

(B) NARRATIVE (Cont'd)

1952 Headed toward PULO CECIR DE MER and rounded it to the South, then headed North to about Lat. 11N.

15 May

0000 Patrolling toward Lat. 11N at 2 engine speed.
0105 Headed West toward POINT GUIO.
0300 Received badly garbled message from CTF 71 which would break far enough for us to find out that we were one of the addressees and that we were not restricted to only the southern portion of this area. The message was originated at 2100 ITEM on May 12th.
0447 South of POINT GUIO, distance 10 miles, turned North and ran up to a distance of 5 miles and then turned East.
0515 Received a rebroadcast of the garbled message and discovered that the CAIMAN and BLOWER were assigned the INDO CHINA COAST from Lat. 13N to 10N with CO BLOWER ordered to coordinate the patrol.
0715 Sent message to BLOWER requesting instructions.
0740 Received message from BLOWER that he was North of 12N and for CAIMAN to patrol South of 12N.
0800 Headed North for the vicinity of CAPE PADARAN and CAMRANH BAY about 5 to 7 miles off shore.
0945 Made trim dive.
1200 Position Lat. 11-32N
 Long. 109-15E
1208 Sighted Liberator. He reported no shipping sighted.
1434 SD contact at 8 miles.
1440 SD contact at 8½ miles.
1654 Sank barnacle-encrusted mine in:
 Lat. 11-34N
 Long. 109-20E
1700 Because of a heavy haze along the coast we moved out to 20 miles off shore. The sun and haze would allow that float plane from CAMRANH BAY to slip out undetected.
1832 Sank mine in: Lat. 11-24N
 Long. 109-24E
2100 Commenced patrolling between CAPE PADARAN and CAMRANH BAY about 5 to 7 miles off shore.

16 May

0000 Patrolling between CAPE PADARAN and CAMRANH BAY about 5 to 7 miles off shore.
0632 Dived about 5 miles NE of POINT CAMRANH for inshore patrol.

(B) NARRATIVE (Cont'd)

0735 Sighted float plane, (AC #2) identified as a JAKE. We watched him for about 10 minutes, but he did not come out to sea.

1156 One and one fourth miles East of MUI DAVAICH. No activity noted in CAMRANH BAY.

1200 Posit: Lat. 11-44N
Long. 109-15E

2000 Headed to seaward.

2051 Surfaced $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles off HON DO. Commenced patrolling a line off CAPE PADARAN passing about 5 miles off the CAPE at the middle point.

17 May

0000 Patrolling a line off CAPE PADARAN averaging about 5 miles off the CAPE at the middle point.

0634 Dived about 7 miles NE of HON DO. Dodging sailboats forced us several miles out from the desired diving point. Commenced submerged patrol across FAN RANG BAY down to CAPE PADARAN.

1200 Posit: Lat. 11-32N
Long. 109-09E

1815 2 miles East of CAPE PADARAN.

2000 Headed out to seaward.

2049 Surfaced 4 miles East of CAPE PADARAN. Commenced patrolling on E-W line 3 miles to 15 miles off the CAPE. We believe this to be a reasonable compromise to cover both the CAPE and some distance out to sea.

18 May

0000 Patrolling on E-W line through CAPE PADARAN; limits 3 miles and 15 miles off the CAPE.

0330 Headed to the northward.

0630 Dived 5 miles NE of POINT CAMRANH for a submerged patrol off the entrance to CAMRANH BAY.

1200 Posit: Lat. 11-48N
Long. 109-17E

1506 Headed North across the entrance when $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles East of MUI DAVAICH.

2000 Headed to seaward.

2048 Surfaced 4 miles NE of POINT CAMRANH. Headed for CAPE PADARAN to repeat last night's patrol.

19 May

0000 Patrolling an E-W line through CAPE PADARAN, the limits of which are three miles and 15 miles off the CAPE.

(B) NARRATIVE (Cont'd)

0723 Sighted float plane (AC #3) identified as a JAKE.
Dived.
0805 Surfaced.
0830 Commenced patrolling a line 11 miles off CAPE PADARAN
and HON DO. We decided on a day surface patrol in
order to communicate with the search plane.
1135 Sighted Liberator. Communicated via VHF and learned
that he had sighted no shipping.
1200 Posit: Lat. 11-27N
Long. 109-18E
2015 Headed North to patrol off entrance of CAMRANH BAY.

