

Committee Meeting 29.7.41 Royal Navy p. 1., Item 3. ·M0110.62/41 600-27 (Revised-June, 1933.) Cin C. South Atlantic
786/020 ARKINGS TO BOARD. 61 Operation SALVAGE 2nd Sea Lord 1st Lord Report of Proceedings from HMShips "Duvedin Tagle" SEE ALSO: M.0 18648/41 NOTATION ONLY Referred Date Date to Date Referred to

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M Branch (Mr MC Cartty) This un seen 4 DOD (F) and ACNO(F) on cuty. Cantaller i untersled i the versel. CW (Mr Sleadure) will with Gree Eagles E.0949 of 16/6/41 hours 12-14; and Duned mo 00 111 of 19/6/41 han her pleasing and the Wed you blears qué a lumille Churtally 1.

Committee Meeting 29.7.41 Royal Navy p. 1., Item 3. 100 10. 25345 3721 40M 9/40 S.E.R. Ltd. Gp. 671. M011062/41 Register No. Minute Sheet No. The Honours and Awards Committee have carefully considered the claims to recognition of Officers and Men of H.M.S. DUNEDIN and EAGLE for good services in capturing the German Tanker LOTHRINGEN on 15th June, 1941, and submit the following Appointment and Awards as appropriate:-Officer of the Order of the British Empire (Military) Captain R.S. Lovatt, H.M.S. Dunedin Mention in Despatches N Lieutenant-Commander R.M.H. Sowdon, R.N., H.M.S. Dunedin Sub-Lieutenant A() Charles R. Camidge, R.N., H.M.S' Eagle T/Sub-Lieutenant (A) Philip A. Denington, R.N.V.R., H.M.S. Eagle X Telegraphist Percy T. Jackson, P/J. 102244; H.M.S. Dunedin R. Gleadowe (R. GLEADOWE) SECRETARY, HONOURS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE 30th July, 1941 APPROVED BY FILL LORD. H.M. THE KING NAVALLECRETARY TO THE FIRST LORD. 11. 8 . 8 . LLI Typhement & Roudon Jazette No 35248 Annels present separately to NA 256 (523) for withhou in recents

SECRET.

H.M.S."DUNEDIN"

WOST SECRET.

Subject.

Operation "Salvage".

From THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF, SOUTH ATLANTIC.

Date 21st. June, 1941.

No. 786/020.

To The Secretary of the Admiralty.

With reference to Admiralty's signal timed I556 B of I9th. June, the following documents are forwarded for the information of Their Lordships:-

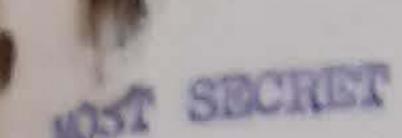
- (i). H.M.S. Dunedin's letter No. 0019I of 19th. June and seven Appendices.
- (ii). H.M.S. Dunedin's letter No. OOIII of 19th. June and five enclosures.
- (iii). H.M.S. Eagle's letter No. E. 0949 of 16th. June and two Appendices.

Morkon

Vice Admiral Commander in Chief.

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MOST SECRET No.00191. H.M.S."DUNEDIN" INTERCEPTION AND CAPTURE OF THE GERMAN M.V. "LOTHRINGEN" 19th June 1941 Appendices Intelligence report Boarding Officer's report Boarding Engineer Officer's report Torpedo Officer's report Nominal list of prisoners, and men left in 6. Medical Officer's report on wounded Nominal List of "DUNEDIN's" prize crew. All times are Zone plus one Sir, In accordance with instructions received from the Commanding Officer H.M.S."EAGLE", I have the honour to submit the following report of the part taken by H.M.S."DUNEDIN" in the capture of a German tanker and supply ship the M.V. "LOTHRINGEN", by Force 'F' (H.M.Ships "EAGLE" and "DUNEDIN") on 15th June 1941. 2.- At 1347 on 15th June 1941, when proceeding in company with "EAGLE" in position 18°35'N 37°43'W, orders were received from the Senior Officer Force 'F' to investigate a 'suspicious' tanker in a position 19°57'N 38°38'W steering 150°, Course was set forthwith 325° at best speed 24 knots ("DUNEDIN" has one boiler awaiting repair which is blanked off). 3.- During the approach to this position the following signals from "EAGLE's" aircraft were intercepted :-FROM Aircraft IMEDIATE. TO Aircraft My 1237. OECS 270 - 10. Have attacked Merchant vessel with dive bombing near miss. = 1350 TO "EAGLE" FROM Aircraft 1 MV 090 - 1 - N11 - 322 SRFU 128 R 08. Tanker believed scuttling. - 1415 TO Aircraft FROM Aircraft My 1415. Tanker German. = 1450 Position of enemy is 325 TKLP 45. Stopped. White Flag. = 1509 FROM Duty T One boat riddled ship stopped sinking. Am waiting. 5 1526 FROM Duty T My 1526. Am still in touch with enemy. No change in the situation. = 1557. An aircraft closed "DUNEDIN" at 1620, reporting the talker to be 30 miles distant bearing 336 degrees. I asked if her to be 30 miles distant bearing 350 degring in the negative. 5.- The tanker was ...



INTERCEPTION AND CAPTURE OF GERMAN M.V."LOTHRINGEN" ("DUNEDIN's" letter No.00191 of 19th June 1941)

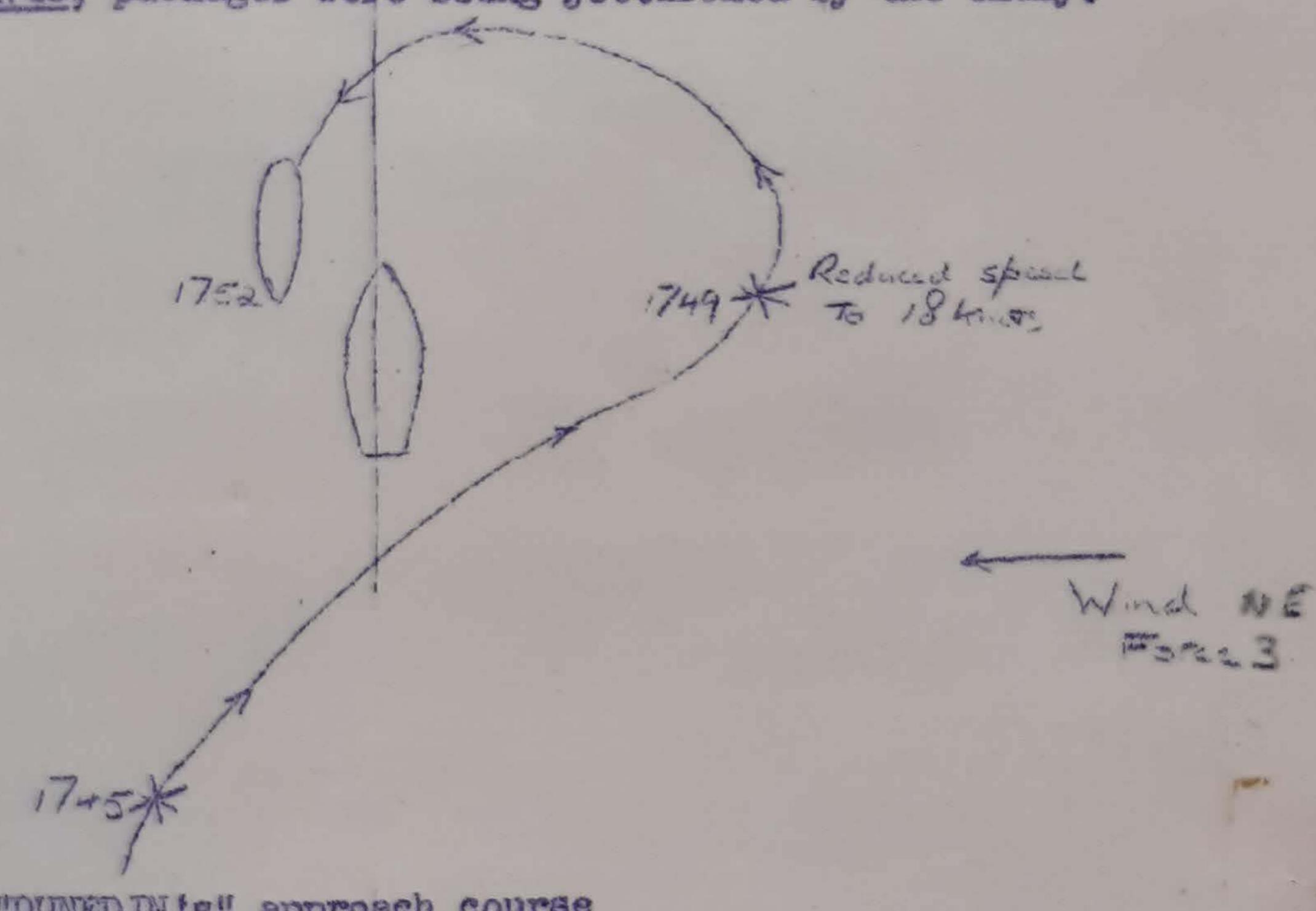
5.- The tanker was sighted hull down at 1705 with three aircraft in her vicinity. As "DUNEDIN" closed her (from astern) one of these reported her as stopped and leaking and that she mounted two 3-inch guns and three machine guns. At 1725 the ship's company was piped to Action Stations, all guns being loaded and trained on the enemy.

