

Def. Doc. # 1942

Translated by
Defense Language Branch

Naval General Staff Directive No. 61

Date: March 1, 1942.

From: Chief of Naval General Staff, Admiral NAGANO Osami.

To : Commander-in-Chief of China Seas Fleet, Admiral KOGA;
Commander-in-Chief of Iure Naval Station, Admiral TOYODA;
Commander-in-Chief of Yokosuka Naval Station, Vice Admiral HIRATA;
Commander-in-Chief of Maizuru Naval Station, Vice Admiral IOBAYASHI;
Commander-in-Chief of Sasebo Naval Station, Vice Admiral TANIMOTO;
Commander-in-Chief of Chinkai Minor Naval Station, Vice Admiral
SASAKI;
Commander-in-Chief of Bako Minor Naval Station, Vice Admiral YAMAMOTO;
Commander-in-Chief of Ominato Minor Naval Station, Vice Admiral
OHKUBO;
Commander-in-Chief of Osaka Minor Naval Station, Vice Admiral
KOBAYASHI.

In dealing with the shipping of enemy countries and general neutral countries the following shall be the guide hereafter:

1. The sea area under your respective charge shall be patrolled, and the ships of enemy countries and those of the neutral countries that are to be treated similarly to the ships of enemy countries shall be captured or detained.

2. The following countries shall be treated as purely neutral in the dealing of shipping:

Union of Soviet socialist Republics; Spain; Portugal;

Argentina; Chile; Turkey; Sweden; France (the domains under the De Gaul regime excepted); Swiss.

3. The shippings of the neutral countries other than the countries above listed shall be tentatively treated similarly to those of the enemy countries.

4. In dealing with foreign shipping in general due process shall as a rule be taken in accordance with the provisions of laws. If a sinking is made "without enabled to go through prescribed process" because of some forced circumstances, every possible means shall be taken to rescue human lives after the sinking.

5. As a rule persons of armed services, either armed men or civilians, higher graded mariners, technicians, government officials, etc. who are belonging to the enemy countries or to the Chiang Kai-shek regime shall be taken as prisoners of war.

(Attached directive)

The Naval General Staff Directives Nos. 14, 15, and 28 are hereby abolished.

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CERTIFICATE OF SOURCE AND AUTHENTICITY

I, DOHI, Kazuo, who occupy the post of the Chief of the Historical Section of the Material Readjustment Branch of 2nd Demobilization Section of Demobilization Bureau, hereby certify that the document hereto attached, written in Japanese, consisting of 3 pages and entitled "Naval General Staff Directive No. 61" is an exact and authorized excerpt from an official document in the custody of Japanese Government (2nd Demobilization Section of Demobilization Bureau).

Certified at Tokyo,
on this 10 day of July, 1947.

/s/ DOHI, Kazuo (seal)

I hereby certify that the above signature and seal were affixed hereto in the presence of the Witness.

At the same place,
on this same date.

Witness: /s/ SOMIYA, Shinji (seal)