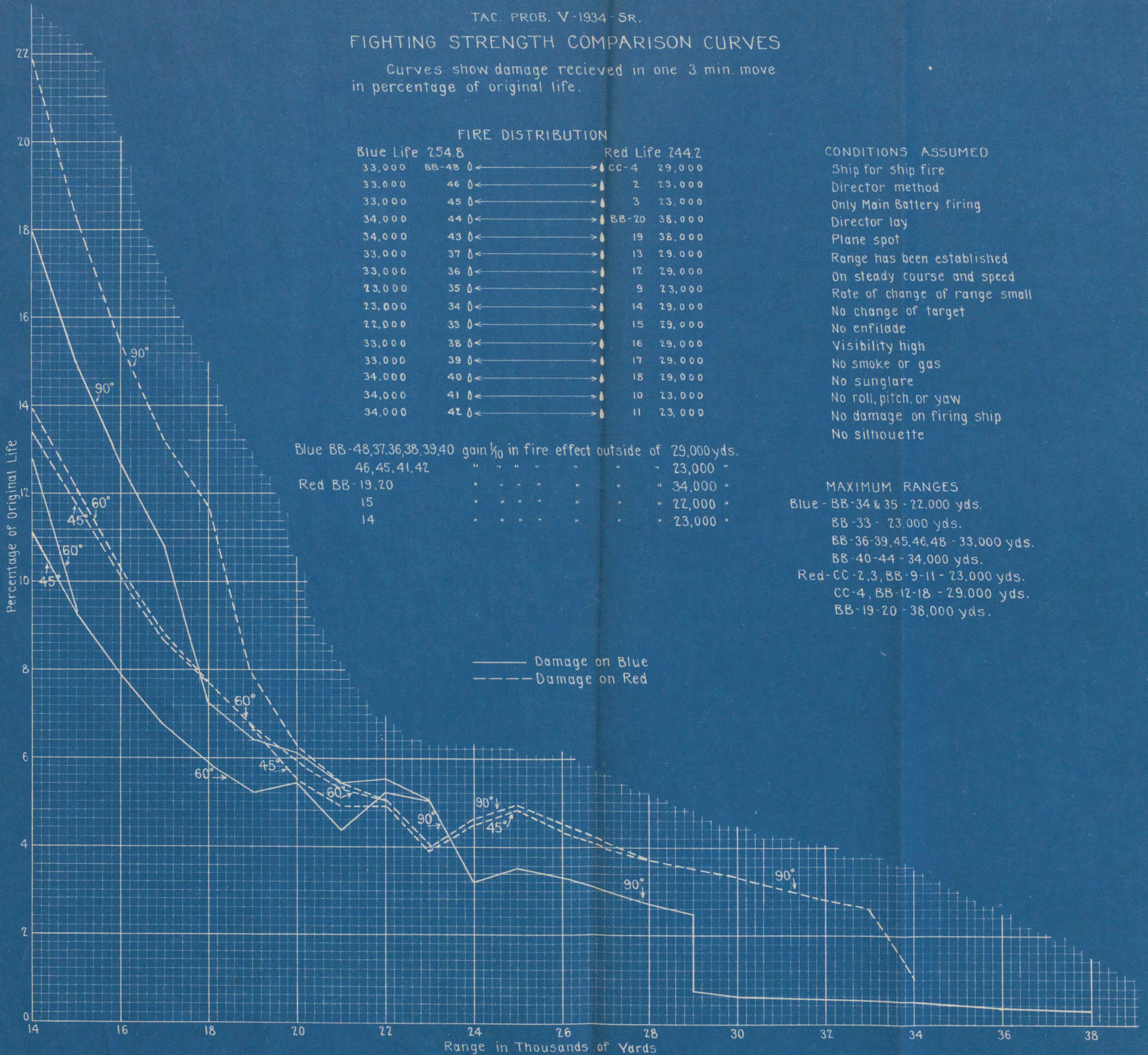
(6) Scouting Plan(s) (graphic), for 24 May.

NOTE: All sketches will be made on Plotting Sheets 1925 (H.O. Miscel. No. 2838). Scale: 1 small square equals 1000 yards.



### FIGHTING STRENGTH COMPARISON CURVES

Curves show damage recieved in one 3 min. move in percentage of original life.



#### FIRE DISTRIBUTION

Blue Life 254.8		Red Life 244.2	
33,000	BB-48 0	←	→ CC-4 29,000
33,000	46 0	←	→ 2 23,000
33,000	45 0	←	→ 3 23,000
34,000	44 0	←	→ BB-70 38,000
34,000	43 0	←	→ 19 38,000
33,000	37 0	←	→ 13 29,000
33,000	36 0	←	→ 12 29,000
23,000	35 0	←	→ 9 23,000
23,000	34 0	←	→ 14 29,000
22,000	33 0	←	→ 15 29,000
33,000	38 0	←	→ 16 29,000
33,000	39 0	←	→ 17 29,000
34,000	40 0	←	→ 18 29,000
34,000	41 0	←	→ 10 23,000
34,000	42 0	←	→ 11 23,000

#### CONDITIONS ASSUMED

- Ship for ship fire
- Director method
- Only Main Battery firing
- Director lay
- Plane spot
- Range has been established
- On steady course and speed
- Rate of change of range small
- No change of target
- No enfilade
- No silhouette
- Visibility high
- No smoke or gas
- No sun glare
- No roll, pitch, or yaw
- No damage on firing ship
- No silhouette

Blue BB-48,37,36,38,39,40 gain 1/10 in fire effect outside of 29,000 yds.

46,45,41,42 " " " " " " " " 23,000 "

Red BB-19,20 " " " " " " " " 34,000 "

15 " " " " " " " " 22,000 "

14 " " " " " " " " 23,000 "

#### MAXIMUM RANGES

- Blue - BB-34 & 35 - 22,000 yds.
- BB-33 - 23,000 yds.
- BB-36-39,45,46,48 - 33,000 yds.
- BB-40-44 - 34,000 yds.
- Red - CC-2,3, BB-9-11 - 23,000 yds.
- CC-4, BB-12-18 - 29,000 yds.
- BB-19-20 - 38,000 yds.

— Damage on Blue  
 - - - - - Damage on Red