20 May

0000 Patrolling about five or six miles off entrance of
CAMRANH BAY.
0627 Dived five miles NE of POINT CAMRANH for a patrol off
CAMRANH BAY.
0830 Noted rotating radar antenna on ILE TAGNE.
1140 One and one half miles east of MUT DAVAICH. Headed
North.
1200 Posit: Lat. 11-42N
Long. 109-25E
2051 Surfaced and headed South to patrol off CAPE PADARAN.

21 May

0000 Patrolling an E-W line through CAPE PADARAN; limits
three miles and fifteen miles off the CAPE.
0624 Dived five miles East of HON DO for a patrol across
FAN RANG BAY and off CAPE PADARAN.
1200 Posit: Lat. 11-25N
Long. 109-04E
1629 One and one half miles off CAPE PADARAN.
2000 Headed to seaward.
2054 Surfaced about seven miles NE of CAPE PADARAN. Com-
menced a repetition of last night's patrol.

22 May

0000 Patrolling an E-W line through CAPE PADARAN; limits
three miles and fifteen miles off the CAPE.
0621 Dived five miles NE of HON DO for patrol across FAN
RANG BAY and off CAPE PADARAN.
1200 Posit: Lat. 11-24N
Long. 109-04E
1415 Two miles SE of CAPE PADARAN. Maintained station off
the CAPE.
2000 Headed to seaward.

(B) NARRATIVE (Cont'd)

- 2046 Surfaced about five miles NE of CAPE PADARAN and headed North to patrol off CAMRANH BAY.
- 2245 Intercepted message from BLOWER to CTF 71 indicating that he is leaving the area tonight. This leaves CAIMAN independent off the coast from Lat. 10N to 13N.

23 May

- 0000 Patrolling off CAMRANH BAY along an E-W line through HON CHUT LIGHT; limits five and seventeen miles off the entrance.
- 0623 Dived five miles NE of POINT CAMRANH for a patrol off the entrance to that bay.
- 1200 Posit: Lat. 11-48N
Long. 109-16E
- 1224 Sighted float plane JAKE. (AC #4)
- 1540 One and one half miles off MUI DAVAICH; reversed course.
- 1915 Headed to seaward.
- 2003 Sighted float plane JAKE. (AC #5)
- 2046 Surfaced about six miles East of ILE TAGNE. Headed for vicinity of CAPE VARELLA.

24 May

- 0000 Enroute vicinity of CAPE VARELLA.
- 0223 CAPE VARELLA LIGHT bearing 270°T, distant 4 miles; commenced patrolling between 3 to 7 miles off the CAPE.
- 0618 Dived 4 miles NE of CAPE VARELLA for submerged patrol 1 to 2 miles off the CAPE.
- 1030 Sighted Liberator.
- 1200 Posit: Lat. 12-54N
Long. 109-28E
- 1930 Headed to seaward.
- 2052 Surfaced about 4 miles off CAPE VARELLA and commenced patrolling between 3 and 7 miles off the CAPE.

25 May

- 0000 Patrolling between 3 to 7 miles off CAPE VARELLA.
- 0126 Sighted properly lighted hospital ship. On course 170°T, speed 14 knots, he passed 7 miles off CAPE VARELLA at 0230. For unusual radar phenomenon see remarks under (M) RADAR.
- 0614 Dived 5 miles NE of CAPE VARELLA LIGHT for submerged patrol 1 to 2 miles off the CAPE.

(B) NARRATIVE (Cont'd)

1025 Sighted Liberator.
1200 Posit: Lat. 12-54N
Long. 109-29E
2053 Surfaced about 4 miles off CAPE VARELLA LIGHT and commenced patrolling between 3 and 7 miles off the CAPE.

26 May

0000 Patrolling between 3 to 7 miles off CAPE VARELLA.
0430 Intercepted message from CTF 71 to CAPITAINE ordering her into our area. We were not mentioned in the message.
0620 Dived about 5 miles North of HON DOI for submerged patrol covering the entrance to VAN FONG BAY.
1200 Posit: Lat. 12-32N
Long. 109-28E
1410 Sighted Liberator.
1925 Headed to seaward at standard speed.
1959 Surfaced about 6 miles off entrance to VAN FONG BAY. We surfaced early in order not to miss any radio messages. Headed South for CAPE PADARAN.
2300 Received message from CTF 71 that the special anti-submarine zone off the coast between CAMRANH BAY and CAPE PADARAN was to be cancelled at 1800 ITEM, 27 May.

