

RGI. V HBR HBR1/26 'OP'
T SELF

FROM INTELLIGENCE HARROWBEER 28330B
TO 10 GROUP INTELLIGENCE
SECRET QOX BT

Beau ✓ --}--- 2 *A.T.s* Cat 3
Coop ✓ }
Green ✓ } 1 *Cruiser* Cat 4
Purkis ✓ }

A1/81 25/4 OPFLASH NO.3 FOR 25 APRIL

A. (I) DIVEBOMB SHIPPING ST. MALO
(II) MISSION COMPLETED

B. (I) 263 (II) BOMPHOONS 1B (III) ALL A/C BOMBED

C. (I) 2025 (II) 2103 (III) 2145

D. (I) 1 TYPHOON DAM BY FLAK CAT UNDECIDED (=A)
(II) NIL

E. 45-65 DEGREES DIVEBOMBING ATTACK FROM 11000 TO 7000-3000 FEET WITH 8 X 250 LB BOMBS GP INST ON 3 SHIPS BELIEVED DESTROYERS OR TORPEDO BOATS LYING STATIONARY (ONE WITH SMOKING FUNNEL) HEADING N.N.W. IN LINE ASTERN APPROX. A SHIP'S LENGTH BETWEEN EACH OTHER, IN ENTRANCE TO RIVER RANCE BETWEEN DINARD AND ST. MALO. SHIPS HAD TWO FUNNELS OVAL IN PLAN VIEW. 3 BOMB BURSTS WERE WIDE. 1 BURST LOOKED LIKE NEAR MISS ON PORT STERN OF CENTRAL DESTROYER. CLAIMED CAT 4. ONE PILOT (P/O BEAUMONT) THEN MADE LOW LEVEL CANNON ATTACKS, SEEING STRIKES ON 2 ARMED TRAWLERS (CLAIMED CAT. 3) WHICH WERE STEAMING N.W AT 8-10 KNOTS IN PASSAGE DU DECOLLE (½ A MILE N.W. OF DINARD) THESE ARMED TRAWLERS HAD A LARGE NUMBER OF X MEN ON THEIR DECKS WEARING GREEN-BROWN UNIFORM.

F. (I) NIL (II) (A) INTENSE ACCURATE LIGHT FLAK. SLIGHT FAIRLY ACCURATE HEAVY FLAK.

G. (I) A SHIP THAT LOOKED THE SAME SIZE AS DESTROYER WAS SEEN CIRCLING FURTHER S. IN RIVER RANCE. AND 4-6 SHIPS OF E. BOAT SIZE WERE THOUGHT TO BE SEEN BY TYPHOON LEADER ½ MILE N.N.W OF ST. MALO

