Orders issued to The Armed Trawlers based in Granton Patrols to guard the German ships while anchored in the Firth of Forth

21st November 1918

- CONFIDENTIAL ---armed Trancer Patrol to Guard German ships while anchoused in the Firsh of Forsch From he adminal second - in - barmand . Grand Heet Dar. 20th November 1918 To The officers bommanding K. Mr. hawler and Object of Patrol A do prevent all boats which are not manned by raval personnel approaching the Guman ships from the restrand rearer than a distance of half a mile I do stop any Guman boats that may attempt to leave their ships 1 torre Employed armed drawler no 3574 Thomas whipper (amor office) 3542 Grange Blight 3 575 Grage reschall 3696 Joseph Connell 3832 John Johnson 3675 Caward Collingwood 3 General Information (6) A plan of the anchorage is attached." 0 * Supplied to anned drawless only (D) an animal at the anchorage a pretiminary examination of the German ships will be carried out by parkers. from the quarding ships & Discovers, and a more decauted inspection, will be made on tuday, 22" norumber (E) During the dark hours rach ship of the quarding forer in the columns adjourne to the forman ship will treps two serchlights mady for wiscant use, and also and secondary annament guns - 8 Destroyers of the Drotioyers quanding force will have steam at unstand reduces-Back German ship has been ordered to have three white lights at the stem of two at the stern, and to illuminate the upper Deek with coaling lights (Flor due have been us and to and

----- <u>CONFIDENTIAL</u> ------

Armed Trawler Patrol to Guard German ships while Anchored in the Firth of Forth From. . . The Admiral second-in-command Grand Fleet Date . . . 20th November 1918 To The Officers commanding H.M. Harbour command Object of Patrol A. To prevent all boats which are not manned by naval personnel approaching the German ships from the westward nearer than a distance of half a mile. B. To stop any German boats that may attempt to leave their ships. 2. Force Employed Armed Trawler No 3574 Thomas Whipple (Senior Officer) 3542 George Bligh 3575 George Westphall 3696 Joseph Connell 3832 John Johnson 3673 Edward Collingwood 3. General Information (C) A plan of the anchorage is attached * * Supplied to armed trawlers only (D) On arrival at the anchorage a preliminary examination of the German ships will be carried out by parties from the guarding ships & Destroyers, and a more detailed inspection will be made on Friday 22nd November.

(E) During the dark hours each ship of the guarding force on the columns adjacent to the German ships will keep two searchlights ready for instant use and also two secondary armament guns - 8 Destroyers of the Destroyers' guarding force will have steam at instant readiness

Each German ship has been ordered to hoist three white lights at the stem and two at the stern, and to illuminate the upper deck with coaling lights.

(4) Cadas for armed drawer Takes (G) Ino drawless are to patrol continuously the restern approach to lines A to E, and two armed drawless are to patroe the mistern approach to lines 7 8 /2

The unawing two anned hances are to another as convenient under the lee of Inchkeith and keep steam at half an hours notice The times affer of the tranter patiel is to anange relief. a.

convenient

(H) The handers on palise are to cruise continuously at slow speed, at a distance of not more than about 2 cables from the western lines of heavy ships and sestisyers uspectively. navigation lights are to be shown during the dark hours

() Joats from to. M. Thefe only are to be permitted to approach the Griman ships

() If any German boat accompto to leave a Grunan ship she is to be stopped & lowed alongoide K. M. S. Revinge

(5) Communications

If it is necessary for any hances on patrot to communicate with To M. J. Rivinge and of the following methods should be adopted

(X) Delach one hancer to close keninge

(Y) Communicate through to m. S. Blande, in the case of hawters patrolling the northern anchorage

(Z) Communicate through the westermost Destroyer of the 11th Destroyer Hotilla in the case of the Southern anchorage

NOTE :- She procedure outlined in (X) is drouable if long signals are involved

(K) Trancers andered under the cer of Inchkeith are to keep a look - out on Incakeich Aqual Station

(6) Grneral

In the word of bad weather, the har ters imployed on patiet dutes may be required to transport the searching parties menhaned in paragraph 3 (D), in which case special instructions well \$ c issued

b. C. maddu adminal

(4) Orders for Armed Trawler Patrols

(G) Two trawlers are to patrol continuously the western approach to lines A to E, and two armed trawlers are to patrol the Western approach to lines F to L.