At 1730, I hoisted the signal WBA International at both yard

scuttle. If you disobey, I open fire.)

At 1735, I ordered all aircraft to keep a good lookout for

At 1743, packages were being jettisoned by the enemy.



"DUNED IN's" approach course speed 24 knots.

6.- "DUNED IN's" cutter being hoisted on her port side, I approached the tanker as shown in the above diagram at 24 knots, releasing two depth charges - set to 350 feet - in the positions marked * , as a precaution against U-boats. This appeared to eause the enemy some consternation.

At 1750, a signal was flashed from the tanker which was read in "DUNED IN" as "I understand" (It has since been established however that she intended to signal "I do not understand" in answer to "DUNED IN's" "WHA International" of the introduction of which she had not been acquainted).

7. The tanker was lying stopped with a marked list to port, a large area of the surrounding sea being covered with oil fuel. She was flying two white flags, one at each fore yard arm. A large motor boat had been lowered and was secured alongside her port side amidships. A group of men wearing German Naval uniform was observed fallen in on the Upper Deck.

8 .- "DUNED IN" was stopped.

....

p.S.C.) are attached, as Appendices 2 and 3.

10.- At 1820 all aircraft had left the econe with messages for "EAGLE" as to the situation.

11. The Boarding Officer soon reported by V/S that there were si ratings onboard, that the ship had been hit by two bombs which had holed two tanks, but that no attempt had been made to scuttle her. At 1825 he requested more armed men be sent, stating his intention of sending over a boat-load of prisoners, including wounded. The tanker's motor boat was used for this, arriving alongside "DUNEDIN" at 1935 with the German doctor and 4 wounded. (This boat was used as a farry throughout and proved invaluable, "DUNED IN" having no suitable power boat available).

13.- All the wounded were found to be suffering from slight bomb or machine gun splinter wounds. "DUNEDIN's" Medical Officer's report is attached as Appendix 6.

13.- At this stage it was learned from the prisoners that the ship was the German "LOTARINGEN", late Dutch "PAPENDRECRIE (11,000 tons), five weeks out of La Pallico. She had been building at Rotterdam when the Germans entered Holland, when she was seized and re-named.

14.- At 1842 a report was received from the Boarding Orficer that the ship's engines and steering were correct, asking for a prize crew to be sent; but at 1847 he reported there were time bombs forward and requested the assistance of a torpedo party. In this connection, it appears that on being interrogated by the boarding officers, LOTHRINGEN's Chief Officer and Chief Engineer had pointed out the positions of six scuttling charges, but none of these had been set to explode as far as is known. Duned in Torpedo Officer (Mr. H. LOWEY, Commissioned Gunner (T)) and John A. MANNERS, C.P.O. (TGM), FVJ. 107405 removed these charges which are how omboard "DUNEDIN". The Torpedo Officer's report is attached es Appendix 4.

15.- At 1941, LOTHRINGEN reported all pumps in order, and that the damaged tanks were being pumped out.

16. - At 1945, "EAGLE" was in sight, after which she was kept informed of the state of affairs by signals in the form of a running commentary.

At 2000, LOTHRINGEN.

to proceed alone, whereupon Force 'F' parted company and set course 118 degrees for Freetown.

22.- No trouble of any sort was experienced with the prisoners, the were treated in accordance with A.F.O.2306/40 and C.A.F.O.2/41.

23.- LOTHRINGEN's estimated time of arrival at Bermuda is A.M. Sunday 22nd June 1941.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

The Commander-in-Chief, South Atlantic Copy to the Senior Officer,

Porce 'F', H.M.S."EAGLE")

INTELLIGENCE REPORT (Appendix No.1 to "DUNEDIN's" letter No.00191 of 19th June 1941) The following intelligence report is compiled from swidence supplied by inspection of documents and personal effects of prisoners, voluntary statements made by members of the crew and conversations, either with personnel of "DUELED IN" or overheard smonget themselves. No formal questioning was hald. I. COMPIRMO DEFELLIGRACE The ship was the German tanker LOTHRINGSH; formerly the Dutch PAPENDRECHT. She was building at Retterdam when the Germans entered Holland, and was seized. She was commissioned with a Garman erew on 23rd January 1941 and left Rotterdam on 4th Barch 1941. She propassied down channel, calling at Cherbourg, Brest and St. Masaire en route for La Pallice. She left La Pallice on lith May 1941 and had been at sea since then. 2. She was under the management of BRSTE DEUTSCHE WALFANG G.m.b.h. of Hamburg. 3. The complement was divided into two separate parts, composed firstly of merchant navy officers and men who were responsible for the running of the ship, and who were appointed by the Erste Deutsche Walfang. They are known as Deutsche Wehrmacht; on the lines of British T. 124 agreement; secondly, the Naval members the were not responsible in any way for running the ship except a). to men the A.A. armsment, b). to supervise W/T, and c).as Torpedo Party. They were under the command of Stabstfeldwebel RICH and Fenergerker BESCHE. 4. The ship was undoubtedly a supply ship and carried 1000 tens of diesel oil for submarines and 11,000 tons of fuel oil for surface craft. She also carried 32 torpedoes and special food and comforts. Her armament consisted of A.A. guns only. 5. The crew appeared to be well fed, although many members of the crew stated they did not receive the special foods (such as turkey and chocolate) which was being kept, presumably for U-boats or raiders. All members of the crew had been issued with Vitamin 'C' teblets. 6. All money, food, tobacco and washing apparatus appeared to be either French or Dutch, and many of them had new clothes of the seme origin. DESCRIPTION CONSIDERED RELIABLE The Captain stated that the reason the ship was not scuttled was that "EAGLE's" aircraft machine gumned the decks if anyone appeared on them. This also explains the fact that her guns were not demolished. The Chief Engineer, he said, refused to damage the engines and in view of the fact that a tanker has no under cover communication fore and aft, he was the only one the could do snything. The naval ratings, however, appeared many that the Captain did not scuttle ship and state that owing to the bombing and the machine gunning of boats he lost his head and appeared to think that he and his arew would be left to their Tale. The naval members

(Appendix No.1 to "DUNEDIN's" letter No.00191 of 19th June 1941)

II. INTELLIGENCE CONSIDERED BELIARLE (continued)

The naval members of the crew tried to persuade him to fire the scuttling charges when "Dunied In" was sighted, but he refused to do so, saying that they had something under their feet and it would be better to keep it there then take any risk. The Chief Engineer (BRANNANN), when asked why he had not damaged the engines stated that if he had done so, we would have made him work night and day to repair them. Lack of determination to destroy the ship confirms the statement made below that the merchant navy officers and ever did not have their heart in their job. It is significant that the neval party placed discipline before initiative in that they obeyed the order of the Captain of the ship, and made ho attempt themselves to scuttle. Whatever the real reason for not scuttling, it is certain that the work of the airgraft was decisive in demoralising the crew. The various members of the crew are obviously trying to blame each other for their own failure.

