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REGULATIONS FOR VESSEL
DEFENSE STATIONS

This is a translation of the regulations for defending merchant vessels against enemy attack which were drawn up by the Maritime Office and published by the Japanese Shipping Association. The defensive organization of the ship is outlined and the duties of all personnel while under attack are prescribed.

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*1
JAPANESE SHIPPING ASSOCIATION NOTICES

(16 July 1942)

Secret (HI)

*2
General Notice No.388

Matters Regarding the Enforcement of Regulations for Vessel Defense Stations

We transmit herewith the following notice from the Head of the Maritime Office to the Chairman of this Association. To the stipulation in Article 10 of the above Regulations that upon receiving an air raid warning, the Captain shall be under the command of the head of the Maritime Office, his representative, or the air raid director in the vicinity, it is to be added that the Captain shall comply with the directions of local naval authorities when such directions are given.

*3
All-Maritime Notice No.334

(10 July 1942)

Matters Regarding the Enforcement of Regulations for Vessel Defense Stations

Your attention is requested to the enforcement of the regulations contained in the articles to follow, which are based on Article 9 of "Rules for Enforcement of the Ship Defense Instructions and the Kwantung Province and Nanyō Shoto Ship Defense Orders". Please bear in mind the three following points to be noted:

1. These regulations shall apply to Japanese vessels over 1,000 tons; however, ships under 1,000 tons are expected to perfect ship defense stations by applying these regulations.

*1 NIPPON-KAIUN-KYŌKAI

日本海運協會

*2 SHŌ

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*3 KAI-SŌ-KAI

海總海

2. The Captain's chart of the ship defense stations shall be drawn up to conform in general with the vessel stations table (see below, at conclusion of the Articles), showing clearly the crew's distribution, the tools in their charge and their assigned tasks.
3. These regulations shall be in effect from 10 July 1942.

Regulations for Vessel Defense Stations

Article 1. In wartime or during emergencies the Captains of Japanese vessels over 1,000 tons shall organize and assign the ship defense stations of their ships according to these regulations in order to prevent damage by raiding enemy vessels and aircraft and diminish any damage inflicted. Vessels owned or used by government offices and public offices shall not be included; this (limitation) however, shall not apply to vessels lent to the Maritime Transport Commission^{*1}.

Article 2. The defense stations shall consist of a Defense Control and the following squads.

- i. Fire fighting squad.
- ii. Flood prevention squad.
- iii. Damage repair squad.
- iv. Gas defense squad.

The ship's Captain may require the members of these squads to perform double duty according to the type, use, and size of the ship and appoint a responsible party^{*2} for each squad.

*1 SEMPAKU-UN'EI-KAI

船舶運榮會

*2 KAKARI

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Article 3. The Defense Control shall direct defensive operations on the ship. The fire fighting squad shall prepare the tools and materials required to combat fires and shall engage in preventing and extinguishing fires aboard ship; the flood prevention squad shall prepare the tools and materials required to combat flooding and shall engage in preventing and countering leakages; the damage repair squad shall prepare the tools and materials required for repairs and refitting and shall engage in emergency repair of damage to the hull, engine and accessories, as well as various operations not under the other squads; the gas defense squad shall prepare the tools, materials and medical instruments required for gas defense, and it shall not only engage in the detection, fumigation and removal of poisonous gases and substances aboard ship and prevent their spread, but also treat casualties and provide shelters for passengers.

The ship's Captain shall determine details pertaining to the preceding five squads.

Article 4. The Defense Control shall include one Defense Director, two Assistant Defense Directors and several additional attached members; and each squad shall include one Squad Leader and several squad members.

Article 5. The Defense Director shall be the Captain; the Assistant Defense Directors shall be the First Mate and the Engineer; and the Squad Leaders shall be staff members or crew members whom the Captain considers qualified.

The men attached to the Defense Command shall include one deck officer, one man from the ship control crew, two or more observers, and several seamen (among them

must be one or more signalmen).