The remaining two armed trawlers are to anchor as convenient under the lee of Inchkeith and keep steam at half an hours' notice.

The Senior Officer of the trawler patrol is to arrange reliefs as convenient.

(H) The trawlers on patrol are to cruise continuously at slow speed, at a distance of not more than about 2 cables from the Western lines of heavy ships and Destroyers respectively. Navigation lights are to be shown during the dark hours.

(I) Boats from H. M. Ships only are to be permitted to approach the German ships.

(J) If any German boat attempts to leave a German ships she is to be stopped & towed alongside H.M.S. Revenge.

(5) Communications

If it is necessary for any trawlers on patrol to communicate with H.M.S. Revenge one of the following methods should be adopted

(X) Detach one trawler to close "Revenge"

(Y) Communicate through H.M.S. Blonde, in the case of trawlers patrolling the northern anchorage.

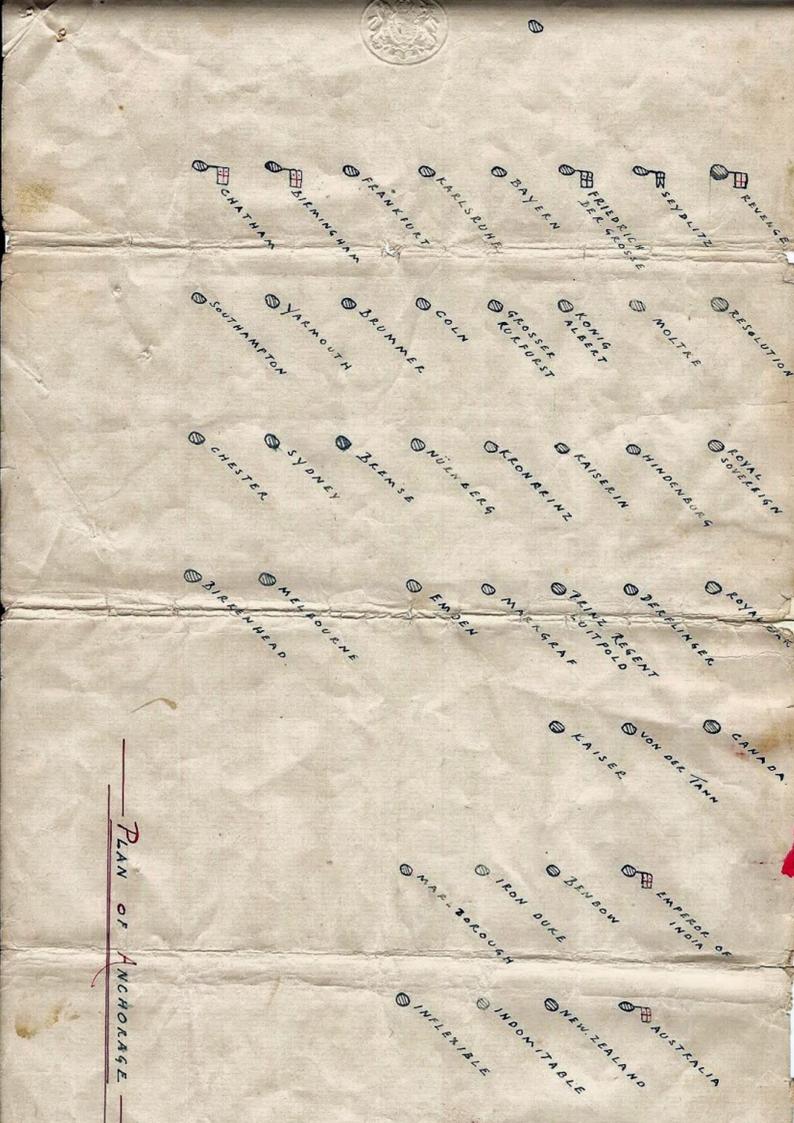
(Z) Communicate through the westernmost Destroyer of the 11th Destroyer Flotilla in the case of the Southern anchorage
<u>NOTE</u>: - The procedure outlined in (X) is desirable if long signals are involved.