- 2. All members of the crew denied having supplied any ship or U-boat before being intercepted. This is borne out by the fact that the ship was full up with oil. All members of the crew had obviously been cautioned against giving away any information about U-boats or other raiders, and were very much on their guard in consequence. Chief Engineer BRAMMANN, however, stated that they had a rendezvous with a U-boat on 17th June, though he did not know the position. This is confirmed by remarks made by Runker Gefreiter AUF DER MAUER and Bootsmaat WINKLER.
- 3. One member of the crew stated that U-boats work in 2 watches of 6 hours each.
- 4. The naval party donsisted of only a few experienced submarine ratings (one or two had Iron Crosses) the remainder being young and only just through training. Sig.Gefreiter GRAF stated that they were not a spare U-boat crew and this appears to be true although they could obviously be used as a pool if necessary.
- 5. Funkmaat WEISSENHORN, one of the W/T operators, stated that two W/T massages were made to a German station on interception, reporting a). Danger, and b). Bombing. He would not state the frequency used, except that it was not 500 kc/s.
- 6. An order was found instructing all German ships operating in the North Sea to have swastikas painted on deck and covered up, in order to identify themselves to German aircraft.
- 7. The Captain and crow state that the manning of the ship by merchant marine and naval personnel was experimental, being the first time this has been done in the case of a supply ship. The Naval ratings pronounce the experiment a failure.

III. GENERAL OPINIONS

All the merchant havy and the older navel ratings appeared to be thankful to be out of the war, and had no illusions as to the risks they were taking, the general opinion being that they had about one chance in ten of returning safely. The younger haval ratings, however, appeared to believe they could sweep the seas of British ships with the meximum of glory and a minimum of danger.

They were surprised...

MOST SECRET INTELLIGENCE REPORT Page 3.

(Appendix No.1 to "DUNEDIN's" letter No.00191 of 19th June 1941)

III. GENERAL OPINIONS (Continued)

They were surprised to see a British aircraft as they had been told before leaving that we no longer had any aircraft carriers in service, and that our most modern cruisers were no longer of any use. They had, however, been informed of the loss of the "BISMARCK".

- 2. From information available, it appears likely that either Stabtsfeldwebel RUCH or Funkmaat Karl BECKER was the "Political Leader" on board.
- 3. The general opinion of damage done by British bombing raids is that damage at Brest and Hanover is particularly bad, and that at Hamburg very bad in the dock area, although the town does not appear to have been damaged to any extent.
- 4. Comments on the Rudolf HESS affair show that they were obviously bewildered, but none of them believed that he was either mad or a traitor and most of them tried to get out of their dilemma by suggesting that he was an idealist, trying to stop the war. The Captain qualified this statement with a statement that he did not consider that Hess really knew the inner secrets of the party, and thought he was trying to gain publicity.
- 5. They held a very low opinion of Italy and the Italians in general and considered that Mussolini had let Germany down worse than France let us down.
- 6. They had been told and were convinced that the French fleet will eventually fight against England.
- 7. Nearly all the crew are convinced that the war will end in favour of Germany before the end of this summer. When asked what would happen if this did not occur they said that things would be very bad for Germany.
- 8. Dr. SCHIECKEL stated that he recently saw a British submarine in Kiel which he thought was the "SWORDFISH" and which was being used by the German Navy.

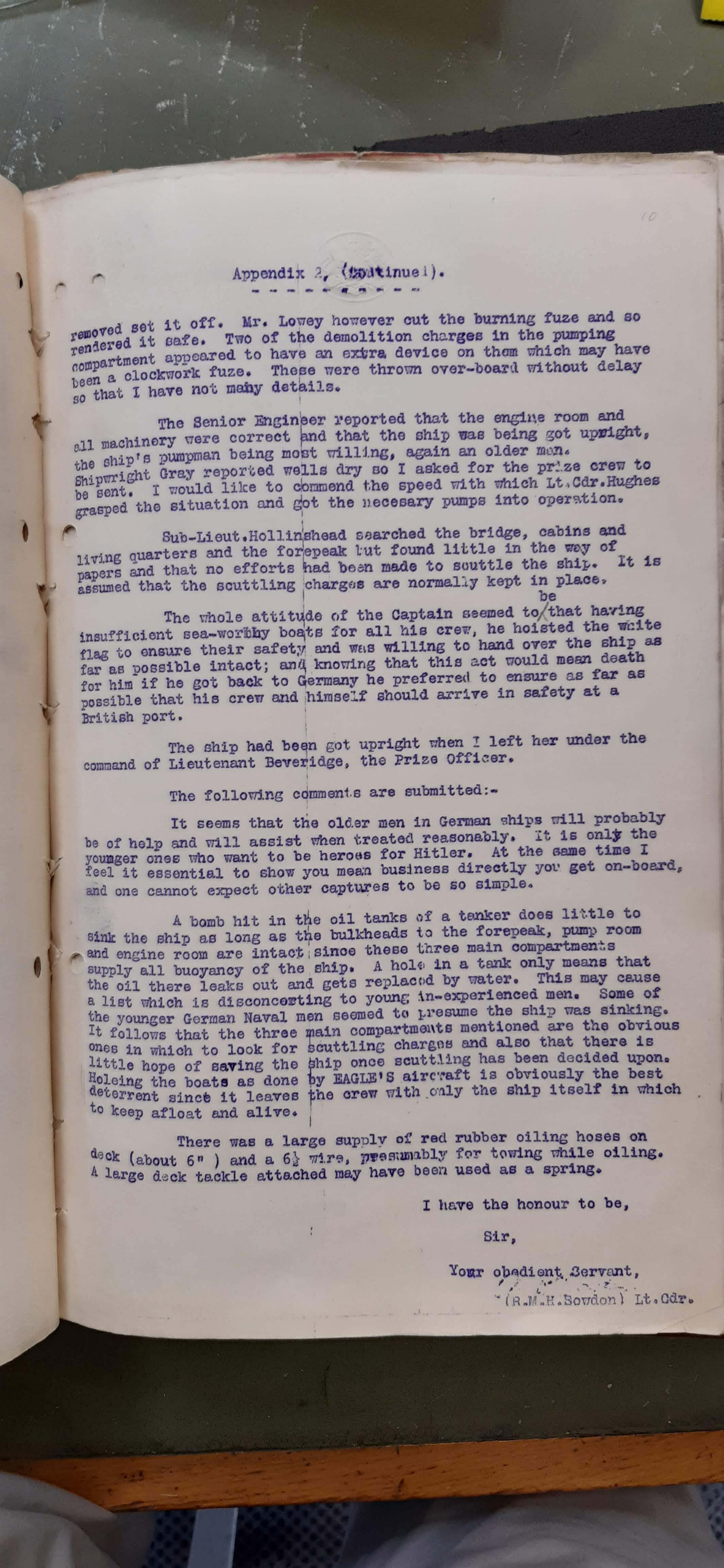
IV. NOTES ON INDIVIDUALS

- (1) Kapitam Max FRIEDRICHSEN. Age 61. This was to have been his last trip. He has relations in England (sister-in-law), living in London; is not a party man; is a Freemason and therefore could not be a member of the Nazi Party, even if he wished. Appears to be content he no longer has to fight. Speaks English, and served with the Eagle Oil Co. of Farley, Hants for some years and also the Standard Oil Co. of New Jersey, U.S.A.
- (2) First Ingenieur Johannes BRAMMANN. Age 58. Appears to have been forced into this job against his will. Very pleased to be out of the war and talks more than any other prisoner.
- (3) Bootsmaat Fritz WINKLER. Speaks fluent English. Was very helpful as a go-between, but will not talk about U-boats etc. Served in a 'Castle' boat.