H. (I) AND (II) NO CLOUD. SLIGHT HAZE TO 4000 FEET.
VISIBILITY GOOD
BT 252330B

AS

IN D. CWA UNDECIDED (II) NIL

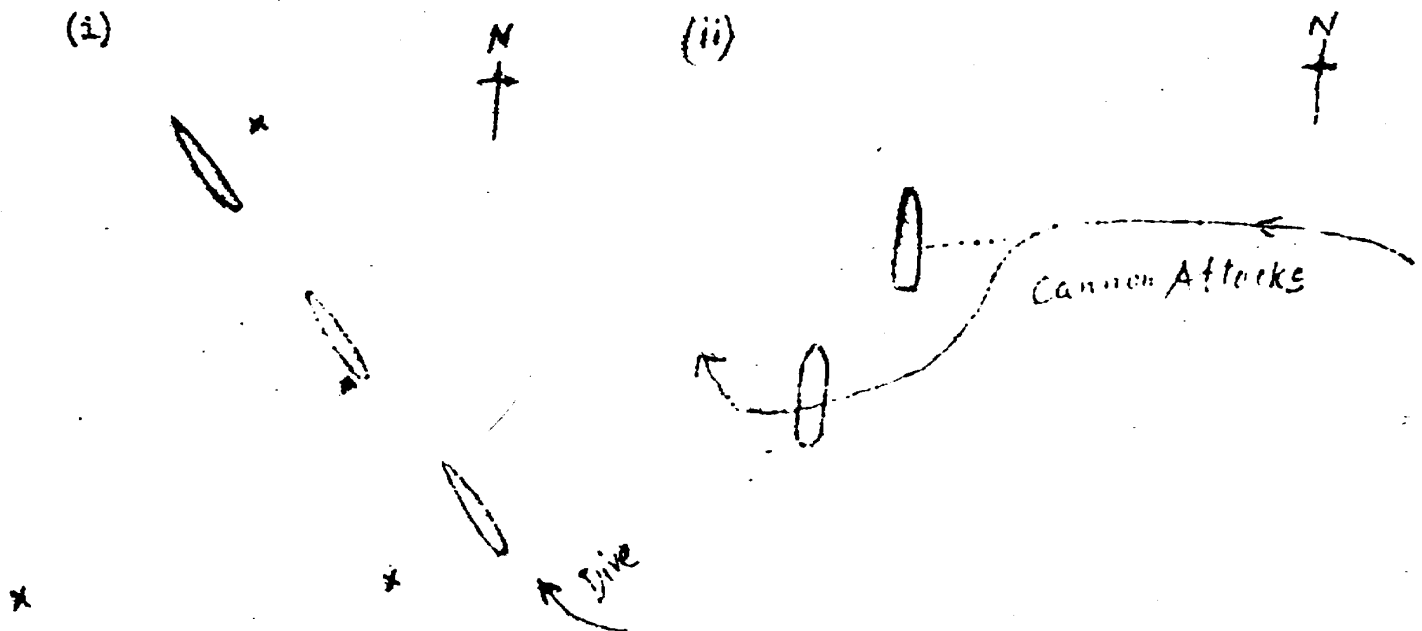
IN G. CWA DESTROYER WAS SEEN
JD AR K

R.... 0047/26 WALSH AR K

Surfat Report on 10 Group Roadstead 87
of 25th April 1944

See previous report

1. (a) 263/27 (b) 25th April 1944 (c) 4 Typhoon Bombers 1B
(d) 263
2. (a) NW 10-15 mph. (b) NIL (c) good (d) calm (e) evening
sunlight
3. (a) 2103 (b) (i) Entrance to River Rance 48° 38' N, 02° 03' W
(ii) N. of Dinard 48° 38' N, 02° 05' W.
(c) (i) 3 destroyers believed to be Elbing class, stationary in line astern,
heading NNW, ship's length between
(ii) 2 armed trawlers steaming N at 8 knots in echelon port, ship's length
between.
(d) (i) 45°-65° dive bombing from astern by 4 A/C.
(ii) Cannon attacks from quarter port astern,
(e) (i) Not known (ii) Armed trawlers each had 40-60 men in green brown
uniform on deck.
4. (a) (i) 8 x 250 lb and 264 x 20 mm HEI and SAPI. (b) 250 lb GP
(c) Inst. (d) NIL (e) 4000.ft. (f) Eyesight,
5. (a) 4 (b) 1 near miss (about 20 yards) off port stern of central destroyer.
Others were 50, 75, and 200 yards wide. (c) NIL
6. NIL
7. Not known
8. (a) (i) 1 destroyer Cat. 4. 2 armed trawlers Cat 3.
- 9.



10. The four Typhoons bombers were prepared at short notice and left Harrowbeer at 2025, led by F/O Purkis. After crossing the channel at 0 ft, they climbed to 11,000 ft., made landfall over St. Malo, and turned to port through 170 degrees and immediately into the dive, releasing bombs and pulling out between 7000 and 3000 feet. All four pairs of bursts were spotted. Three were wide; one was a near miss off the stern of the central destroyer which may have been damaged (claimed Cat. 4). P/O Beaumont then continued to zero feet, turned to port, climbed again to 1000 feet and fired 264 x 20 mm in port beam and quarter bow attacks at 2 armed trawlers which were steaming N. off Dinard at 8-10 knots in echelon port - nicely dispersed for attack. He saw several flashes and strikes on both ships. Their decks were covered with men in green brown uniform. Intense light flak was encountered from ships.

11. C.C.G not fitted.

Andrew Wordsworth F/O
Intelligence Officer, 263 Squadron