

Page
11/20Separate Sheet 2Section 3. Battle speeds

Battle speeds will be as follows.

Battle speed 1	20 knots
Battle speed 2	24 knots
Battle speed 3	28 knots
Battle speed 4	31 knots
Battle speed 5	33 knots

*Summary pending
Cardiv 4 doctrine
The above speeds
with Sec F. 1. @ p 35*

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6/1522 FLEET ULTRASECRET STANDING ORDER 5

Flagship ATAGO

22 Jan 44

KURIDA, Takao
Commander in Chief, 2 Fleet

(TH Seals:) MITAMURA (+1)

SHIMIZU (+2)

Cruiser Division Doctrine is established as in the Separate Volume and will be applied to diversion attack forces. (The Separate Volume will be distributed to the proper authorities.)

2 Fleet Ultrasecret Standing Order 5 (1944)

Separate Volume

Cruiser Division Doctrine

2 Fleet Headquarters

100 of 400 copies

To be returned after use or on detachment from the fleet

(1) other

(1) 三田村

(2) 清水

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Contents	Number of pages (IN Of Original document.)
Cover and table of contents	2
Text	22
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1. This doctrine normally will be applied to every cruiser division within all diversion attack force organizations.

2. It is compiled so as to be applicable to every cruiser division in the Combined Fleet.

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I. GENERAL PRINCIPLES

A. This doctrine is based on Combined Fleet Doctrine and Diversion Attack Force Doctrine. It sets forth the plans and policies which the cruiser division will follow in combat and those matters to which all ships will conform.

B. Except as indicated above, night engagements are based on Night Operations Force Doctrine.

II. ALERT

A. General Rules

To be under alert, whether under way or at anchor, means not only to make necessary battle preparations at the proper time and to conceal position, movements, and plans, but also to take positive steps to ascertain the enemy situation and to crush surprise attacks.

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In addition to attempting to ascertain enemy plans and movements by means of sharp lookouts, radio interception, directional radar sweeps and air reconnaissance, it will be essential to control carefully lights, radar transmission, floating debris and smoke discharge and to conceal movements and plans.

When the enemy is discovered, he must be either attacked or avoided.

B. Cruising Under Alert (SEIKAI KOKU)

1. If the situation requires, the formation for cruising under alert (SEIKAI KOKU) may assume a special form before forming a single column in order of number. In areas where an alert is necessary, the practice will be to break through at high speed with each ship maintaining the alert required by the enemy situation.

2. Air alerts

a. Antiaircraft lookouts and radar search will be thorough. Enemy airplanes will be detected at a great distance and repulsed.

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b. In case an enemy air attack is anticipated during a strategic movement, a formation readily adaptable either for attack or for evasion will be assumed beforehand. In general, an evasive movement will be based on standard 2 Fleet air attack evasion maneuvers.

c. Speed will be reduced and radical changes of course effected to counter enemy night tracking planes. When necessary, smoke screens or simple dispersal of ships will be used to conceal the force from the enemy. Enemy airplanes attempting to determine the effect of shelling will be driven off quickly by searchlights.

d. Air alerts by our airplanes will be carried out in accordance with special orders.

3. Submarine alerts

a. Sharp surface lookouts will be maintained, and electric and underwater ranging gear will be utilized. The approach of submarines will be detected at long range and evasive or offensive action will be taken.

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b. During strategic maneuvers a suitable distance will be opened and zigzag movements will be carried out at high speed. Areas in which enemy submarines are lurking will be carefully avoided. When a submarine is detected, normally an evasion formation will be formed; but if the enemy has been discovered at close range or if a torpedo is approaching, ships will take evasive action independently or attack.

c. During tactical movements basic procedure will be to take evasive action in a formation which permits rapid changes in course.

d. Submarine alerts by our airplanes will be carried out in accordance with special order.

4. Mine alerts

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a. When proceeding in dangerous waters, the force will advise at the greatest possible speed and will be on the alert for mines. Paravanes will be set for a depth of 10 m.

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b. When cruising in waters in which the presence of enemy mines is suspected, it will be the practice for equipped ships (SUBIKAN) to proceed so as to avoid mines.

c. Surface lookouts will be posted against floating mines.

d. Mine alerts to be carried out by airplanes will be specially ordered.

5. Alerts against destroyers and torpedo boats

Sharp surface lookouts will be maintained so as to detect the enemy before he closes in. Ships will proceed at the greatest possible speed and will maneuver to prevent the enemy from approaching closer than about 5 km. The enemy will be destroyed at one stroke by rapid (searchlight) gunfire.

6. Alerts against chemical attacks

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a. Precautions against chemical attack will always be observed when moving against the enemy. Means for combating chemical attacks quickly and effectively will be devised.

b. In the absence of special orders, antigas measures will be left completely to the discretion of ship captains.

c. Ships which detect gas zones or the presence of poison gas or which observe enemy maneuvers indicating possible use of gas will report immediately.

d. Gas zones will be traversed at high speed.