 (4) Funkmaat Karl BECKER.....

MOST SECRET Page (Appendix No. 1 to "DUNEDIN's" letter No.00191 of 19th June 1941) NOTES ON INDIVIDUALS (Continued) (4) Funkmeat Karl BECKER. An ardent Nazi who cannot speak any English. He is an experienced U-boat W/T operator and has an Iron Cross as well as a badge denoting that he has served in a U-boat which has been attacked with depth charges. He has made it his business to prevent the crew from saying anything about U-boats and appears to be somewhat unpopular amongst them. As already stated, he may be the Political Leader of the ship and owing to his influence over the crew it is suggested that he should be separated from them when landed. (5) Funkmaat Helmuth WEISSENBORN. A reservist who is a dentist by profession. Speaks fluent English and will talk on most subjects except U-boats and W/T. Appears not to agree with Nazi politics but is unlikely to be the type of man who would implement his opinions with deeds. (6) Signal Gefreiter Franz GRAF. A reservist who is very pleased to be out of the war. Is very friendly, speaks a little English and may prove useful for the purpose of questioning. (7) Matrose Gefreiter Robert KAISER. This man served in the raider "Mowe" during the last war. He is a rating of the old Imperial Navy, used to strict discipline and without any of the characteristics of the Nazi- trained sailors.

Appendix 2, to "DUNEDIN'S" Letter No. 00191 of 19th June 1941. OFFICERS' REPORT. Sir, I have the honour to submit the following report of the boarding of the German Ship "LOTHRINGEN", The surprisingly easy capture of the ship seems to be mainly due to the age of the Captain (61) and Chief Engineer (54) and that characteristic of German discipline which makes men quite content to obey orders, and when no orders are given to do nothing. On getting alongside with the boarding boat I found a rope ladder had been put over and the ship's motor life boat secured alongside just aft of it. Two whiteflags flew at the foremast. As I got on-board I found the crew were gathered in two groups, one near the sea gangway and one on the fore and aft bridge. All were inactive except that I was given a helping hand over the guard rails. The Senior Engineer with E.R.A. Hicks and Marine sentry went aft to the Engine Room. Sub-Lieut. Hollinsheed went straight to the bridge. Guards were placed on the bridge, officers' quarters, crew space and on the men assembled on deck. I then went to the bridge where I found the Captain and told him I had come to take his ship. All he said was "All right then; she has been bombed". He then showed me the bomb holes above Nors. 2 Port and 3 Starboard tanks. An inspection of the upper deck showed - both life boats damaged by bullets or small splinters (one of the near misses was aft near one of the boats wounding some men slightly.) The life boats were full of mens' gear as for Abandoh Ship and the port boat had been lowered a few feet. Three light A.A. weapons, about l pounders, had each a clip of cartridges in place with a full supply of ammunition to hand and que of them had about 40 empty cases in the net. These may have been used against our aircraft. The Wireless office had been wrecked and none of the usual ship's papers could be found. The ship had a list to port. The Chief Officer, who is in charge of all tanks and cargo spaces, showed Lt. Car. (E) Hughes the damage and also said there were six demolition charges in position but they were quate safe. He also said they had 36 torpedoes on-board but, as these wore under a heavy hatch they were not sighted. I decided to get rid of the wounded and all who appeared to be navel retings, and to ask for an anti-demolition party. I detailed the second officer to run their motor beat which he was quite willing to do obeying all orders cheerfully, and two boat loads were sent over to "DUNEDIN", On the arrival of Mr. Lowey, Od. Gnr. (T) with the T.G.M., they were shown the position of the demolition charges and removed them. Owing to the dark in the forepeaks the Bickford's type safety fuze of one charge was accidentally set off, probably caused by the friction device at the end of the fuze being lashed up in a convenient place, so that the pull on it as the charge was being



Appendix 3. to "DUNEDIN'S" letter No. 00191 of 19th June 1941.

ANTI-LSOUTTIING REPORT.

Siro

I have the honour to forward the following report on the boarding of the German supply ship "LOTHRINGEN!

and E.R.A. Ricks. The ship had about eight degrees list to Port.

E.R.A. Hicks and myself proceeded to the engine room, and a cursory search showed the engine room to be intact, engines not demaged, and enough starting air in reservoirs to enable the ship to proceed immediately if the damage to the hull caused by the bombing was not too severe. Steam was raised in the donkey boiler. The Second Engineer, one engineers' assistant, and one fireman were on watch in engine room. I ordered them to remain on watch and left E.R.A. Hicks and E.R.A. Patterson on guard in the engine room entrance.

Royal Marine sentry on guard at the engine room entrance.

I then went on deck in search of the Chief Engineer and found him in his cabin. He assured me that the engines were in perfect condition and also that the steering gear had in no way been damaged. He told me the state of the bunkers and fresh water tanks, viz: 935 tons of Diesel oil and 650 tons of fresh water. The 935 tons of Diesel oil included No.7. cargo tanks which were reserve bunker tanks.

All drawings and information books were intact in the Chief Engineers Office except the engine room register, which could not be found. I locked up the office and sleeping quarters of the Chief Engineer and ordered him to muster the engine room orew on the upper deck, and he accompanied me in the search of the crew's quarters. After mustering the crew of fifteen, I then reported to Lt.Comdr.Sowdon the condition of the engine room and steering gear and informed him of my intention to find out the extent of the hull damage. The engine room crew including the Chief Engineer were then sent to their cabins aft and sentries were placed on guard.

Lt. Comdr. Sowdon then placed the Chief Officer of the ship at my disposal, and I brdered him to sound all tanks with the aid of the pumpman. All tables were nearly full except Nots. 2 and He told me No.4 tenk sounding had dropped a few tons. No.2 Port tank and No. 3 Starboard tenk each had one direct hit by bombs which had penetrated the deck and burst inside the tanks. I then entered the tanks as far as possible for inspection. The bomb had entered into No. 2 Port tank through the deck about ten feet from the Port side and I judged it had not burst until near the ship's bottom and intertank bulkheads. No.2 tank was about half full. In No.3 tank Starboard the bomb had plerced the deck about two feet from the Starboard side and had burst about three feet below the water line. The ship's side was bulged outward and owing to the list on the ship, oil could be seen spurting out of bulged seams when the ship rolled. I estimated that No's, 2 and 3 tanks and possibly No.4 tank had demaged divisional bulkhead and would eventually level off. As all pumps were intact I judged the ship was in no danger and could proceed. To bring the ship upright I ordered EgR.A. Hicks and the pumpmen to put steem on the pumps and try to pump out No. 2 Port tenk.

