D. D. 1500-G-1 Letter from Admiral H. R. Stark to Admiral J. O. Richardson 22 May 1940. H. R. S. Serial 013212 22 MAY 1940. Secret DEAR JOE: When we sent our dispatch it looked as if Italy were coming in almost immediately and that a serious situation might develop in the East Indies, and that there was a possibility of our being involved. However, the recent "blitzkrieg" events in Europe have certainly altered the picture for the time being. Personally I think it has made more remote (for the moment at least) the question of a westward movement of the fleet. I agree with the tenor of your leaver and you will be glad to know I had already so expressed myself I also realize events may change this picture and possibly over night. With regard to the specific questions raised in your letter of 13 May, the Joint Plan for Rainbow Two is about complete, and a copy of it, including the studies upon which it is based, will go to you shortly by officer messenger. This Joint Plan embraces in general all the basic assumptions listed in the memorandum Hill brought East. The joint tasks of this plan will require the operation of the Fleet in general with the fleet tasks set up in Hill's memorandum. I think these assumptions are about the best upon which a basic plan of this nature can be promised, although in any preliminary operating plan which you may prepare at present, I think you should assume the present strongth and disposition of the Fleet, in order to develop the problem from a practical basis. As you get time in these strenuous days, I believe it would be advisable for you to go ahead with the preparation of a tentative Fleet Operating Plan for Rainbow Two, as we are most anxious to have the benefit of your detailed study of the difficulties involved, and the logistic and other requirements. I wish you would keep constantly in mind the possibility of a complete collapse of the Allies, including the loss of their fleets. A very probable development of such a catastrophe is visualized in the Rainbow One Plan. Should the Allied fleets pass into the hands of the Germans, however, an entirely different, and far more serious situation would exist. I would appreciate your views regarding the best disposition of fleet forces in such an event. Regarding the 5 inch 38 caliber ammunition we have realized the deficiency, and, as you probably know, Ordnance has now arranged for shipment of 20,000 rounds on the PYRO. We understand that this will complete the first increment of the mobilization supply on board and will give some room for target practice ammuntion. It is my understanding that there will still be enough on shore on the West Coast and in Hawaii to meet mobilization requirements. I would be glad if you would confirm this. I find that the 6 inch 47 caliber reserve supply on the West Coast is now what it should be. There are 6,000 shells out there and I have requested the Bureau of Ordnance to send a like quantity of powder by rail. We are taking up the question of another Flag Officer in ATRON which you suggested. We hope to put this in effect in the near future; the idea being to assign this officer as Commander Destroyers Atlantic Squadron. Present plan is to rig up something on the DENEBOLA for him to use as an Administrative Flag Ship and then assign ad interin one of the new

D. D. 1500-G-1 Letter from Admiral H. R. Stark to Admiral J. O. Richardson 22 May 1940. 1500 ton destroyers as a Tactical Flag Ship with the idea of recalling from the Fleet the SATPSON (which seems most logical choice) or another 1850 destroyer to take the place of this new 1500 tonner tentatively assigned. On account of the antiaircraft armament on the 1500 tonners I feel that the 1500 tonner would be more valuable to you than the SAMP-SON, and at the same time the SAI PSON would give a little more room for Flag Quarters and Operating Staff accommodations. I do not want to tie up another cruiser as a separate Flag Ship. I sometimes feel there has been too much of this already. This seems to be the best solution for the problem, unless you can suggest a better one. In regard to the disposition of cruisers I feel that the ST. LOUIS and HELENA should join the Fleet as soon as they are out of the Yard. They should get Fleet Training. They are valuable units to you. If we take them out of the Atlantic and send them to the Pacific I must replace them. Under the present situation the reduction in cruiser strength as it is, should, if anything, be augmented. There are two possible solutions: one, to assign Rowcliff and Cruiser Division FIVE to the Atlantic. This would give two heavy cruiser Divisions in the Hawaiian Detachment and two in the Atlantic. The other is to send Fletcher's Division, Cruiser Division THREF, to the Atlantic which would give one heavy Cruiser Division and one light Cruiser Division in the Atlantic, but would reduce your Light Cruiser strength by one Division and would give you a total of three heavy cruiser divisions in the Pacific. Of course as soon as the TRENTON comes home from Europe we will have her overhauled and she will be available for duty where most needed in the Atlantic or Pacific in case either Cruiser Division THREE or FIVE is sent to the Atlantic. Please let me have your perfectly frank reaction to the above by dispatch (supplemented by air mail if you so desire). You may draw back at the thought of reducing your cruiser strength at this time in the Pacific. This I can believe might well be your inclination, - as it would be mine. But, as I indicated above the changing situation may push the decision one way or the other. In fact the picture may change by the time you get this letter to the extent that it may be necessary to send a real component of the Fleet to the Atlantic much as we would hate to do so and thus divide our forces. The ST. LOUIS is due to be completed in Norfolk 15 July. The HELENA in New York, 9 July. The situation in some of the South American countries gives real cause for concern - and I say this advisedly. If Germany should win - then what????? Wish I could see you - and if the pressure here - day and night ever lets up - I hope to fly out. Keep cheerful. Sincerely. /s/ BETTY. Admiral J. O. RICHARDSON, USN Commander in Chief. U. S. Fleet. USS "Pennsylvania," Pearl Harbor, T. H. P. S. Please acknowledge by dispatch. Have literally lived on the Hill - State Dept. - & White House

D. D. 1500-G-1

Letter from Admiral H. R. Stark to Admiral J. O. Richardson
22 May 1940.

for last several days. Thank God yesterday I finally swung support for 170,000 men and 34,000 marines. Lots still in the mill - but I hope coming.