27 May

0000 Enroute CAPE PADARAN.
0100 Commenced patrolling 4 to 6 miles off CAPE PADARAN and HON DOI.
0400 Received message from CTF 71 assigning lifeguard duties on station 18 miles bearing 020°T from PULO CECIR DE MER. Time over target 1100 to 1130, May 27th.
0405 Headed for PULO CECIR DE MER.
1045 SD Contact at 30 miles.
1100 On lifeguard station.
1123 Sighted groups of Liberators.
1200 Posit: Lat. 10-48N
Long. 109-08E
1330 Sighted groups of Liberators.
1650 Received message from CTF 71 to depart area prior dark 28 May and to proceed to FREMANTLE.
1715 Received message from CTF 71 reporting two downed aviators on a raft in Lat. 10-30N. Long. 111-40E.
1716 Headed for above posit. at 4 engine speed.

(B) NARRATIVE (Cont'd)

28 May

0000 Enroute posit. Lat. 10-30N, Long. 111-40E at 4 engine speed to search for downed aviators.

0200 In above posit.; commenced running a retiring search curve modified into squares. Assumed 5000 yd. visibility in bright moonlight and 6 miles during daylight. Fired green Very's stars at 15 minute intervals during night.

0925 Sighted Liberator. Communicated via VHF. He assisted in search for over an hour. Many SD contacts and several plane sightings during the day. Unable to communicate with any except the Liberator.

1200 Posit: Lat. 10-44N
Long. 111-25E

1600 Sent message to CTF 71 reporting low fuel supply.

29 May

0000 Searching for downed aviators in vicinity of Lat. 11N, Long. 112E. Firing green Very's stars every half hour.

0015 Received message from CTF 71 directing us to proceed to SUBIC.

0215 Sent message to CTF 71 reporting ETA SUBIC Joint Zone and that we were continuing search until that time.

1200 Posit: Lat. 10-02N
Long. 112-18E

30 May

0000 Enroute western entrance to SUBIC Joint Zone. Firing Very's stars every half hour.

0200 Considered search no longer effective.

1100 Entered Joint Zone.

1200 Posit: Lat. 13-21N
Long. 119-21E

1400 SD contact at 20 miles. Friendly IFF.

(B) NARRATIVE (Cont'd)

31 May

0000 Transitting Joint Zone enroute SUBIC BAY at 4 engine speed.
0553 SJ contact at 15,400 yards.
0602 Sighted escort. Proceeded to SUBIC BAY in company with escort, U.S.S. ROLFE.
1000 Observed cruisers of the CLEVELAND class firing AA gunnery practice. Next observed four shells from the first run land and explode in the water less than 1,000 yards on our beam. On the second run seven shells landed about 6,000 yards on our quarter.
1020 Passed through net.
1048 Moored in nest alongside U.S.S. ANTHEDON in SUBIC BAY, P.I., and immediately commenced fueling ship.
1200 Posit: SUBIC BAY, P.I.
1910 Underway from nest alongside ANTHEDON pursuant to CTG 71.1 Operations Order 57-45 as modified by CTF 71 Mailgram 310609 (May). Assigned the patrol area off west coast of BORNEO between Lat. 2N and Lat. 5S.
1935 Passed through net and joined up with escort U.S.S. ROLFE. Headed for Joint Zone at three engine speed.
2347 Released escort.

1 June

0000 Transitting Joint Zone at three engine speed.
0112 Made SJ contact on SUBIC bound BLUEFISH.
0130 Received message from CTG 71 directing us to take station south of ST. PIERRE Island (Lat. 1-55N, Long. 108-40E) on 4 June. Also to vary our location in this general vicinity.
0703 Sighted Liberator.
1045 Made trim dive.
1200 Posit: Lat. 14-00 N
Long. 116-25 E
1341 Sighted submarine.
1400 Spoke SUBIC bound H.M.S. SELENE.
1530 Received message from CTG 71 assigning us lifeguard duty to cover returning cripples from Liberator strike on BATAVIA late night of 3 June. Assigned station 27 miles bearing 0080(T) from CAPE DATCE. We can expect planes over the Cape from about 0030 to 0330 on 4 June.
2212 Cleared Joint Zone and headed for lifeguard station.

(B) NARRATIVE (Cont'd)

2 June

0000 Enroute lifeguard station off CAPE DATOE at three engine speed.
0330 Received message from CTG 71 assigning us lifeguard duty during Liberator strike on KUCHING between 1130 and 1300 on 5 June. Assigned station 65 miles bearing 030°(T) from CAPE DATOE.
0917 SD contact at 18 miles - sighted Liberator.
1200 Posit: Lat. 10-18 N
Long. 112-15 E

3 June

0000 Enroute lifeguard station off CAPE DATOE at three engine speed.
1200 Posit: Lat. 5-02 N
Long. 110-17 E
1315 Sighted Liberator.
1515 SD contact at 20 miles.
1520 Sighted 2 Liberators.
1602 Sighted Liberator.
1604 SD contact at 16 miles.
2317 On lifeguard station 27 miles bearing 008°(T) from CAPE DATOE.