Appendix 3. (Continued). Apparently water entered No. 2 tank as fast as the pump could take it away, so the pumps were put on No.3 Port tank and the ship was soon brought upright. A demolition charge was found clipped to each side of the engine room close to the sea inlet valves. These charges were eventually removed by the dunner (T). No attempt had been made to souttle the ship. Every assistance was given by the German Officers and crow when it was asked or ordered of them. The crow gave the 1 impression that their part in the war would be finished. The engine room department appeared to be well stocked with stores, tools, and spare gear. Sub. Lt. (E) David Hanson arrived onboard with two E.R.A. is, one Stoker Petty Officer and three Stokers as prize crew. It was arranged that the German engine room crew should remain on-board, except the Chief Engineer, Ito work the ship into port. Whe prize crew and German crew wore det in three watches, and the German crew were confined under guard to the Port side of the crew's accomodation, which was aft, around the engine rooms I have the honour to be, Sir, Your obedient servant, (A.W. Hughes) Lieubenant Comdr. (E).

MOST SECRET (Appendix No.4 to "DUNEDINGS" letter No.00191 of 19th June 1941) H.M.S."DUNED IN" 19th June 1941 Sir 2 I have the honour to submit the following report on the scuttling charges removed from the German Ship LOTHRINGEN. 2. Six charges were found, secured in the following compartments :-1 large charge each side of the Engine Room, bolted to the ship's side and fitted to fire by electricity or time fuse. 1 large charge each side of in the bilges under the Pumping Room, secured by wedges in the corner and fitted to fire either as above of, in addition, by a mechanical device. 1 smaller charge, half of the above, in the bilges under the Fore Peak, secured in opposite corners by being lashed to the rib plates, fitted to fire by electricity or time fuse. 3.- All charges were brought back onbeard except those fitted with the mechanical device, which were thrown overboard. The large charges were composed of six 95 1b. T.N.T. charges in metal containers, the sanking minimum three of the smaller charges being lashed together. All charges contain their own primers and are " fitted to take mechanical, electrical or time fuse furing detonators. 4. The detonators, with time fuses and electrical wiring complete were retained as items of interest and investigation. 5.- During the removal of the Fore Peak bilge charges in the dark, the time fuse of one of the charges was operated, but the charge was prevented from exploding by severing the fuse before its entry into the detonator, the fuse being fired by a small bead on a stering in a container on the fuse length itself, period 7 to de minutes. I have the honour to be, Sir, Your obedient Servant, The Commanding Officer, H.M.S. "DUNEDIN" COMMISSIONED GUNNER (T)

100 indix ho. 5, to "Sumains" Letter, 19 the June 1941.

Officers and men of the German Merchant Navy remaining 10
Prize "LOTHRINGEN".

officers.

1st Officer Neumann. 2nd Engineer Caspar. 3rd Engineer Schoen. 3rd Engineer Hommola.

Men.

Assistant Engineer Burbach.

Kaminsky.

Cook Porowsky.

Cook's Mate Grage.

Ordinary Seaman Kropp.

Pumpman Zunkel.

Storekeeper Bartels.

Electrician Kraut.

Able Seaman Six.

- a Rheme.
- " Cebulla.
- " Loppe.
- Wollenweber.

Leading Seaman. Szlatolaweck.

Fireman Guetzowa

in Krone.

Stoker Nestmann.

The sales of the s

- " Phillipkowsky.
- " Juergens.

Four Officers and nineteen men.

(Merchant Officers and Ratings)

Prisoners of War.

Record of Prisoners of War.

H.M.S. FUNETINE Taken by

On. 15 June On. 15 June

Received in) Date received Date, place, etc. Whether wounded onboard. of disposal or since died, No.on Ship Bk. Ship-Rank Nationality llame "Lothringen" Master German Max Friedrichsen and Officer Johann Kastner German and Officer W/T Officer German Gerd Janssen German Kurt Genz Chief Engineer German Johannes Brammann German Steward Ernst Klug Seaman Boy German Johann Grundbichler WOUNDED. Boatswain German Robert Ochlrichs Carpenter German Wilhelm Mainz Ordinary Seaman"
Able Seaman " German Franz Walters Peters Ernst Schultze Edward Merkel German Boy Cabin Boy German Herbert Schilde German WOUNDED. Fireman German Richard Stransky Atla Seaman WOUNDED. GUEDIA 11 Fritz Thanicke

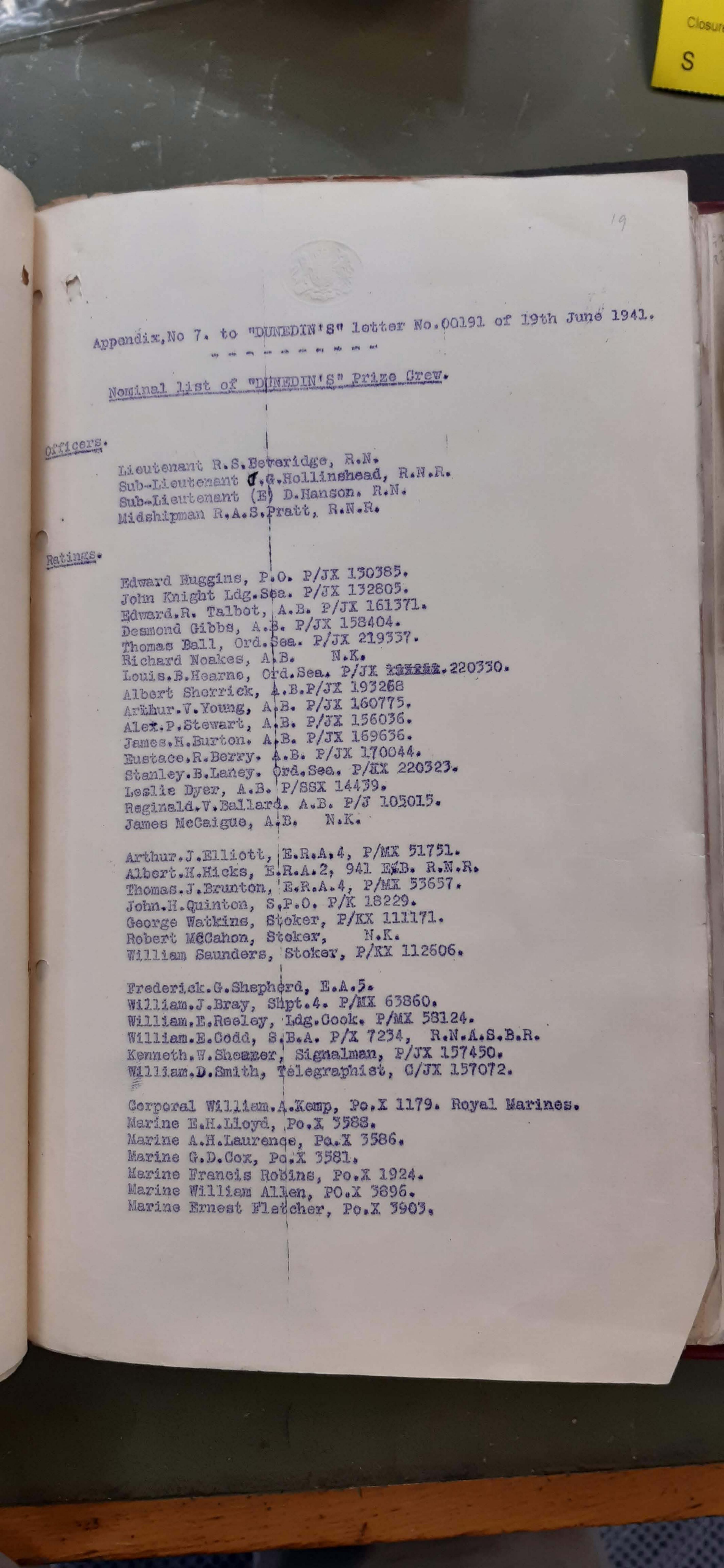
Priso	ne	rs	of	-	M	la	Y	
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Record of Passoners of War.