When there is a mishap in the Defense Command, substitution shall be made in accordance with precedence of function as prescribed by Article 16 of the Mariner's Code.

Article 6. The Defense Director shall command the Assistant Directors and other subordinates.

The Assistant Defense Director who is the First Mate shall assist the Defense Director in defense operations which do not concern the engines and Assistant Defense Director who is the Engineer shall assist the Defense Director in defense operations which concern engines.

Men attached to the Defense Command shall remain with the Defense Control at all times take the Defense Director's orders, transmit them, conduct surveillance etc.

The squad leaders shall take their superior's orders and direct their squads.

The members of the squad execute the squad leader's commands and engage in defense operations.

Article 7. A table showing the defense stations to which the Captain assigns the crew of his ship as stipulated by the foregoing five articles shall be drawn up as shown at the conclusion of these Articles and it shall not only be made known to the crew, but also be posted in an accessible place on the ship. The aforesaid table may be divided into two charts, one while at anchor and one while under way.

Article 8. The Captain upon receipt of a warning from the watch that there is danger of attack by enemy vessels or aircraft, should order the crew members of his ship to assume their "alert" defense stations.

The Captain upon receipt of an air raid warning or when there is danger of a raid by enemy vessels or aircraft, may order the crew of his ship to assume the "emergency" disposition of defense stations.

Article 9. When an air raid warning sounds while the ship is anchored in a bay or harbor, the Captain shall get up steam at once.

Article 10. When an air raid warning sounds while the ship is anchored in a bay or harbor, in addition to complying with the above two articles, the Captain shall be under the command of the head of the Maritime Office or his representative at the anchorage. However, if there is no Maritime Office or representative, he shall be under the command of the Air Defense Director of the anchorage.

Article 11. When the Captain orders the crew to assume "alert" defense stations, he shall command, "Take alert
*1
defense stations!"

When the Captain orders the crew of his vessel to assume the "emergency" defense stations, he shall
*2
command, "Enemy attack!" and simultaneously order the ship's bell rung violently for more than 10 seconds or 10 or more short blasts given on the whistle or siren.

When the Captain orders the crew back from emergency defense stations to alert defense stations, he shall
*3
command, "As you were! On alert!"

When the Captain relieves the defense stations, he shall
*4
command, "Stow gear!"

*1 KEIKAI-BŌGO-BUSHO NI TSUKE

*2 TEKI-SHŪ

*3 TEKI-SHŪ-MOTO-E KEIKAI

*4 YŌGU OSAME

警戒防護部署に就け

敵襲

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用具收め

The bell, whistle, or siren signal stipulated above shall not be used while anchored in a harbor or bay or in areas where it might be confused with an anti-aircraft warning.

In order to facilitate transmission of commands, the Captain may use the ship's warning apparatus at the same time as the commands stipulated above, but when there is danger of its being confused with an air-raid warning, this shall not be done.

Article 12. Upon the command, "Take alert defense stations!" after the crew have immediately adjusted the ship's illumination in accordance with the prescribed "alert" lighting system and have prepared tools, instruments and material for which they are responsible as shown in the table of defense stations, the anti-aircraft watches shall remain in their assigned positions and keep watch against the enemy and the other crew members shall remain at alert in their previous posts.

Upon the command "Enemy attack!" the crew shall immediately adjust the lighting to conform with the air raid lighting system and follow defense commands in their respective stations as prescribed by the defense stations table.

At the command "As you were! On alert!" provisions of clause 1 shall be followed.

When ship's personnel have gone ashore during anchorage in a bay or harbor, upon hearing the air raid warning they shall return to their ship promptly and assume their stations as prescribed above.

At the command, "Stow gear!", the crew members, after stowing the tools, instruments and materials, etc., for which they are responsible, shall muster in a

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spot designated by the Defense Commander to
await orders.

