

Kriegsarchiv der Marine –
Operations in the North Sea, 1914-19

During the First World War, the Imperial German Navy's *Admiralstab der Marine* (Admiralty Staff) maintained a central collection of subject files to document both the overall conduct of the war and its own involvement in key aspects of the conflict. These records, identified as the *Kriegsarchiv der Marine* (Naval War Archives) or alternately as *Admiralstab der Marine: Kriegsakten* (Admiralty Staff War Records), were apparently prepared, received, or collected by the *Admiralstab's* component organizations corresponding to their specific activities. The records of naval operations in the North Sea, 1914-18, initially assembled by the Admiralty Staff's *Abteilung "O" (Operationen)*, presumably *Dezernat* (department or section) *Op I (Nordsee)*, now comprise two separate collections. Many wartime records were subsequently reorganized into 98 numbered operational files by the postwar *Marine-Archiv* staff and collectively redesignated *Kriegs Operationen* (abbreviated *Kr. Op.*) *Nordsee 1- 98*, constituting approximately 130 "PG" registry record items and mostly reproduced on 26 rolls of Microfilm Publication T1022, Records of the German Navy, 1850-1945, Received from the United States Naval History Division. The second collection, representing the remaining wartime correspondence files as well as some theater intelligence records, constitute an additional 60 "PG" registry record items reproduced on 30 rolls of Microfilm Publication T1022.

Records incorporated within the *Kriegsarchiv der Marine* included correspondence, operational orders, after-action and battle damage reports, organizational data, telegrams and radio communications, annotated drafts of reports and messages, maps, sketches, excerpts from the war diaries of individual commands and warships, copies and translations of foreign press articles, and occasionally photographs affixed to textual documents. Much of the material is handwritten. In addition to operations of German surface commands and warships, the records document German U-boat activities related to fleet operations (but not U-boat operations related to the campaign on Allied merchant shipping). The records also provide information on operations of German naval airships (zeppelins) in the North Sea theater, including airship raids on Great Britain, as well as British naval and air strikes on German bases and facilities. In particular the records provide extensive information on the principal naval engagements fought in the North Sea during the war, the Battles of Helgoland (or Heligoland) Bight (28 August 1914), Dogger Bank (24 January 1915), and Jutland (31 May-1 June 1916), as well as bombardments of the English coast (2-3 November and 15-16 December 1914 and 24-25 April 1916). The second collection of wartime subject correspondence files also includes documentation of German Navy support for the Easter 1916 Rising in Ireland, U-boat attacks on troop transports and passenger liners off British and French ports, and some information on German naval operations in the Baltic Sea.

The records were originally arranged without regard to the provenance of individual documents into subject files designated by a complex system of elaborate file designations (*Aktenzeichen*), many of which have already been described in *Guides to Microfilmed records of the German Navy, 1850-1945, No. 6: Selected Records of the Imperial German Navy Relating to World War I*. Those subject correspondence files documenting fleet operations in the North Sea were initially designated *Aktenzeichen III.1.-15* and subordinate files *III.1.15a-z*, together with the war diaries of individual warships and commands under file designation *III.1.25*. The complete contents of original subject correspondence files *III.1.-15 Bände 1-5*, *III.1.-15a* through *-15d*, *III.1.-15f*, and *III.1.-15k-l* are missing, possibly reorganized by German naval archivists after the war into a new arrangement that abandoned the original file designations in favor of numbered files that described specific naval operations, arranged chronologically. The new *Kriegs Operationen Nordsee 1 – 98* included numbers and descriptive titles for each operation. In a number of cases, closely-related naval actions and activities were treated as single operations. The process was ostensibly completed, at least for the period August 1914-April 1918, with 98 designated operational files, however additional records remained in subject correspondence files, the contents of which are described following the *Kr. Op. Nordsee 1 – 98* collection, below. Most North Sea operations for the period August –November 1918 were separately documented among the records of the *Seekriegsleitung*, established in August 1918 as the Supreme Navy Command (the records for which are described in *Guide No. 6*, pp. 93-107), and in 14 “PG” registry record items identified as *Aktenzeichen III.I.42a-z*, also described below. In a similar fashion, the processing of original subject files to establish an equivalent series of numbered operational records for operations in the Baltic Sea never approached completion, and here again supplemental *Admiralstab* records for that theater cover almost the entire war and extend into 1919.

When Allied forces seized the German naval archives at the end of World War II, the original German Navy file designations were subsumed within a new arrangement scheme devised by British authorities, who registered the captured records as they arrived in a sequential numerical scheme prefixed by a “PG” (purportedly for “pinched from the Germans”) designation. The *Kr. Op. Nordsee* collection became designated as record items PG 64727 – 64856. Some of the operational files included more than one chronological or subject volume (*Band*) or a supplementary volume (*Anlage*), each of which constituted a separately-numbered “PG” record item. In addition, five operational files that reflected subordinate operations or activities to larger operations were so designated with the sub-category “a” (i.e., *Kr. Op. Nordsee* 23a, 59a, 60a, 64a, and 81a). Thus the 98 numbered operational files cover a total of approximately 130 “PG” record item numbers, although four of these (*Kr. Op. Nordsee* 11, 16, 33, and 34, designated respectively as “PG” record item numbers 64739, 64744, 64769, and 64770) were omitted from microfilming for unknown reasons. In addition, *Kr. Op. Nordsee* 83 is unaccountably missing from the collection, with no indication of a title, subject, or corresponding PG record item number. The U.S. Navy’s Office of Naval Intelligence coordinated the microfilming of these records in London during the 1945-47 period. The originals of these records now constitute a part of *Bestand RM 5, Admiralstab der Marine*, in the custody of the *Bundesarchiv-Abt. Militärarchiv* (BA-MA), Freiburg/Br., Germany. A significant

number of records are marked with the security classification “*Ganz Geheim*,” approximately the equivalent to “Top Secret.”

The *Kr. Op. Nordsee* 1-98 collection represents an attempt by German naval archivists to both preserve the essential documentation of specific operations conducted by elements of the *Kommando der Hochseestreitkräfte* (High Seas Forces Command) and its principal component, the *Hochseeflotte* (High Seas Fleet), in the North Sea during World War I, and facilitate the preparation of the relevant volumes of the official history, *Der Krieg zur See 1914-1918: Nordsee*, six volumes of which (in seven parts) were published during the 1922-1937 period. Each numbered operation includes a detailed title that typically identified the operation’s purpose and the participating warships or commands, together with relevant dates and often the designation of the specific operational order. In some cases numbered operations include more than one sortie or activity that were related and hence incorporated within a single operation. Fleet operations and activities resulting in significant engagements with Allied forces usually require several volumes (e.g., documentation of the Battle of Dogger Bank, 24 January 1915, fills five volumes as *Kr. Op. Nordsee* 35, and the Battle of Jutland, 31 May-1 June 1916, occupies six volumes of documentation as *Kr. Op. Nordsee* 61). Each numbered operational file or subordinate volume might be preceded by a comprehensive table of contents or a “*Kurze Zusammenstellung*” that summarizes the intent, results, and participating warships of the operation, but in some cases no introductory material is provided. Numbered operations included minelaying and minesweeping activities, reconnaissance-in-force “sweeps” of specific areas, submarine operations associated with Fleet activities, responses to British naval and air attacks, naval engagements, and naval airship raids on Great Britain. Many files also include postwar documentation by German naval archivists and historians that furnish supplemental information, particularly from British sources, or note the absence of naval records due to wartime actions.

As already noted, it is readily apparent that this nominally-complete collection does not offer a full account of German naval operations in the North Sea during the conflict’s final two years. *Kr. Op. Nordsee* 1 – 85 apparently reflect the comprehensive documentation originally intended, covering North Sea operations from August 1914 through December 1916. For 1917, however, *Kr. Op. Nordsee* 86 – 97 only partially document naval airship and light surface forces’ operations: for example, there are no references to High Seas Fleet torpedo boat and destroyer operations in coordination with units of *Marinekorps Flandern* in the eastern entrances to the English Channel, February-March 1917, nor to naval airship raids on Great Britain in June and August 1917. There is only a single record item for 1918, relating to the fleet’s sortie off southern Norway in April, with no documentation provided for naval airship raids on Britain in March, April and August 1918, nor for a British air attack on naval airship facilities on Tondern, 19 July. Documentation of U-boat operations pertain almost entirely to fleet support activities rather than commerce warfare. Much of the critical documentation for the 1917-18 period remains within the wartime subject correspondence files, separate from the *Kr. Op. Nordsee* 1 - 98 sequence. These subject correspondence record items include much more background documentation such as draft memoranda and reports, records of staff conferences and meetings, and significant intelligence data. Subject correspondence files sometimes directly complement

the operational materials in the *Kr. Op. Nordsee* collection: for example, *Kr. Op. Nordsee 61* comprises six volumes of operational documentation of the epic Battle of Jutland, 31 May-1 June 1916, supplemented by three volumes of subject correspondence files in *Aktenzeichen III.I.-15v* containing intelligence materials and prisoner of war interrogations, published British accounts, and diplomatic correspondence on the action's political effects on neutral powers.

Additional documentation of operations in 1917-18 has been already described in *Guide No. 6*, in particular the *Nordsee Operations-Akten* and *Akten betr. Kriegsoperationen* maintained by the *Kommando der Hochseestreitkräfte* (pp. 104-05), and records of the *Seekriegsleitung* (pp. 93-99). The original war diaries of *Kommando der Hochseeflotte/Kommando der Hochseestreitkräfte*, and of subordinate fleet commands and individual warships, are also described in *Guide No. 6*, pp. 101-115. Closely related records of Baltic Sea operations (*Kr. Op. Ostsee*) are described elsewhere and are available in electronic format.

Kriegs- Operationen Nordsee 1 - 98

Kr. Op. Nordsee 1. Kriegsakten. 1) Minenunternehmung der "Königin Luise,"

4.8.-6.8.1914; 2) Vernichtung des engl. kleinen Kreuzers "Amphion," 6.8.-11.8.1914 (reports, correspondence, maps, and press clippings pertaining to a planned minelaying operation at the mouth of the Thames River by auxiliary minelayer [initially *Hilfskreuzer 'D,' Hilfs-Streuminendampfer*] *Königin Luise*, the ship's interception in the southern North Sea by British, the immediate laying of mines and subsequent naval engagement resulting in the loss of the *Königin Luise*, and the sinking of British light cruiser *Amphion* the next day by one of the mines laid, 5-6 Aug 1914; included are the operational order, accounts by surviving and exchanged German personnel regarding the action and the ship's loss, copies of British press clippings relating to the action from February and May 1917, and accompanying information from survivors of submarines *U 18*, *U 8*, and light cruiser *Mainz* pertaining to the loss of those warships), 4 August 1914 – 11 May 1917:

PG 64727, roll 459

Kr. Op. Nordsee 2. Kriegsakten. Unternehmung der I. U.-Flotille – U 5, 7, 8, 9, 18, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 vom 6.8.14 ab (collected documentation, with a typed table of contents, regarding a long-range sweep of the northern North Sea by the 1st U-boat Flotilla in a fruitless search for the British fleet, resulting in the loss of submarines *U 15* and *U 13*, 6-11 Aug 1914; included are copies of the operational order, a summary report of the flotilla commander, excerpts of the flotilla war diary, and route sketches and maps), 6 – 11 August 1914:

PG 64728, roll 459

Kr. Op. Nordsee 3. Kriegsakten. Vorstoss III. U.-Halbflotille – U 19, 21, 22, 24 in die Hoofden, 6.-11.8.1914 (collected documentation pertaining to a sortie of four U-boats into the eastern entrance of the English Channel to reconnoiter British defenses protecting troop transport vessels ferrying the British Expeditionary Force to Belgian ports, but not resulting in action), 6 – 11 August 1914:

PG 64729, roll 459

Kr. Op. Nordsee 4. Kriegsakten. Unternehmung der III. U.-Halbflottille, U 20, 21, 22 vom 15.8.1914 ab (collected materials, with a handwritten table of contents, documenting the long-range reconnaissance patrols of *U 20*, *U 21* and *U 22* off the British coast at the mouth of the Humber and at Peterhead, and in the Skagerrak, including observations on U-boat technical and engine capabilities), 14 – 18 August 1914:

PG 64730, roll 459

Kr. Op. Nordsee 5. Kriegsakten. Vorstoss “Stralsund,” “Strassburg,” U 19, 24, in den Nordausgang des engl. Kanals mit Aufnahme durch “Kolberg” vom 17.8.1914 (collected materials, with a typed table of contents, documenting a sortie by two light cruisers and two U-boats against the outer British defensive screens for the eastern English Channel off the Dutch coast, including accounts of the engagement of light cruiser *Straßburg* with two enemy submarines, a surface action of light cruiser *Stralsund* with a British cruiser and destroyers, and summaries of ‘lessons learned’ in tactics, communications and equipment), 14 – 20 August 1914:

PG 64731, roll 459

Kr. Op. Nordsee 6. Kriegsakten. Vorstoss “Rostock,” “Strassburg,” IV. Torp.Fl. gegen Doggerbank zur Vernichtung engl. Fischer-Fahrzeuge mit Vorbereitung und Aufnahmestellung, 21.-22.8.1914 (collected documentation, with a table of contents, on a sortie by light German surface forces accompanied by three U-boats against British fishing vessels in the area of the Dogger Bank, resulting in the sinking of six vessels and a British submarine attack on light cruiser *Rostock*; included are accounts of the participation of submarines *U 5*, *U 16*, and *U 17*), 18 – 23 August 1914:

PG 64732, roll 459

Kr. Op. Nordsee 7. Kriegsakten. Minenunternehmungen: 1) “Albatross,” “Stuttgart,” 11. Torp.-Halbflot. , 2) “Nautilus,” “Mainz,” 3. Torp.-Halbflot. gegen Humber und Tyne, 23.-26.8.1914 (collected materials, with a typed table of contents, documenting minelaying operations off the British coast at the mouths of the Humber and Tyne rivers and the accompanying destruction of British fishing vessels by accompanying German light surface forces), 17 – 26 August 1914:

PG 64733, rolls 459-60

Kr. Op. Nordsee 8. Kriegsakten. Seegefecht bei Helgoland am 28.8.1914, Bände 1-3 (three volumes of collected documentation, but lacking any tables of contents, relating to the Battle of Helgoland Bight on 28 Aug 1914, between elements of the German High Seas Fleet and the British Grand Fleet; *Band 1* is particularly comprehensive in its coverage, including a listing of the location and combat-ready status of every warship, detailed maps and sketches of the engagement, excerpts from the war diaries of numerous commands and warships [including at least 25 torpedo boats and destroyers], action reports for several warships and commands, and accounts of the losses of light cruisers *Cöln* and *Mainz*, armored cruiser *Ariadne*, and torpedo boat *V 187*, often by surviving crewmen later repatriated from British captivity; *Band 1* also includes photographs of the hull damage to torpedo boat *D 8*, letters exchanged between the

Marine-Archiv and the former commander of the *Mainz* in December 1919, and an account of the action from the draft memoirs of then-fleet commander Adm. Friedrich von Ingenohl, 29 Aug 1918; *Band 2* includes copies of several documents directly forwarded to the Kaiser for review, among them von Ingenohl's final report of the engagement and his subsequent assessment of 'lessons learned,' 30 Aug – 5 Sep 1914, a commentary by the *Chef des Admiralstabes*, Adm. Hugo von Pohl, on lessons learned in the actions of torpedo boats *V 3* and *G II* during the engagement, correspondence regarding British and German press coverage of the battle [e.g., the *Berliner Tageblatt* of 31 Aug] and attempts to influence same, documentation regarding alleged German and British shootings of survivors, and a detailed account of the actions of the German light cruisers in the battle prepared by *Kapltl.* Leisler Kiep [light cruiser *Kolberg*] in Feb 1915; *Band 3* consists principally of copies and translations of British, Norwegian, and other neutral powers' press articles regarding the battle, Aug-Oct 1914, with additional allegations regarding the shooting of survivors, together with several accounts from repatriated survivors of the *Mainz* regarding that ship's loss and some information regarding life in British captivity, Nov 1914-Mar 1916, an edited collection of intercepted British sailors' accounts of the action, Sep 1915, and correspondence of the *Marine-Archiv* with a British officer who served on board the destroyer HMS *Laertes* during the battle, 13 Apr-21 Dec 1933), 28 August 1914 – 21 December 1933:

Bände 1-3: PG 64734-736, roll 460

Kr. Op. Nordsee 9. Kriegsakten. Sonderunternehmung: Aufklärung der Fanöbucht durch U 16, 20, 24, 28, L 3 und 1 Flugzeug vom 31.8. bis 1.9.1914 (collected materials relating to a U-boat and airship reconnaissance of Fanö Bay on the Danish west coast, 31 Aug-1 Sep 1914, including excerpts from the war diaries of *I. U.-Flottille*, *U 16*, *U 20*, *U 24*, and *U 28*), 31 August – 2 September 1914:

PG 64737, roll 460

Kr. Op. Nordsee 10. Kriegsakten. Blockadestellung U 20, 21 vor dem Firth of Forth Anfang September 1914 (collected materials regarding the stationing of two U-boats off the Firth of Forth to ambush British warships; included are war diary excerpts for *U 20* and *U 21*), 31 August – 7 September 1914:

PG 64738, roll 460

Kr. Op. Nordsee 11. Kriegsakten. Aufklärung der Fanöbucht durch U 12, 14, 18 und Luftfahrzeuge vom 7.9. bis 10.9.1914 (materials apparently documenting another U-boat and airship reconnaissance of Fanö Bay on the Danish west coast on 7-10 Sep 1914):

PG 64739, not microfilmed, presumably available at the BA-MA, Freiburg

Kr. Op. Nordsee 12. Kriegsakten. Auslegen von Minensperren in der Helgoland Bucht am 9.9.1914 (collected materials pertaining to minelaying operations in Helgoland Bay by minelayers *Nautilus* and *Albatross* and auxiliary minelayer *Kaiser*, with supporting naval units), 8 -10 September 1914:

PG 64740, roll 460

Kr. Op. Nordsee 13. Kriegsakten. Vorstoss englischer Streitkräfte in die deutsche Bucht. Gefechte U-23, 25 mit englischen U-Booten vom 10. bis 11.9.1914 (collected materials regarding the sighting of British submarines and supporting light surface units in the vicinity of Helgoland and the dispatch of German forces to counter them, particularly the *I. U.-Flottille*; included are accounts of an inconclusive engagement with British submarines), 9 – 12 September 1914:

PG 64741, roll 461

Kr. Op. Nordsee 14. Kriegsakten. Vorstoss U 16, 17, gegen den Firth of Forth. Rückkehr wegen Havarie und schlechten Wetters vorzeitig am 11.9.1914 (collected documentation concerning a planned sortie of *U 16* and *U 17* to the Firth of Forth but aborted due to bad weather that caused damage to *U 17*), 11 – 14 September 1914:

PG 64742, roll 461

Kr. Op. Nordsee 15. Kriegsakten. U 9 versenkt am 22.9.1914 englische Panzerkreuzer "Howe," "Aboukir," "Cressy" an der holländischen Küste (collected materials pertaining to the sinking of British armored cruisers *Howe*, *Aboukir* and *Cressy* by *U 9* off the Dutch coast on 22 Sep 1914, including a copy of the *U 9*'s war diary, 20-23 Sep, and translated excerpts of British and other international press releases pertaining to the event), 20 – 29 September 1914:

PG 64743, roll 461

Kr. Op. Nordsee 16. Kriegsakten. 1) Vorstoss der Schlachtkreuzer in die Nordsee (nicht ausgeführt) am 22.9.1914, 2) Unternehmung Hilfsschiff "Kaiser," Durchbruch Hilfsschiff "Berlin," 3) Auslegen von 2 U-Linien, 4) U 19, 22 Vorstoss nach dem Firth of Forth (apparently a collection of materials relating to several operations in late September 1914, including a cancelled sortie of the battle cruisers, the breakout of auxiliary cruiser *Berlin*, the establishment of U-boat patrol lines and operations of *U 19* and *U 22* off the Firth of Forth):

PG 64744, not microfilmed, presumably available at the BA-MA, Freiburg

Kr. Op. Nordsee 17. Kriegsakten. Vorstoss U 5, 6, 12, 16 zur Sperrung des Skagerraks vom 30.9. bis 15.10.1914 (collected documents, preceded by a brief overview, relating to the operations of four U-boats deployed at the entrance to the Skagerrak Straits off the Danish coast), 30 September – 15 October 1914:

PG 64745, roll 461

Kr. Op. Nordsee 18. Kriegsakten. Vorstoss U 8, 20 in den engl. Kanal gegen feindliche Truppentransporte vom 10.10. bis 21.10.1914 (collected materials pertaining to the operations of *U 8* and *U 20* in the English Channel against Allied troop transports, including handwritten and typed copies of those submarines' war diaries for 1-22 Oct and 10-20 Oct, respectively, including observations on Allied shipping and defensive measures and a commentary by Fleet commander von Ingenohl on *U 20*'s patrol, which circumnavigated the British Isles on a 2,200-mile journey), 1 – 22 October 1914:

PG 64746, roll 1611

Kr. Op. Nordsee 19. Kriegsakten. Vorstoss U 9, 17 in die Nordsee zur Schädigung des Feindes bei Schottland. Versenkung des engl. Kreuzers "Hawke" durch U 9 am 15.10.1914 (collected documentation basically comprising copies of the war diaries of *U 9*, 13-23 Oct, and *U 17*, 1-23 Oct, including an account of *U 9*'s sinking of British armored cruiser *Hawke*, 15 Oct), 1 – 23 October 1914:

PG 64747, roll 405

Kr. Op. Nordsee 20. Kriegsakten. Minenunternehmung "Kolberg," "Nautilus" gegen den Firth of Forth vom 16.10 bis 18.10.1914 (collected materials relating to a minelaying operation off the Firth of Forth by light cruiser *Kolberg* and minelayer *Nautilus*, 15-18 Oct, including a copy of the operational order, excerpts from the war diaries of the two ships, and information on the dispatch of three U-boats to cover the vessels' return to home waters), 15 – 18 October 1914:

PG 64748, roll 405

Kr. Op. Nordsee 21. Kriegsakten. Minenunternehmung der VII. Torp. Halbflottille S 115, 117, 118, 119 gegen die Downs und deren Vernichtung durch engl. Kl. Kreuzer "Undaunted" u. 4 Zerstörer am 17.10.1914 (extensive documentation regarding a disastrous night sortie by four torpedo boats of the 7. *T.-Halbflottille* to lay mines in 'the Downs' off the Dutch coast, 17 Oct, resulting in the loss of *S 115*, *S 117*, *S 118* and *S 119* to British light cruiser *Undaunted*, several destroyers, and other light forces; included is a copy of the operational order, copies of excerpts of the war diaries of the fleet command, 16-18 Oct, and of the torpedo boat half-flotilla, 15-18 Oct, an excerpt from a subsequent essay by von Ingenohl on the operation, an *Admiralstab* comment on security lapses, an annotated draft report from von Ingenohl to the Kaiser, 22 Oct, a British statement alleging German misuse of the hospital ship *Ophelia* sent to rescue survivors with a German response, 26 Feb-5 Mar 1915, accounts by two survivors of the *S 119*, 20 Jan and 14 July 1915, and postwar correspondence of German naval history office with former officers regarding command failures in the operation, 30 Dec 1920, and the actions of the *Ophelia*, 17 Jun 1922), 15 October 1914 – 17 June 1922:

PG 64749, roll 405

Kr. Op. Nordsee 22. Kriegsakten. Vorstoss U 7, 10, 11 in die Nordsee gegen die norweg. Küste gegen englische Streitkräfte vom 19.10.1914 ab (collected materials preceded by a summary overview regarding a submarine sweep of the North Sea to just south of the Norwegian coast by *U 7*, *U 10*, and *U 11*, 19-24 Oct, including copies of the U-boats' war diaries), 19 October – 4 November 1914:

PG 64750, roll 405

Kr. Op. Nordsee 23. Kriegsakten. Vorstoss U 24, 27, 30 in den engl. Kanal gegen feindl. Truppen- und Kriegsschiffe, vom 16.10 bis 2.11.1914 (collected materials regarding the operations of three U-boats in the English Channel, including copies of the war diaries of *U 24*, 16-29 Oct, *U 27*, 21 Oct-2 Nov, and *U 30*, 21 Oct-2 Nov [handwritten only], and copies of commentaries by von Ingenohl on the patrols of *U 27* and *U 30*), 16 October – 10 November 1914:

PG 64751, roll 405

Kr. Op. Nordsee 23a. Kriegsakten. Nicht ausgeführte Kriegsaufgaben der Flotte 1914 (summary reports and correspondence regarding four planned fleet operations that were cancelled or not carried out during the period August-September 1914, including a minelaying operation by minelayer *Nautilus* off the English coast, 10-15 Aug, a sortie by two U-boats to the waters off Stavanger, Norway, 17 Aug, a reconnaissance sweep the North Sea by three light cruisers and torpedo boats, 24-27 Aug, and a sortie by three battle cruisers to Dogger Bank to try to catch British light surface forces there [cancelled by *U 22*'s report that the expected British forces were too far distant], 27-30 Sep), 10 August – 30 September 1914:

PG 64752, roll 406

Kr. Op. Nordsee 24. Kriegsakten. Flottenunternehmung gegen die engl. Küste, 2.-3.11.1914, Bände 1-2 (two volumes of collected materials pertaining to a German fleet operation in which battle cruisers bombarded the English coastal town of Yarmouth and mines were laid off Lowestoft while the main fleet provided general support at the edge of the Helgoland Bight, 2-3 Nov; *Band 1* includes order-of-battle data on the organization and combat status of all warships in the High Seas Fleet, operational orders, and excerpts from the war diaries of the principal commands, battle cruisers, and light cruisers involved; *Band 2* includes excerpts from the war diaries of battleships and light forces involved, as well as a listing of the ammunition expended in the action, Fleet commander von Ingenohl's report to the Kaiser, 20 Nov, a commentary on the operation by *Chef des Admiralstabes* Adm. Hugo von Pohl, 14 Nov, a relevant excerpt from von Ingenohl's later essay on his experiences as fleet commander, a May 1918 summary interrogation report of British POWs on the effectiveness of the bombardment, and extensive radio telegrams; very little information is provided regarding the loss of armored cruiser *Yorck* to mines on the return voyage, 4 Nov), 28 October 1914 – 28 May 1918:

Bände 1-2: PG 64753-754, roll 406

Kr. Op. Nordsee 25. Kriegsakten. Unternehmung U 8, 9, 16, 17, 18 in die Nordsee zum Aufsuchen des engl. Gros und Angriffe auf feindl. Schiffe vom 17.11.1914 ab (collected documents, preceded by a summary overview, relating to a reconnaissance sweep of the northern North Sea by five U-boats to ascertain the reported presence of the bulk of the British Grand Fleet in the waters between northern Scotland and Norway, during the course of which *U 18* was sunk by British forces, 24 Nov; included are operational orders, maps, excerpts from the war diaries of *U 8*, *U 9*, *U 16* and *U 17* for the period 17-28 Nov, and the war diaries of *Führer der Unterseeboote [F.d.U.] [Korv.kapt. Hermann Bauer]*, 12 Nov – 7 Dec, and *II. U.-Flottille*, 17-28 Nov), 12 November – 7 December 1914:

PG 64755, roll 406

Kr. Op. Nordsee 26. Kriegsakten. Vorstoss der grossen Kreuzer "Stralsund" und "Strassburg," V. Torp.-Flot., 17. Torp.-Halbflot. in die Nordsee zum Einfahren "Derfflinger," 20.11.1914 (collected materials, with an accompanying handwritten table of contents, relating to some exercises conducted by battle cruiser *Derfflinger* near Dogger Bank on 20 Nov, supported by battle cruisers *Seydlitz* and *von der Tann*, armored cruiser *Blücher*, light cruisers *Straßburg* and *Stralsund*, and torpedo boats; included are proposals for the operation,

operational orders, and excerpts from the war diaries of the participating units), 8 – 23 November 1914:

PG 64756, roll 406

Kr. Op. Nordsee 27. Kriegsakten. Vorstoss der kl. Kreuzer der II. A.G. u. VI., VIII. Torp. Flot. zur Aufklärung der Deutschen Bucht für Durchführung der Kriegsaufgabe 20 vom 9.12. bis 10.12.1914 (documentation regarding a North Sea reconnaissance sortie by the *II. Aufklärungsgruppe (II. A.G.)* under *Befehlshaber der Aufklärungsschiffe [B.d.A.]*, Adm. Franz Ritter von Hipper, during the night of 9-10 Dec 1914; included are the operational proposals and orders, excerpts from the war diaries of *B.d.A., I. Führer der Torpedobootstreitkräfte [I. F.d.T.]*, five light cruisers and two torpedo-boat commands for 9-10 Dec), 3 – 12 December 1914:

PG 64757, roll 442

Kr. Op. Nordsee 28. Kriegsakten. Flottenunternehmung gegen die engl. Küste vom 15. bis 16.12.1914. Kriegsaufgabe 20 der Flotte, Bände 1-4 (four volumes of collected documents, lacking any tables of contents or summaries, pertaining to a major fleet operation involving the laying of mines off the British southeastern coast and the bombardment of the English coastal towns of Scarborough, Whitby, and Hartlepool, 15-16 Dec 1914, which nearly resulted in a major fleet action as British advance forces engaged German elements during the latter's return to base; the contents of the four volumes are as follows) -

Band 1 (includes an overview of the operational status of every warship in the High Seas Fleet as of 16 Dec, and documents operational planning for the sortie, including an initial proposal by *B.d.A.*, 8 Nov, draft operational orders, 16-29 Nov, provisions for the planned types and quantities of artillery shells to be used, excerpts from the war diary of *B.d.A.*, 10-16 Dec, and the subsequent after-action report for *B.d.A.* units involved in the action, 20 Dec, and excerpted war diaries of the *I., II., and III. Geschwader*, 15-Dec, documenting the battleship squadrons' participation), 8 November – 20 December 1914: PG 64758, roll 442

Band 2 (consists of excerpted war diaries for individual warships that participated in the operation, arranged by type of warship [battleships, battle cruisers, light cruisers, torpedo boats] and thereunder individually, 15-16 or 15-17 Dec, always including route charts and maps and sometimes accompanied by an after-action report; of particular significance are the war diaries and after-action reports for battle cruisers *Seydlitz*, *Moltke*, and *von der Tann*, armored cruiser *Blücher*, light cruisers *Graudenz*, *Stralsund*, *Straßburg*, and *Hamburg*, and *I. T.-Flottille*), 15 – 20 December 1914: PG 64759, roll 442

Band 3 (continues the same documentation in *Band 2* for additional warships that participated in the operation, including torpedo-boat flotillas, half-flotillas, and individual torpedo-boats, the North Sea Patrol Boat Flotilla, *Führer der Unterseeboote [F.d.U.]*, and individual submarines *U 27*, *U 28*, *U 30*, and *U 32*; of particular significance are the war diary excerpts and after-action report of the *9. T.-Halbflottille*, which engaged British destroyers during the return voyage; the volume also includes an annotated and signed copy of von Ingenohl's final report on the operation, 18 Dec, and his official report as fleet commander to the Kaiser, 21 Dec, as well as an interrogatory from von Ingenohl to the captain of armored cruiser *Roon* on the latter's actions during the operation and the captain's handwritten response, a commentary by *Chef des Admiralstabes* Adm. von Pohl on the operation, 23 Dec, an annotated post-mortem on

the execution of the operation, apparently by fleet commander von Ingenohl, 14 Dec, an assessment of the actions involving the light cruisers and torpedo boats, 30 Dec, and copies of postwar press articles in the *London Times* regarding the action, 8 and 19 Sep 1921), 15 – 30 December 1914, 8 and 19 September 1921: PG 64760, rolls 442-43

Band 4 (includes von Ingenohl's assessment of the performance of the battle cruisers under *B.d.A.* and another general report on the action, 21-23 Dec; a message from von Pohl conveying the Kaiser's views, 23 Dec; a telegram from von Ingenohl noting the problem of reconciling different versions of the action among different war diaries; assessments by *I. F.d.T.* on the feasibility of a torpedo boat attack on the British surface forces sighted on 17 Dec, and on fuel expenditures during the action; a telegram conveying the Kaiser's wishes on the limitation of damage to nonmilitary targets in coastal bombardments; a table of German naval artillery expenditures during the operation, arranged by ship; copies of several foreign press articles and a German Army intelligence report on civilian casualties caused by the bombardment, and a postwar excerpt from a British magazine on damage to a ruined abbey in Whitby caused by the bombardment), 21 December 1914 – 5 June 1915 and 3 May 1924: PG 64761, roll 443

Kr. Op. Nordsee 29. Kriegsakten. Angriff englischer Streitkräfte gegen die deutsche Küste am 25.12.1914, Bände 1-2 (two volumes and an appendix of collected records documenting the German naval response to British naval and air attacks on German North Sea facilities on Christmas Day 1914, as follows) –

Band 1 (includes an overview of the operational status of every warship in the High Seas Fleet on Dec 25, excerpts from the war diaries of the fleet command, *B.d.A.*, the six battleship squadrons, and the North Sea Patrol Boat Flotilla for 23-25 Dec; an activity report of the *II. Marine-Flieger-Abteilung* regarding their response to the attack, including details of individual aircraft; and excerpts from the war diaries of individual battle cruisers and battleships during the action, mostly in the form of anti-aircraft fire), 23 – 25 December 1914: PG 64762, roll 443

Band 2 (continues the same documentation for additional warships and commands, particularly battleship *Westfalen*, several armored coastal defense ships, four light cruisers, *F.d.U.* [for 24-31 Dec], *I. F.d.T.*, and submarines *U 6*, *U 19*, *U 20*, *U 22*, *U 30* and *U 32*; of particular note are copies of war diary excerpts and action reports of naval airships *L 5* and *L 6*, 25 Dec, which attempted to locate and attack British naval forces), 24 – 31 December 1914: PG 64763, roll 443

Anlage (consists entirely of copies of radio telegrams exchanged among German forces), 25 December 1914: PG 64764, roll 443

Kr. Op. Nordsee 30. Kriegsakten. Verblockungsversuche, Scheinkriegsschiffe vom 1.12. bis 31.12.1914, Bände 1-2 (two volumes of collected documentation relating to reported British attempts to blockade the mouths of the Elbe, Weser, and Jade Rivers with sunken merchant vessels disguised as warships, particularly in December 1914; included are intelligence reports of British purchases of Norwegian and Danish vessels, planned German naval countermeasures, and excerpts from the war diaries of the fleet command, 18-24 Dec and the *II. Geschwader*, 19 Dec; *Band 2* includes more extensive documentation of the November-December 1914 period, as well as a copy of a February 1918 British press article on the Royal Navy's use of "mock

turtles,” wooden warships intended to deceive the Germans), 28 October 1914 – 9 February 1915 and 7 February 1918:

Bände 1-2: PG 64765-766, roll 344

Kr. Op. Nordsee 31. Kriegsakten. Kriegstagebücher über den Vorstoss der II. A.G. zur Minenfeststellung am 3.1.1915 (collected excerpts of war diaries of warships and commands of the *II. Aufklärungs Gruppe* during a sortie on 3 Jan 1915 to identify a newly-laid British minefield, including individual light cruisers, the *V. T.-Flottille*, the *9. T.-Halbflottille*, and individual torpedo boats), 1 – 3 January 1915:

PG 64767, roll 344

Kr. Op. Nordsee 32. Kriegsakten. Kriegstagebücher über den Vorstoss U 19, 22, 31, 32 gegen die engl. Küste (Wartestellung) vom 13. bis 22.1.1915 (collected excerpts of war diaries of the *I. U.-Flottille*, 10 Jan-4 Feb 1915, and of submarines *U 19*, *U 22*, *U 31*, and *U 32* on patrol station between Yarmouth and the Dutch coast, 13-22 Jan 1915; the war diary of *U 19* includes an account of the sinking of British merchantman *Durward* according to prize rules, 21 Jan; in the course of the operation *U 31* was presumed lost), 10 January – 4 February 1915:

PG 64768, roll 344

Kr. Op. Nordsee 33. Kriegsakten. Minenunternehmung “Stralsund,” IX. Flottille gegen den Humber vom 14. bis 15.1.1915 (presumably a collection of documents regarding a minelaying operation by light cruiser *Stralsund* and the *IX. T.-Flottille* off the mouth of the Humber River on the English coast; although this record item is listed as microfilmed on roll 344 it was apparently inadvertently omitted from filming) –

PG 64769, not microfilmed, presumably available at the BA-MA, Freiburg

Kr. Op. Nordsee 34. Kriegsakten. Angriff englischer Streitkräfte auf die Deutsche Bucht am 19.1.1915 (apparently a collection of documents relating to a British naval and air sortie into the waters off Helgoland on 19 Jan 1915; although this record item is listed as microfilmed on roll 344 it was apparently inadvertently omitted from filming) –

PG 64770, not microfilmed, presumably available at the BA-MA, Freiburg

Kr. Op. Nordsee 35. Kriegsakten. Kriegstagebücher pp. über die Doggerbank-Schlacht am 24. Jan. 1915, Bände 1-5 (five volumes of extensive documentation concerning the fleet action known as the Battle of Dogger Bank on Jan 24, 1915; the contents of the five volumes are as follows) –

Band 1 (includes an overview of the operational status of every warship in the High Seas Fleet as of 24 Jan, accompanied by a table of contents; included are documents collected from the major operational commands and individual capital ships, usually comprising excerpts from the war diaries, after-action reports, maps and charts, and excerpted radio messages and flag signals; of particular note are fleet commander von Ingenohl’s report to the Kaiser on the action, 29 Jan, the war diary of the High Seas Fleet command, 14-31 Jan, the war diary, action report, operational order and communications records of *B.d.A.* Admiral Franz von Hipper, 23-24 Jan, and detailed records of the participation of battle cruisers *Seydlitz* (including information on

extensive battle damage suffered and ammunition expenditures), *Moltke*, and *Derfflinger* in the action; and excerpts from the war diaries of the *I.*, *II.*, *III.*, and *IV. Geschwader* and their constituent battleships, 24 Jan), 14 – 31 January 1915: PG 64771, roll 345

Band 2 (includes a table of contents and the collected records of the lighter surface forces that participated in the battle; included is the same documentation as in *Band 1* for the *II. Aufklärungsgruppe* and light cruisers *Graudenz*, *Stralsund* and *Kolberg* (damaged in the action), the *IV. Aufklärungsgruppe* and light cruiser *Rostock*, *III. U.-Halbflottille*, submarines *U 19* and *U 32*, *I. F.d.T.*, and a variety of T-boat flotilla and half-flotilla commands and at least 13 individual T-boats; of particular note is a report of naval aircraft *No. 83* and war diary excerpts of naval airship [“zeppelin”] *L 5*), 14 – 25 January 1915: PG 64772, roll 345

Band 3 (preceded by a handwritten table of contents, provides supplemental documentation pertaining to the battle, much of which relates to the assessed damage inflicted on British forces; included is a supplemental report of fleet commander von Ingenohl restating his claim to have inflicted serious British Grand Fleet losses despite British press releases, 28 Jan; statements of numerous German survivors of armored cruiser *Blücher* regarding the loss of that warship in the action, their treatment in British captivity, and observations on damage to British warships, following their repatriation from Britain, July 1915, Dec 1915 and July 1916; collected statements from officers and crewmen of German warships regarding their observations of sinking and damaged British warships in the action, Jan-Feb 1915; and an Oct 1918 interrogation report of a former Royal Navy crewman of battle cruiser *Tiger* regarding its damage and losses suffered during the action), 25 January 1915 – 13 July 1916, 24 October 1918: PG 64773, roll 345

Band 4 (preceded by a handwritten table of contents, provides additional documentation assessing the overall losses of the battle, especially applying to the British; includes a copy of the Kaiser’s speech to assembled naval personnel at Wilhelmshaven on 4 Feb, a personal report to the Kaiser by Capt. Hans Zenker assessing responsibility for the action’s outcome on the fleet commander, 1 Feb; an evaluation report on the naval artillery lessons of the battle, 30 Jan; an overall damage assessment of German warships prepared by the *Oberwerftdirektor Wilhelmshaven*, 25 Jan; an eight-page handwritten letter by von Ingenohl on the action, 30 Oct 1915; additional reports on alleged damage to or sinking of British battle cruiser *Tiger*, Nov-Dec 1915; and a translation of a Norwegian press account of the action, 27 Jan), 25 January – 10 December 1915: PG 64774, roll 346

Band 5, *Pressenachrichten über den Doggerbank-Schlacht am 24. January 1915* (preceded by a handwritten table of contents, consists primarily of press accounts of the battle, including German translations and original British newspaper articles from 28 Jan-3 March 1915; among these are Admiral David Beatty’s official report of the engagement, “lessons learned” of the battle as discussed in Parliament, and details of the awarding of prize monies to British crewmen for the sinking of the *Blücher*; also included are British accounts of the sinking of German submarine *U 8*, 4 Mar 1915, a brief summary of the battle in the British *Morning Post* of 17 Jan 1919, and copies of German newspaper accounts of the action, Jun 1915-Jan 1916), 28 January 1915 – 22 January 1916 and 17 January 1919: PG 64775, roll 346

Kr. Op. Nordsee 36. Kriegsakten. Kriegstagebücher pp. über die Strandung L 3, 4 bei Fanö bzw. Blaavands Huk am 17.2.1915 (collected documentation, with a table of contents,

regarding the loss by stranding of naval airships (“zeppelins”) *L 3* and *L 4* due to strong winds on the western coast of Denmark, 17 Feb 1915; included are excerpts of the war diaries for the two airships, for various naval units involved in a possible rescue effort, and correspondence of German Foreign Ministry representatives in Denmark regarding the incident, the internment of the airship crews by Danish authorities, and futile attempts to effect the crews’ repatriation to Germany), 17 February – 10 April 1915 –
PG 64776, roll 346

Kr. Op. Nordsee 37. Kriegsakten. Kriegstagebücher pp. betreffend Flotten-Operation gemäß Op.-Befehl 25 vom 29. bis 30.3.1915 (collected documentation, preceded by a table of contents, regarding the first fleet operation under Adm. Hugo von Pohl, a brief sortie into the area of Dogger Bank on 29-30 Mar 1915; included is an overview of the operational status of every German warship in the High Seas Fleet, a handwritten copy of Operational Order No. 25, and excerpts from the war diaries of the fleet command [for 25-31 Mar] and most of its constituent units and major warships from the level of battleships and battle cruisers through light cruisers, as well as submarines *U 24*, *U 36*, *U 38* and naval airships *L 5*, *L 6*, *L 7*, and *L 9*), 25 – 31 March 1915:
PG 64777, roll 346

Kr. Op. Nordsee 38. Kriegsakten. Kriegstagebücher pp. betr. Vorstoss der 2. u. 13. Torp.-Halbflot. gegen gemeldete holl. Fischdampfer. Deckung IV. A.G. und 4., 14. Torp.-Halbflot. am 11.4.1915 (collected war diary excerpts, with an accompanying table of contents, regarding a sortie by torpedo-boats supported by other torpedo-boats and larger warships to inspect and seize Dutch fishing vessels northwest of Helgoland suspected of spying on German naval movements on 11 Apr 1915; included are war diaries of several individual torpedo-boats involved in the operation and of the naval airship *L 6*, and reports on the vessels brought in by prize crews), 11 April 1915:
PG 64778, roll 461

Kr. Op. Nordsee 39. Kriegsakten. Kriegstagebücher pp. betr. Aufklärung L 5, 6, 7, L 7 Gefecht mit feindl. Kleinkreuzer und mehreren Zerstörern N.W. Terschelling. Vorstoss der I. Torp. Flott. am 12.4.1915 (collected war diary excerpts, with an accompanying table of contents, regarding a reconnaissance sweep by the *I. T.-Flottille* with accompanying airships of the waters northwest of Terschelling off the Dutch coast, 12 Apr, during which naval airship *L 7* became engaged in action with British surface forces and three torpedo boats collided with each other), 12 April 1915:
PG 64779, roll 461

Kr. Op. Nordsee 40. Kriegsakten. Kriegstagebücher pp. betr. Flotten-Operation gemäß Op.-Befehl 26 vom 17. bis 18.4.1915, Bände 1-2 (two volumes of collected documentation, each preceded by a table of contents, regarding a minelaying operation carried out by the High Seas Fleet north of Terschelling and west of the Helgoland Bight, Apr 17-18, 1915; most of the documentation consists of war diary excerpts of the various commands and ships involved, including route charts and maps; *Band 1* includes an overview of the operational status of every

warship in the fleet command, copies of Operational Order No. 26, the fleet command war diary, 11-18 Apr, and Admiral von Pohl's summary observations, 20 Apr, as well as war diary excerpts for the various battleship squadrons and their constituent battleships, for *Befehlshaber der Aufklärungsstreitkräfte* [B.d.A.] and the battle cruisers and for other scouting forces, including light cruisers *Stralsund* and *Straßburg* which actually laid the mines; *Band 2* comprises mostly war diary excerpts for the various torpedo-boat commands and torpedo boats involved in the operation, but also includes war diary excerpts for submarines *U 23* and *U 39* and naval airships *L 6*, *L 7* and *L 9*), 9 – 26 April 1915:

PG 64780-781, roll 461

Kr. Op. Nordsee 41. Kriegsakten. Kriegstagebücher pp. betr. Flotten-Operation gemäß Op.-Befehl 27 am 21.-22.4.1915 (collected war diary excerpts, preceded by a table of contents, relating to a High Seas Fleet sortie into the Dogger Bank sector in a fruitless search for British forces, 21-22 Apr 1915; included is an overview of the operational status of all fleet forces as of 22 Apr, a copy of Operational Order No. 27, von Pohl's summary observations, 23 Apr, and war diary excerpts for the battleship squadrons, B.d.A., scouting forces, and torpedo boat commands and their constituent warships involved in the operation; also included are war diary excerpts for submarines *U 23* and *U 36*, and naval airships *L 6*, *L 9*, and *SL 3*), 20 – 30 April 1915:

PG 64782, roll 461

Kr. Op. Nordsee 42. Kriegsakten. Kriegstagebücher pp. betr. Vorstoss U 36, 39, 41 in die Nordsee vom 29.4. bis 12.5.1915 (war diary excerpts, preceded by a table of contents, of submarines *U 36*, *U 39*, and *U 41* in the northern North Sea and off the east coast of Scotland, 29 Apr-12 May 1915, including attacks on merchant ships; the war diary entries for *U 36* are accompanied by observations on torpedo use and engine performance), 28 April – 21 May 1915:

PG 64783, roll 461

Kr. Op. Nordsee 43. Kriegstagebücher pp. betr. Flotten-Operation gemäß Op.-Befehl 23 vom 17. bis 18.5.1915 (collected war diary excerpts regarding a fleet operation, preceded by a table of contents, regarding a minelaying operation on the eastern edge of the Dogger Bank, 17-18 May 1915; included are copies of Operational Order No. 23 and Admiral von Pohl's summary assessment of the operation, as well as war diary excerpts for the various squadron and group commands and their constituent warships; also included are reports of the damage suffered by light cruiser *Danzig* to a mine hit and to the loss of torpedo boat *V 150* due to a collision with *V 157*), 12 – 23 May 1915:

PG 64784, roll 462

Kr. Op. Nordsee 44. Kriegsakten. Kriegstagebücher pp. betr. Vorstoss der III. Sperrbrechergruppe, IX. Torp. Fl. (18. T.-Halbfl.) in die Nordsee vom 25. bis 26.5.1915 (collected documentation, preceded by a table of contents, regarding a reconnaissance sweep by auxiliary minesweepers accompanied by light cruisers and torpedo boats into the North Sea west of Helgoland Bight, broken off by the perceived approach of strong British forces, 25-26 May 1915; most of the records comprise war diary excerpts of the commands and warships involved), 25 – 26 May 1915:

PG 64785, roll 462

Kr. Op. Nordsee 45. Kriegsakten. Kriegstagebücher pp. betr. Flotten-Operation gemäß Op.-Befehl 28 vom 29. bis 30.5.1915 (collected documentation, preceded by a summary and table of contents, relating to a fleet operation into the North Sea in a vain search for British forces, 29-30 May 1915, comprising war diary excerpts from all the operational commands and many individual warships involved; of particular note are the war diary comments for the fleet command [Admiral von Pohl], 23-31 May, which consider the possibility of British forewarning of the sortie, a report of a near-miss torpedo attack on battle cruiser *Moltke* by a British submarine, 30 May, and observations on the coordinated efforts of submarines *U 25* and *U 33* during the operation; scattered throughout are inserted comments by German naval archivists, dated January-July 1922, on the relative completeness and absence of specific war diaries), 22 – 31 May 1915:

PG 64786, roll 462

Kr. Op. Nordsee 46. Kriegsakten. Kriegstagebücher pp. betr. L 5, 7, SL 3 Aufklärung Nordsee, L 5 Gefecht mit 3 feindl. Kl. Kreuzern, Flugzeug 402 Gefecht mit 2 kl. Kreuzern u. 4 Zerstörern. III. Minensuchdivision Minensuchen nördlich Deutsche Bucht am 2.6.1915 (collected records, preceded by a summary and table of contents, pertaining to an aerial reconnaissance and minesweeping operation in the North Sea that included action against British light forces, 2 June 1915; of note is von Pohl's war diary entry as fleet commander, 2 June, and extensive documentation of naval airship *L 5*'s participation and combat action during the operation), 2 – 4 June 1915:

PG 64787, roll 462

Kr. Op. Nordsee 47. Kriegsakten. Kriegstagebücher pp. betr. Flottenübung Helgoländer Bucht am 9.6.1915 (collected materials, preceded by a summary and table of contents, relating to fleet exercises conducted in Helgoland Bay in large part as a test of British awareness of German operations; of particular note is von Pohl's war diary comments as fleet commander for 9 June, which also include his recommendations for U-boat operations off the Scottish coast and in the North Sea), 9 – 13 June 1915:

PG 64788, roll 462

Kr. Op. Nordsee 48. Kriegsakten. Kriegstagebücher pp. betr. Vorstoss der II. A.Gr. gegen Horns-Riff vom 27. bis 28.6.1915 (collected records, preceded by a summary and table of contents, regarding a sortie by German light cruisers and torpedo boats against armed British fishing steamers off Horns Reef on the Danish west coast [broken off due to fog], 27-28 Jun 1915; included are war diary excerpts for the fleet commander, 27-28 June, the commander of *II. Aufklärungsgruppe*, 27-28 June, and the commander of *VII. T.-Flottille*, 16-30 June), 16 – 30 June 1915:

PG 64789, roll 462

Kr. Op. Nordsee 49. Kriegsakten. Kriegstagebücher pp. betr. Vorstoss der IV. A.G. und III. u. VII. Torp. Flottille bis nördlich Horns-Riff vom 1. bis 2.7.1915 (collected documentation,

preceded by a summary and a table of contents, pertaining to a renewed but fruitless night sortie by four German light cruisers and accompanying torpedo boats against armed British fishing steamers off Horns Reef on the Danish west coast, 1-2 July 1915), 1 – 2 July 1915:

PG 64790, roll 462

Kr. Op. Nordsee 50. Kriegsakt. Kriegstagebücher pp. betr. Engl. Angriff auf die Deutsche Bucht am 4.7.1915 (collected materials, preceded by a summary and table of contents, concerning German naval air forces' actions against a rumored British naval and air strike into Helgoland Bay, 4 Jul 1915; included are war diary excerpts for the fleet command with von Pohl's observations on intelligence received of a British attack, 1-2 Jul, a report by *B.d.A.* [Admiral von Hipper] on the employment of naval airships in this action, action reports and war diary excerpts for naval airships *L 6, L 9, L 10, L 11*, and *SL 3*, 4 Jul, and war diary excerpts for the naval air station at Borkum, 2-8 Jul), 1 – 11 July 1915:

PG 64791, roll 462

Kr. Op. Nordsee 51. Kriegsakt. Kriegstagebücher pp. betr. Flottenübung Helgoländer Bucht am 6.7.1915 (collected materials, preceded by a summary and a table of contents, regarding the activities of a screen of light cruisers and torpedo boats protecting fleet exercises in Helgoland Bay, 6 Jul 1915; most of the materials comprise war diary excerpts of the participating light cruisers, torpedo boat commands and some individual torpedo boats), 6 July 1915:

PG 64792, roll 462

Kr. Op. Nordsee 52. Kriegsakt. Kriegstagebücher pp. Flottenübungen Helgoländer Bucht am 19.7.1915 (collected documentation, preceded by a summary and table of contents, concerning uneventful fleet exercises in Helgoland Bay and the screening activities of German light cruisers and torpedo boats, 19 Jul 1915; included are undated but postwar remarks by naval archivists on missing or no longer extant war diaries for specific German warships), 17 – 31 July 1915:

PG 64793, roll 406

Kr. Op. Nordsee 53. Kriegsakt. Kriegstagebücher pp. betr. Minenunternehmung "Meteor" vom 7.8. bis 10.8.1915 (a lengthy collection of materials, preceded by a summary and a table of contents, pertaining to a minelaying operation by auxiliary cruiser and minelayer *Meteor* in the Moray Firth, 7-8 Aug 1915, and subsequent support operations; after laying the mines, sinking by gunfire the British Armed Boarding Steamer *Ramsay* and rescuing the survivors, *Meteor* was pursued by British warships and scuttled herself on 10 Aug off the Danish coast, with the crew recovered by submarine *U 28*, while supporting German naval airships engaged light British surface forces; included are copies of the operational orders, the observations of fleet commander Admiral von Pohl on the operation in the fleet command war diary, 8-13 Aug, the after-action report of the *Meteor*'s commander, 16 Aug, the war diaries of submarines *U 17* [3-18 Aug] and *U 28* [24 Jul-11 Aug] in support activities, the mission and action reports for naval airships *L 7* and *PL 25*, 9-11 Aug, war diary excerpts for the naval air station at Borkum, 5-11 Aug, and foreign press accounts; also of note is correspondence on cash

awards given to the crews of Danish and Swedish vessels involved in rescue operations, 3-6 Sep), 2 July – 6 September 1915:

PG 64794, roll 407

Kr. Op. Nordsee 54. Kriegsakten. Kriegstagebücher pp. betr. Vorstoss der II. Torp. Flott. nach Horns-Riff vom 17.8. bis 18.8.1915, Bände 1-2 (two volumes of collected materials pertaining to a sortie by the Second Torpedo Boat Flotilla to Horns Reef off the west coast of Denmark, 17-18 Aug 1915; most of the material is located in the first volume, preceded by a summary of the operation and a table of contents; the operation intended a torpedo-boat sweep of the Danish west coast in search of suspected British armed fishing steamers and submarines, accompanied by a fleet sortie in support; the torpedo boats encountered and engaged light British surface forces, resulting in the claimed sinking of a small British cruiser and destroyer, 17 Aug; included are copies of the operational orders, the war diary of the fleet command, 14-25 Aug, a report to the Kaiser on the action, 27 Aug, war diary excerpts and the after-action report of *II. T.-Flottille*, 17-18 Aug, and war diary excerpts of other participating commands and individual warships, including torpedo boat *B 98*, which claimed the sinking of the small cruiser; also of note is the war diary of *Führer der Unterseeboote [F.d.U.]/I. U.-Flottille* for 1-31 Aug; the *Anlage* volume consists only of handwritten radio telegrams exchanged during the operation, 17-18 Aug), 15 – 31 August 1915:

PG 64795-796, roll 407

Kr. Op. Nordsee 55. Kriegsakten. Kriegstagebücher pp. betr. Operationen zur Deckung des Schleppezuges U 25 in Helgoländer Bucht, welches von Fernunternehmung an norweg. Küste havariert zurückkehrt, vom 5.8. bis 21.8.1915 (collected materials, preceded by a summary and a table of contents, regarding the rescue of engine-damaged submarine *U 25* off the west coast of Denmark by elements of the *IV. Aufklärungsgruppe*, *II.* and *VII. T.-Flottillen*, and *12. T.-Halbflottille*, 20-21 Aug 1915; included are excerpts from the war diaries of the light cruisers and torpedo-boat commands participating in the operation, and the war diary of *U 25* describing its operations off the Norwegian west coast, 5-21 Aug), 5 – 21 August 1915:

PG 64797, roll 407

Kr. Op. Nordsee 56. Kriegsakten. Kriegstagebücher pp. betr. Handelskrieg im Skagerrak und Kattegat mit II. A.G., "Rostock," II., VI., u. IX. Torp. Fl. (collected documentation, preceded by a table of contents, regarding an operation by German light cruisers and torpedo boats for the stop and search of Allied and neutral merchant shipping off the Danish west coast and in the Skagerrak and Kattegat straits north of Denmark, with the participating German vessels proceeding through the Baltic to Kiel, 16-18 Dec 1915; included is an overview of the disposition and readiness status of all High Seas Fleet forces on 16 Dec, correspondence and planning directives, 11 Nov-14 Dec, and war diary excerpts of the fleet command, *II. Aufklärungsgruppe [A.G.]*, participating light cruisers, the *II.*, *VI.*, and *IX. T.-Flottillen* and subordinate half-flotillas, and six individual torpedo boats, all for 16-18 Dec; of particular note are the summary observations of Admiral von Pohl as fleet commander and of the commander of *II. A.G.* regarding the operation's net results), 11 November – 18 December 1915:

PG 64798, roll 407

Kr. Op. Nordsee 57. Kriegsakten. Kriegstagebücher pp. betr. Vorstoss der II., VI., u. IX. Torp. Flot. in die Nordsee westlicher Richtung unter Leitung des I. F.d.T. auf "Pillau" gemäß Flotte Gg. 637/0 vom 4.2.1916 und 10. u. 11.2.1916, Bände 1-2 (two volumes of collected records, each preceded by a table of contents, regarding a sortie by torpedo boats supported by light cruisers to the Dogger Bank in support of naval airship attacks on Great Britain, originally planned for 6 Feb 1916 [postponed due to bad weather] and carried out on 10-11 Feb 1916, including an engagement with British light forces that resulted in the claimed sinking of two small British warships; *Band 1* includes an overview of the operational status of all units of the High Seas Fleet as of 10 Feb, an operational directive of 4 Feb, war diary excerpts of the fleet command, 6 and 9-11 Feb [and the first under new fleet commander Adm. Reinhard Scheer], and of *B.d.A.*, 9-11 Feb, interrogation summaries of captured British crewmen of the sunken minesweeper *Arabis* and intelligence data on a new class of British minesweeper (originally considered to have been light cruisers), war diary excerpts of *I. F.d.T.* and of two individual torpedo boats, 10-11 Feb, and war diary excerpts accompanied by after-action reports for the *II. T.-Flottille* and the *3. T.-Halbflottille*, 10-11 Feb; *Band 2* includes war diary excerpts for the *4., 18., and 9. T.-Halbflottillen* and for their constituent T-boats, additional interrogation reports for captured British naval personnel, a detailed report of the action by the commander of *II. T.-Flottille*, 17 Mar, a commentary on the action by the *Chef des Admiralstabes*, 27 Feb, and a postwar commentary regarding the specific actions of the *3. T.-Halbflottille*, prepared 19 Apr 1922; also included are insert notes by naval archivists regarding missing or incomplete war diaries, prepared July 1922) -

Band 1, 4 – 24 February 1916: PG 64799, roll 407

Band 2, 10 February – 17 March 1916, 19 April – 22 July 1922: PG 64800, rolls 407-08

Kr. Op. Nordsee 58. Kriegsakten. Kriegstagebücher pp. betr. Vorstoss der Flotte in die Hoofden und Angriff von L 14 auf die Humber (5.-7./III.1916) (collected documentation, preceded by a table of contents, pertaining to an uneventful sortie into the eastern approaches to the English Channel by torpedo boats and light cruisers, supported by the fleet and accompanied by an airship attack on Britain, 5-7 Mar 1916; included is an overview of the operational status and readiness of all German warships as of 5 Mar, the operational order of 1 Mar, excerpts of the war diary for the fleet command, 3-7 Mar, and of the war diaries for the participating commands, including *B.d.A.*, *I. F.d.T.*, *II. A.G.*, *IV. A.G.*, the component light cruisers, and several torpedo-boat commands; of particular note are the war diary excerpts for *Führer der Unterseeboote [F.d.U.]*, 2-7 Mar, and for naval airships *L 6* and *L 7*, as well as detailed reports for the bombing attacks of airships *L 11* and *L 14* on Hull and other targets in Britain, 5-6 Mar), 1 – 11 March 1916:

PG 64801, roll 408

Kr. Op. Nordsee 59. Kriegsakten. Kriegstagebücher pp. betr. Vorstoss der Flotte zur Abwehr bei List gemeldeten feindlicher Streitkräfte und Flieger, 25.-26./III.1916, Bände 1-2 (two volumes of collected records, each preceded by a table of contents, regarding the fleet's response to British naval and air attacks on German patrol craft and the naval air station on Sylt, 25-26 Mar 1916, during which two German patrol boats and two torpedo boats were lost; *Band 1*

includes an overview of the operational status and readiness of all German warships as of 25 Mar, the war diary and accompanying appendices of the *Seeflugstation* List/Sylt, 25 Mar, including reports of two downed British aircraft and interrogations of their captured crews, excerpts from the war diary of the fleet commander, Admiral Scheer, and a copy of his report on the action to the Kaiser, 31 Mar, war diary excerpts for the *B.d.A.*, 16-26 Mar, for *II. A.G.*, 16-27 Mar, and for participating battle cruisers, light cruisers, torpedo boat commands, and at least 15 individual torpedo boats [all for 25-26 Mar], as well as a translated British press account of Jul 1916 on the sinking of torpedo boat *G 194* by light cruiser *Cleopatra*; *Band 2* includes additional war diary excerpts for several torpedo boat commands and individual torpedo boats, including *S 18*'s account of the loss of *S 22* to a mine and the rescue of her survivors, as well as war diary excerpts of submarine *U 69*, 23-26 Mar, the *Nordsee-Vorpostenflottille*, 25-28 Mar, including accounts of the loss of two patrol boats and an attack on a British submarine, and of other naval commands involved in the action, as well as an additional interrogation of the captured British fliers, 25 Mar), 16 March – 18 July 1916:

PG 64802-03, roll 408

Kr. Op. Nordsee 59a. Kriegsakten. Kriegstagebücher pp. betr. Flotten-Operation gemäss Op.-Befehl 3, 31. März bis 1. April 1916 (collected materials, lacking a table of contents, regarding fleet operations associated with naval airship attacks on Great Britain, 31 Mar-1 Apr 1916; included is a copy of the operational order, 27 Mar, war diary excerpts for fleet commander Admiral Scheer, 31 Mar-1 Apr, a report to the Kaiser summarizing the results of the naval airship attacks on London and the Humber, war diary excerpts, action reports and mission reports for airships *L 9* (damaged and unable to complete mission), *L 11*, *L 13*, *L 14*, *L 16* and *L 22*, as well as reports on the loss of *L 15*, and war diary excerpts for *I. F.d.T.* and the torpedo boat commands that sortied into the North Sea in support of the air operations), 27 March – 17 April 1916:

PG 64804, roll 408

Kr. Op. Nordsee 60. Kriegsakten. Kriegstagebücher pp. betr. Vorstoss der Flotte gegen die engl. Küste (Beschiessung von Lowestoft und Great Yarmouth durch Kreuzer), 24.-25. April 1916, Bände 1-2 (two volumes of collected documentation, each preceded by a table of contents, regarding a fleet operation intended to induce a major action through bombardment of the English ports of Lowestoft and Yarmouth and naval airship attacks on southern England, and including participation by elements of *Marinekorps Flandern*, 24-25 Apr 1916; *Band 1* includes an overview of the operational status and readiness of all German warships as of 24 Apr, the war diary of fleet commander Admiral Scheer for 24-25 Apr, a copy of the operational order, 20 Apr, messages of the *Admiralstab* summarizing the operation's results, 25-26 Apr, Scheer's detailed report to the Kaiser on the action, 30 Apr, war diary excerpts for the *B.d.A.* and battle cruisers *Seydlitz* [disabled by a mine hit and forced to return to base], *Moltke*, *Derfflinger*, *Lützow*, and *von der Tann*, 24-25 Apr, including action reports regarding the bombardment of the ports and of engagements with British destroyers and light cruisers of the Harwich Force, and war diary excerpts for *II. A.G.* and its component light cruisers; *Band 2* includes war diary excerpts for the *I. – III. Geschwader* and their component battleships, including action reports for battleships *Hannover* and *Hessen* in evading torpedo attacks by British submarines, war diary excerpts for *I.*

F.d.T. and subordinate torpedo-boat commands and individual torpedo-boats, and war diary excerpts, action reports and mission reports for naval airships *L 11*, *L 13*, *L 16*, *L 17*, *L 20*, *L 21*, *L 23*, and *L 9*), 20 April – 5 May 1916:

Band 1, PG 64805: roll 346

Band 2, PG 64806: roll 347

Kr. Op. Nordsee 60a. Kriegsakten. Kriegstagebücher pp. betr. Vorstoss der S-Gruppe der Nordsee-Vorpostenflottille am 27./28. April 1916, und Vorstoss der III. und VI.

T.-Flottillen am 28. April 1916 (collected materials, lacking a table of contents, regarding an engagement between the *Sondergruppe* [“Special Unit”] of the North Sea Patrol Boat Flotilla and light British forces in the area of Dogger Bank, 27-28 Apr 1916, and the subsequent dispatch of battle cruisers *Derfflinger* and *Moltke* and torpedo boat forces in support; included are excerpts of the war diaries for the fleet command, 27-28 Apr, the *Chef der Nordsee-Vorpostenflottille*, 25-28 Apr, the *Sondergruppe*, 25-27 Apr [including an action report regarding the sinking of a British patrol boat and the capture of a fishing trawler], for battle cruisers *Derfflinger* and *Moltke*, 27-28 Apr, and for the *IV. A.G.*, *I. F.d.T.*, and participating torpedo-boat commands, 27-28 Apr), 25 – 28 April 1916:

PG 64807, toll 347

Kr. Op. Nordsee 61. Kriegsakten. Kriegstagebücher pp. betr. Seeschlacht vor dem Skagerrak, 31. Mai – 1. Juni 1916, Bände 1-6 (six volumes of collected records, each preceded by a table of contents, regarding the principal naval action of the war, the Battle of Jutland, known in Germany as the “Skagerrak-Schlacht,” between the High Seas Fleet and the British Grand Fleet; closely-related materials are located in *Aktenzeichen III.I.-15v*, *Akten betr. Seeschlacht vor dem Skagerrak*, record items PG 77039-041, described below; the documentation is collectively organized by hierarchy of naval organization, as follows)-

Band 1 (preceded by an overview of the operational status and readiness of all German warships as of 31 May, and including copies of Admiral Scheer’s operational orders and instructions for the fleet sortie off the west coast of Denmark, 28 May, Scheer’s war diary as fleet commander, 30 May-1 Jun, handwritten records of the fleet command flag and radio signals, 31 May-1 Jun, numerous maps and battle sketches, and Scheer’s 37-page report to the Kaiser on the battle, 4 Jul 1916, together with war diary excerpts for fleet flagship *Friedrich der Große*, the *I. Geschwader*, and component battleships *Helgoland*, *Ostfriesland*, *Posen*, *Rheinland*, *Westfalen*, *Nassau* and *Oldenburg*, including for each ship an action report of its participation in the battle; at the end of the volume is Scheer’s report on “Taktische Erfahrungen” of the battle, 8 Aug), 28 May – 8 August 1916: PG 64808, roll 347

Band 2 (consists of the war diaries, after-action reports, and accompanying materials for the *II.* and *III. Geschwader* and for the individual battleships that comprised these squadrons, including *Deutschland*, *Hannover*, *Hessen*, *Schlesien*, *Schleswig-Holstein*, *Grosser Kurfürst*, *König*, *Markgraf*, *Prinzregent Luitpold*, *Kronprinz*, *Kaiser* [including some photographs of shell damage], and *Kaiserin*; also included is a Dec 1922 notation regarding the loss of the war diary and associated documents for older battleship *Pommern*, lost with all hands during the battle, and a summary report of damage and personnel losses sustained by the *III. Geschwader*), 30 May – 18 June 1916 and 18 December 1922: PG 64809, rolls 347-48

Band 3 (including war diary excerpts for the *B.d.A.* [Admiral von Hipper], 30 May-1 Jun 1916, but primarily comprising extensive documentation for the participation of the battle cruisers in the engagement; materials for *Derfflinger* include war diary excerpts, an extensive after-action report that provides observations on artillery, torpedoes, and signal communications, as well as annotated ship's plans indicating damage suffered; records for *Seydlitz* include war diary excerpts and a brief after-action report, but an extensive report on the ship's damage and repairs, including annotated ship's plans, 5 Jul; less extensive documentation for *Moltke* and *von der Tann*; for *Lützow*, sunk during the battle, there is a handwritten war diary, 16 May-1 Jun, a lengthy after-action report that particularly documents damage sustained, including a sketch of shell hits, 27 Jun, and a summary report of the ship's sinking; and documentation for the *II. A.G.* and its component light cruisers, including an after-action report for light cruiser *Elbing*, sunk during the action, materials for light cruisers *Frankfurt* and *Pillau*, and a survivor's account of the loss of light cruiser *Wiesbaden*), 16 May – 5 July 1916 and 3 February 1917: PG 64810, roll 443

Band 4 (continues documentation for light cruisers *Regensburg* and *Rostock* of *II. A.G.*, and includes similar materials for the *IV. A.G.* and its constituent light cruisers *München* [extensive documentation], *Stuttgart*, *Stettin*, and *Hamburg*, as well as two survivors' accounts [following their repatriation from captivity and internment, respectively] of the sunken light cruiser *Frauenlob*, 3-4 Sep 1916; and documentation of the participation of torpedo boat commands, including *I. and II. F.d.T.*, *II.*, *III.*, and *V. T.-Flottillen*, *1.*, *4.*, *5.*, *9.*, and *10. T.-Halbflottillen*, and at least 28 individual torpedo-boats; records of the *II. F.d.T.* include a summary assessment of the torpedo boats' participation in the battle, 10 Jul 1916), 30 May – 4 September 1916: PG 64811, roll 444

Band 5 (continues the documentation for torpedo-boat commands, including excerpted war diaries and after-action reports for the *VI.*, *VII.*, and *IX. T.-Flottillen*, *11.*, *12.*, *13.*, *14.*, *17.* and *18. T.-Halbflottillen*, and for at least 19 individual torpedo-boats [often handwritten]; included is an account of the rescue of survivors of British destroyer *Nestor* as prisoners of war by *S 16* and accounts of the losses and rescue of survivors of *V 27* [*17. T.-Halbflottille*] and *V 29* [*18. T.-Halbflottille*]; following these materials is a summary report of German naval airship operations at Jutland by the *Marine-Luftschiff Abteilung Nordholz*, 4 Jun, and war diary excerpts for naval airships *L 9*, *L 11*, *L 13*, *L 14*, *L 16*, *L 17*, *L 21*, *L 22*, *L 23* and *L 24*; these are followed in turn by war diary excerpts for *F.d.U. / I. U.-Flottille*, *2.*, *3.*, and *4. U.-Halbflottillen*, and individual U-boats *U 19*, *U 22*, *U 24*, *U 32*, *U 43*, *U 44*, and *U 46*, as well as an operational order for *U.-Flottille Flandern*, 24 May), 16 May – 4 June 1916: PG 64812, roll 444

Band 6 (consists of two parts, the first a continuation of documentation of individual U-boats' participation in operations, consisting of war diary excerpts for 23 individual U-boats, including participating UB- and UC- class submarines of *U.-Flottille Flandern*, 16 May-8 Jun, all of which is reproduced on roll 444; the second part, divided between rolls 444-45, comprises postwar collections of American and British press accounts of the Battle of Jutland, with accompanying forwarding correspondence of German naval and diplomatic representatives, Jan 1924-Jul 1927; included is an article by American naval analyst Hector Bywater in *Atlantic Monthly*, Nov 1926, articles from various American newspapers, Nov 1926-May 1927, a copy of the official British publication *Report On the Battle of Jutland* [the "Harper Report"], May 1927, and lists and tables of comparative ship and personnel losses, ammunition fired, and hits

obtained in the battle, prepared by German naval archivists, 1927), 16 May – 2 June 1916 and 19 January 1924 – 2 July 1927: PG 64813, rolls 444-45

Kr. Op. Nordsee 62, Kriegsakten. –

Band 1, Luftschiffsangriffe auf England am 1 u. 2, 2. u. 3., 3. u. 4., 5. u. 6. April 1916 (collected materials, lacking a table of contents, regarding nighttime German naval airship raids on Britain during the first week of April 1916 by naval airships *L 11*, *L 17*, *L 14*, *L 16*, and *L 22*, including action reports, war diary excerpts, route charts and mission reports), 1 – 10 April 1916: PG 64814, roll 409

Band 2, Luftschiffsangriffe auf England am 2. u. 3. Mai 1916 und Aufnahme durch Hochseestreitkräfte (collected documentation, preceded by a table of contents, regarding German naval airship attacks on Britain east coast and Edinburgh, 2-3 May 1916, supported by major elements of the High Seas Fleet; included is an overview of the operational status and readiness of all German warships and naval air forces as of 3 May, war diary excerpts and after-action reports for zeppelins *L 11*, *L 13*, *L 14*, *L 16*, *L 17*, *L 21*, *L 23*, and *LZ 98*, as well as reports on the loss of *L 20* [including a report by its commander with accompanying photographs, 17 May], and war diary excerpts for supporting forces of the *I. Geschwader* and its constituent battleships, *B.d.A.* and battle cruisers *Lützow*, *Derfflinger*, *Moltke*, and *von der Tann*, *II. A.G.* and its constituent light cruisers, *I. F.d.T.*, *III.*, and *VII. T.-Flottillen*, *1.*, *2.*, *5.*, *6.*, *10.*, *13.*, *14.*, and *17. T.-Halbflottillen*, *I. U.-Halbflottille*, and submarines *UB 22* and *U 51*), 1 – 23 May 1916:

PG 64815, roll 409

Band 3, Vorstoss der Hochseestreitkräfte gegen gemeldete engl. Streitkräfte am 5. Mai 1916 und Verlust L 7 (collected materials, preceded by a table of contents, regarding a brief sortie by High Seas Fleet forces on report of British warships off Horn's Reef, including an overview of the operational status and readiness of German warships and naval air forces as of 5 May 1916, war diary excerpts for the fleet command [Scheer], 4-5 May, the *B.d.A.* and battle cruisers *Lützow*, *Derfflinger*, *Moltke*, and *von der Tann*, *II.A.G.* and its constituent light cruisers, the *I.-III. Geschwader*, *I.F.d.T.*, the *I.*, *II.*, and *III. T.-Flottillen*, *1.*, *3.*, *4.*, *5.*, *6.*, *9.*, *11.* and *12. T.-Halbflottillen*, and submarines *UB 21*, *UB 22*, *U 51*, *UB 27*, and *U 70*; also included are accounts of the claimed [erroneous] sinking of British submarine *E 31* by light cruiser *Rostock* on 4 May, the war diary of aerial reconnaissance missions flown from *Seeflugstation List-Sylt*, 4-5 May, and the presumed loss of naval airship *L 7* with all hands, 4 May), 2 – 6 May 1916:

PG 64816, roll 409

Kr. Op. Nordsee 63. Kriegsakten. U-Bootsunternehmung vom 3.-13.7.1916 gemäß Flotte Gg 4031 (collected materials, preceded by a table of contents, regarding a sweep of the North Sea by 14 German submarines, accompanied by UB- class submarines patrolling off Scapa Flow and a minelaying operation by another U-boat off Moray Firth, 3-13 July 1916; included are war diary excerpts for the fleet command, 3-1 July, for the *2.*, *3.*, and *4. U.-Halbflottillen*, and for participating submarines *U 19*, *U 20*, *U 22*, *U 24*, *U 45*, *U 46*, *U 48*, *U 51*, *U 52*, *U 53*, *U 63*, *U 64*, *U 67*, *U 69*, *U 75*, *U 77*, *UB 21*, *UB 22*, and *UB 27*; also included is the war diary of *F.d.U.* [Bauer], 1-15 Jul, as well as the *F.d.U.* operational order for these missions, 24 Jun, and a memorandum on the increased employment of submarines against Allied warships, 19 Jun; the

documentation includes information on engagement with British destroyers and patrol craft, the claimed sinking of armed steamers and patrol boats during the operations, and the loss of *U 51*, 14 Jul; the war diary for *UB 22* includes observations on the British main fleet at Scapa Flow, 17 Jul), 19 June – 23 July 1916:

PG 64817, roll 409

Kr. Op. Nordsee 64. Kriegsakten. Flottenvorstoss am 16. Juli 1916 gegen evtl. engl.