C. Entering and Leaving Port Under Alert

In entering and leaving port under alert, a short lookout against submarines, airplanes and mines will be kept, and the operation will be executed secretly and at high speed. The following procedure will be observed:

1. The formation will be a single column and, when necessary, will be at open order.

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2. Each ship will keep a number of its airplanes in condition

3. Orders will be given for the ships to prepare at short notice for a speed of 20 knots or more.

4. Depending on conditions, the force will cruise under anti-mine precautions. In areas where magnetic mines are a danger, the force will proceed whenever possible in waters over 40 m in depth.

D. At Anchor Under Alert (KEIKAI TEIHAU)

1. When an attack by airplanes, submarines or other craft capable of surprise attack is possible, basic procedure will be to effect the necessary alert regardless of whether or not the anchorage has defense installations.

2. The formation for anchoring under alert (KEIKAI TEIHAU) will be decided with regard to the enemy situation, the nature of the anchorage, the weather, the objective for anchoring, the greatest possible safety from air and surface attack and the feasibility of utilizing defensive weapons.

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3. The area within which each ship will be responsible for patrol and lookout will be fixed as the situation demands. Airplanes and power boats will be sent on patrol. Details of these matters will be determined by special orders.

III. COMBAT

A. Combat Policy

Cruiser division combat is based on combat policies of the Combined Fleet, diversion attack forces and night operation forces. The aim will be to co-operate with other units to destroy the enemy. The following will be the duties of a cruiser division:

1. While assuming responsibility for screening the main body of the fleet, it will endeavor to reconnoiter the enemy situation.

2. It will act as the vanguard of the main body. It will make quick, short attacks at high speed, take the initiative from the enemy and quickly destroy his flank. Widening the gap it has opened, it will provide the opportunity for a fleet victory.

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3. It will be the shield of the main body, destroying enemy attacking forces and covering the advance of the destroyer squadron with every means at its disposal. To accomplish these ends, the division will endeavor to obtain knowledge of the enemy situation through airplanes. It will normally use torpedoes against enemy battleships and carriers and gunfire against auxiliary forces. In certain circumstances, both means of attack will be used.

B. Combat Formations

The basic combat formation will be single column with the flagship in the lead. In certain circumstances, a fine quarter line will be used.

C. Day Engagements

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1. Fleet action

a. Through airplanes and reports from friendly forces an effort will be made to learn the enemy situation before meeting him. If this is not possible, the division itself will try to scout the enemy situation.

b. When scout planes discover the enemy, tracking planes will be launched immediately to maintain contact and to direct friendly forces.

c. In the event of attack by airplanes (groups), the cruiser division will assume the offensive and attempt to disperse the attack. It will be responsible for covering the main force and carrier force and will aid them in evading attack.

d. When the opposing forces close, the cruiser division, utilizing its maneuverability, will be responsible for screening the main body and will observe and report the enemy situation. Thus, it will facilitate the deployment and combat direction of the main force. While co-operating closely with friendly units, it will take up a favorable position and deliver a timely concentration of fire against one element of the enemy force, destroying it quickly by rapid and accurate fire. The cruiser division will defeat the enemy quickly and independently if circumstances favor such action. If the opportunity presents, an attempt will be made to impair the effectiveness of enemy battleships and carriers by long-range torpedo attack.

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e. When the direction of enemy deployment is observed, a large number of torpedoes will be fired secretly against the main force. This will be done independently or in co-operation with other units. This attack will aid in confusing or destroying the enemy in the early stages of the battle.

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f. When the opposing main forces deploy, the cruiser division, in co-operation with other cruiser forces, will attack the enemy cruisers and cover the advance of destroyer squadrons. At the opportune moment, it will deliver a short-range torpedo attack against the main force (especially aircraft carriers). Thereafter it will use its entire offensive power to attack and annihilate the faltering enemy.

g. In case it is difficult to destroy a superior enemy auxiliary force, an opportune torpedo attack will be launched.

h. In case the enemy withdraws, the cruiser division will pursue and attack him. In co-operation with friendly air and auxiliary forces an effort will be made to prevent the escape and to annihilate the enemy.

i. In drawing actions (YUCHISEN) and frontal engagements (TAIJISEN), torpedoes must be especially effective.