No on Sh. H.	Tame.	Nationali	T.V	Ship.	Date received onboard	Date, place, etc. of disposal.	Thether Wounded orsince died.
	Hornand Hornand Squienke	German	Fouerwerker	Lothringen.			
	Gerhard Eroitsch	German	Eosn's Mate	"Lothringen"			
	Alfred Dekena Fritz Winkler	German	atroseHaupt Gef.	11 A1 OR			
	Heinz Burmeister Josef Bren Albert Schurr	German German German	Mech. Ober Gefrei	torn n m			
	Heinz Vivell Robert Eaiser	German German German	Matrose Gefreite				
	Heinz Brauer Murt Dittmann Werner Becker	German German German					
	Josef Zettelmeyer Germand Morjan Evald Saur	German German					
	Gotteried Zochling Richard Wolf Andreas Jensen	German German	Matrose				
	Walter Reissmann Narl Rose Mart Hermann Wenzel Holfeldt	German German German					

Prisoners of War. (Maval Ratings.) List. 2. metherwounded or of disposal. since died. Ship onboard. Nationality Rank Shp. Rk Mame "Lounringen Hatrose German Gerhard Jessulat German WOUNDED. Tarl Jobellius German Alfred Mara WOUNDED. Bernhard Janzing German Earl Huwald German Samitat gofreiter, " Fritz Krause German Matrose 17 Emil Haag Herbert Sabzock German German Sign. Gefreiter. Matrose 17 German Franz Graf German Friedrich Porster Funker Gefreiter. German Fritz auf der Hauer Gornan Robert Stuckenbrock German Helmuth Weissenborn German Gorman Harl Becker Mech. Gefreiter Walther Rietschel German Matrose Haupt-German Werner Dermund -Gefreiter

MEDICAL OFFICER'S PURBERT ON WOUNDED MOST SECRET (Appendix No.6 to "DUNEDIN's" letter No.00191 of 19th June 1941) H.M.S. "DUNEDIN" 18th June 1941 Sir I have the honour to submit the following report on the wounded prisoners ex German ship "LOTHRINGEN". 2. There were five prisoners reported as wounded. The wounds were all caused by splinters, the points of entry being very small in every case. S.- In two (Matrose Karl JOREEIUS and Matrose Bernard JANZING) the wounds were tribial and did not require operative interference. In two others (Matrose Fritz TRUNICEE and Fireman Rickard STRANSKY) the fragments had penetrated to a considerable depth in the left wrist and left thigh respectively. In these cases, the track was laid open throughout its entire length, fragments recovered; damaged tissue excised and the wound closed again by primary suture. 4.- The remaining man, (Boatswain Ernst OELRICHS) had numerous abrasions on his legs and a pulsating haematoma in his . left wrist to which a pad and firm bandage was applied at the time. The next morning it was laid open under chloroform anaesthesia and the two severed ends of the radial artery were ligatured off. 5.- Up to the present, progress is very satisfactory in every case. I have the honour to be, Sir, Your obedient Servant, 11/11/Brown The Commanding Officer; H.M.S. "DUNED IN" SURGEON LIEUTENANT R.N.V.R.



CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF THE Closure status Open. ADM 199/809 (2)500 H.M.S. "DUNEDIN" MOST SECRET 19th June 1941 No. 03111. SPECIAL REPORT ON SECRET DOCUMENTS OBTAINED FROM GERMAN M.V. "LOTHRINGEN" W/T Cypher Log in Plain Language. I. W/T Cypher Log in Plain Language.

II. Cyphered Versions of W/T signals sent by LOTHRINGEN Enclosures III. List of Confidential Books held. IV. W/T cabinet log 500 kc/s, etc. (Not secret) V. "DUNEDIN's" signal 0704Z/17.6.41 to "EAGLE" With reference to my letter No.00191 of 19th June 1941, I Have the honour to submit that although, when boarded, the LOTHRINGEN Sir, had jettisoned her secret books, documents, etc. (including all log books, Engine Room Registers and everything which could have thrown light on her past or future movements), the secret documents named as Enclosures I - III of this letter had been overlooked by the Germans and were seized by "DUNEDIN's" boarding party. 2.- Enclosures II and III were found in the presence of the German W/T operator, who had previously stated that everything secret had been destroyed. He is understood to have been much chagrined at their discovery. 3.- Enclosure I, particularly when read in conjunction with Enclosure II, is evidently a find of the first importance. It is submitted for consideration therefore whether arrangements might not be made for these two documents to be flown to the United Kingdom without delay. 4.- The credit for their discovery is due to Percy T. JACKSON, Telegraphist R.F.R., P/J.102244 of H.M.S.DUNEDIN who returned to search the W/T office again after the German operator had left, finding Enclosure I which had slipped down behind a demolished radio-gramophone which was in the W/T office. He suggests the reason it was overlooked is that the German W/T operator, when destroying his W/T set and radio-gramophone with a sledge hammer, may have dislodged the book which presumably had previously been placed on top of the radiogramophone. 5.- If Telegraphist Jackson's discovery proves to be as valuable as, on the face of it, it seems, I submit that he may receive the recognition considered appropriate to his action. 6.- A report (attached) on the finding of these documents was signalled to the Senior Officer Force 'F' by V/S in cypher prefixed AIDAC on 19th June. 7.- Enclosure No. IV, although not confidential, is also included in case it may provide W/T intelligence of value. I have the honour to be, Sir. Your obedient Servant, The Commander-in-Chief, CAPTAIN South Atlantic. (Copy to the Senior Officer Force 'F', H.M.S. "EAGIE", without enclosures).

H.M.S. "EAGLE", MOST SECRET. 16th June, 1941. No. E. 0949. CAPTURE OF GERMAN U-BOAT SUPPLY SHIP LOTHRINGEN BY H.M. SHIPS BAGLE AND DUNEDIN IN POSITION 190 49 NORTH, 380 30 WEST. 151H JUNE, 1941. Appendix I. Photographs.) (not to Appendix II. Track chart.) "DUNEDIN"). ENCLOSURES. All times are Zone +1. Sir, I have the honcur to report the following circumstances attending the capture of the German S.S.
"LOTHRINGEN" by H.M. Ships "EAGLE" and "DUNEDIN" (Force "F") under my command. This report deals with the operation up to the time of H.M.S. "DUNEDIN"s contact with the versel. The Commanding Officer has been ordered to forward to you a separate report concerning the boarding, capture and prize crew etc. 15th June, At 0800 / a 100% clearing search of the patroi area was flown off and returned at 2145. At 1015, a continuous 1:ne patrol across the Northern end of the area was commenced, Force P being in the best position to intercept in daylight any vessel reported by this patrol. At 1252, 15th June, when in position 18° 37' North, 37° 29° West, H.M.S. "EAG! E" received an alarm report of one merchant vessel from aircraft 5B, the first aircraft on this line patrol, followed a few minutes later by amplifying reports giving her course as 160° and description as a tanker. On closing the tanker, aircraft 5B signalled the vessel to stop. As no notice was taken machine gun fire was opened ahead of the ship. This was promptly returned by accurate machine gun fire from the vessel, several hits being registered on the fuselage and main planes. 5B then dive-tombed and scored 2 hits and machinegunned with both guns. The aircraft was armed with two 2501b S.A.P. bombs, as was each aircraft sent on the original search and subsequent line patrols. This bomb load was selected in order to effect a suitable compromise between reasonable offensive power and maximum endurance for the aircraft. After being hit the ship commenced to circle and to leave a thick oily wake. At 1350, aircraft 58, owing to shortage of petrol left the tanker and returned to the Carrier. Commander-in-Chief, South Atlantic Station. opy to The Commanding Officer, H.M.S. "DUNEDIN";

ADM 1991 809 (Page 2 of "EAGLE"s No. E. 0949 of 16 June, 1941).