Angriffe (collected documentation, preceded by a table of contents, concerning an uneventful sortie by the High Seas Fleet north of Helgoland based on intelligence of a possible British attack; included is an annotated overview of the operational status and readiness of all German warships, 16 Jul, as well as war diary excerpts for the fleet command, 15-16 Jul, for *B.d.A.*, 15-17 Jul, and for a variety of commands of light surface forces, submarines, and naval airships; of note is the absence of any accompanying maps), 15 – 17 July 1916:

PG 64818, roll 409

Kr. Op. Nordsee 64a. Kriegsakten. U-Bootsunternehmung vom 27. Juli – 5. August 1916

(collected materials, preceded by a table of contents, regarding submarine sweeps of the North Sea and waters off southern Norway in search of British warships, 27 Jul-5 Aug 1916; included is a memorandum on the planned use of submarines against British naval targets, Jul-Aug 1916, 18 Jul, and the operational order for the U-boat operations, 23 Jul, both prepared by *F.d.U.*

[Bauer], together with his war diary, 24 Jul-5 Aug, war diary excerpts for the *II.* and *III.*

U.-Halbflottillen, 26 Jul-5 Aug, and for submarines *U 20*, *U 44*, *U 45*, *U 54*, *U 63*, *U 67*, *U 69*, and *U 70*), 18 July – 5 August 1916:

PG 64819, rolls 409-10

Kr. Op. Nordsee 65. Kriegsakten. Luftschiffsangriff auf England am 28./29.VIII.1916

(collected materials, preceded by a table of contents, regarding naval airship attacks on targets in southern England during the night of 28-29 Jul 1916 by *L 11*, *L 13*, *L 14*, *L 16*, *L 17*, *L 21*, *L 22*, *L 23*, *L 24* and *L 31*, including war diary excerpts, route charts, and mission reports), 28 July – 5 August 1916:

PG 64820, roll 410

Kr. Op. Nordsee 66. Kriegsakten. Luftschiffsangriff auf England am 31.VII. und

1.VIII.1916 (collected materials, preceded by a table of contents, regarding naval airship attacks on targets in southern England during the night of 31 Jul-1 Aug 1916 by *L 11*, *L 13*, *L 16*, *L 17*, *L 22*, *L 23*, *L 30* and *L 31*, including war diary excerpts, route charts, and mission reports), 31 July – 9 August 1916:

PG 64821, roll 410

Kr. Op. Nordsee 67. Kriegsakten. Luftschiffsangriff auf England am 2./3.VIII.1916

(collected materials, preceded by a table of contents, concerning naval airship attacks on targets in London, Harwich, and Norfolk during the night of 2–3 Aug 1916 by *L 11*, *L 13*, *L 16*, *L 17*, *L 21*, *L 23* and *L 31*, including war diary excerpts, route charts, and mission reports), 2 – 9 August 1916:

PG 64822, roll 410

*Kr. Op. Nordsee 68. **Kriegsakten. Luftschiffsangriff auf England am 8./9.VIII.1916***

(collected materials, preceded by a table of contents, concerning naval airship attacks on targets in southern England and southeastern Scotland during the night of 8-9 Aug 1916 by *L 11, L 13, L 14, L 16, L 17, L 21, L 22, L 23, L 30* and *L 31*, including war diary excerpts, route charts, and mission reports), 8 – 12 August 1916:

PG 64823, roll 410

*Kr. Op. Nordsee 69. **Kriegsakten. Luftschiffsangriff auf England am 24./25.VIII.1916***

(collected materials, preceded by a table of contents, regarding naval airship attacks on targets in London and southern England during the night of 24–25 Aug 1916 by *L 11, L 13, L 14, L 16, L 21, L 22, L 23, L 24, L 30, L 31, L 32, SL 8* and *SL 9*, including war diary excerpts, route charts, and mission reports; also included are war diary excerpts for *F.d.U.* [Bauer], 24-25 Aug, and for some U-boats that briefly operated in a support role), 24 – 29 August 1916:

PG 64824, roll 410

*Kr. Op. Nordsee 70. **Kriegsakten. Kriegstagebücher pp. betr. Flotten-Operation gemäss Op.-Befehl 8 am 18.-19. August 1916, Bände 1-2*** (two volumes of collected documentation

pertaining to a major fleet sortie into the North Sea on 18-19 Aug 1916, accompanied by extensive naval airship reconnaissance and intended to bombard the port of Sunderland and engage the British fleet under favorable conditions if possible, but which ultimately resulted only in peripheral actions; complementary documentation of the operation is located in *Aktenzeichen III.I.-15w.*, record item PG 77042, described below; the materials are arranged as follows-

Band 1, preceded by a table of contents, consists of an annotated overview of the location and operational readiness of all German warships and naval air forces in all theaters as of 19 Aug, significant documentation originated by the fleet command [Admiral Scheer] relating to the operation [including an assessment of operational intentions, 10 Aug, the operational order and supplemental instructions for the sortie, 16 Aug, the war diary for 18-20 Aug, and post-operation reports and assessments of experiences and lessons learned, 20-30 Aug], war diary excerpts of *B.d.A.*, 17-20 Aug, and documentation of those commands and warships directly engaged, including battleship *Westfalen* [damaged by torpedo attack by submarine *E 23*, 19 Aug], orders, war diary excerpts, and reports of *F.d.U.* [Bauer] regarding U-boat operations, 10-25 Aug, war diary excerpts of *II.*, *III.*, and *IV. U.-Halbflottillen*, 17-21 Aug, and of constituent submarines *U 52* [including her attack and sinking of British light cruiser *Nottingham*, 19 Aug], *U 53*, *U 55*, *U 56*, *UB 35*, *U 44*, *U 45*, *U 48*, *U 49*, *U 63*, *U 64*, *U 65*, *U 66* [including her attack and sinking of British light cruiser *Falmouth*, 19 Aug], *U 67* and *U 69*; war diary excerpts for *F.d.U. Flandern* and constituent submarines *UB 18*, *UB 23*, *UB 29*, *UB 39*, *UB 6*, *UB 12*, *UB 16*, *UB 19*, *UB 37*, *UB 10*, *UC 1* and *UC 11*, and war diary excerpts, action reports, and mission reports for naval airships *L 11*, *L 13*, *L 16* [war diary only], *L 21* [including six aerial photographs of British vessels], *L 22*, *L 24*, *L 30*, *L 31* and *L 32*; at the end of *Band 1* are some additional postwar historical materials, not noted in the table of contents, that document correspondence of the *Marine-Archiv* historians with Royal Navy representatives regarding British fleet movements and actions during the operation, including order-of-battle data, movements and engagements of

forces, and several maps, Jul 1926-Sep 1927), 10 – 30 August 1916 and 5 July 1926 – 20 September 1927: PG 64825, rolls 462-63

Band 2 begins with a extensive collection of handwritten radio signals exchanged among commands, warships and naval airships, 17-19 Aug, followed by a table of contents and documentation for High Seas Fleet units and warships that participated in the sortie but were not directly engaged in action against British forces; included are war diary excerpts for battle cruisers *Moltke* and *von der Tann*, battleships *Bayern*, *Grosser Kurfürst*, and *Markgraf*, the *II. A.G* and *IV. A.G.* and their constituent light cruisers, the *I.* and *III. Geschwadern* and their constituent battleships, *I. F.d.T.*, *II. F.d.T.*, the *I.*, *V.*, *VI.*, and *VII. T.-Flottillen*, and 2. *T.-Halbflottille*; also included is the war diary for submarine *UB 27*, 15-28 Aug), 15 – 28 August 1916: PG 64826, roll 463

Kr. Op. Nordsee 71. Kriegsakten. Luftschiffsangriff auf England am 2./3.IX.1916 (collected documentation, preceded by a table of contents, regarding naval airship attacks on targets in southern England on the night of 2-3 Sept 1916 by *L 11*, *L 13*, *L 14*, *L 16*, *L 17*, *L 21*, *L 22*, *L 23*, *L 24*, *L 30*, *L 32*, and *SL 8*, including action and mission reports, war diary excerpts and route charts; also included are war diary excerpts for submarines *U 24*, *U 65* and *U 69*, 2-5 Sep, which operated in a support role), 1 – 6 September 1916:

PG 64827, roll 464

Kr. Op. Nordsee 72. Kriegsakten. U-Bootsunternehmen gemäss Flotte Gg. 6456 am 20./30.IX.1916 (collected materials, preceded by a table of contents, regarding submarine search and attack missions against British naval and merchant ships in the North Sea, off the northern English and Scottish coasts, and off the Orkney and Shetland Islands, 20-30 Sep 1916; included are war diary excerpts for the fleet command [Admiral Scheer], 21-30 Sep, a copy of the relevant operational order, 19 Sep, the war diary of *F.d.U.*, 20 Sep-4 Oct, and war diary excerpts for *U 20*, *U 24*, *U 32*, *U 44*, *U 45*, *U 49*, *U 52*, *U 54*, *U 55*, *U 56*, *U 57*, *U 64*, and *U 65*, which include references to numerous British fishing and merchant vessels sunk), 19 September – 4 October 1916:

PG 64828, roll 464

Kr. Op. Nordsee 73. Kriegsakten. Vorstoss des I. F.d.T. mit “Frankfurt,” II., und VI. Torp. Flot. (collected materials, preceded by a table of contents, regarding a reconnaissance thrust of light German naval forces to the vicinity of Dogger Bank on the night of 23-24 Sep 1916; included are war diary excerpts for the fleet command [Admiral Scheer], 22-24 Sep, the *B.d.A.*, 23 Sep, and of *I. F.d.T.*, light cruiser *Frankfurt*, the *II.* and *VI. T.-Flottillen*, 3., 4., 11., and 12. *T.-Halbflottillen*, and of several individual torpedo boats), 23 – 24 September 1916:

PG 64829, roll 464

Kr. Op. Nordsee 74. Kriegsakten. Luftschiffsangriff auf England am 23./24.September 1916 (collected documentation, preceded by a table of contents, concerning naval airship attacks on targets in London and central England on the night of 23-24 Sep 1916 by *L 13*, *L 14*, *L 16*, *L 17*, *L 21*, *L 22*, *L 23*, *L 24*, *L 30*, *L 31*, *L 32*, and *L 33*, during which zeppelins *L 32* and *L 33* were lost to enemy action; for the surviving naval airships the records include action and mission

reports, war diary excerpts, and route charts; separate reports dated 16 Mar 1918 detail the losses and crew fates for *L 32* [all hands lost] and *L 33* [all survivors captured]), 23 – 29 September 1916 and 16 March 1918:

PG 64830, roll 410

Kr. Op. Nordsee 75. Kriegsakten. Vorstoss des II. F.d.T. mit “Regensburg,” “Pillau,” Frankfurt,” II., III. Torp. Flot. u. 12. Torp. Halbflot. am 25./26.IX.1916 (collected materials, preceded by a table of contents, regarding a thrust by light surface forces into the Hoofden during the night of 25-26 Sep 1916; included is an overview of the locations and operational status of all German warships and naval air forces in all theaters as of 26 Sep, copies of the relevant operational orders of 20 and 24 Sep, and war diary excerpts of the fleet command, *II. F.d.T.*, light cruisers *Regensburg*, *Frankfurt* and *Pillau*, *II.* and *III. T.-Flottillen*, 3., 4., 5., 6., and 12. *T.-Halbflottillen*, and several individual torpedo boats), 20 – 26 September 1916:

PG 64831, roll 410

Kr. Op. Nordsee 76. Kriegsakten. Luftschiffsangriff auf England am 25./26. September 1916 (collected documentation, preceded by a table of contents, pertaining to naval airship attacks on targets in London and central England during the night of 25-26 Sep 1916 by *L 13*, *L 14*, *L 16*, *L 17*, *L 21*, *L 22*, *L 23*, *L 30* and *L 31*; included are action and mission reports, war diary excerpts, and route charts), 25 – 27 September 1916:

PG 64832, rolls 410-11

Kr. Op. Nordsee 77. Kriegsakten. Luftschiffsangriff auf England am 1./2. Oktober 1916 (collected materials, preceded by a table of contents, concerning naval airship attacks on targets in London and central England during the night of 1-2 Oct 1916 by *L 13*, *L 14*, *L 16*, *L 17*, *L 21*, *L 22*, *L 23*, *L 24*, *L 30*, *L 31*, and *L 34*, in the course of which *L 31* was shot down with the loss of all hands; included are operation and mission reports, war diary excerpts, and route charts), 1 – 3 October 1916:

PG 64833, roll 411

Kr. Op. Nordsee 78. Kriegsakten. Vorstoss der Hochseeflotte gemäss O.-Befehl 10 am 19./20. Oktober 1916 (collected materials, preceded by a table of contents, regarding a fleet sortie into the North Sea north of Holland on 19-20 Oct 1916, originally [6 Oct] involving close cooperation with U-boats but subsequently altered as the U-boat force was withdrawn for commerce warfare; key additional documentation is located in record item *Aktenzeichen III.I.-15x.*, record item PG 77043, described below; the revised plan [9 Oct] included extended aerial reconnaissance by naval airships and a preliminary night sweep with torpedo boats against commercial North Sea traffic, but which was effectively aborted due to bad weather; included is an overview of the locations and operational status of all naval German warships and naval air forces in all theaters as of 19 Oct, copies of the operational orders, 6-9 Oct, war diary excerpts for the fleet command [Admiral Scheer], 18-20 Oct, and for the following subordinate commands, all for 18-19 Oct: *B.d.A.*, *IV. A.G.* and its constituent light cruisers *München*, *Berlin*, and *Stettin*, *I.* and *II. F.d.T.*, *I. II.*, *III.*, *V.*, *VI.*, *VII.*, and *IX. T.-Flottillen*, 1., 2., 3., 4., 5., 6., 9., 10., 11., 12., 13., 17., and 18. *T.-Halbflottillen*, *II. A.G.* and its constituent light cruisers *Frankfurt*,

Stralsund, Brummer, and Danzig, I., II. and III. Geschwader, F.d.U., Flugstation Borkum, and submarine U 58; also included are war diary excerpts for naval airships L 14, L 17, L 24, L 21, L 22, L 23, L 34, L 13, L 30 and L 16), 6 – 22 October 1916:

PG 64834, roll 411

*Kr. Op. Nordsee 79. **Kriegsakten. Englischer Fliegerangriff am 22. Oktober 1916** (collected documentation, preceded by a tale of contents, regarding British aircraft attacks supported by light surface forces that forced cancellation of planned naval airship attacks on Britain, and the attempts of German forces to intercept them, 22 Oct 1916; included is an overview of the locations and operational status of all German warships and naval air forces in all theaters as of 22 Oct, war diary excerpts for the fleet command and the following subordinate commands for 22 Oct: I. Geschwader, naval airships L 17, L 16, L 34, L 14, L 21, L 22, L 23, L 30, and L 35, Küstenschutzflottille Ems, S-Gruppe der Nordsee-Vorpostenflottille, Seeflugstationen Norderney, Borkum, Helgoland and List, B.d.A., II. A.G. and constituent light cruisers Brummer, Bremse, and Stralsund, I. and II. F.d.T., F.d.U., 1. U.-Halbflottille, and submarines UC 29, U 50, and U 49), 22 – 23 October 1916:*

PG 64835, roll 411

*Kr. Op. Nordsee 80. **Kriegsakten. Vorstoss der III., IX. Flott. und Z.-Halbflottille Flandern in den Kanal am 26./27.X.1916** (collected materials, preceded by a table of contents, regarding a coordinated thrust by the Third and Ninth Torpedo Boat Flotillas, together with the Destroyer Half-flotilla of *Marinekorps Flandern*, into the eastern end of the English Channel and off the mouth of the Thames River during the night of 26-27 Oct 1916, resulting in the sinking of several British patrol vessels and the damaging of two British destroyers; the two flotillas remained temporarily attached to *Marinekorps Flandern* for future operations; included is an annotated overview of the locations and operational status of all German warships and naval air forces in all theaters as of 26 Oct, war diary excerpts and a subsequent summary report of the *Marinekorps Flandern*, war diary excerpts of III. and IX. T-Flottillen, 5., 6., 17., and 18. T-Halbflottillen and of 15 individual torpedo boats and destroyers, and translated excerpts of British press reports on the results of the operation; of particular note are reports on the use of intercepted British radio communications during the operation), 24 – 27 October, 13 November 1916:*

PG 64836, roll 411

*Kr. Op. Nordsee 81. **Kriegsakten. Vorstoss der III. und IX. Torp. Flot. in den engl. Kanal am 1./2. November 1916** (collected records, preceded by a table of contents, relating to a sortie by the Third and Ninth Torpedo Boat Flotillas in the English Channel to disrupt merchant shipping between England and the Netherlands on the night of 1-2 Nov 1916, resulting only in the capture of three Dutch merchant vessels, one of which was later recaptured by British forces; included is the operational order of 28 Oct, war diary excerpts for I. F.d.T., the two flotillas and their constituent 5., 6., 17., and 18. T-Halbflottillen, and the Z.-Halbflottille of *Marinekorps Flandern*, as well as postwar statements of two German members of the captured prize crew following their return from captivity, 19 and 27 Oct 1919), 28 October – 2 November 1916 and 19, 27 October 1919:*

PG 64837, roll 411

Kr. Op. Nordsee 81a. Kriegsakten. Aufnahme der III. Torp. Flot. durch Vorpostenstreitkräfte am 3. November 1916 (collected documentation, preceded by a table of contents, regarding the return of the Third Torpedo Flotilla from temporary assignment with *Marinekorps Flandern* to the High Seas Fleet on 3 Nov 1916, and the accompanying escort and support provided by High Seas Fleet units; included is an overview of the locations and operational status of all German warships and naval air forces in all theaters as of 3 Nov, the relevant operational order of 31 Oct, and war diary excerpts of the Fleet command [Scheer], 2-3 Nov, and for *I. F.d.T.*, the *III. T.-Flottille* and its constituent *5. and 6. T.-Halbflottillen*, naval airships *L 14*, *L 30*, and *L 23*, *II. F.d.T.*, *II. T.-Flottille*, and *4. and 10. T.-Halbflottillen*), 31 October – 3 November 1916:

PG 64838, roll 411

Kr. Op. Nordsee 82. Kriegsakten. Vorstoss zur Deckung und Hilfeleistung beim Festkommen "U 20" und "U 30" am 4./5. November 1916 (collected materials, preceded by a table of contents, regarding Fleet support in the attempted recovery of submarines *U 20* and *U 30* stranded on the west coast of neutral Denmark, 4-5 Nov 1916, in the course of which *U 20* had to be scuttled and exploded after its crew was removed and battleships *Grosser Kurfürst* and *Kronprinz* were damaged by torpedoes from British submarines; of particular note are the reports of the operation submitted to the Kaiser by Scheer, 10 Nov, and the *Admiralstab*, 5 Nov, the latter including typed marginal comments by Kaiser Wilhelm critical of the operation; also included is an overview of the locations and operational status of all German warships and naval air forces in all theaters as of 5 Nov, war diary excerpts of the Fleet command, 4-6 Nov, *F.d.U.*, and of *II. F.d.T.* and *4. T.-Halbflottille* [the key commands involved in the recovery operations], as well as the war diaries and operational reports for submarines *U 20*, 13 Oct-6 Nov, and *U 30*, 24 Oct-6 Nov; also included are reports of German diplomatic representatives in Denmark regarding the wreck of *U 20*, 6 and 14 Nov, an attempted assessment of the effectiveness of *U 20*'s destruction, 1 Dec, and war diary excerpts for *B.d.A.*, the *III. and I. Geschwadern*, battleships *Grosser Kurfürst* and *Kronprinz* and battle cruisers *Seydlitz* and *Moltke*, the commander of *II. A.G.* and its constituent light cruisers, and of other heavy and torpedo boat units that participated in the operation in a support capacity), 4 November – 1 December 1916:

PG 64839, rolls 411-12

[Note: there is no "Kr. Op. Nordsee 83" indicated in the available finding aids]

Kr. Op. Nordsee 84. Kriegsakten. Luftschiffsangriff auf England am 27./28. November 1916 (collected records, preceded by a table of contents, regarding naval airship attacks on York and other targets in central England during the night of 27-28 Nov 1916; included are war diary excerpts for the Fleet command, 27-30 Nov, copies of the war diaries, route charts, and operations and missions reports for airships *L 13*, *L 14*, *L 16*, *L 22*, *L 24*, *L 30*, *L 35* and *L 36*, information on the losses of airships *L 34* and *L 21* with all hands during the operation, and war diary excerpts for various naval units dispatched into the North Sea to provide possible support as the airships returned on 28 Nov), 27 November – 4 December 1916:

PG 64840, roll 412

Kr. Op. Nordsee 85. Kriegsakten. Torpedobootsnachtvorstoss unter Führung des II. F.d.T. am 27./28. Dezember 1916 (collected materials, preceded by a table of contents, regarding a sweep by the Second, Third, Sixth, and Seventh Torpedo Boat Flotillas under the direction of the *II. Führer der Torpedobootsstreitkräfte (II. F.d.T.)* escorted by the Fourth Reconnaissance Group, against fishing traffic north of the Dogger Bank on the night of 27-28 Dec 1916; included is an overview of the locations and operational status of all German warships and naval air forces in all theaters as of 27 Dec, a copy of the operational order, 26 Dec, and war diary excerpts for the Fleet command, *II. F.d.T., II., III., VI., and VII. T.-Flottillen*, the 3., 4., 5., 6., 10., 11., 12., 13., and 14. *T.-Halbflottillen*, *IV. A.G.* and its constituent light cruisers, and the *III. and IV. Geschwadern* which provided long-range support), 26 – 28 December 1916:

PG 64841, roll 412

Kr. Op. Nordsee 86. Kriegsakten -

Band 2, Vorstösse der VI. Torp. Flot. und Z.-Halbflottille (später Z.-Flottille)

Flandern in den Kanal am 25.I., 25.II., und 17./18.III.1917 (collected materials, preceded by a table of contents, regarding three separate sweep operations by the Sixth Torpedo Boat Flotilla and the Destroyer Half-Flotilla [later Destroyer Flotilla] Flanders against British naval forces and shipping in the eastern English Channel on 25 Jan, 25 Feb, and 17-18 Mar 1917; documentation for each operation includes copies of relevant operational orders and war diary excerpts for the two formations and their subordinate units, *II. and 12. T.-Halbflottillen* and *I., 2.*

Z.-Halbflottillen Flandern, respectively; documentation for the operations on 25 Feb and 17-18 Mar include compilations of intercepted British naval communications; documentation for the March operation, which involved clashes with British patrol vessels and destroyers, also includes the war diary for *Marinekorps Flandern*, 1-18 Mar 1917, and a summary activity report for *Z.-Flottille Flandern*, 8 Feb-7 Mar 1917), 24 January – 6 April 1917: PG 64843, roll 412

Kr. Op. Nordsee 87. Kriegsakten. Vorstoss des II. F.d.T. mit II. und IX. Torp. Flott am 23./24. Januar 1917 (collected materials, preceded by a table of contents, regarding a thrust by the Second and Ninth Torpedo Boat Flotillas, under the command of *II. F.d.T.*, into the western North Sea during the night of 23-24 Jan 1917 in coordination with the transfer of the Sixth Flotilla to the Channel described in *Kr. Op. Nordsee 86, Band 1*, above; during the operation the damaged torpedo boat *S 50* of the Sixth Flotilla was secured; included is an overview of the locations and operational status of all German warships and naval air forces in all theaters as of 24 Jan, the original operational order of 28 Dec 1916 [when the operation was originally planned for 30 Dec] and the revised operational order of 22 Jan 1917, and war diary excerpts for the Fleet command, *B.d.A., II. F.d.T., II. and IX. T.-Flottillen* and for their constituent 3., 4., 17., and 18. *T.-Halbflottillen*, and for the *II. A.G.* and its constituent three light cruisers), 28 December 1916 – 24 January 1917:

PG 64844, roll 445

Kr. Op. Nordsee 88. Kriegsakten. Vorstoss des I. F.d.T., mit II. und IX. Torp. Flott. am 29./30. Januar 1917 (collected materials, preceded by a table of contents, regarding a thrust into

the Hoofden by the Second and Ninth Torpedo Flotillas, under the command of *I. Führer der T-Boote*, attempting to intercept Anglo-Dutch merchant traffic during the night of 29-30 Jan 1917; included is an overview of the locations and operational status of all German warships and naval air forces in all theaters as of 30 Jan 1917, a copy of the operational order of 26 Jan, and war diary excerpts for the Fleet command [Scheer], 29-30 Jan, the *I. F.d.T.*, 26-30 Jan, *II.* and *IX. T.-Flottillen*, 3., 4., 17., and 18. *T.-Halbflottillen*, the *IV. Geschwader* [which operated in long-range support], some individual warships, and *Marinekorps Flandern*, 29-30 Jan), 26 – 30 January 1917:

PG 64845, roll 445

Kr. Op. Nordsee 89. Kriegsakten. Gefecht der 5. Minensuch-Halbflot. mit englischen Streitkräften am 16. August 1917 (collected materials, preceded by a table of contents, regarding an engagement of the Fifth Minesweeping Half-flotilla with British light cruisers and destroyers during a minesweeping operation in the North Sea, 16 Aug 1916, in which minesweepers *M 4* and *M 65* were damaged; included are war diary excerpts for the Fleet command, *B.d.A.*, 5. and 8. *Minensuch-Halbflottillen*, and escorting light cruisers *Frankfurt* and *Karlsruhe*, 16 Aug; of particular note is the documentation pertaining to radio, Morse, and flag signals during the operation, especially the commentary of *B.d.A.* and records of *Frankfurt* and *Karlsruhe*; the operation described here is moreover closely related to that described in *Kr. Op. Nordsee 90*, below, which took place the same day), 16 – 25 August 1917:

PG 64846, roll 445

Kr. Op. Nordsee 90. Kriegsakten. S-Gruppe der Nordsee-Vp.-Boote schneidet Kabel Fanö-Calais am 16. August 1917 (collected documentation, preceded by a table of contents, pertaining to a special cable-cutting operation in the North Sea by a special force within the *Nordsee-Vorpostenflottille* that occurred concurrently with the minesweeping operation described in *Kr. Op. Nordsee 89*, above, on 16 Aug 1917; included are war diary excerpts for the Fleet command, 14-16 Aug, *B.d.A.*, 15-16 Aug, the North Sea Patrol Boat Flotilla and its constituent *S-Gruppe Forstmann* that executed the mission, 13-16 Aug, and the relevant operational order, 11 Aug; also included are commentaries by the flotilla commander and *B.d.A.* on the operation), 11 – 16 August 1917:

PG 64847, roll 445

Kr. Op. Nordsee 91. Kriegsakten. Unternehmen “Brummer” und “Bremse” vom 15. bis 18. Oktober 1917 (collected materials, preceded by a table of contents, regarding the raid of light cruisers *Brummer* and *Bremse* into Norwegian waters to intercept Allied convoys between Bergen and the Shetland Islands, 15-18 Oct 1917, resulting in the destruction of nine merchant ships of one convoy and the sinking of escorting British destroyers *Mary Rose* and *Strongbow*; included is the operational order, 12 Oct, and war diary excerpts of the Fleet command, 14-18 Oct; a copy of the report of the operation made to the Kaiser, 2 Nov; the war diary of the *Brummer*, 1-19 Oct, and accompanying after-action report, route charts, battle sketches, and ‘lessons learned’ assessments of the ship’s ordnance, engineering, signals communications and navigation during the operation; the war diary of the *Bremse*, 15-18 Oct, and accompanying route charts, battle sketches, and reports of ammunition expenditure; also included are war diary

excerpts for the *VII. T.-Flottille* and the four destroyers designated to accompany the light cruisers on the operation, but forced by bad weather to abandon the mission and return home via the Skagerrak, the Baltic and Kiel, 15-18 Oct; war diary excerpts for the *I.* and *II.*

Minensuchflottillen and various commands and warships that participated peripherally in the operation; translated and original British and neutral press clippings regarding the action and its consequences, 25 Oct-8 Nov; and correspondence and notes of *Marine-Archiv* archivists and former naval officers involved in the operation regarding specific aspects of the engagement, 12 Aug-24 Oct 1932), 1 October – 8 November 1917 and 12 August – 24 October 1932:

PG 64848, roll 445

Kr. Op. Nordsee 92. Kriegsakten. Gefecht der II. Aufklärungsgruppe mit schweren englischen Streitkräften am 17. November 1917, Bände 1-2 (two volumes of collected records, each preceded by a table of contents, regarding a naval engagement in the Bight between the light cruisers and destroyers of the Second Scouting Group, protecting a formation of German minesweepers, and a force of British battle cruisers, light cruisers, and destroyers, 17 Nov 1917; the action resulted in the loss of armed trawler *Kehdingen* and damage to four light cruisers on the German side, and damage to British light cruiser *Calypso*;

Band 1 includes an overview of the operational status of German warships in the North Sea theater as of 17 Nov, the war diary and related operational orders of the Fleet command [Adm. Scheer], 5 – 18 Nov, a copy of Scheer's account of the action prepared for the Kaiser, 21 Dec, copies of 13 photographs of the action accompanied by battle sketches of the movements and actions of the participating warships, copies of war diary excerpts and after-action reports for the *Nordsee-Vorpostenbootflottille*, the *2.*, *4.*, and *6. Hilfsminensuch-Halbflottillen*, *III.*

Minensuchflottille, and eight individual minesweepers, war diary excerpts, after-action reports, and postmortem assessments of ammunition expenditures, signals, and aircraft reconnaissance prepared by the commander of *II. A.G.*, and war diary excerpts, after-action reports, battle sketches, and postmortem assessments of battle damage sustained, ammunition and torpedoes expended, communications sent and received, and casualties suffered for light cruisers *Königsberg*, *Nürnberg*, *Frankfurt*, and *Pillau* [damage reports for *Pillau* include two photographs]; at the end of the volume is a copy of a German Navy weekly newsletter for light surface forces, *Auf Vorposten – Wochenschau für die leichte Seestreitkräfte*, 10 Feb 1918, which includes accounts of the action), 5 November 1917 – 10 February 1918:

PG 64849, roll 445

Band 2 continues the same categories of documentation for other commands and warships involved in the action, including *I.* and *II. F.d.T.*, *VII. T.-Flottille*, *12.* and *14. T.-Halbflottillen*, seven individual T-boats and destroyers, the *IV. Geschwader* of battleships that operated in support, battleships *Kaiserin* and *Kaiser* [both of which directly participated in the action], war diary excerpts and reports for the German naval air stations at Borkum, Norderney, List, and Helgoland and for nine individual German seaplanes that flew aerial reconnaissance missions, and documentation for other commands that operated in long-range support but were not engaged in combat, including *I. Geschwader* and its constituent battleships, *I.*, *II.*, and *IX. T.-Flottillen*, *1.*, *2.*, *3.*, *4.*, *17.* and *18. T.-Halbflottillen*, *Z.-Flottille Flandern*, and submarines *U 46* and *U 53*; at the end of volume is a postwar report on the British battle cruiser-class warships

involved in the action, 15 Jan 1920, and undated excerpts from postwar publications relating to the engagement), 16 November – 28 December 1917 and 15 January 1920:

PG 64850, roll 446

Kr. Op. Nordsee 93. Kriegsakten. Luftschiffsangriff auf England am 17. März 1917

(collected materials, preceded by a table of contents, regarding German naval airship attacks on targets in London and southern England during the evening of 16-17 Mar 1917, involving airships *L 35*, *L 39* [lost with all hands during the operation], *L 40*, *L 41*, and *L 42*; included is a summary of the operation by *Führer der Marine-Luftschiffe* [*F.d.L.*], *Freg.Kapt.* Peter Strasser, and for each participating airship copies of war diary excerpts, operation and mission reports, and route charts; for *L 39* only a reconstructed war diary is available, and for *L 35* the war diary extends to 14 Jun 1917 in documenting the damage and extensive repairs necessary as a consequence of the operation), 16 March – 14 June 1917:

PG 64851, roll 447

Kr. Op. Nordsee 94. Kriegsakten. Luftschiffsangriff auf England am 23./24. Mai 1917

(collected documentation, preceded by a table of contents, relating to naval airship attacks on targets in southern England and London during the night of 23-24 May 1917 by *L 40*, *L 42*, *L 43*, *L 44*, *L 45*, and *L 47*, of which only *L 43* reached London due to weather conditions; included is a summary of the operation by *F.d.L.*, 1 Jun, and copies of war diary excerpts, operation and mission reports, and route charts for each of the participating airships), 23 May – 1 June 1917:

PG 64852, roll 447

Kr. Op. Nordsee 95. Kriegsakten. Luftschiffsangriff auf England am 21. August 1917

(collected materials, preceded by a table of contents, relating to naval airship attacks on targets in Scotland, central and southern England, and London during the night of 20-21 Aug 1917, involving airships *L 35*, *L 41*, *L 42*, *L 44*, *L 45*, *L 46*, *L 47*, and *L 51*; included are copies of the operational order, 14 Aug, and a summary of the operation prepared by *F.d.L.*, 27 Aug, as well as war diary excerpts, operation and mission reports, and route charts for each participating airship except *L 51*, for which only war diary excerpts are available as the airship had to abort the mission), 14 – 27 August 1917:

PG 64853, roll 447

Kr. Op. Nordsee 96. Kriegsakten. Luftschiffsangriff auf England am 24. September 1917

(collected materials, preceded by a table of contents, relating to naval airship attacks on targets of opportunity in central and northern England [particularly Hull and the Scarborough-Boston area] during the night of 24-25 Sep 1917, involving airships *L 35*, *L 41*, *L 42*, *L 44*, *L 46*, *L 47*, *L 50*, *L 51*, *L 52*, *L 53* and *L 55*; included is a summary of the operation prepared by *F.d.L.*, 1 Oct, and copies of war diary excerpts, operation and mission reports, and route charts for the participating airships except *L 52*, for which only war diary excerpts are available [equipment problems compelled the airship to abort the mission]), 19 September – 1 October 1917:

PG 64854, roll 447

Kr. Op. Nordsee 97. Kriegsakten. Luftschiffsangriff auf England am 19./20. Oktober 1917 (collected documentation, preceded by a table of contents, regarding naval airship attacks on targets in London and the central Midlands during the night of 19-20 Oct 1917 by airships *L 41*, *L 44*, *L 45*, *L 46*, *L 47*, *L 49*, *L 50*, *L 52*, *L 53*, *L 54*, and *L 55*, in the course of which *L 44*, *L 45*, *L 49*, *L 50* and *L 55* were lost, the last on its return landing to base without personnel loss; included is a lengthy summary and assessment of the raid by *F.d.L.*, 26 Oct, reconstructed war diaries for *L 44* [presumed lost with all hands], *L 45*, *L 49* and *L 50* [all downed in France or Switzerland with the capture of most of their crews], and war diary excerpts, operation and mission reports, and route charts for the remaining airships), 19 – 31 October 1917:

PG 64855, roll 447

Kr. Op. Nordsee 98. Kriegsakten. Akten betr. Vorstoss der Flotte zum Angriff auf den Konvoyverkehr Firth of Forth – Bergen, 23. – 26. April 1918 (collected materials, preceded by a table of contents, regarding a fleet sortie into the North Sea off the southwestern coast of Norway, 23-25 April 1918, in an attempt to intercept merchant convoys between Britain and Norway; although the sortie failed to locate a convoy, battle cruiser *Moltke* suffered engine damage and later a torpedo hit from a British submarine, and minesweeper *M 67* was lost to a mine explosion on the return home; of particular significance is the war diary of fleet commander Admiral Scheer, 22-26 Apr, which describes all aspects of the operation and especially notes the security measures to preserve the operation's secrecy and recommendations for equipping the fleet command with signal intelligence equipment and staff; also included is a copy of the relevant operational order and accompanying communications instructions, 18-19 Apr, a summary of planned but eventually aborted naval airship aerial reconnaissance efforts by *F.d.L.* [*Freg. Kapt.* Peter Strasser], 26 Apr, war diary excerpts of the *I.*, *III.*, and *IV. Geschwader* and their constituent 14 battleships, the *B.d.A.* and five battle cruisers composing the advance force [the war diary for *Moltke* especially documents the accidental engine damage sustained], the *II.* and *IV. Aufklärungsgruppen* and their constituent seven light cruisers, *I.* and *II. Führer der Torpedobootsstreitkräfte*, *I.*, *II.*, *V.*, *VI.*, and *IX. T-Flottillen*, *1.*, *2.*, *3.*, *4.*, *9.*, *10.*, *11.*, *12.*, *17.*, and *18. T-Halbflottillen*, *III. Minensuchflottille*, and *3. Minensuchhalbflottille* [including details on the loss of *M 67* and rescue of survivors]; the collection concludes with the *Admiralstab's* message to the Kaiser on the sortie, 25 Apr, Scheer's direct report to the Kaiser on the operation, 1 May, and route charts), 18 April – 3 May 1918:

PG 64856, roll 447

Admiralstab subject correspondence files

Supplemental *Admiralstab* records consist of two broad collections of subject correspondence files collectively identified as *Aktenzeichen III.1.-15* and subordinate numbers, generally covering the entire war period, and *Aktenzeichen III.1.-42*, generally limited to the spring-summer 1918 period. These records were not incorporated into the *Kriegs Operationen Nordsee* collection, although portions of them may have been so intended had the series been extended through the war's end. Each of these two collections is described below.

Aktenzeichen III.1.-15, Akten betr. Operationen und Befehle unserer Flotte, Bände 6 – 10

Each of the five volumes includes a handwritten table of contents and typically consists of several hundred numbered items (*Blätter*) of correspondence, reports, orders, foreign press excerpts, telegrams, and maps relating to fleet operational and intelligence matters. Specific descriptions and date spans are as follows:

Band 6, vom Januar bis August 1916 (notable for the absence of significant documentation on the Battle of Jutland, other than a duplicate copy of Admiral Scheer's report "Taktische Erfahrungen in der Skagerrak-Schlacht," 8 Aug 1916, but including an overview of losses of the British fishing fleet from Aug 1914 to Aug 1915, operational orders for U-boat operations, a summary of expected additional warships to enter Fleet service between Apr and Oct 1916, 18 Mar, accounts of the losses of *U 74* [7 Jun] and *U 77* [7-9 Aug], notes of a staff conference on 4 Apr between *Admiralstab* and Fleet representatives, the claimed sinking of a British submarine by *Vorposten-Boot "Hermann Siebert,"* 3-4 Jul, and reports of engagements of patrol craft and fishing vessels with British forces; of particular note are reports by the *E-Hauptstelle* regarding intercepted British naval communications, 1-15 Mar and 24 Jul [*Blätter* 67, 72-81, and 402]), 9 December 1915 – 1 September 1916: PG 76968, rolls 1091-92

Band 7, vom August 1916 bis September 1917 (primarily documenting U-boat and light surface forces' operations, including accounts of the losses of *U 8* [lost in May 1916, handwritten account by a repatriated survivor Aug 1916], *U 12* [lost 10 Mar 1915, account from a repatriated survivor 28 Aug 1916], *U 23* [lost 20 Jul 1915, reconstructed war diary for 17-20 Jul 1915 prepared by repatriated commanding officer, 20 Dec 1916], and *U 76* [lost 28 Jan 1917], as well as copies of U-boat operational orders, a draft report to the Kaiser on a 16-submarine operation in the North Sea, 22 Sep 1916, messages on the damage and stranding of *U 20* and *U 30* off the Danish coast, 5-14 Nov 1916, and an account of the action involving *U 80* and *UC 55* supported by the *17. T-Halbflottille* and *3. Hilfsminensuch-Halbflottille* against British merchant ships and light surface forces, 2-6 Sep 1917; also included are orders and reports relating to torpedo-boat and destroyer night sorties into the North Sea, 18 Nov 1916 and 14 Feb 1917, an account of an engagement of light forces with British minelayers on 16 Aug 1917, with critical remarks by Admirals Scheer and von Hipper on the supporting actions of light cruisers *Frankfurt* and *Karlsruhe*, 23 Aug, and documentation of Operation "Albion" in the Baltic, 21-24 Sep 1917; also of note is a report of monitored British naval communications by *Suchboot "Rinteln"* during a minor engagement on 25 Jul 1917), 24 July 1916 – 24 September 1917: PG 76969, roll 1092

Band 8, vom September 1917 bis April 1918 (principally concerning the following surface operations: the raid by light cruisers *Brummer* and *Bremse* into Norwegian waters against Allied merchant traffic between Bergen and the Shetland Islands, 17-18 Oct 1917, including observations on monitored British naval communications during the operation, 24 Oct, and a summary report by the commanding officer, 2 Nov [supplementing the documentation in *Kr. Op. Nordsee 91*, above]; the engagement of the *II. Aufklärungsgruppe*, supported by battleships *Kaiser* and *Kaiserin*, against British Grand Fleet units at the edge of the Helgoland Bight, 17 Nov 1917, including Admiral Scheer's observations on the action, 30 Nov, his lengthy report to the Kaiser, 21 Dec, and an assessment of the performance of the ships' artillery, 29 Dec [supplementing *Kr. Op. Nordsee 92*, above]; the report of the *I. F.d.T.* on the torpedo-boat operation off the British coast and Shetland Islands, 18 Dec; the claimed sinking of a British submarine by *Vorposten-Boot "Steinwärder,"* 21 Dec; and plans for and reports of a torpedo-boat

raid on the British patrol line between Dover and Calais, 5-21 Feb 1918, including copies of British press excerpts and the *I. F.d.T.*'s report on the operation forwarded to the Kaiser), 27 September 1917 – 27 April 1918: PG 76970, roll 942

Band 9, vom April bis August 1918 (consists primarily of teletype messages that summarize daily operations of aerial reconnaissance and U-boat activities; also includes orders, reports, communications and maps relating to the High Seas Fleet sortie into Norwegian waters, 19-25 Apr 1918, including copies of Scheer's reports to the Kaiser on the operation, 1 and 3 May [supplementing *Kr. Op. Nordsee 98*, above]; also includes documentation of an engagement of the *VIII. Geleithalbflottille* with British light forces, 30 Jun, an action involving German naval aircraft against British forces off the Dutch coast, 11 Aug, and of a sortie of the *II. T.-Flottille* into the Skagerrak and Kattegat on 1 May), 19 April – 20 August 1918: PG 76971, roll 942

Band 10, vom September 1918 bis Januar 1919 (again consisting primarily of teletype messages that summarize daily operations of U-boats and aerial reconnaissance missions, and a report of the loss of destroyers *S 33* and *S 34* to mine and torpedo attack, respectively, on 4 Oct; also included are compiled summaries of German operations and coastal bombardments off the British coast, Nov 1914-Apr 1918, and the request of Allied authorities, passed through the German Army, for data on German naval artillery expenditures during the war, with handwritten compilations, Jan 1919), 21 August 1918 – 8 February 1919: PG 76972, roll 943

Aktenzeichen III.1.-15. Nebenakte. Akten betr. Befehle für Flottenunternehmungen vom Juli 1916 bis Januar 1918 (incomplete and chronologically-disarranged documentation, preceded by a handwritten table of contents, relating to Fleet command operational planning, Jul 1916-Jan 1918; included are copies of Operational Order Nos. 8 [18 Jul 1916], 9 [7 Sep 1916], 11 [6 Dec 1916], 12 [15 Dec 1916], 14 [6 Jan 1917], 15 [10-26 Feb 1917] 7 [18-23 May 1916], 2 [21 Mar-5 Apr 1916], and 17 [7 Jan 1918], each of which is accompanied by such appendices as supplemental orders regulating radio communications and regarding associated U-boat operations, and maps; also included are Admiral Scheer's early strategic ideas and planning for the use of the Fleet in the North Sea, and associated communications with the Kaiser, Feb-May 1916, as well as standing orders for combat readiness while in Helgoland Bay, Mar-Sep 1916 and Jan-May 1917), 2 February 1916 – 7 January 1918:

PG 79673, roll 943

Aktenzeichen III.1.-15e. Akten betr. Schriftwechsel über O-Direktiven (Bände 1-2) - two volumes of policy and strategy documentation of varying significance pertaining to naval operations in both the North and Baltic Seas, which for unknown reasons omits documentation for 1917 -

Band 1, vom Oktober 1914 bis 25. Dezember 1916 (preceded by a handwritten table of contents that covers both volumes, and which despite the indicated date span includes material as early as 30 July 1914; highly significant records of German operational planning and strategy, especially for Sep 1914, with exchanges among Admirals Tirpitz, Ingenohl, and von Pohl, as well as the expressed views of the Kaiser, as to the Fleet's appropriate objectives and activities [including original signed correspondence and memoranda of these figures]; also included are correspondence exchanges regarding the temporary or permanent assignment of Fleet commands to the Baltic, particularly in Jul 1915, annotated draft memoranda on the Fleet's possible

employment in the North Sea throughout the war's first two years, and contingency planning in the event of Allied attempts to break into the Baltic, invade the Netherlands or Denmark, or attempt landings in Schleswig-Holstein, Apr and Sep 1916; items of particular note include Tirpitz's proposals for naval operations, 26 Jan 1915, von Pohl's memorandum for the future use of naval forces and the employment of unrestricted U-boat warfare, 27 Dec 1914 and 11 Jan 1915, a copy of a directive from Kaiser Wilhelm attempting to bring greater harmony and lessen criticism within the officer corps, 7 Sep 1915, a draft speech for the Kaiser on the occasion of a visit to the Fleet, 18 Nov 1915, the record of a conference of representatives of the Fleet and Admiralty Staff on contingency planning to meet potential British naval efforts to break into the Baltic, 15-18 Apr 1916, and a Foreign Ministry telegram relaying intelligence on British plans to force a second fleet engagement following Jutland, 15 Dec 1916), 30 July 1914 – 15 December 1916: PG 76974, roll 1060

Band 2, vom April bis Juli 1918 (continuing the materials listed in *Band 1*'s table of contents, consisting mostly of memoranda and records of conferences [much of it handwritten] regarding naval policy and strategy during 1918, and often disarranged chronologically; included is a memorandum regarding the proposed ultimatum to be submitted to the Bolshevik regime in Russia, 21 Feb, a discussion of British minefields and proposed organizational changes for the High Seas Fleet, 6 Apr, numerous memoranda and meetings regarding the navy's relations and interest in the German Army offensives on the Western Front, Apr-May, including naval recommendations for securing French and Dutch ports in a peace settlement [4 May], expectations of possible Allied naval attacks on German ports in response [13 May], assessments of naval needs of French ports for a continued war with Britain and the U.S. should France fall [22 Apr and 7 Jun], *Admiralstab* notes for a discussion on the potential for Fleet support of the German ground offensive [4 Apr], a draft report and final version of a report to the Kaiser on naval operations supporting the ground offensive [9 May and 9 Jun], an *Admiralstab* memorandum on the preference for seeking an overall victory against the Entente vs. a separate peace with France [7 Jun], and numerous reports of U-boat operations supporting the offensive, particularly periodic bi-weekly summaries of U-boat operations of *Marinekorps Flandern*, May-Jul; also of note are the minutes of a conference involving Reich Chancellor Georg von Hertling and representatives of the Foreign Ministry and the Navy regarding a proposed extension of the U-boat blockade zone to include the United States and Canadian waters, 23 Jun, a memorandum by an *Admiralstab* office chief on naval territorial needs in a postwar settlement, 7 Jun, and a lengthy report by *Marinekorps Flandern* commander Adm. Ludwig von Schröder recommending intensified use of the Flanders ports for the conduct of U-boat operations against Allied shipping, 26 Jul), 12 November 1917 – 26 July 1918: PG 76975, roll 1060

Aktenzeichen III.I.-15g. Acta/Akten betr. Operationen unserer Flotte. Streuminen (Bände 1-9) - nine volumes of correspondence, telegrams, newspaper clippings, reports, maps, memoranda, and other collected documentation regarding mines and mine warfare by both sides over the course of the war, including reported locations of mines and minefields, sinkings of Allied and neutral merchant vessels by mines, periodic reports of mines cleared by Dutch authorities off the coast of Holland, and minesweeping activities by German forces, as well as general intelligence information and occasional German planning and policy materials; each volume through *Band 7* is preceded by a handwritten table of contents –

Band 1, vom August 1914 bis 13. Januar 1915 (in addition to reports of sinkings and observed minefields, includes an *Admiralstab* report describing British mines with sketches and observations of submarine *U 27*, 16 Nov, a British Admiralty statement announcing the entire North Sea as a war zone because of alleged German minefields off Ireland, 3 Nov, a Fleet operational order for a minelaying operation in the Downs by units of the *IV. T.-Flottille*, 11 Oct, and a *Marinekorps Flandern* report on British and French mines discovered off the Flanders ports, 21 Dec), 6 August 1914 – 13 January 1915: PG 76976, rolls 1060-61