Article 13. The Captain shall at all times maintain training in defense stations and inspection of defense facilities and improve the crew's defense operations.

Article 14. These regulations shall be applicable to stations on vessels during anti-aircraft training. In instances of defense stations training and air raid training, the word^{#1} "practice" shall be added to the commands stipulated in Article 11.

Caution:

1. A wireless operator who has no assigned station shall remain in the radio room to handle urgent messages.
2. Every man shall wear his neckerchief and must be wearing his shoes when he takes his post.
3. Every man shall strive for speed, reliability and silence in his operations.
4. Upon the command "Stow gear!" every man shall put himself in readiness and each squad shall muster on the forecastle-deck.
5. The Assistant Defense Director who is the Engineer shall be in charge of the emergency restoration and repair of damage to the engine and equipment.
6. Squad members shall engage primarily in their own squad's operations, but in the absence of such operations they shall assist in the operations of other squads.

*1 KUNREN

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TABLE OF DEFENSE STATIONS

Responsibilities		Name	Function	Title of Assignment		Name of station	
			Captain	Defense Director			Defense Control
			Engineer	Assistant Defense Directors			
			1st Mate				
			Mates	Personnel attached to Defense Command			
			Helmsman				
			Look-out				
Operations in its charge	Tools in its charge	Squad Members		Squad Leaders		Duties	Squad Name
		Name	Duties	Name	Duties		
							Fire fighting squad
							Flood Preventing Squad
							Repair Squad
							Gas Defense Squad

Note:

1. In drawing up the table of defense stations, arrange the crew so they will not interfere with communications or the running of the engines.
2. When responsible parties are appointed, as stipulated by the provisions of Article 2 of these regulations, insert a column for the responsible party between the squad leader column and the squad member column and add the responsible party's name.

A TYPICAL TABLE OF SHIP DEFENSE POSITIONS

Duties	Name	Function	Title of Assignment	Post Name
Takes charge of general direction.		Captain	Defense Director	DEFENSE CONTROL
Aids Defense Director in direction of defense operations (except for engines).		1st Mate	Assistant Defense Director	
Aids Defense Director in direction of engine defense.		Engineer		
Aids Defense Director, supervising Defense Command Staff.		3rd Mate		
Takes charge of steering, under command of Defense Director.		Helmsman	Personnel attached to Defense Command	
Engage in look-out for enemy craft and planes and execute commands of superiors.		Two Seamen		
Establish contacts with other ships and shore, and transmit commands of superiors.		Seaman Mess boy		

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Tasks	Tools in its charge	Squad Members	Squad Leader	Function	Duties	Squad Names
Fire extinguishing aboard ship.	Forward hose; hand pump; No.2 Fire Extinguisher.	Helmsman, 2 Seamen, Fireman	(storekeeper attached to squad leader)	2nd Mate	Using fire prevention tools and materials to extinguish fires and prevent their spreading.	Fire Fighting Squad
Detecting leakage spots; providing drainage; preventing seepage.	Collision Mat; Bilge Pump; Two Blankets.	Helmsman, Seaman, Mess boy, Oiler	(Boatswain attached to squad leader)	1st Mate	Using collision mats, plugs, and water-proof cloth to prevent leakage and provide drainage.	Flood Prevention Squad
Repairing of damage and emergency refitting; aiding carpenter.	2 Type 1 Tool Kits.	Carpenter; Carpenter's Assistant		(combined)	Emergency repair and refitting of damaged places in hull and accessories.	Repair Squad
Treating casualties in sick bay; detecting poison gases; installing rescue equipment and making preparation for aiding passengers.	Type 1 Medical Kit; Gas detector; Rescue equipment.	Doctor, Ward-master, Seaman, Mess boy.		Purser	Detecting and removing poison gases aboard ship by means of gas detectors and chemicals; caring for casualties and providing refuge for passengers.	Gas Defense Squad

SQUADS