Twenty minutes later air craft 5K arrived on scene and found the tanker steaming erratically, apparently damaged and leaking oil. She had two white flags flying at the foremast and a white sheet was being waved from the bridge.

Efforts were being made to lower a power boat. Machine gun fire was opened on this boat and it was promptly dropped into the water with only one man in ite

5K then proceeded to machine gun 2 pulling boats slung outboard one each side of the poop. No further attempts were

made to lower boats. After repeatedly asking the tanker for her nationality the

latter eventually answered "German" by lamp.

5K was joined at 1500 by 3 other aircraft sent as a StrikingForce and at 1608 left the scene and returned to the Carrier.

7. Meanwhile at 1335 H.M.S. "DUNEDIN" was ordered to proceed to the position of the tanker and at 1400 a Striking Porce of 3 aircraft armed each with four 250-16. bombs was sent with instructions to order the tanker to steer in the required direction, failing which she was to be attacked.

8. The Striking Force arrived on the scene at 1500 and found the situation as already described, the ship surrendering

and no attempt being made to abandon her.

It is interesting to note that although there was a number of naval personnel on board the ship and that scuttling charges were in place, no further steps were taken to scuttle her even after H.M.S. DUNEDIN had appeared. This was presumably due to the presence overhead of the air Striking Force and to the bombing by aircraft 5B.

This may be the first occasion on which a ship has

surrendered to aircraft.

9. The Striking Force remained in the vicinity until the arrival of H.M.S. "DUNEDIN" at 1745, when an A/S patrol was organised, and at 1820 owing to shortage of petrol they returned to the Carrier.

H.M.S. "EAGLE" eventually joined H.M.S. "DUNEDIN" and the tanker at 2040 maintaining an A/S patrol until sunset.

10. It was at once evident that the Commanding Officer, H.M.S. "DUNEDIN", Captain R.S. Lovatt, Royal Navy, had the situation most effectively in hand. The ship's engines and steering were reported to be intact and subject to my approval he proposed to send the ship under his prize crew to BERMUDA.

11. The Prize was got under way at 2350 on a course for Bermuda and at 0150 16th June the Commanding Officer, H.M.S. "DUNEDIN" reported being satisfied that she was proceeding satisfactorily. Force "F" thereupon left her and turned to signal 0228/16.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE. Page 3 of "EAGLE"s No. 3.0949 of 16 June, 1941). 18. I have the honour to bring to your notice the evident high state of efficiency existing in H.M.S. DUNEDINES organisation for boarding, quick survey, anti-scuttling measures Despite the facts that this prize had been hit by 2 bombs, and prize crew arrangements. and that 6 time fused scuttling charges had been placed, she was ready for steaming by II.M.S. "DUNEDIN"s prize crew within about six hours of making contact. 13. I also invite your attention for the second time (vide paragraph 9 of my No. B. 0946 dated 9th June, 1941 - not to II. I. S. *DUNEDIN*) to excellent work performed by the crew of aircraft Mr William L. Hughes, Temporary Midshipman (A) RNVR - Pilot. 5B:-Temporary Sub Lieutenant (A) Philip A. Denington, RNVR 7 Observer. Norman C. Wills, Leading Airman, (AG. 3), late D/JR. 145033 -On this occasion they were the first to sight and report the enemy and the accuracy of their bombing was most certainly the cause of her surrender.

to schille and abandon their ship was due to the accuracy of the machine gun fire on the poats carried out by the crest of aircraft 5K:-

Sub Lieutenant(A) Charles R. CAMIDGE, R. N.

Temperary Acting Sub Lieutenant(A) William H. LETT, R. N. V. R.

Observer

Frank A. DEAN, Leading Airman(Ty), (A. G. 3),

P/FX. 79 120

Rear Cun

15. Attached as Apendix I are some photographs of the INEDIN*). S. S. "LOTHRINGEN", and as Apendix II a track chart of Holl. S. "EAGLE"s movements and aircraft learches.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

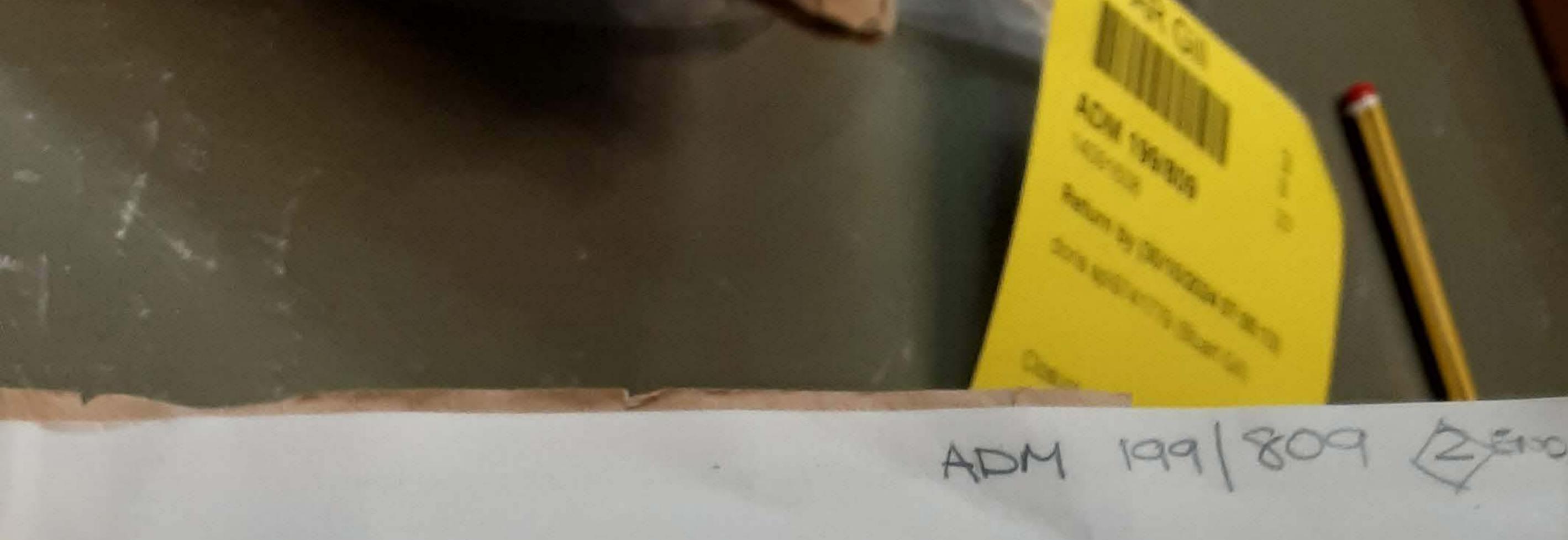
Your obedient Servant,

(E.G. N. RUSHBROOKE).

Royal Navy.



Assendices



PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE.