I hope to commission the remaining 35 DDs, 3 AOs and 36 SS - another personnel nightmare for the fleet - but I simply couldn't do it before.

Here's hopin.

BETTY.

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なす。 即する略然の困難な點並びに 條件について貴下の細 密告御研究思 超黔的 又 は 其 惠 K 他の 浴 し度く切 V 場 から必じ 넹 颈 と思 T 居 は

き侵奪の艦隊勢力配列に向する黄下の見解を御神し下さらば幸甚に存 て遙かに重大になるでありませう。斯様の事態受生の場合に対處すべ じなす。 を有する事を常に御記憶下さるやう希望 合写鑑除がドイツの手に移る事がらつたならば、狀勢は更に異りそ き蓋然的悲劇を虹第一號計量に於て予想 私は貴下が聯合日側が陰ほの哀失をも含めて完全に崩壊する可能 公教中任任中国国内以 光生四 して居ります。しかし萬一學 いたします。私共は、斯の

、する勁員補給の第一次增量が完了し、 〇〇(二萬)孫の費出為備をしてゐます。私共は之によつて艦船に 五、三八吋砲彈門が我国に不足してゐる窓が分りなした。而して多 裕が生じたものと了解するのでおりま 分は御承知でありませらが兵器段では既にパイロノ號により二〇、〇分は御承知でありませらが兵器段では既にパイロノ號により二〇、〇 目標射門訓練用彈湾に幾分の余 四日日十二

出軍班 人在西日本大小、海中八六

西原原及形之口

个 問 四 花 光 千

> 田語合法

被指不及

より充分な空間的余裕が

部門合 は野空 五〇 と思 にとつて有利でありませうが同時にサプソンは民贷司令部並に作取部に必見な諧散焼をする 使月し得るやうにし、而 す。 なすがそ 兵器 りなす。現 思ひます。其處には六、000個 私 次 は 西 は 0 に貴下が提認 私 廏 共航を有してゐる故に一三〇〇 れます)又は別の一八五〇時級門逐艦をとの假始完された一、 旗 順級の部燈と交替すべく召喚するのであります。一五〇〇順燈 共 VC 岸 西 解 艦とし、迫ってほほからサ n は近 #H 地に於 して 海 在 は 0 同 回 居 及 計算 司命官 將 型 ける b T せられた大西 來 0 なす では K 六 火薬を飲 を大 於て 四四 が して新 デ K 西 F ネボラ 七 赏 は 洋 行 道 时 未 M 洋 冷治する 分 VC 逐 7 の砲弾が 彈 **特婦を施して神がで致旗艦として** ンプソン(之が母も吟理的な選響 分 燈除の或る司令官の問題に し度 の予 部を 晒 絽の方がサンプソンよりも貴下 燈飲 いと希望してあるものであり 五〇〇崎既逐縣の中の一を哲 P Vil. 动 司合官に地定すると **用窓されてをり、且つ私が** う口求して問きなした。 神 員 給 K 母は目 府 け. C 得る 仕 下 合せて 遊賞であ 物母が 改 移りな とであ h 在 ると るも 芸 す

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意巡洋孫除二つを叉大西洋に二つを置

して、之で大匹洋には類巡洋艦院一、

レッチャー階段、即第三巡

けの機と入 に続 はづれをのす巡けた際 よ除二れば大二ペ学れと をつか な西に際いきには私 り洋はで配い 大 0 ٤ 云 八西 赞 解 京为 23 加 まり洋 决 ら下るに今に せ 法ばん太に K え 就 申 分置 亦 平とだい上 Total T 23 湾り 現 ひて 强 2 下 にてま は 70 1 0 移大す 14 t 方 す 狀 す 5 3 法 13 2 K 7 ります。 即ちその一は、ロウクリフ及び写五巡 とがらっても、私はそれを元へ尽さな 有用で ルキス及 たっては、田存巡洋響力の削減を 7 ば たら めりなす等し我が 付 訓 びヘレ 决 冷 線を 規 5 5 5 K ので しなけれ ナを完 F 5 もう一 钟 りよ S す。 3 成次第時 B 20 郷電でとの二 思 ば 堪 別 なりなせん H 0 件につ れ 御 W 歋 Ť 提 洋 に網 す。

スをを 第 す Ξ 洋 IX. 又 又 は 鹩 老 勿 E. は 洋 27 洋 0 13t 佳 Lis 必 0 功 何 欧 かが大 洋 す か が之 分 5 八 齋 方 酉 団 位 面に於て任務に就 洪に向け 次 查 持 第 平 私 12 共 れ られ る けそれ ける貴 專 た場合 にな à るわ 修理さ には

思 私 は るがながひし貴(記やをもををなる)をなっている。 すどはう門に変 りと 並 くそ思致しみ 勢のあし た質な , a 此 力筒のま 私 な 方 下世 さ秋がのう大豆 るによ腹。百 信 お た 貴 「たり如 か 宮 ろ 17 8 0 なったす 立 狀 \$ T 場 53 2 太と 和 I. 5 は ve 100 巡洋 ば航 て御物せ下さる線原上です 費下にとつて意然のと 5 空 便で補足して下さい) 解熱力削 兴 とと思 b ve 屈 75. N 頃 御 治といる事 なす。 决許 3 浴 は 必 然 23 h 所

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25 京 3 於 す 70 3 町 逐 办 疝 之 Vi HIY 私 除 槽 K 九 之 70 水 う 艦 貝 悪

彻 機 婚 I I ベッティ