Band 2, vom Januar bis 1. Juni 1915 (including a report by the *Kommandant der Befestigungen an der Wesermündung*, passing along the observations of neutral ship captains on British procedures in stopping and inspecting their vessels, 11 Jan, a report by the captain of the German hospital ship *Ophelia* on the ship's capture and internment by the British on charges of minelaying, 23 Feb, an extended exchange of correspondence between Admiral von Pohl as Fleet commander arguing in favor of minelaying operations in the Dogger Bank area and *Chef des Admiralstabes* Adm. Gustav von Bachmann opposing this plan, 5 Mar-2 Apr, a report by the commander of light cruiser *Straßburg* on minelaying operations, 19 Apr, a *Marinekorps Flandern* report on British and French mines, 23 Mar, and a printed report issued by *Kommando der Hochseestreitkräfte*, "Zusammenstellung der bisher bekannten Minensperren und minenverdächtige Gebiete," listing all known and suspected Allied minefields in the North Sea theater as of 1 Mar), 11 January – 29 May 1915: PG 76977, roll 1061

Band 3, vom 1. Juni bis zum 4. November 1915 (including reported successes of mines laid by submarine *UC II*, Jun 10, a report by a Dutch fisherman of British fishing vessels laying mines while flying Dutch colors, 22 Jun, an English-language copy of the standard Royal Navy procedural orders for vessels detained in British ports, an interview with the repatriated wounded survivor of torpedo boat *S 119* describing the loss of his ship and of *S 115*, *S 117*, and *S 118* in a night engagement with British forces on 17 Oct 1914, a report by Adm. Friedrich Boedicker, commander of *II. A.G.*, on a minelaying operation, 12 Sep, and a note on the loss of auxiliary minesweeper *Upmeyer* to a mine, 9-10 Oct), 3 June – 3 November 1915: PG 76978, rolls 1041-42

Band 4, vom 6. November 1915 bis 17. Juni 1916 (including a brief report of a minelaying operation by *UC 5* off Portsmouth, 7 Nov, an exchange of correspondence between the *Chef des Admiralstabes* and *Kommando der Hochseestreitkräfte* [von Pohl] on the possible use of submarine *U 44* to lay "P" mines at the entrance to the British fleet anchorage at Scapa Flow vs. the alternative of the same operation off the mouth of the Tyne River, 22 Nov – 19 Dec, and a note on *U 44*'s actual laying of these mines between Blyth and the Tyne, 18 Jan 1916, a survivor's account of the loss of auxiliary minesweeper *Island* to a mine, 22 Nov, a draft *Admiralstab* memorandum on the use of floating mines in relation to international law, 27 Nov, a listing of known British minefields and cleared areas as of 27 Feb 1916, a report on the sinking of two British patrol craft to mines in the English Channel, 22 Mar, the Mar 1916 account of a repatriated German crewman of the fishing vessel *Adjutant* seized by the British in Sep 1915, a report on the loss of the German auxiliary minesweeper *Volksdorf* to a mine off the mouth of the Elbe, 27 Mar, an English-language brochure with diagrams and description of the "Leon" type of torpedo mine, 20 Apr, and an extensive collection of radio messages, including some intercepts of British naval communications relating to mine warnings, all pertaining to the sinking of the British light cruiser *Hampshire* off the west coast of the Orkneys to a mine laid by submarine *U*

75, 6-9 Jun, including information on the loss of Lord Herbert Kitchener and his staff with a shipment of gold bullion bound for Russia, and alleged British falsifications of the incident), 6 November 1915 – 17 June 1916: PG 76979, roll 1042

Band 5, vom 4. Juni bis 30. Dezember 1916 (with additional reports on the loss of the *Hampshire* and the death of Lord Kitchener, 4 Jun-9 Jul, a report on the loss of German fishing vessel *H.F. 225* to a mine, 27 Jun, a detailed description with sketches of the new British “U-Mine,” 26 Jul, a letter of *Lt.z.S.* Franz Guillaume, repatriated from British captivity, describing his personal experiences in the night engagement of 17 Oct 1914 involving the loss of four torpedo boats of 7. *T-Halbflotte*, 3 Jul [Item No. 158], later followed by Guillaume’s formal action report on the engagement, 16 Oct [Item No. 318] [see also *Kr. Op. Nordsee 21*, above], summary reports of German minesweeping activities in the North and Baltic Seas from April through July 1916, and numerous operational orders for individual U-boat minelaying operations, particularly a minelaying operation by submarine *U 75* off the Russian port of Archangel, 30 Aug, accompanied by detailed maps of the area; the table of contents is preceded by two annotated maps detailing the minesweeping operations of the *T.-Flottille* of the *Marinekorps Flandern* and the High Seas Fleet’s *I.* and *II. Minensuchdivisionen* and the *Hilfsmineflottille der Nordsee* in the English Channel and the North Sea from April through July 1916), 4 June – 30 December 1916: PG 76980, rolls 1042-43

Band 6, vom November 1916 bis Mai 1917 (including High Seas Fleet guidance issuances on existing Allied minefields and German minesweeping operations as of Jan 1917, reports on announced British plans for extended minelaying operations in the North Sea, 15-26 Jan, but for the most part comprising operational orders, directives and reports by *F.d.U.* Bauer pertaining to U-boat minelaying operations, mostly off the English and Scottish coasts, specifically involving submarines *UC 32*, *U 71*, *U 75*, *U 78*, *U 79*, and *U 80*, 27 Jan – 19 May, but also including a minelaying operation by *U 76* off Kola Bay near Murmansk, Russia, 4 Jan; also of note is an excerpt of a letter from a captured British crewman of Q-Ship *Q-27* regarding minesweeping activities, 26 Feb), 9 December 1916 – 24 May 1917: PG 76981, rolls 1061-62

Band 7, vom Mai bis Dezember 1917 (including reports on the losses to mines of torpedo boat *V 84*, 27 May, fishing steamer *Kriegshilfe 5*, 24 Jun, and submarine *U 75*, 18 Dec; summaries of minelaying operations in the English Channel and off the Dutch coast by submarines *UC 33*, *UC 44*, *UC 50*, *UC 55* and *UC 77* in late May 1917; operational orders by *Befehlshaber der Unterseeboote [B.d.U.]* for minelaying operations in various areas by *U 80*, *U 71*, *U 78*, *U 75*, *U 79* and *U 71*, Jun-Oct 1917; a German Army intelligence report on the activities of British intelligence agents in Denmark, 5 Jun; a report by a formerly interned German merchant marine captain of his observations while in British captivity, Jun-Jul; the proposal by a German sea-mine manufacturer for using his mines in a fleet operation, 19 Jul; a summary by *B.d.U.* of successes and proposed minelaying operations against British-Norwegian traffic between the Shetland Islands and Bergen, 13 Aug; reports by German intelligence agents in Leith, England, and Gotenburg, Sweden, Aug-Oct; operational memoranda prepared by the Fleet command regarding planned minelaying operations in the Hoofden, 3 Nov and 10 Dec; and reports of *Marinekorps Flandern* of minelaying operations conducted off the Dutch coast, 28 Sep and 22 Dec), 25 May – 29 December 1917: PG 76982, roll 1062

Band 8, vom Januar bis August 1918 (lacking a table of contents, but including supplemental printed listings of known German and Allied minefields in the North Sea, Aug

1917-Feb 1918; reports on the losses to mines of minesweeper *Doggerbank*, 19 Jan 1918, and *Torpedo-Jäger A 77* and *A 73*, with information of survivors interned in Denmark, 25 Jan-2 Feb; a sketch of the minefield laid by *U 71* off the coast of Holland, 20 Jan; correspondence on the identification and location of survivors of the auxiliary minelayer *Königin Luise*, lost in action Aug 1914, together with recommendations for decorations for specific crew members by the former captain, 8-10 Feb and 4 Mar; an operational memo and later report of *Marinekorps Flandern* regarding the planned and executed minelaying of areas traversed by British-Dutch convoys, 26 Feb and 11 Mar; *B.d.U.* operational memoranda on possible U-boat minelaying operations to interdict British-Norwegian convoy traffic, 7 Mar, and proposed areas in British waters for U-boat minelaying, 25 Apr; sketches of mines laid in British waters by submarines *UC 75*, 18 Apr, and *UC 17*, 23-25 Apr, and a Fleet command memorandum on new minefields laid in the North Sea, 10-13 May; at the end of the volume is postwar documentation pertaining to various aspects of minelaying operations during the war, including handwritten summaries of formal statements by the belligerent powers, Aug 1914-Nov 1917, a directive on the deactivation of mines, 17-22 Feb 1919, a draft position paper summarizing and defending German naval minelaying operations in the North Sea and British waters during the first six months of the war, 23 Jan 1919, and a summary of mines cleared by Dutch authorities through Nov 1918, and additional correspondence and newspaper clippings, May 1919), 13 January 1918 – 20 May 1919: PG 76983, roll 1062

Band 9, vom September 1918 bis Januar 1919 (also lacking a table of contents, and consisting only of scattered materials relating to mines and minefields, including a directive for marking safe passage through minefields in German waters for commercial vessels, 24 Nov, correspondence for providing maps and charts of German minefields, 13-14 Nov, and a draft memorandum on the numbers of mines cleared by Dutch and Swedish authorities through December 1918, 15 Jan 1919): 7 September 1918 – 15 January 1919: PG 76984, roll 1066

Aktenzeichen III.1.-15h. Acta/Akten betr. Operationen unserer Flotte.

Luftunternehmungen (Bände 1-11) – eleven volumes of correspondence, memoranda, reports, operational orders, and newspaper clippings relating to German naval aircraft [particularly of *Marinekorps Flandern*] and especially airship operations, varying from the highest levels of command to the reports of individual airship commanders and aircraft pilots; the extent of documentation of German naval operations appears limited to general policy and intelligence matters, rather than operational data of the airship raids themselves; there is also considerable chronological overlap among the volumes; every volume except *Band 10* is preceded by a handwritten table of contents, but for 1918 only incomplete documentation is available -

Band 1, vom Oktober 1914 bis 18. Februar 1915 (critical for documentation of the initial planning of airship bombing raids on Great Britain, including a note regarding the first proposed airship raid, 4 Sep [rejected due to shortage of airships and commitments to fleet reconnaissance], a draft proposal and operational order for the proposed airship bombardment of specific targets in London, Liverpool and Manchester, 10 Oct, correspondence and memoranda in planning for attacks [fuel, bomb loads, British defenses, considerations of a single airship vs. mass attacks, and possible cooperation with German Army airships], 10-17 Oct, an undated draft memorandum regarding air attacks and international law, a message of Field Marshal Erich von Falkenhayn on the German Army's ability to contribute three airships to an attack on Britain in

Dec 1914, 9 Nov, intelligence reports on the organization and character of the British naval airship service, 5-9 Dec, Admiral von Pohl's postponement of the planned London raid, 27 Dec, reports of the actions of airships *L 5* and *L 6* against British naval forces and aircraft over the North Sea, 25 Dec, extensive documentation of the raid of airships *L 3* and *L 4* against British facilities at Yarmouth [including *L 6*'s planned participation but aborted due to engine trouble] on 19 Jan 1915, British newspaper clippings on the effect of the raid, a lengthy memorandum on the most effective employment of airships against London, including specific targets and objectives, bomb load capacities, number of airships, and approach routes, 16 Feb, and correspondence exchanged regarding the Kaiser's restrictions on approved targets in London, 12-18 Feb; the volume also includes extensive data on the operations of German naval aircraft, particularly those stationed in Belgium with the *Marinekorps Flandern*, including an account of the bombing of a British light cruiser by a German airplane, 26 Nov 1914, numerous reconnaissance flights of aircraft along the French Channel coast, Dec 1914-Jan 1915, and the report of an aircraft's reconnaissance of the Thames estuary, during which the plane was damaged and ultimately made a forced landing on the German coast, 25 Dec): 4 September 1914 – 18 February 1915: PG 76985, roll 1044

Band 2, vom 8. Februar bis 23. Juni 1915 (including reports of individual naval aircraft reconnaissance flights and attack missions by aircraft of the naval air station at Zeebrügge, 5 Feb-13 Jun, including bombing attacks on British vessels; copies of the war diaries of *Flugstation Zeebrügge*, 31 Jan-11 Feb and 12-26 Feb 1915, and *Flugstation Borkum*, 11-12 May; reports on the strandings of airships *L 3* and *L 4* on the Danish west coast due to winds on 17 Feb [see also *Kr. Op. Nordsee 36*, above]; a report of the reconnaissance and raiding flight of German Army airship *Z X* along the British and French Channel coasts, 21-22 Feb; the proposal of a German businessman for fire-bombing British business archives in English cities, 15 Feb; a report on the loss of naval airship *L 8* on 4 Mar to French anti-aircraft fire, 11 Mar; a summary report [15 Mar] of German Army airship experiences in operations in the Eastern and Western Fronts, Sep-Dec 1914, including summaries of air bombardments of Paris, Courtrai, and Nancy and specific operations by Army airships *Z VI*, *Z VII*, *Z VIII*, *Z IX*, and *Z X*; a summary of the experiences of the aircraft of *Flugstation Zeebrügge*, 19 Apr, and a listing of attacks by German naval aircraft in Flanders against Allied naval targets, 15 Apr-4 May; memoranda of the *Befehlshaber der Marine-Luftschiff-Abteilungen* [*Korv.Kapt.* Peter Strasser] and *Chef des Admiralstabes* [Admiral Bachmann] regarding the proposed joint Army-Navy airship attacks on London, 19-24 May, as well as correspondence on bombing restrictions in London with particular consideration of American vessels docked there, 20-26 May; a clipping from the 3 Apr 1915 issue of the journal *Scientific American* about German Army airship bombardments of Paris; a German intelligence agent's report on night lighting in key London hotels, 7 May; the protest of the Dutch government against German air attacks on the merchant ship *Agamemnon* on 18 Apr and the response by the German naval air authorities, 12 May; a memorandum by German civilian expert Dr. Hermann Levy on the likely effects of airship attacks on London commercial traffic, 16 Jun; a report by the German Army's *VII. Armeekorps* command on potential petrol targets in Britain for air attack and an accompanying commentary by the High Seas Fleet command, 2-20 Jun; and a clipping from the British *Manchester Guardian* on the British air raid on Karlsruhe, 15-16 Jun), 5 February – 23 June 1915: PG 76896, rolls 1044-45

Band 3, vom 24. Juni bis 4. Oktober 1915 (including additional reports of individual naval aircraft reconnaissance missions and bombing attacks on ground and naval targets by aircraft of the Zeebrügge and Borkum naval air stations, 20 Jun-25 Sep; another memorandum by civilian expert Dr. Levy on the economic effects of air attacks on London, 16 Jun; exchanges of draft correspondence between the *Chef des Admiralstabes* and the German Army General Staff on the advisability of large-scale vs. solo airship attacks on London and on the restrictions imposed regarding approved bombing targets in London, 6-18 Jul and 15-16 Sep, including a note from Chancellor Bethmann-Hollweg to Admiral Bachmann, 11 Jul, and the decision of the Kaiser regarding the avoidance of specific targets, 20 Jul; the letter of a German businessman recommending specific targets for air attack in Britain, 28 Jul; intelligence reports of German agents regarding the anticipated morale effects among the British population of airship attacks and actual results of attacks, 5 Jul, 31 Aug, and 14 Sep; protests by Dutch authorities of alleged German violations of Dutch airspace and of attacks on Dutch merchant vessels, with responses by German naval air service officials; telegrams summarizing some of the airship operations, including the recovery of damaged airship *L 12* from Ostende harbor and the loss of two crewmen killed, 11 Aug; excerpts from the war diary of *Wasserflugstation Zeebrügge*, 19 Jun-3 Jul, and a report of cooperation of seaplanes from that station with torpedo boats in an operation on 5 Aug, 11 Aug; accounts of the accidental losses of naval aircraft nos. 220 (off Helgoland), 15 Jul, and 471 (in Holland), and the latter's pilot's internment there, 25 Sep; a report on the response of the naval air station at Zeebrügge to the British bombardment of Ostende, 7 Sep; and German and British press clippings regarding German naval airship attacks on London and other British targets, 20-25 Sep), 20 June – 4 October 1915: PG 76897, roll 1045

Band 4, vom November 1915 bis März 1916 (additional documentation regarding naval airship and aircraft activities not only for the indicated period, but extending back to May 1915; the volume begins with copies of two operational studies for planned zeppelin attacks [codenamed "Fetwa"] by both German Army and Navy airships on London and other potential targets in Britain, May and Aug 1915, including notes on specific targets in London and observations on British defenses and materials prepared by the Army's *Chef des Flugwesens*; most of the volume relates to collected operational and intelligence materials regarding the effectiveness of the raids on targets in London and particularly on British morale, including correspondence of German naval attaches in neutral countries relaying the observations of civilians who experienced or witnessed the raids and their effects, British press releases on the numbers of civilian casualties, a press clipping from the American *New York Herald*, 15 Oct 1915, observations of an American diplomatic courier, 19 Oct, English-language letters of American civilians, 26 Sep and 15 Oct [filed under a cover memo dated 12 Dec], the observations of a Swedish businessman, 23 Jan 1916, as well as the excerpts from letters of captured British personnel relating to the airship attacks of 7-8 Sep [cover letter dated 5 Oct], correspondence of the German ambassador in Holland to Chancellor Bethmann-Hollweg on the effects of the raids, 5-6 Oct, draft reports to the Kaiser on the London raid of 13-14 Oct, 28 Oct, and the Kaiser's response, 5 Nov, and the letter of the *Internationaler Artisten-Loge* protesting the 13 Oct bombing of London's Lyceum Theater, 25 Nov; intelligence information includes the interrogation of a Royal Navy flier on British air defenses, 26 Sep, a Dutch newspaper article describing a visit to a British aircraft factory in Farnborough, 10 Nov, and a captured letter of a British artillery officer to the Ministry of Munitions and Supply on experiments with a new

explosive, 30 Oct; also extensively documented are the large-scale naval airship raids on targets in Manchester, Sheffield, Liverpool, Humber, Yarmouth and Nottingham by zeppelins *L 13*, *L 15*, *L 16*, *L 17*, *L 19*, *L 20* and *L 21* during the night of 31 Jan-1 Feb 1916, including draft and final versions of the *Admiralstab* reports of the operation to the Kaiser, British press clippings, charts of the routes flown by the individual airships, and information on the loss of airship *L 19* with all hands, including accounts of the non-rescue of survivors by the captain of British trawler *King Stephen*, 1-5 Feb; scattered throughout are flight and action reports of individual naval aircraft of the *Marinekorps Flandern*, including bombing missions against Dunkirk and against Allied merchant ships in the Channel, as well as the individual reports of five aircraft that bombed Poperinghe, 18 Nov, and of aircraft attacks on British targets in the vicinity of Dover, 23 Jan; also scattered throughout is correspondence relating to violations of Dutch airspace and neutrality, including the statements of two German airmen, 30 Nov and 5 Dec, regarding their alleged bombing of a Dutch vessel on 2 Sep; at the end of the volume is a lengthy study prepared by the Army's *Chef des Flugwesens*, "Ausarbeitung des Fetwa, Zweite Ausgabe," summarizing recommended weather conditions, navigation and communications measures, targets in Britain, and British air defenses as of 1 Feb), 21 May 1915 – 26 March 1916: PG 76988, rolls 1223-24

Band 5, vom 15. Februar bis 6. April 1916 (including additional documentation of the naval aircraft attacks on Dover, 23 Jan, a lengthy memorandum by Graf Ferdinand von Zeppelin on the use of his invention and his recommendations for the conduct of the air campaign against Britain [composed during the period Oct-Dec 1915 and submitted on 10 Jan 1916], with accompanying draft and final versions of a commentary by *Chef des Admiralstabes* Adm. Henning von Holtzendorff, 14 Feb; additional intelligence reports and press clippings assessing the effects of zeppelin attacks on Britain, including a detailed report on conditions in London, 16 Feb, excerpts of letters of British POWs and their relatives, Feb-Mar, and the letter of a Swedish informant who visited bombed factories and rejected claims of extensive damage, 19 Mar; an intelligence report on the British airship service, 31 Mar; recommendations of German businessmen for potential airship targets in England, 18 Jan and 8-12 Apr; and reports relating to the airship bombing raids on Hull and the Humber during the night of 5-6 Mar by *L 11* and *L 14*, 14-22 Mar, and attacks by *L 13*, *L 14*, *L 15*, *L 16* and *L 22* on targets in London, Lowestoft, and Cambridge during the night of 31 Mar-1 Apr, including accounts of the loss of *L 15* and the capture of her crew, 2-8 Apr [these include intercepted British naval signals, 31 Mar-1 Apr, concerning the spotting of *L 15* in the Channel and the recovery of her crew as prisoners]; also included is a report of a French aircraft attack on submarine *UB 13* off the Flanders coast on 31 Mar, 3 Apr; scattered throughout are flight and action reports of individual naval aircraft, particularly belonging to *Marinekorps Flandern* of reconnaissance and bombing missions along the Belgian and French Channel coast and of bombing raids on Lowestoft, Deal, and other targets on the southeastern English coast, 20 Feb and 19 Mar), 27 January – 8 April 1916: PG 76989, roll 1224

Band 6, vom 17. April bis 3. August 1916 (including an *Admiralstab* memorandum rejecting the proposed dropping of counterfeit English bank notes from airships, 17 Apr, summary reports of naval airship raids on Britain conducted on 31 Mar-5 Apr and 24-26 Apr, reports relating to the presumed loss of airship *L 7*, 5-7 May [including radio messages from the airship], and on the stranding of airship *L 20* in Norway on 3 May, including information on the internment of the crew and an interview of the captain by the German naval attaché, 3-4 May,

together with a lengthy report by the captain on his mission and the airship's loss, 17 May, and a summary of radio communications problems encountered by the airship, 11 Jun; a report by the *Marinekorps Flandern* on a crashed British seaplane in Flanders, 6 May, and a captured British directive regarding seaplane-warship communications signals dated 14 Mar 1916, as well as an interrogation reports of captured British naval air crewmen, 12 May, 13 Jul, and 25 Jul; copies of decoded letters from captivity of the captain of airship *L 15* regarding his final mission and the loss of the airship, 15 May, 19 May, and 15 Jun, as well as a summary report from the German Army radio intercept unit *Funkerkommando 4* regarding intercepted British communications relating to the attempted salvaging of *L 15*, 31 Mar-1 Apr, 2 May and 1 Jun [2 Jun]; a report forwarded to the *Admiralstab* on 27 Jul regarding the experiences and observations of two German naval aviators in French captivity, captured 3 Apr; and radiograms relating to German naval airship raids on London and central England during the nights of 28-29 Jul [particularly airships *L 11*, *L 13*, *L 14*, *L 17*, *L 21*, *L 22*, *L 24* and *L 30*], and 31 Jul-1 Aug [particularly airships *L 14*, *L 24*, *L 30*]; scattered throughout are flight and action reports of individual naval aircraft of *Marinekorps Flandern* of reconnaissance and bombing missions along the French coast and against naval targets in the English Channel, as well as bombing raids on Harwich and other targets along the southeastern English coast, 9 – 11 Jul), 15 April – 3 Aug 1916: PG 76990, rolls 1224-25

Band 7, vom 2. August bis 26. September 1916 (including radiograms and summary reports of naval airship raids on targets in London and elsewhere in Great Britain, especially for the raids of 31 Jul-1 Aug, 2-3 Aug, 8-9 Aug, 19-20 Aug, and 24-25 Aug [see also *Kr. Op. Nordsee 65-69* above]; an interrogation of two captured British naval aviators, 24-29 Jul; an account of a wounded German Army officer's experiences in French captivity, Sep 1914-Feb 1916, following his exchange; correspondence, newspaper accounts, and reports of German intelligence agents and repatriated civilians regarding their observations and/or recommendations of the effectiveness of the aerial bombardments of London and other British cities, Jul-Sep, including an English-language intercept of an American's telegram to New York, 21 Sep; a copy of a draft German Army operational order regarding the use of German Army airships, 16 Aug; a report on the loss of naval airship *L 15* during the raid of 31 Mar-1 Apr 1916 by a crewman repatriated from British captivity, 10 Aug; an operational order issued by *Marine-Luftschiff-Abteilung* for 15 Aug; *Admiralstab* memoranda on the proposed combined employment of German Army and Navy airships in attacks on London, 27 Aug and 4 Sep; an intelligence agent's account of the losses of airships *L 32* and *L 33* during the raids of 23-24 and 25-26 Sep, respectively, 3 Oct; scattered throughout are reports from *Marinekorps Flandern* regarding individual aircraft operations, particularly for 2 Aug and 7 Sep, as well as an account of the loss of an observation balloon in Flanders to enemy action, 7 Sep; it should be noted that many documents are barely legible, and nearly all are reproduced on roll 1087), 2 August – 3 October 1916: PG 76991, rolls 1087-88

Band 8, vom 15. August 1916 bis Januar 1917 (including radiograms of naval airship raids on targets in London and central England, 25-26 Sep, 1-2 Oct, and 27-28 Nov; copies of three English-language letters, 4-14 Sep, in the custody of a captured British merchant seaman with observations regarding naval airship attacks, 22 Sep; numerous intelligence reports by agents and repatriated POWs and internees and newspaper accounts pertaining to the effectiveness of German naval airship attacks on London and other British targets, Sep 1916-Jan

1917, including an intelligence agent's report on the losses of airships *L 31*, *L 32*, and *L 33*, 11 Oct, a report from Stockholm on British civilian casualties in London during the airship raid of 23-24 Sep, a draft *Admiralstab* memorandum noting the reduced effectiveness of zeppelin attacks on London, 18 Nov, a forwarded report from the High Seas Fleet command describing the naval airship raid of 27-28 Nov on London and other British targets, and a clipping from the British *Evening Post* of 19 Oct describing airship damage in London; reports by *Chef des Admiralstabes* for the Kaiser proposing the restriction of night naval airship raids on Britain to periods of favorable weather conditions, 27 Dec, and on the raid on London of 27-28 November, including data on the losses of *L 21* and *L 34*, 18 Dec [forwarded 3 Jan 1917], a letter from the *Reichs-Marine-Amt* to *Befehlshaber der Marine-Luftschiff-Abteilung* [Strasser] regarding proposed weights of airship bombing loads, 1 Oct; several interrogation reports of captured British naval aviators describing anti-aircraft defenses and the organization and operations of the Royal Naval Air Service, including one interrogation of three British fliers describing Allied air attacks on targets in Germany, 12 Oct [report dated 19 Nov], an interrogation of two British naval aviators captured by submarine *UC II*, 6 Dec, and an interrogation of a captured French naval aviator regarding the French naval air service, 23 Oct [report dated 13 Dec]; further reports on the losses of airships *L 33*, 15-21 Dec, *L 7* and *L 15*, Oct-Dec [report dated 1 Jan 1917]; debriefing reports of German aviators repatriated from French captivity alleging the betrayal of German naval signals by traitorous Alsatian personnel at Zeebrügge, 21 Oct and 8 Nov; and intercept reports of British naval communications, 23 Oct and 27-28 Nov; an intelligence report on new British anti-aircraft artillery ranging equipment, 3 Jan; a handbook issued by the *Lichtbild-Abteilung* of *Marine-Luftschiff-Abteilung* with printed texts and aerial photographs regarding the recognition of enemy infantry and artillery trenches and fieldworks from the air, Jan 1917; and the copy of an agreement negotiated between the German and Dutch Governments regarding the treatment of downed German aircraft and airmen in neutral Holland, 11 Jan), 7 August – 21 January 1917: PG 76992, roll 1088

Band 9, vom 1. Februar bis September 1917 (including an *Admiralstab* intelligence report on known British military installations in Great Britain as of 6 Feb; numerous intelligence reports of damage inflicted by airship and aircraft attacks on British targets and British air defense measures, including a German Army report regarding United States contributions to the British effort, 27 Aug; interrogation reports of captured British and French naval aviators, 23 Feb, 14 Jun, 17 and 18 Jun, and 20 Jun, as well as a German Army [*Armeeoberkommando 4*] summary interrogation of three captured British airmen, 7 Sep; radio messages from naval airships *L 35*, *L 39*, *L 40*, *L 41* and *L 42* regarding attacks on British targets during the night of 16-17 Mar, including early information on the loss of airship *L 39* and explanations why airships *L 35* and *L 40* could not reach London [10 Apr], *Admiralstab* recommendations for attacks on British metal production works, 30 Mar, another collection of radio messages from naval airships *L 40*, *L 42*, *L 43*, *L 44*, *L 45* and *L 47* regarding attacks on London and other targets during the night of 23-24 May, as well as reports on the presumed loss of *L 22* to lightning or other causes, 24 May, 9 Jun, 16 Jun, and a later *Admiralstab* report on the operation, 16 Jun; collected radio messages of airships *L 16*, *L 42*, *L 44*, *L 45* and *L 48* [lost during the operation] regarding air attacks on British targets during the night of 16-17 Jun; press articles and reports regarding a German aircraft bombing raid on London on 13 Jun, 16-18 Jun; radio messages relating to the presumed loss of airship *L 23* while flying a reconnaissance mission over the North Sea, 21 Aug;

initial radio messages of naval airship attacks against British targets by *L 35*, *L 41*, *L 42*, *L 44*, *L 45*, *L 46*, *L 47* and *L 51* during the night of 21-22 Aug, 22 Aug, followed by an intelligence agent's account of the raid's effects, 18 Sep, and a lengthy *Admiralstab* report on this operation, 18 Sep; initial radio messages from airships *L 35*, *L 41*, *L 42*, *L 44*, *L 46*, *L 50*, *L 51*, *L 53*, and *L 55*, 25 Sep, regarding operations against the Humber, Scarborough, and other British targets during the night of 24-25 Sep; also included are numerous radio messages summarizing air reconnaissance and attack missions flown by aircraft of the *Marinekorps Flandern*, including detailed reports on an attack mission against Allied shipping in the Downs flown by torpedo-equipped seaplanes of the *II. T.-Staffel*, 19 Apr, operations against Allied convoys in the Channel, 8 Jul, and attacks on Allied installations at Dunkirk, 5 Sep; of particular note are: (1) the report of the *E-Hauptstelle* with observations on British aircraft radio communications security and procedures, including examples of intercepted and decrypted communications, 1 Jun [roll 1089], (2) a note from the Kaiser on 24 Jun recommending the abandonment of naval airship raids on Britain, with followup commentaries and opposing justifications from Admiral Scheer, 28 Jun, the *Admiralstab*, 2 Jul, and the naval attaché in the Netherlands, 5 Jul; and (3) reports of the *Marine Attaché Niederlande* assessing the significance of German naval airship and army aircraft bombing raids on Britain, 25 Jul [Item #s 316-18] and 5 Jul [Item #s 341-43], the latter accompanied by a duplicate copy with some marginal comments by Kaiser Wilhelm [Item #s 345-47]; scattered throughout is correspondence regarding alleged violations of Dutch and Danish air space by German aircraft and airships), 27 January – 29 September 1917: PG 76993, rolls 1088-89

Band 10, vom September 1917 bis August 1918 (volume lacks a table of contents, exhibits a lack of chronological consistency, and appears incomplete for Jan-Aug 1918; included is correspondence of the *Marine Attaché Niederlande* regarding the effectiveness of German airship and aircraft raids on Britain and British defensive measures, 4, 6 and 9 Oct; a radiogram on the accidental loss of airship *L 16* over German territory, 19 Oct; initial radio messages from airships *L 41*, *L 46*, *L 47*, *L 52*, *L 53*, *L 54* and *L 55* [including the last's loss due to an emergency landing in Germany], 20 Sep, regarding operations against London and other British targets in central England during the night of 19-20 Oct, followed by a summary report of the operation prepared by *Führer der Luftschiffe* [*F.d.L.*], 26 Oct, with a cover letter signed by Admiral Scheer, 3 Nov; a note by *F.d.L.* endorsing continued airship attacks on Britain, 3 Nov, and a note relaying the Kaiser's desire that naval airships only be employed in raids on Britain under favorable conditions, 25 Oct; an account of the loss of airship *L 48* by a survivor, relayed through a repatriated Austro-Hungarian naval officer, 13 Dec; a German Army General Staff memorandum examining the potential effectiveness of air attacks on British iron and steel works, 13-22 Dec; a report on the loss of airship *L 33* during a raid on London during the night of 23-24 Sep 1916 by a repatriated survivor, including his observations on suspected British espionage near airship installations, with a cover letter signed by Admiral Holtzendorff, 30 Dec 1917; initial radio messages from airships *L 42*, *L 54*, *L 61*, *L 62*, and *L 63*, 13 Mar 1918, regarding their attacks on industrial and shipping targets in central Britain during the night of 12-13 Mar; initial radio messages from airships *L 60*, *L 61*, *L 62*, *L 63*, and *L 64*, 13 Apr, regarding their attacks on British targets in central Britain during the night of 12-13 Apr, with a later summary report of the operation dated 3 May 1918 [located at the very end of *Band 10*]; radio messages concerning air reconnaissance operations of naval airships over the North Sea, including the

reported loss of *L 62* in a storm, 10 May, and *L 63*'s bombing attack on an Allied submarine, 9 Jul; radio messages regarding a British air attack on the naval airship base at Tondern, 19 Jul, with the loss of airships *L 54* and *L 60* in their hangars; and initial radio messages of airships *L 53*, *L 56*, *L 63* and *L 65*, 6 Aug, regarding operations against targets in Britain during the night of 5-6 Aug, including information on the loss of airship *L 70* with the *F.d.L.* [Strasser] aboard; also included is correspondence relating to downed German aircraft and the internment of crews in neutral Holland and Denmark, including a memorandum by *Chef des Admiralstabes* von Holtzendorff, 28 Oct, accompanied by copies of the agreement negotiated with Denmark on this issue, 29 Sep-5 Oct 1917, and radio communications pertaining to German naval seaplane activities in the North Sea, and two reports by the *Kommandant der Seeflieger des Marinekorps* summarizing air operations in Flanders on 15 Feb 1918, and the shootdown of two British seaplanes on 18 Jul 1918, accompanied by five mounted photographs of the action): 13 September 1917 – 6 August 1918, PG 76994, roll 1089

Band II, vom September 1918 bis Februar 1919 (the volume includes a table of contents but contains very little wartime documentation, principally a report, 8 Sep, of the British seizure of the crew of a downed German aircraft in Dutch waters initially rescued by Dutch fishermen on 6 Sep, and a radiogram summarizing naval airship losses, May-Aug 1918, 12 Sep; the remainder comprises postwar documentation compiled by the *Admiralstab* in summarizing the following data in tabular form: [1] German naval airship bombing raids carried out over Britain, 19-20 Feb 1915 through 5-6 Aug 1918, in the Mediterranean [one raid on Naples, 10-11 Mar 1918], and in the Baltic Sea theater, 25 Jan 1915 through 15-16 Oct 1917, compiled 13 Jan 1919 and including dates of raids, target cities, weight of bombs dropped [kilograms], observed effects, and British press summaries of damage and casualties; [2] German naval aircraft raids on Britain, 25 Nov 1914 through 5 Apr 1917, including dates, target cities, number of aircraft, kg. weight of bombs dropped, observed successes, British defenses engaged, and British press reports of damage and casualties inflicted, compiled 8 Jan 1919 [handwritten only]; [3] a listing of German naval aircraft attacks by units of *Marinekorps Flandern* on targets along the French coast, particularly Calais and Dunkirk, 20 Dec 1914 – 3 Sep 1918, including data on aircraft involved, kg. weight of bombs dropped, and observed successes, compiled 20 Jan 1919 [handwritten only]; and [4] a listing of British and French air attacks on German naval installations in Flanders and along the North Sea coast, 1 Feb 1915 – 25 Sep 1918, with data as to targets, numbers of aircraft involved and bombs dropped, effects and casualties, and indications of violations of neutral airspace, compiled 20 Jan 1919), 8 September 1918 – 5 February 1919: PG 76995, roll 1089

Aktenzeichen III.I.-15i. Acta/Akten betreffend Operationen unserer Flotte. Schädigung englischer Truppentransporte (Bände 1-2) - two volumes of correspondence, memoranda, reports, press clippings, and other materials regarding intelligence regarding, and considerations and planning for attacks (especially by U-boat) on, British troop transports to French ports initially and later Allied troop transports to France, Russia, and Salonika; each volume is preceded by a handwritten table of contents -

Band I, vom Oktober 1914 bis 26. November 1915 (in addition to extensive intelligence data on British troop transports to French Channel and Atlantic ports, Sep-Oct 1914 and especially Feb-Mar 1915, the volume includes a memorandum by *Chef des Admiralstabes* Adm. Hugo von Pohl proposing the use of U-boats, torpedo-boats, and mines to attack British

transports in the Channel, 8 Aug 1914; extensive correspondence among senior authorities on the formal proclamation of a U-boat blockade of French ports, Jan-Feb 1915, including a proposal by Fleet commander Admiral von Ingenohl, 15 Jan 1915, a draft version of the Kaiser's guidelines for the blockade, 19 Jan, additional draft memoranda by Admirals von Pohl and von Ingenohl on the plan's provisions and wording of the proclamation, 15 Jan-3 Feb, a memorandum by *Marinekorps Flandern* commander Adm. Ludwig von Schröder recommending his command assume primary responsibility for the U-boat blockade and requesting reinforcement by larger U-boats, 1 Feb, and telegrams to *Reichskanzler* Bethmann-Hollweg on coordinating political and diplomatic approval, 19-20 Jan; press reports and correspondence relating to the torpedo attack by submarine *U 20* on British hospital ship *Asturias* off the port of Le Havre, 1 Feb 1915, including an original clipping from *The Times* containing eyewitness accounts, 13 Feb, and a summary report on the incident by [new] Fleet commander Adm. von Pohl, 8 Feb; a handwritten account of operations of submarine *U 21* in British waters, 2 Feb; an exchange of communications between von Pohl and von Schröder regarding the allocation of cruisers and torpedo boats to the *Marinekorps Flandern*, 27 Apr-3 May; an extract of an interrogation report pertaining to a Canadian regiment, 15 Jun, with a later report detailing the number, names, and tonnages of troopships involved in transporting Canadian forces to Britain, 25 Sep-14 Oct 1914, including a diagram of the convoy's sailing formation, 15 Oct; an intelligence agent's report of British troop strength, organization, and morale in Britain, 12 Jun; an estimate of British troop strength in France, 11 Jun; and additional intelligence regarding reported sailings and arrivals of British troopships in France, Apr-Nov 1915), 8 August 1914 – 21 November 1915: PG 76996, roll 943

Band 2, vom 6. Dezember 1915 bis 28. April 1919 (including much intelligence data regarding British troop and munitions transports to France; reports from U.S.-based sources on Canadian troop transports aboard White Star liners *Baltic*, *Adriatic*, and *Olympic*, 24 Mar-26 Apr 1916; exchanges on rumored Russian troop transfers to France via Archangel, and British troop reinforcements and military supplies sent to Russia via Archangel, May-Jun 1916 and 17 Apr 1918; high-level exchanges of communications regarding British troop and supply movements to France in preparation for and during the British Somme offensive, and discussions of lifting restrictions on U-boat commerce warfare to disrupt this, Jun-Aug 1916, including a draft *Admiralstab* memorandum to Chancellor Bethmann-Hollweg, 10 Jul, summarizing intelligence of British troop transfers to France, Jun-early Jul, Bethmann-Hollweg's note [signed] regarding the ability of U-boats to differentiate troopships and passenger vessels as potential targets, 18 Jul, a draft *Admiralstab* response to Bethmann-Hollweg confirming the inability of submarines to do this, 20 Jul, an *Admiralstab* telegram to the Army General Staff explaining that the sinking of troopships by U-boats was not possible due to political considerations, 14 Jul, and a draft *Admiralstab* note to the Kaiser transmitting the assessment of *Marinekorps Flandern* on the limitations of UC- class submarines operating in the English Channel, 20 Jul; a report by the German military attaché in Bucharest on Romanian orders for weapons and military supplies from the Entente powers, indicating Romania's likely entry into the war, 15 May 1916; a summary report by *Nachrichten-Stelle West* of recently-monitored British radio communications concerning the movements of British warships and merchant vessels, including troop transports, 15 Sep 1916; a note signed by Adm. Reinhard Scheer [13 Oct] and the later operational order [20 Oct] for the temporary transfer of the *III.* and *IX. T-Flottillen* to *Marinekorps Flandern* to

intercept Allied Channel traffic, Oct 1916 [see also *Kr. Op. Nordsee 80*, above]; intelligence data on Allied troopships operating in the Salonika theater off the Macedonian coast, 4 Dec 1916; additional intelligence reports regarding transports of British and Canadian forces to France, including African colonial troops [8 May 1917], and of transports of Portugese troops in British vessels to France, with notes suggesting U-boat operations against these ships [28 Jan, 4 Mar, 8 Mar 1917], a report on the movement of reliable French troops to Russia to suppress the peace movement there, 9 May 1917; of particular value are numerous documents relating to the transport and arrival of United States forces to Britain and France, beginning with a report of 3 Jun 1917 on French Marshal Joseph Joffre's influence in advancing the date of the first shipments of American forces to mid-June 1917, an interview with a repatriated wounded German soldier on his observations while in St. Nazaire of American troop arrivals there, 24 Jul 1917, reports of intensified American troop transports, 19-24 Sep 1917, and on the sinking of US transport *Antilles* by submarine *U 105*, 19-28 Oct 1917, typed summary reports on American transport arrivals by port in France and Britain, with estimates of total American troop strength, early April and early July 1918 [Item Nos. 308-321 and 331], and a postwar draft memorandum on the inability of German submarines to effectively interfere with U.S. trans-Atlantic troop shipments, 28 Apr 1919; also of note is an *Admiralstab* memorandum, 2 Nov 1917, on operations of *Marinekorps Flandern* U-boats and the dire operational consequences of the loss of the Flanders submarine bases for attacks on Allied shipping), 6 December 1915 – ca. 7 July 1918 and 28 April 1919: PG 76997, rolls 943-44

(Note: The subject correspondence files designated *Aktenzeichen III.I.-15ma-me* [record items PG 76998-77035] all relate to U-boat operations and the trade war on Allied commerce, and are omitted here as a separate category of documentation distinct from fleet operations in the North Sea; *Aktenzeichen III.I.-15n-q* are empty of documentation and may have been cannibalized in the preparation of the *Kr. Op. Nordsee* collection.)

Aktenzeichen III.I.-15r. Akten betr. Operationen unserer Flotte. Flottillenvorstoss am 10./11. Februar 1916 (collected materials, preceded by a handwritten table of contents, regarding a sortie by the torpedo boats of *II.*, *VI.*, and *IX. T.-Flottillen* to the Dogger Bank during the night of 10-11 Feb 1916, including an engagement with British light forces that resulted in the sinking of British minesweeper *Arabis* and the capture of her survivors; included are telegrams and reports relating to the operation, copies of English-language letters and a diary among the personal effects of the captured survivors of *Arabis*, a report of the operation to Kaiser Wilhelm signed by Admiral Scheer, 19 Feb, reports of the action by the commander of *II. T.-Flottille*, 17 Mar, and by *I. Führer der T.-Boote*, 29 Mar, with a sketch map of the action; the materials here supplement that found for the same operation in *Kr. Op. Nordsee 57*, above), 11 February – 12 April 1916: PG 77036, roll 1064

Aktenzeichen III.I.-15s. Akten betr. Operationen unserer Flotte. Vorstoss am 24./25. April 1916 (collected materials, preceded by a handwritten table of contents, relating to the fleet operation of 24-25 Apr that featured a naval bombardment of the English coastal towns of Lowestoft and Yarmouth, naval airship attacks on southern England, and minelaying and U-boat support operations by elements of *Marinekorps Flandern*; the materials include a copy of the fleet operational order, 20 Apr, telegrams reporting damage to the battle cruiser *Seydlitz* to a

mine, the actions of airships *L 13*, *L 16*, *L 17*, and *L 21* in attacking British land installations, intercepts of British naval radio communications on 25 Apr, a summary of the operation and its effectiveness prepared by the *Chef des Admiralstabes*, Admiral von Holtzendorff [signed], 6 May, copies of pertinent British press accounts, intelligence agents' reports on the success of the bombardment of the two towns, 3 and 17 May, a congratulatory telegram from Kaiser Wilhelm to Admiral Scheer, 29 Apr, Scheer's [signed] detailed report to the Kaiser on the operation, 30 Apr, a supplemental report on the operation of the naval airships' participation in the operation with accompanying sketch map, and a general map portraying the German warships' movements during the operation; these materials partially duplicate but mostly supplement the documentation for this operation found in *Kr. Op. Nordsee 60*, above), 27 March – 18 May 1916: PG 77037, roll 1065

Aktenzeichen III.I.-15t. No information available

Aktenzeichen III.I.-15u. **Akten betr. Operationen unserer Flotte. Dampfer "Libau" Unternehmung vom April 1916** (an extensive collection of materials, preceded by a handwritten table of contents, documenting German support for the Irish uprising of 1916, in particular the navy's role in the proposed shipment of rifles, machine guns, and ammunition to Irish rebels on the west coast of Ireland for the Easter Rising and the landing of Sir Roger Casement and other Irish nationalists by submarine; the materials include correspondence exchanged among naval authorities with the German Foreign Office and the *Sektion Politik* of the German Army General Staff; included are the specific requests by Irish rebel leader John Devoy for a U-boat delivery of arms to Tralee Bay, 6 Oct 1915; Admiral von Pohl's rejection of a U-boat delivery in favor of one or more fishing steamers, 27 Nov; Devoy's request on 17 Feb 1916 for the delivery of weapons to Limerick between Good Friday and Easter Sunday 1916; a note by the *Sektion Politik* on 1 Mar approving the arms shipment to Fenit Pier in Tralee Bay during the period 20-23 Apr; the proposed use of steamers *Max* and *Moritz* for this mission by naval authorities, 4 Mar; plans for the covert landing by U-boat of Sir Roger Casement and two other Irish agents near Wicklow, 7 Mar; a copy of the specific requests for military aid for the Irish rebels by the 'Irish Revolutionary Directorate in America' and the planned seizure of Dublin, Limerick, and other points in Ireland by the rebels, 16 Feb; a *Sektion Politik* directive for the delivery of 20,000 Russian rifles, 10 German machine guns and quantities of ammunition to Ireland with packing provisions, 19 Mar; a note reducing the number of planned fishing steamers involved from three to one, 23 Mar; draft and final copies of the operational orders for steamer *Libau* for the execution of the arms delivery, 4-7 Apr; operational orders for submarine *U 20* [later changed to *U 19*] for the transport of Casement to Tralee Bay during the period 20-23 Apr, 10-16 Apr; Foreign Office communications relaying new requests of Irish leaders in the U.S. for greatly expanded German support, including landings by U-boats and naval airships in Ireland with German troop contingents and supporting German fleet and airship operations against British targets, 18-20 Apr; telegrams relating to the scuttling of the *Libau* [under the cover name *Aud*] and the capture of her crew by the British, and the arrest of Casement, 25 Apr; numerous copies of neutral and British press clippings and newspaper accounts relating to the Easter Uprising and German's role in supporting it, including a summary of political and military intelligence regarding Great Britain based on press accounts, 8 Apr-23 May; a draft report by

Admiral Scheer to the *Admiralstab* summarizing *U 19*'s experiences in landing Casement and his colleagues in Tralee Bay during the night of 20-21 Apr, 4 May; additional British press accounts regarding the capture of Casement, the scuttling of the *Libau* and the capture of her crew, and Casement's treason trial, May-Jun; reports from German Navy prisoners of war relaying information from the *Libau*'s commander, Captain Karl Spindler, relating to the ship's scuttling, 10-21 June; an English-language narrative history of the Irish Volunteers, with intelligence information on British forces stationed in Ireland and observations of the Irish coastline, 16 Jun; Spindler's remarks in captivity to a fellow German Army officer POW on 6 Jun, relayed to the *Auswärtiges Amt*, 9 Aug; accounts of the *Libau*'s scuttling by a repatriated crewman interned in Switzerland, 26 Jun and 1 Jul; a smuggled-out copy of Spindler's war diary detailing the *Libau*'s operations and scuttling, 9-20 Apr, and his subsequent experiences in captivity through 26 Jun, cover letter dated 3 Apr 1917; correspondence exchanged between the *Admiralstab* and the *Marine-Kabinett* regarding the award of the Iron Cross II. Class to Spindler and his crew, 18 Apr-10 Jun 1917; an intelligence report on conditions in Ireland, 18 Oct 1917; additional comments from Spindler regarding conditions and observations in captivity, Nov 1917; and a note regarding the transfer of Spindler and three others of his crew to internment in Holland, 3 July 1918), 6 October 1915 – 3 July 1918: PG 77038, roll 1064

Aktenzeichen III.I.-15v. Akten betr. Operationen unserer Flotte. Seeschlacht vor dem Skagerrak (Bände 1-3) – three volumes of collected materials relating to the Battle of Jutland, which partly duplicate but mostly supplement the documentation found in *Kr. Op. Nordsee 61*, above; each volume is preceded by a handwritten table of contents with numbered pages for documents –

Band 1, vom 1. bis 21. Juni 1916 (most of this volume consists of radiogram/telegram correspondence received by the *Admiralstab*, relating to the battle and its aftermath; included are handwritten orders issued by the *U.-Flottille Flandern* concerning the participation of Flanders-based U-boats in the operation, 22-29 May; radiograms sent by *Kommando der Hochseestreitkräfte* Admiral Scheer during and immediately after the engagement, including Scheer's initial communication to the Kaiser, 1 Jun, and draft and final versions of Scheer's formal report to the Kaiser on the action, the latter with excerpts of intercepted British naval communications, 4 Jun; numerous intercepts of British naval communications [in English], 30 May-2 Jun, and summary reports of monitored British naval communications [in German], 1-2 Jun [scattered between Item Nos. 104-191]; reports from the German naval attaché in Holland and related Dutch press reports concerning German survivors of light cruisers *Elbing* and *Frauenlob*, rescued by Dutch vessels, 2-3 Jun, together with a telegram regarding the release of the *Elbing*'s officers to German custody, 3 Jun; an *Admiralstab* note responding to a quoted marginal comment by the Kaiser regarding the action, 3 Jun; another formal report to the Kaiser regarding additional British naval losses reported by submarines *UB 21* and *U 52*, together with further information on the losses of *Elbing* and *Frauenlob*, 4 Jun; radiograms summarizing Dutch, Swedish, Danish, and other neutral powers' press accounts of the battle and its significance, 3 Jun, including a forwarded cable from Santiago, Chile, on the "overpowering impression" of the battle on the Chilean public, 6-7 Jun; a Reuter's dispatch reporting British official rejections of German claims in the battle, 4 Jun; a survivor's account of the loss of cruiser *Wiesbaden*, interviewed in Norway after his rescue, 12 Jun; several interrogation reports

and summaries of conversations with British survivors of sunken warships in the action, recovered by German forces as POWs, particularly survivors of the sunken destroyers *HMS Nomad*, 7-9 Jun, destroyer *HMS Nestor*, 6 Jun, and battle cruiser *HMS Queen Mary*, 7 Jun, together with the translation of a letter from a British officer POW to London, 8 Jun [forwarded 18 Jun], and a summary interrogation of several captured British officers, including names, statements by, and impressions of each, 8 Jun [Nos. 468-69]; an intelligence agent's assessment of actual British intentions going into the action on 31 May, based on press statements by British naval personnel, 7 Jun [No. 436]; a translation of a Swedish press account of the rescue of survivors of German torpedo boat *V 48*, 5 Jun; handwritten and typed tabulations of German naval personnel losses in the battle, 12-13 Jun; a British press account of damage suffered by *HMS Warrior*, 16 Jun; and additional reports to the Kaiser of the loss of *Wiesbaden* by the sole survivor interned in Norway, 16 Jun) 22 May - 21 June 1916: PG 77039, roll 1225