4 June

0000 On lifeguard station.
0613 Headed East in general direction of CAPE SIRIK.
1015 Made trim dive.
1100 Decided that day patrol in this vicinity was not a particularly good idea. Headed West toward SERASAN PASSAGE.
1200 Posit: Lat. 2-26 N
Long. 110-18 E
1845 Decided to make a sweep across the mouth of the SARAWAK RIVER. Headed in that direction.

5 June

0000 Patrolling off coast near SARAWAK RIVER following in general the 10 fathom line which keeps us less than 10 miles from the 3 fathom line.

(B) NARRATIVE (Cont'd)

0050 Received message from CTF 71 that aircraft reported sighting a large Maru off BRUNEI BAY on course 235°(T) at 1400 on 4 May. Lifeguard duty will permit us to reach CAPE SIRIK barely before the Maru assuming his speed is not much in excess of 12 knots.

0430 Headed for lifeguard station.

1004 On lifeguard station 65 miles bearing 030°(T) from CAPE DATOE.

1200 Posit: Lat. 3-00 N
Long. 110-27 E

1201 SD contact at 16 miles.

1219 SD contact at 28 miles

1300 Headed for CAPE SIRIK at 4 engine speed.

1500 Twenty miles NW of CAPE SIRIK LIGHT which is close enough to detect anything proceeding along the 3 fathom curve. Patrolled to the east, using fathometer to remain in about 90 feet of water.

1745 Reversed course.

2000 Intended to patrol the long way around along the coast enroute to ST. PIERRE Island, but SJ radar went out of commission. Headed toward SOEBI BESAR.

2115 SJ back in commission.

6 June

0000 Enroute assigned station south of ST. PIERRE Island.

0920 Rounded SOEBI BESAR to northward.

1100 Sighted 2 planes.

1200 Posit: Lat. 2-59 N
Long. 108-23 E

1920 Closed coast of BORNEO.

7 June

0000 Patrolling southeast of ST. PIERRE Island.

0746 Made trim dive. Decided to remain submerged to facilitate main engine repairs. Patrolled about six miles off 3 fathom curve.

1200 Posit: Lat. 1-40 N
Long. 108-58 E

1526 Surfaced.

1529 SD contact at 9 miles. No IFF, no reply on VHF, and plane not sighted, so at

1532 Dived with SD range of 4 miles.

1651 Surfaced. Commenced patrolling SE of ST. PIERRE Island.

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U.S.S. CAIMAN

WAR PATROL NO. THREE

(B) NARRATIVE (Cont'd)

8 June

0000 Patrolling to SE of ST. TIERRE Island.
0932 SD contact at 20 miles.
1200 Posit: Lat. 1-32 N
Long. 108-52 E
1505 SD contact at 16 miles. Sighted Privateer.
Learned via VHF that he had sighted nothing except
a schooner in TONTIANAK ROAD, but that he had
already gunned it himself. Decided that we would go
down that way in a day or so and see if there are
any others about.
1800 SD contacts at 22 and 23 miles.
1807 Sighted land plane with fixed landing wheels. Not
positively identified, but it resembled "VAL" (AC #6).

9 June

0000 Patrolling to southeast of ST. TIERRE Island.
0033 Headed for vicinity of SERASAN PASSAGE for change of
location.
0255 Commenced patrolling across western approach to
SERASAN PASSAGE.
0627 Dived for submerged patrol.
1200 Posit: Lat. 2-22 N
Long. 108-53 E
2037 Surfaced.

10 June

0000 Patrolling western approach to SERASAN PASSAGE.
0506 Shifted patrol station to southeast of ST. TIERRE
Island.
0745 SD contact at 21 miles. Sighted "BETTY" (AC #7).
0750 SD contact at 22 miles.
0808 Sighted "BETTY" (AC #8). Dived.
0856 Surfaced.
1200 Posit: Lat. 1-38 N
Long. 108-43 E
1334 SD contact at 22 miles. Sighted "BETTY" (AC #9).
2007 Shifted patrol station to NE of ST. TIERRE Island.

11 June

0000 Patrolling NE of ST. TIERRE Island.
0400 Shifted patrol station to vicinity of BURONG ISLANDS.
0741 SD contact at 11 miles.
0743 Sighted plane, probably "BETTY" (AC #10).