

EXHIBIT No. 46

UNITED STATES FLEET

(At this point in Exhibit No. 46, there appears a routing slip, bearing Cincus Routing No. 07526 and date of 13 August 1941. This routing slip will be found reproduced as Item No. 11, EXHIBITS-ILLUSTRATIONS, Navy Court of Inquiry. These illustrations are bound together following the printed exhibits of the Navy Court of Inquiry.)

USS PENNSYLVANIA, Flagship

My
Pearl Harbor, T. H.,

ND14/(18)
Serial 096W
Secret

First Endorsement to Com-14 Secret ltr. S-A16-1/ND14 (01084) of 17 October 1941
From: Commander-in-Chief, U. S. Pacific Fleet,
To: The Chief of Naval Operations.
Subject: Reappraisal of Local Defense Forces,
Hawaiian Coastal Frontier.

1. Forwarded.

2. There is a possibility that the reluctance or inability of the Department to furnish the Commandant, Fourteenth Naval District with forces adequate to his needs may be predicated upon a conception that, in an emergency, vessels of the U. S. Pacific Fleet may always be diverted for these purposes. If such be the case, the premise is so false as to hardly warrant refutation. A Fleet, tied to its bases by diversion to other purposes, of light forces necessary for its security at sea, is, in a real sense, no Fleet at all. Moreover, this Fleet has been assigned, in the event of war, certain definite tasks, the vigorous prosecution of which requires not only all the units now assigned, but as many more as can possibly be made available.

3. The necessities of the case clearly warrant extraordinary measures in meeting the Commandant's needs.

4. Transmission of this document within the continental limits of the United States by registered air mail is authorized.

H. E. KIMMEL.

Copy to: Com-14

S-A16-1/
ND14 (01084)

OFFICE OF THE COMMANDANT,
FOURTEENTH NAVAL DISTRICT,
Pearl Harbor, T. H., 17 October 1941.

Secret

From: Commandant, Fourteenth Naval District.

To: Chief of Naval Operations.

Via: Commander-in-Chief, U. S. Pacific Fleet.

Subject: Reappraisal of Local Defense Forces, Hawaiian Coastal Frontier.

References:

- (a) Com 14 Conf. ltr. to Opnav of 30 Dec. 1940, Serial 629.
- (b) CINCUS Conf. 1st end to Com 14 serial 629, CINC file A16 (022) of 7 January 1941.
- (c) Com 14 Conf. ltr. to Opnav of 7 May 1941, Serial 0430.
- (d) CINCPAC Secret ltr. Serial 038 W of 20 May 1941 to Opnav.
- (e) Com 14 Conf. ltr. to Opnav of 31 October 1940, Serial 510

1. All of the above references bear on the local defense forces and security measures of this area.

2. The only increment that has been made to these forces during the past year, exclusive of net vessels, is the U. S. S. SACRAMENTO which has no battery, to speak of, with which the vessel can fight, and no speed with which she can run.

3. Although the writer of this letter is aware that the department has been fully informed about the deficiencies in this district, he feels it necessary to again bring this subject to attention.

4. Recently, the Commandant endeavored to obtain, without much success, from the Commander-in-Chief the assignment of certain planes which could be used in connection with anti-submarine patrol. The only planes now available

for this purpose are Army planes, and the types and numbers are inadequate for the purpose.

5. The only anti-submarine vessels now in the district are the four destroyers of Destroyer Division EIGHTY, one still being unequipped with listening gear, and three Coast Guard cutters. These vessels will not only have to be used for hunting and tracking down submarines but will also be required for escort and security patrols in a very extensive frontier.

6. It is urged that the department send a number of small, fast craft to this district equipped with listening gear and depth charges for this purpose. It is further urged that the department send to this district at least two squadrons of VSO planes which can be used for patrol against enemy submarines.

7. Nearly all of the failures of the British have been caused by what may be expressed in the cliché "too little and too late." It is hoped that we may profit from their errors.

C. C. Bloch.

70716-14385-34

(1)

EXHIBIT No. 17

SECRET

NAVY DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS,
Washington, November 21, 1941.

In reply to initials and No. Op-12B 7-422 (SC) A16-1/ND14

Serial 0185112 D-37007

From: The Chief of Naval Operations.

To: The Commander in Chief, U. S. Pacific Fleet.

The Commandant, Fourteenth Naval District.

Subject: Local Defense Forces, Hawaiian Naval Coastal Frontier.

References:

- (a) CinOpac secret let. A16/(038W) of May 20, 1941, to CNO.
- (b) WPL-16.
- (c) WP Pac-46.
- (d) CNO secret let. Op-12B-7-422 (SC) A16-1/ND14 serial 010612 of June 22, 1941, to CinOpac, copy to Com 14.
- (e) Com-14 secret let. O A16-1/ND14 (01064) of October 17, 1941.
- (f) CinOpac endorsement ND14/12 serial 0003W of no date, to reference (c).
- (g) CNO conf. let. Op-22-A2(SC) A16-3(9) serial 011522 of October 22, 1941.

1. The request of the Commandant, Fourteenth Naval District, in reference (c), for a number of small anti-submarine craft and at least two squadrons of VSO planes for anti-submarine patrol, and the endorsement thereon by Commander in Chief, U. S. Pacific Fleet, reference (f), have been given full consideration by the Chief of Naval Operations.

2. A previous letter of the Commander in Chief, U. S. Pacific Fleet, reference (a), pertaining to the same general subject, was replied to in reference (d).

3. The Chief of Naval Operations notes that the Commander in Chief, U. S. Pacific Fleet, in his war plan, reference (c), has taken full cognizance of his responsibilities in connection with his tasks pertaining to the Hawaiian Naval Coastal Frontier. The forces available in the Hawaiian area, both Fleet and Local Defense Forces, and the actual operations of our own and hostile forces, with, of course, indicate the numbers of Fleet vessels or aircraft required to be assigned to local defense tasks.

[B] 4. Neither the Local Defense Force Operating Plan—Rainbow No. 5 (Naval District Plan O-6, Rainbow No. 5) nor the Joint Coastal Frontier Defense Plan, both required by reference (b), have yet been received by the Chief of Naval Operations. The joint plan should indicate what assistance to anti-submarine or other patrols will be rendered by Army air forces. A recent joint letter of the Chief of Naval Operations and the Chief of Staff, contained in reference (g), provided for joint exercises of Army and Navy Frontier forces and called attention to the necessity of early completion of joint defense plans.

5. The augmentation of the Local Defense Forces of the Fourteenth Naval District is proceeding as fast as the availability of ships, funds, personnel, material and priorities will permit. The current situation in this regard may be summarized as follows: