

*planes to Europe—Russia—China—? May have to charter them rather than take them over. In order conserve Navy personnel.*

Your study of the installations and defenses of Wake, Midway, Johnston, and Palmyra arrived in the Department yesterday. It is being routed to War Plans for study. I had an opportunity to skim through it hurriedly, and it looked like a very good paper. It will be of much help to us.

In connection with the aircraft routes to the Orient via a southerly detour, I am enclosing a copy of a letter which I wrote to Admiral Block.

Admiral Lyster, the Fifth Sea Lord, recently visited us. He is quite a chap and impressed us as knowing his job, and being a very able officer. I am enclosing, as being of possible interest to you, copies of the notes which he gave to us as a result of his observations on the manner in which we employ our aircraft.

In addition, I am sending a copy of the notes made by Captain Lord Louis Mountbatten as the result of his observations in the fleet. He, too, impressed me as being a very capable officer. I am sure much good will result from the observations of both of these officers.

Things seem to be moving steadily towards a crisis in the Pacific. Just when it will break, no one can tell. The principle reaction I have to it all is what I have written you before; it occasionally gets "worse and worse"! A month may see, literally, most anything. Two irreconcilable policies can not go on forever—particularly if one party can not live with the set up. It doesn't look good.

All good wishes.

Sincerely,

NETT.

Admiral H. E. Kimmel, U. S. N.,

USS PENNSYLVANIA

c/o Postmaster, San Francisco, California.

*British movement of BB to far east area—I hope—will be completed in December.*

[NOTE—Handwritten matter in Italian.]

#### EXHIBIT No. 75

From: CNO

To: CINCPAC

Released by: H. R. Stark

Date: November 28, 1941

282054

The arrangements described in your 280627 appear to be the best that can be done under the circumstances but suggest advisability of transferring VMF 221 from San Diego to Hawaii via Saratoga X. War Dept. will instruct COMJEN HAWDEPT to cooperate with Navy in plans for use of Army pursuit planes and Army troops in support of Marines X. War Dept. will endeavor to expedite plans for increase of AA defenses but it is doubtful if much improvement is possible soon X. Marine Corps will shortly receive sixteen 37 mm AA guns and receive ammunition in February do you desire these guns for Midway and Wake X. Request air mail report on present effective defenses of all outlying bases and measures planned in immediate future.

Copy: Op 30

MGC

WHD, U. S. Army

HoAero

#### EXHIBIT No. 76

From: CINCPAC

To: OPNAV

Date: November 28, 1941

280627

Your 270038 and 270040 Wright now at Wake to discharge ground crews and material to operate one squadron Marine planes X. Afterwards proceeds Midway to land similar crews X. Already arranged to send each those places leaving Pearl about one December essential ground material for temporary operation

twelve Baker seventeen Army bombers but at present only six such planes of the twelve on Oahu in operating condition X Acute shortage Army bombs precludes any shipment to outlying bases but Navy bombs now available there usable by Army with minor alteration X Doubtful capability Army pursuit planes to operate over twenty miles offshore radically limits their usefulness for insular defense X Their use possible but inability to land on carrier freezes them to island where landed X Flexibility dispositions thereby curtailed X Additional AA guns required this area for Army and Marine defense battalions X Proper for Army troop reinforcements outlying bases being made however consider such use inadvisable as long as Marines available X All outlying forces must be exclusively under Naval command X Twelve Marine fighters leave 28 November in carrier for Wake X Expect send other Marine planes to Midway later X On December 1 sending twelve patrol planes Midway to Wake and replacing those at Midway from Pearl X Will investigate more thoroughly feasibility and advisability of relieving Marine planes with Army pursuits.

---

From: OPNAV  
 To: CINCAF (action)  
       CINCPAC (info)  
 Released by: H. R. Stark  
 Date: 30 November 1941  
 300419

Indications that Japan about to attack points on Kra Isthmus by overseas expedition X In order to ascertain destination this expedition and for security our position in the Philippines desire you cover by air the line Manila Camranh Bay on three days commencing upon receipt this dispatch X Instruct planes to observe only X They must not approach so as to appear to be attacking but must defend themselves if attacked X Understand British Air Forces will search arc 180 miles from Tedta Bharu and will move troops to line across Kra Isthmus near Singora X If expedition is approaching Thailand inform MacArthur X British mission here informed X

(Following the above dispatch, there appears in the exhibit a photo-static copy of a handwritten note identical with the above dispatch. It bears the notation that the dispatch is to be sent as "Secret. Priority." It also bears the note "Read to President and be approved," and a further notation "OK H. R. Stark." The handwritten message is not being reproduced as the context is identical with dispatch 300419.)

---

From: CNO  
 To: CINCUS  
       CINCAF  
 Released by: H. R. Stark  
 Date: January 21, 1941  
 212155

The international situation continues to deteriorate X It now appears to me that if war eventuates its general character will be according to plan DOG my memorandum to the Secretary X If this estimate proves correct I contemplate ordering mobilization according to plan Rainbow Three with following modifications Atlantic Fleet principal concentration New England and Canada execute all tasks except affirm expect early reinforcement from Pacific and much stronger British Isles detachment X Pacific Fleet waiting attitude or execute assigned tasks in area eastward of 160 degrees east depending on action by Japan X Asiatic Fleet can not expect early reinforcement alert status or carry out tasks according to circumstances.

---

From: CINCAF  
 To: OPNAV  
 Date: 7 Dec. 1941  
 070645

Learn from Singapore we have assured Britain armed support under three or four eventualities X Have received no corresponding instructions from you X