Band 2, vom Juni bis August 1916 (additional documentation of the Battle of Jutland, including a copy of the operational order with accompanying sketch of the planned employment of U-boats for the fleet action, 13 and 28 May; handwritten and typed reports of the loss of cruiser *Frauenlob* by two survivors interned in the Netherlands, 8-14 Jun; forwarded original British press accounts of British sailors' personal experiences during the action, 23 Jun; a lengthy summary interrogation report of captured British naval officers regarding the organization and activities of the Grand Fleet during the action, including a sketch map, 16 Jun; interrogation reports of captured British ordinary seamen regarding the actions of destroyers *HMS Turbulent*, *HMS Tipperary*, *HMS Nomad*, and *HMS Nestor*, all sunk during the battle, 15-16 Jun; original press account in the *Manchester Guardian*, with German translation, of the sinking of a German destroyer during the night action, forwarded 21 Jun; another account by the interned survivor of light cruiser *Wiesbaden* regarding that ship's loss, together with a German naval attache's interview of several Norwegian Navy submarine officers regarding their impressions of the battle, the German Navy, and of unrestricted submarine warfare, forwarded 26 Jun [Nos. 126-28]; an extended account of the loss of light cruiser *Frauenlob* in the battle by eight interned survivors in Holland, 21-22 Jun, together with recommendations for decorations to the Dutch fishermen and naval personnel who rescued them, 27 Jun; an *Admiralstab* memorandum summarizing British statements and press releases regarding the Grand Fleet's conduct of the action, 20 Jun [No. 163]; American and Dutch journalists' accounts of British reactions after the battle, 23-27 Jun; accounts by German survivors of the loss of torpedo boat *V 48* during the night action, including the loss of many survivors to exposure, 5 and 22 Jun [Nos. 181-84]; intelligence agents' reports relaying neutral ships' observations of damaged British warships, 7-10 Jun, later followed by a printed report assessing damage to British warships in the battle as of 14 Jun; a German Navy intelligence office in Antwerp's reports reproducing intercepted Dutch fishing vessels' radio signals of 31 May-8 Jun with their observations of the battle and its aftermath, 7 and 12 Jun [Nos. 228, 246]; an assessment by the naval attaché in the Netherlands of British reactions and consequences to the battle, 8 Jun, later followed by two Dutch admirals' comments evaluating the British naval performance in the battle, ca. 20 Jul [No. 423]; copies of German Army interrogation reports of the 137 captured British naval personnel from the battle, 5 and 10 Jun [Nos. 305-16]; POW statements by the captured pilot and captain of a seized British merchant vessel regarding the battle, 24 Jun; forwarded original Norwegian press clippings regarding burials of German and British naval personnel washed ashore, 26 Jun; a copy of the

earliest interrogation statements of captured British survivors of *HMS Nestor* aboard German destroyer *S 17*, 4 Jun [No. 361]; a draft note from the *Admiralstab* to the Kaiser proposing publication of Scheer's official report of the action, 12 Jul, later followed by Scheer's followup report assessing his opponents' conduct of the battle, 16 Jul, with a draft version of the proposed publication of the German version of the action, 23 Jul [Nos. 429-441] and the draft and final-version responses by Admiral Scheer to Jellicoe's account disputing British claims of German losses, 23-29 Jul [Items 442-44, 500-505]; Admiral Sir John Jellicoe's official dispatch of the battle as published in the British press, 6 Jul, and its exorbitant claims of German vessels destroyed; photographs of the ceremonial burial of German and British seamen interred in Friedrichshaven, forwarded 4 Jul; a copy of Bethmann-Hollweg's telegram to the Kaiser regarding his visit to the fleet in Wilhelmshaven, 1 Jul; a 19-page report on battle damage suffered and repairs to battlecruiser *Seydlitz*, 5 Jul [Nos. 485-95]; four photographs of battleship *Ostfriesland* in action during the battle on May 31, forwarded 29 Jul [Nos. 510-11]; a report from the German Embassy in Brazil describing reactions to news of the battle there, 28 Jun [forwarded 8 Aug]; and additional German and neutral press accounts of the action), 13 May – 14 Aug 1916: PG 77040, roll 1226

Band 3, vom August 1916 (a much shorter volume of followup documentation dating from June 1916 to January 1918, including: a copy of Admiral Scheer's 62-page report on the battle, 4 Jul 1916, with accompanying tables of German personnel losses suffered; another copy of Admiral Jellicoe's official account of the battle, 6 Jul [in English]; an article in the German newspaper *Berliner Neuesten Nachrichten*, 23 Jul, critiquing Jellicoe's claims; excerpted comments of *Befehlshaber der Aufklärungsschiffe* Vice-Admiral von Hipper, on naval gunnery lessons learned in the battle; additional sketches of ships' movements in the battle; a translated Dutch press account of the action, 1 Sep; the observations of a wounded German Navy officer of his conversations in hospital with the wounded British commander of destroyer *HMS Nomad*, 1 Sep [Nos. 90-92]; the intercepted original letter of an unidentified British officer to Cdr. Harold Grenfell at the British Embassy in St. Petersburg, Russia, 16 Jul, conveying positive British impressions of the battle [No. 98]; Foreign Ministry correspondence concerning the awarding of German decorations to Dutch and Norwegian personnel, 22 Aug and 25 Oct; copies of *New York Times* articles by USN Capt. William Sims critical of British claims in the battle, 29 and 31 Jul 1916; summaries of German intelligence agents' reports regarding British attitudes, 15 Dec; an inquiry from the Turkish naval attaché concerning specific aspects of the battle, with responses, 7 Apr 1917; a copy of an original article from the British publication *The Spectator*, questioning British claims of German losses, 9 Jun 1917; excerpts from an interrogation of a captured British naval officer from destroyer *HMS Partridge*, 15 Jan 1918, regarding the aftermath of Jutland for the Grand Fleet; and an annotated draft report by the *Admiralstab* summarizing intelligence reports on purported damage suffered by British capital ships and other warships during the battle, 13 Jun 1916; reproduced only on roll 1227 is a collection of maps and sketches illustrating the positions and movements of ships during the battle), 13 June – 10 October 1916, 1 February – 12 October 1917, and 13 January 1918: PG 77041, rolls 1226-27

Aktenzeichen III.I.-15w. Akten betr. Operationen unserer Flotte. Vorstoss am 18.-20. August 1916 (collected documentation, preceded by a handwritten table of contents, relating to a major fleet sortie into the North Sea on 18-19 Aug 1916 intended to bombard Sunderland and

engage the British Grand Fleet under favorable conditions; included are copies of the operational order for the sortie, issued 16 Aug, and the accompanying order for U-boat support operations, issued 10 Aug, and annotated maps for the planned routes and operational areas of the forces involved; also included are radiograms exchanged among warships, naval airships, and naval commands, 18-20 Aug, as well as observations of intercepted British naval radio traffic, 20 Aug [No. 118], and the initial report of submarine *U 66* claiming the sinking of a British light cruiser and a destroyer and damaged suffered in subsequent British attacks, 22 Aug; a Reuters news dispatch from British sources confirming the loss of light cruisers *HMS Nottingham* and *HMS Falmouth* but claiming the destruction of one German U-boat and the probable destruction of a second, 20 Aug; copies of initial and subsequent draft reports of the operation to the Kaiser, 20, 22, and 28 Aug, in particular noting the damage to battleship *Westfalen* to British submarine attack, the reported observations of airship *L 31* concerning British ship movements from the Channel, and the claimed successes of submarines *U 52*, *U 66*, *U 63* and *U 65* during the operation; and a report of monitored British naval radio traffic on 10 Oct, indicating the British recovery of significant materials from one of the sunken light cruisers; of particular note is a supplemental report to the Kaiser detailing U-boat operations associated with the operation, 20 Sep, annotated and with a handwritten comment by Kaiser Wilhelm at the conclusion, followed by a typed response by Admiralty chief Admiral von Holtzendorff, 22 Sep [Nos. 169-173]; these materials only rarely duplicate and mostly complement those found in item *Kr. Op. Nordsee 70*, described above), 10 August – 10 October 1916: PG 77042, roll 946

Aktenzeichen III.I.-15x. Akten betr. Operationen unserer Flotte. Vorstoss am 19. Oktober 1916 (collected documentation, preceded by a handwritten table of contents, relating to a fleet sortie into the waters north of Holland on 19-20 Oct 1916, which partly duplicates but mostly supplements that found in *Kr. Op. Nordsee 78*, described above; included are copies of the pertinent operational orders and maps, 5-9 Oct, copies of radiograms exchanged among warships, naval airships, and naval commands, 18-20 Oct, including intercepts of British naval communications and monitored British radio traffic, 19-20 Oct, and a report of damage suffered by light cruiser *München*, 25 Oct), 5 – 25 October 1916: PG 77043, roll 946

Aktenzeichen III.I.-15y. Akten betr. Operationen unserer Flotte. Aufgabe 'P' – Irland (collected materials, preceded by a handwritten table of contents, relating to continued German military and naval support of Irish insurrectionists after the Easter Rising, and complementing the contents of *Aktenzeichen III.I.-15u*, above; most of the documentation comprises exchanges of correspondence between the *Admiralstab* and *Sektion Politik Berlin des Generalstabes des Heeres* on the issue of this support, Nov 1916-Jan 1917 and Mar-May 1918; included is the formal request of the “Irish Revolutionary Directory in America” for further arms deliveries and accompanying German cover forces to land in Ireland, 8 Sep 1916 [in English, forwarded by German Ambassador Graf Johann Heinrich von Bernstorff through the Foreign Ministry] and subsequent proposals to land extensive arms via two disguised merchant ships at either or both Galway Bay and Tralee, in Feb or Mar 1917, including sketches of the vessels and possible support by UC- class submarines; notes of 26 Jan and 21 Feb 1917 cancelling the operation without the collateral landing of German military forces, including the English-language note of the “Irish Revolutionary Directory in America” emphasizing this support as necessary for the

delivery of arms, 8 Jan; subsequent documentation of the landing of an Irish agent by *U 19* near Galway Bay during the night of 11-12 Apr 1918, including the report of the commander of *U 19*, 1 May, and reports of the agent's subsequent arrest and compromising of further covert efforts, 10 – 25 May 1918; a copy of a letter from the head of a German-Irish society suggesting a major German landing in Ireland to support an uprising, 27 May; and a postwar handwritten note on the general topic, apparently written by a German naval historian, 12 Dec 1924), 8 September 1916 – 4 June 1918, 12 December 1924: PG 77044, roll 946

Aktenzeichen III.I-15z. Akten betr. Operationen unserer Flotte. Aufgabe 22.-23. Januar 1917, Vorstoss VI. Torpedoboots-Flottille (collected materials, apparently relating to the movement of the Sixth Torpedo Boat Flotilla from the High Seas Fleet to bases with *Marinekorps Flandern*, Jan 1917) - PG 77045, not filmed, presumably available at the BA-MA

Aktenzeichen III.I-27. Acta/Akten betr. Kriegserfahrungen (Bände 1-2) (two volumes of collected materials, each preceded by a handwritten table of contents, concerning operational experiences and 'lessons learned' in combat, primarily pertaining to the North Sea theater but including information on the Baltic and Mediterranean theaters as well; scattered throughout are observations and experiences with weapons, equipment, machinery, organization, communications [including the use of ciphers], tactics, and personnel issues; in particular –

Band 1, by far the more extensive volume, includes an account of the loss of armored cruiser *Ariadne*, 22 Sep 1914, particularly regarding the effectiveness of British naval gunfire; accounts by survivors of torpedo boat *S 116*, sunk by a British submarine 18 Oct 1914; an assessment of lessons learned in naval ordnance following the Battle of Dogger Bank, 30 Jan 1915; a report of an engagement between German naval aircraft and British destroyers off the Flanders coast, 6 Mar 1915; a series of operational readiness reports for six pre-Dreadnought era battleships [*Kaiser Wilhelm II*, *Kaiser Barbarossa*, *Kaiser Karl der Große*, *Friedrich III*, *Wörth*, and *Brandenburg*] during the period 27 Feb – 17 Mar 1915, including for each information on personnel and equipment needs; a summary report on operations of the *Weichselflottille*, a flotilla of river gunboats on the Vistula River in Poland, 31 Jan 1916; detailed reports of operational lessons learned by the *Küstenschutzdivision der Ostsee* and its subordinate units in coastal security and convoy escort in the western Baltic, Nov 1916-Apr 1917; annual reports of the *Befehlshaber der Sicherungs Verbände im mittleren Ostsee*, 1916-17, including information on convoy escorts and antisubmarine operations; a report by battle cruiser *Seydlitz* regarding engines and machinery, 30 Nov 1917; an annual report for the *Nordsee-Vorpostenboot-Flottille* for Dec 1916-Nov 1917; a brief undated report by *Befehlshaber der U-Boote*, Feb-Dec 1917; and an annual report for the *Handelsschutzflottille* in the Baltic, Dec 1916-Jul 1917, 22 Jul 1917); 22 September 1914 – 31 December 1917: PG 76893, roll 994

Band 2, consisting of a single report and associated commentaries and correspondence pertaining to some specific 'lessons learned' in the amphibious operation "Albion" [the seizure of Saaremaa, Hiiumaa, and Moon islands in the Gulf of Riga, Sep-Nov 1917] in the Baltic Sea theater, in particular problems encountered in the use of horse-transport craft during the operation; the report was prepared by a German Army engineer officer ca. Feb 1918, with critical commentaries by the *Führer der Transportflotte*, 23 Feb, and by the State Secretary of the *Reichs-Marine-Amt*, 20 Jun), 23 February – 29 August 1918: PG 76894, roll 994

Aktenzeichen III.6.-1. Akten betr. Kriegführung Nördlicher Kriegsschauplatz umfassend Nordsee, gesamte Gebiet um England, Schottland u. Irland, sowie nördlicher Eismeer und Biskaya (Bände 1-2) (two volumes of collected intelligence messages and reports, each preceded by a handwritten table of contents, regarding Allied naval strength, dispositions, activities, and intentions for the North Sea theater, Oct 1917-Apr 1919; included are reports by individual intelligence agents, naval attachés, and German naval and army intelligence offices, as well as foreign press clippings, assessments by the *Admiralstab*, and some intercepts of British naval communications; in particular-

Band 1 includes form reports on Allied convoys from Bergen, Norway to Lerwick, Scotland, Sep-Nov 1917, detailing convoy departure and arrival dates and times, courses, and numbers of merchant and escort ships; reports regarding the destruction of one such convoy by German cruisers *Brummer* and *Bremse*, 12 Dec 1917, and intelligence on the subsequent upgrading of Allied escorts for this convoy route, 18 Jan 1918; intelligence reports on the departure of Admiral Sir John Jellicoe as Grand Fleet commander, 22 Jan, and organizational changes in the British Admiralty and command structure, 8 Feb 1918; the report of a reconnaissance flight by a German naval aircraft of the mouth of the Thames, 18 Mar, including aerial photographs attached to the report; a verbatim transcript of the recorded conversation of British POWs pertaining to naval matters, recorded by a German Army intelligence unit, 17 Apr; intelligence reports and assessments concerning possible British naval intervention on either the German or the Flanders coast, Apr-May 1918, as a response to the German ground offensive, March-April; intelligence on the deployment of U.S. Navy forces in British waters, May 1918; and interrogations of captured British naval personnel from the Zeebrügge Raid, 21 May), 14 October 1917 – 27 June 1918: PG 76907, rolls 995-96

Band 2 includes copies of a periodical intelligence bulletin issued by the *Admiralstab*, “Zusammenfassung der letzten wichtigen Nachrichten vom Feind,” for the dates 31 May, 12 June, 29 June, 19 July, 12 and 19 August, and 5 September 1918, as well as an intercepted British naval communication, 15 July, and two letters of a captured German naval officer regarding post-armistice conditions at Scapa Flow, 10 Feb and 1 Apr 1919), 3 July 1918 – 1 April 1919: PG 76907, roll 996

Aktenzeichen III.I.-42a through *-42z*. Only 14 of these subject files, all dating from the period April-September 1918, were microfilmed by the U.S. Navy and are described here. Each file typically includes a handwritten table of contents and several items of correspondence and other documentation, generally press clippings and correspondence of German naval attachés of general intelligence value; none of the subject files include operational records of German combat commands.

Aktenzeichen III.I.-42a. Akten betr. Eigene Unternehmungen gegen England vom Mai bis Juli 1918 (despite the title, this collection consists primarily of press clippings from German and foreign newspapers, most relating to the second anniversary of the Battle of Jutland [including two commentaries by German naval strategist and writer Lothar Persius], as well as excerpts of British press accounts regarding military and naval developments as of Apr-May 1918), 19 April – 29 July 1918:

PG 77149, roll 1229

Aktenzeichen III.I.-42b. Akten betr. Feindliche Unternehmungen gegen die deutsche Bucht vom Juni bis Juli 1918 (two reports of British naval sorties by light surface forces into German coastal waters, Apr and Jul 1918), 27 April – 10 July 1918:

PG 77150, roll 1229

Aktenzeichen III.I.-42d. Akten betr. Luftunternehmungen, eigene, vom April bis Juni 1918 (one handwritten note on the alleged attack of a Dutch fishing vessel by a German aircraft), 23 April 1918:

PG 77151, roll 1229

Aktenzeichen III.I.-42f. Akten betr. U-Bootsunternehmungen (Tätigkeit), vom Juni bis Juli 1918 (correspondence and press articles relating to U-boat operations, including accounts of an action resulting in the sinking of Norwegian steamer *Ida* by *UC 39* and the subsequent sinking of the latter by a British warship, May 1918, and accounts of the sinking of British liner *Justicia*, Jul 1918), 17 May – 28 July 1918:

PG 77152, roll 1229

Aktenzeichen III.I.-42g. Akten betr. U-Bootsunternehmungen (Wirkung), vom Juni bis Juli 1918 (press clippings pertaining to the effectiveness of the submarine campaign, including an untranslated *New York Times* article, “The Failure of the U-Boat Campaign,” 18 May, and a translated Norwegian article regarding 20 Norwegian vessels lost to U-boats in June 1918 alone), 18 May – 5 July 1918:

PG 77153, roll 1229

Aktenzeichen III.I.-42h. Akten betr. U-Bootsabwehr vom Juni bis August 1918 (press clippings that include excerpts from a British *Daily Mail* article on the effectiveness of Allied air escorts for convoys against U-boats, 8 Jun, and Norwegian concerns of minefields laid by U-boats off Stavanger, 8 Aug), 8 June – 8 August 1918:

PG 77154, roll 1229

Aktenzeichen III.I.-42i. Akten betr. U-Bootsverluste vom Juni bis Sept. 1918 (collected correspondence and press clippings relating to claimed sinkings of U-boats, including press accounts of claimed surrenders of U-boats, 11 May and 4 Jul, the letter of a father of a U-boat crewman alleging food poisoning aboard *U 69*, a press clipping regarding the capture of survivors of *UC 39*, and a press account of the sinking of *U 88* with the loss of all hands, including commander *Kaplt.* Walther Schwieger, 20 Aug; one of the documents listed in the table of contents [Seite 16] is missing from the file), 20 April – 20 August 1918:

PG 77155, roll 1229

Aktenzeichen III.I.-42j. Akten betr. Minen (Unfälle) Kattegat, Skagerrak, Juni 1918 (a single report by the naval attaché in Kristiana [Oslo] quoting a Norwegian newspaper about new British antisubmarine minefields between Scotland and Norway), 13 May 1918:

PG 77156, roll 1229

Aktenzeichen III.I.-42k. Akten betr. Minen (Unfälle) Nordsee vom Juni bis August 1918 (correspondence and press clippings regarding sinkings of, and damage to, neutral Dutch and Danish vessels caused by British mines, some of which were laid within the territorial waters of Holland and Denmark, some dating back to 1916), 15 June – 1 August 1918:

PG 77157, roll 1229

Aktenzeichen III.I.-42m. Akten betr. Truppen- und Kriegsmaterial-Transporte, Juli 1918 (a single report by a German intelligence agent in Holland regarding expected American troopship arrivals in western English ports), 18 July 1918:

PG 77158, roll 1229

Aktenzeichen III.I.-42n. Akten betr. Handelsschiffahrt vom Juni bis Juli 1918 (correspondence presumably relating to Allied and/or neutral trade and shipping, apparently inadvertently omitted from microfilming), June-July 1918:

PG 77159, not microfilmed and presumably available at the BA-MA, Freiburg

Aktenzeichen III.I.-42u. Akten betr. Politische u. sonstige Nachrichten aus England, vom Juni bis Juli 1918 (three items relating to British propaganda, including a report on British efforts in Holland regarding the U-boat campaign, an overall assessment of British propaganda by a German Army officer writing in the *Norddeutscher Allgemeine Zeitung* [6 May], and a German press clipping regarding British speeches before Parliament), 16 April – 23 July 1918:

PG 77160, roll 1229

Aktenzeichen III.I.-42w. Akten betr. Politische und sonstige Nachrichten aus fremden Ländern, vom Juni bis Juli 1918 (two reports assessing the pro-Allied and anti-German public attitudes in Norway), 15 June – 7 July 1918:

PG 77161, roll 1229

Aktenzeichen III.I.-42y. Akten betr. Material für Presseveröffentlichungen gegen unsere Feinde, vom Juni bis Juli 1918 (press clippings and correspondence, lacking a table of contents, relating to developments of potential propaganda value, including excerpts from the Dutch press, a Swedish press account of British interference with Swedish fishing vessels, and a Norwegian press excerpt summarizing Norwegian ships and lives lost in the naval war), 27 June – 18 July 1918:

PG 77162, roll 1229

Aktenzeichen III.I.-42z. Akten betr. Allgemeines, vom Juni bis September 1918 (collected materials, lacking a table of contents, regarding miscellaneous topics; included are handwritten and typed listings of the duties and responsibilities of subordinate staff sections within the Admiralty Staff's *Abteilung "O" [Operationen]*, staff administrative memoranda, 10-12 Jun, a report of a newly-laid British minefield, 1 May, a German press clipping reproducing another commentary on the naval war by *Kapltl.a.D.* Lothar Persius, 29 Jul, several items of

correspondence received by the *Admiralstab* from well-meaning individuals proposing new means of bombarding London, attacking convoys, and raising sunken ships, a report by *Befehlshaber der Torpedobootsstreitkräfte* on British procedures in the rescue of German survivors of sunken ships as POWs, 23 Sep, and statistical data compiled by the *Kriegsministerium* on the numbers of German and British POWs held by Britain and Germany, respectively, 9 Aug), 1 May – 23 September 1918:
PG 77163, roll 1229

In addition to the designated operational files, the *Admiralstab* maintained separate collections of intelligence materials generally matched to operational theaters. The principal collection for the North Sea theater, designated *Aktenzeichen III.I.-16, Akten betr. Eingegangene Nachrichten über die englische und französische Streitkräfte*, consisted of 17 chronologically-arranged volumes of received communications from 30 July 1914 through August 1918, and identified as record items PG 77046-062. This collection, however was not microfilmed and is presumably available at the BA-MA, Freiburg. Three supplemental files were microfilmed as follows:

Aktenzeichen III.I.-16a. Akten betr. Ausgegangene Nachrichten über englische und französische Streitkräfte (2 Bände), two volumes of collected intelligence materials, each preceded by a handwritten table of contents, received from German naval sources relating to British and French naval forces deployed in the North Sea and English Channel; both volumes comprise primarily handwritten transcriptions of radio messages regarding reported movements and locations of Allied warships; some of the information derives from intercepted British naval signals, others by aerial reconnaissance and agents' reports -

Band 1 (August – December 1914): PG 77063, rolls 1170-71

Band 2 (30 December 1914 – 7 March 1915): PG 77064, roll 1171

Aktenzeichen III.I.-16b. Akten betr. Nachrichten über feindliche Unternehmungen vom Mai bis Juli 1918 (a collection of 13 intelligence documents, preceded by a handwritten table of contents, relating to reported British naval operational plans, most concerning an anticipated British commando or amphibious operation on the German North Sea coast along the lines of an expanded Zeebrügge raid [April 1918] during the period late April-early May 1918), 3 May – 13 July 1918:

PG 77065, roll 1171

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APPENDIX 1: SELECTIVE INDEX OF SHIPS' NAMES

Warship prefixes, such as S.M.S. and H.M.S, have been omitted for convenience; the nationalities of warships and merchant vessels other than German are so indicated.

- Aboukir* (British armored cruiser): 7
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