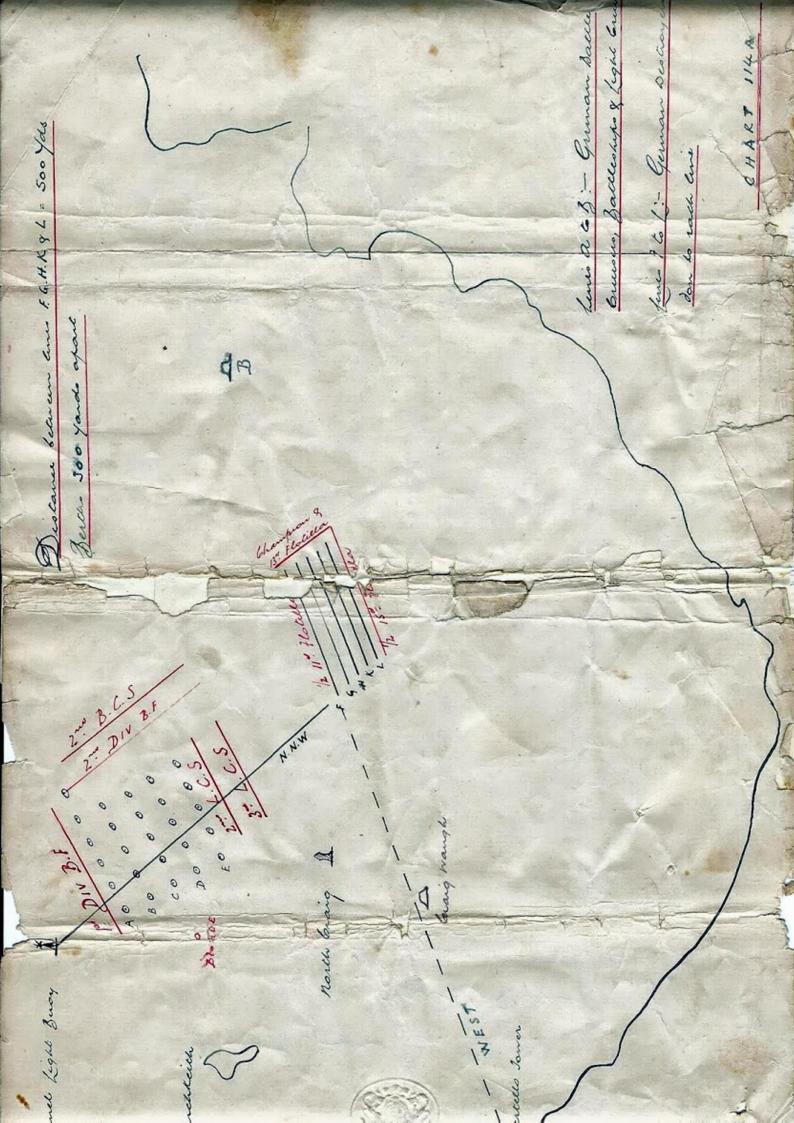
(K) Trawlers anchored under the lee of Inchkeith are to keep a look-out on Inchkeith Signal Station.

(6) General

In the event of bad weather, the trawlers employed on patrol duties may be required to transport the searching parties mentioned in paragraph 3(D), in which case special instructions will be issued.

C. E. Madden Admiral





Distribution

Bach hander bommander - w - chief, boast of scotland Extended sepuce afficia, Inchateith

Innor raral office, Granton Commanding Officer 16 M. S. levinge Commanding Officer 16 m & Blande bommodore (F)

par admiral bounding 2" Battle brusier Squadion Near adminal bommanding I" Light Course Squadion lear adminal Commanding 3" Light Grusser Squadion Commander - in - cheef, Grand Heet lear adminal, teres Jalle Squadron

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Distribution

Each Trawler	1 C	Сору
Commander-in-Chief, Coast of Scotland	2	"
Extended Defence Officer, Inchkeith	1	"
Senior Naval Officer, Granton	1	"
Commanding Officer H.M.S. Revenge	3	"
Commanding Officer H.M.S. Blonde	1	"
Commodore (F)	6	"
Rear Admiral Commanding 2 nd Battle Cruiser Squadron	1	"
Rear Admiral Commanding 2 nd Light Cruiser Squadron	1	"
Rear Admiral Commanding 3 rd Light Cruiser Squadron	1	"
Commander-in-Chief, Grand Fleet	1	"
Rear Admiral, First Battle Squadron	1	"