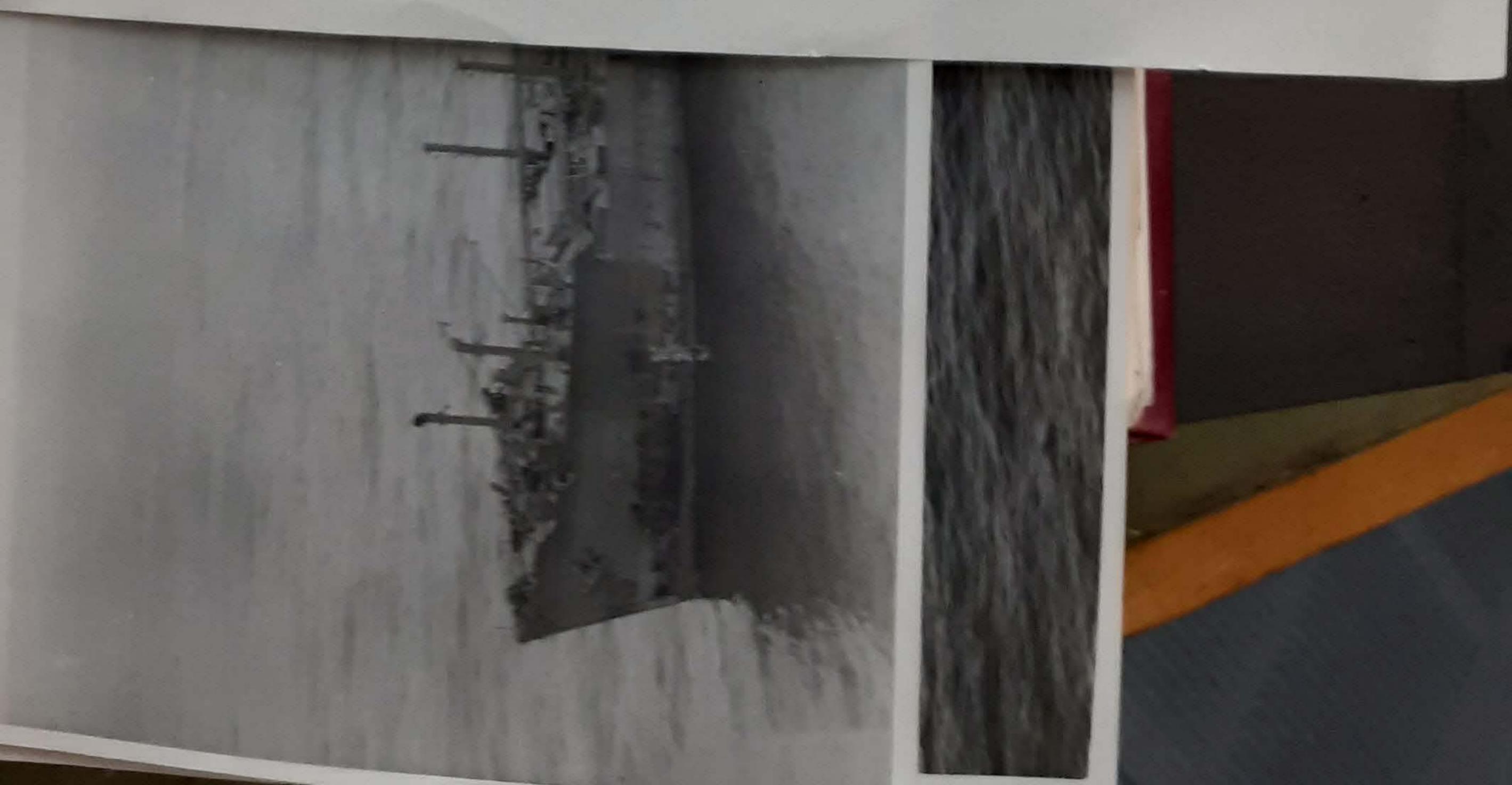
Ine Document, being Track chart showing movements
of surface and air units involved in capture
of German tanker "Lotningen"

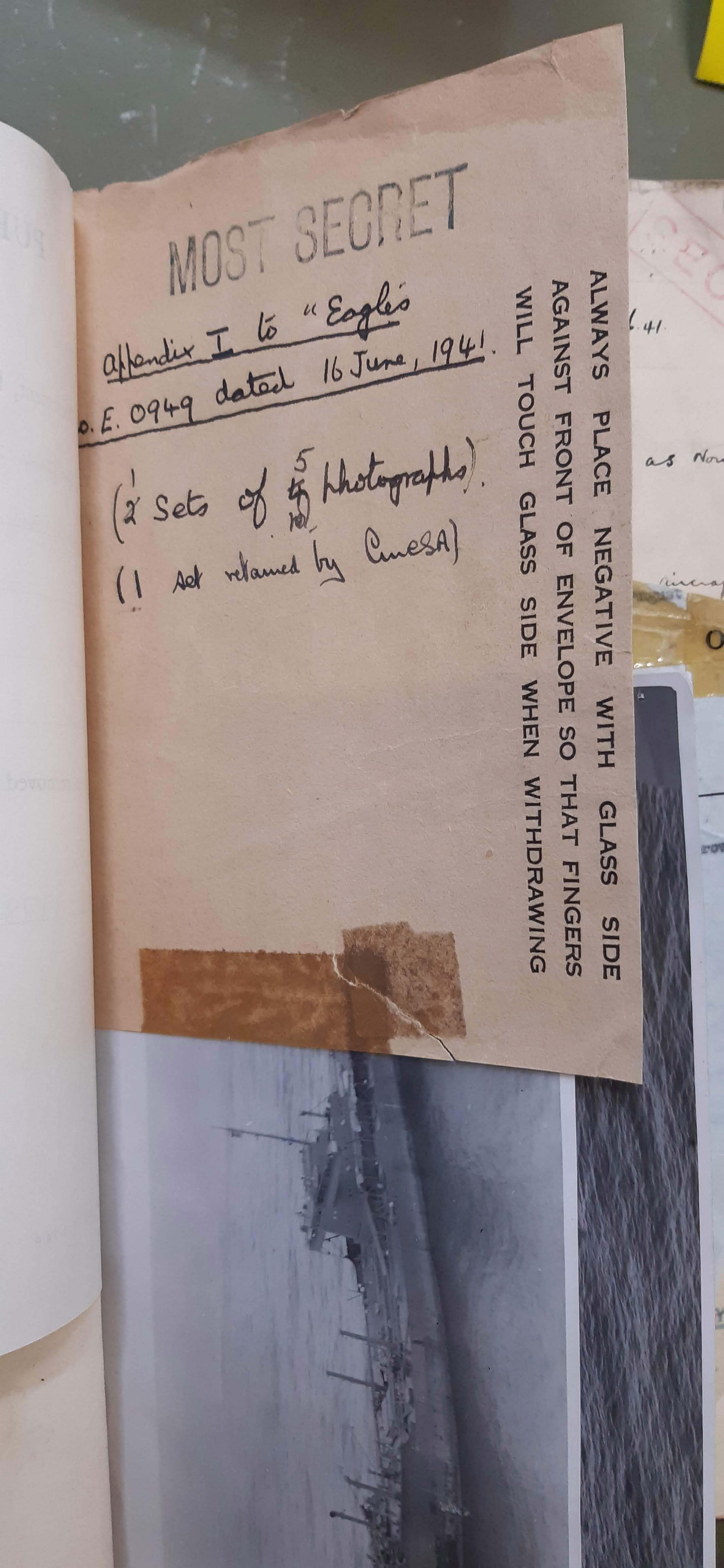
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9.8.1978

Margaret Brennand

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Jugaranti sumans thet disprised SA KRISTIANIA FJORA an ICABLES GPOVA/35 MESSACE. commender in Chief, South Atlantic DATE SENT ton Administrality Your 786/020 of 21st June, 1941. The Eing 1 se fellowing appointment and averres-0.13.10. (101.1.1.teary) motesta R. B. Lovett, R.H. H.M. DUMBLE mention in Demonstohes Lt. Car. R.M.H. Bowdon, R.M. Michigh sub-Lt. (A) C.R. Comidge, R.H. HAGIE By: But, Lt (A) P.A. Denington, R.N.V.R. EAGLE rel: P. C. Juckson, P/J 102214, Dentille. 1101/12 Port Glesdows (C.W. (H. & A) Hevel Becrotery H.A.2 B.L. (2) somirel william