2. Actions against enemy auxiliary forces

a. Through airplanes and reports from friendly forces, an effort will be made to ascertain the enemy situation beforehand. If this is not possible, the division itself will try to scout the enemy situation.

b. When scout planes discover the enemy, tracking planes will be launched immediately to maintain contact. When necessary, these airplanes will be made responsible for directing friendly forces.

c. Types of day action and outline of combat

TYPE	OUTLINE OF COMBAT
I Day Action	A combination of all forces will close on the enemy swiftly and destroy him at one stroke.
EO Day Action	In drawing out the enemy, torpedoes first will be fired secretly from long range. Normally a swift assault by all forces will develop simultaneously with the arrival of the torpedoes at the target.
HA Day Action	A long-range frontal engagement (TAIJISEN) will be undertaken at dusk with the object of precipitating a night action.
HI Day Action	A test of strength will be avoided. A conclusive battle will be joined after the enemy has been drawn out by friendly forces.
Notes:	
1. An engagement on same course will be called Method 1, and an engagement on opposite courses will be called Method 2.	
2. Special orders will not be issued for Method 1.	

h. In case the enemy withdraws, he will be pursued and annihilated.

D. Night Engagements

1. Night engagements over wide areas

a. Before dusk airplanes will maintain contact with the enemy main force. They will lead the night operations force to the attack.

b. At dusk, while destroying opposition in co-operation with friendly units, the cruiser division will move in gradually as the field of vision is reduced and maintain contact with the enemy main force.

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c. Enemy delaying forces (SOSHI BUTAI) will be destroyed, and the attacks of friendly destroyer squadrons will be covered either by independent action or in co-operation with friendly units, especially high-speed battleship divisions. The maximum fire power of the group will be brought to bear. If a superior enemy delaying force (SOSHI BUTAI) causes difficulties, a close-in torpedo attack will be launched to gain the initiative and defeat the enemy at one stroke.

d. When the cruisers have broken through the enemy delaying force (SOSHI BUTAI), they will seek out the enemy main force and contact it either independently or in co-operation with other units.

e. Normally, contact will be made with the enemy main force at the limit of its field of vision to the rear (or quarter). By special order, a section (one ship) will be detached to make contact. Contact will be made so as to maintain a generally constant bearing against an enemy frequently changing his course.

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f. A surprise torpedo attack will be delivered against ships which are posted as delaying forces (SOSHI BUTAI) and which are maintaining strict alert. As far as possible torpedoes will be fired to reach the enemy line as the destroyer squadron turns to the attack. To the extent practical, firing will be carried out with the aid of the parachute flares or radio direction finding and radar of tracking planes.

g. When acting as a tracking unit, the cruiser division gradually will close the distance between itself and the enemy main force as preparations for the destroyer squadron attack are completed. If necessary, it will direct searchlights (star shells) on the enemy. Thus, it will confuse the enemy and facilitate the destroyer attack.

h. When acting as a unit assigned to prevent the enemy from turning back, the cruiser division will co-operate in the attacks of friendly units by closing the distance between it and the enemy main force and by launching a short-range torpedo attack to prevent evasive action by the enemy.

i. If, while tracking, the cruiser division finds itself in a favorable firing position due to a radical change of course by the enemy, it will launch a torpedo attack.

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j. At the time of the destroyer squadron attack, the cruiser division will try to take advantage of the confusion in the enemy formation in order to deliver a short-range gunfire or torpedo attack and thereby increase the damage to the enemy.

k. At the conclusion of the attack, the cruiser division either will co-operate with friendly forces by maintaining contact with the enemy main force, defeating the delaying force (SOSHI BUTAI), leading in and covering the approach of the night operations force, or, taking advantage of a favorable opportunity, it will repeat independently the attack on the enemy main force and annihilate it.

l. When acting as a screening unit for the main body, the cruiser division will maintain close communications with the main force and will maneuver to press in on the leading enemy night operations unit. By using smoke screens or relying on the confusion wrought by searchlights (star shells), it will conceal the movements of the main force. It will induce the enemy to change his course and will defeat him by use of both gunfire and torpedoes. Above all, it will meet and attack attacks by the enemy destroyer squadrons.

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2. Night engagements in narrow waters

a. Before narrow waters are penetrated, the area will be reconnoitered thoroughly by airplanes. If the enemy is discovered, contact will be maintained. If this is not feasible, thorough reconnaissance and tracking will be carried out in co-operation with friendly airplanes and submarines.

b. The topography, weather and the peculiarities of the land and sea configurations in the area will be investigated in detail beforehand. These factors will be utilized to approach and make contact with the enemy without being discovered.

c. At the time of the approach, surface and air lookouts will be especially alert, electric ranging gear will be used and enemy communications intercepted. When a destroyer division is available, it will be posted ahead of (or behind) the unit to serve as a screen. As far as possible, the course will be plotted so as to avoid promontories and small islands on which enemy observation posts are believed to exist. Preparations will be made on each ship for an unexpected encounter with the enemy and for an immediate engagement.

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d. The action normally will conform to the outline below:

(1) When visibility is limited (10 km or less)

The screening unit (KEIKAITAI) will be stationed ahead, and the cruiser division will approach in column and deliver a lightning gunnery and torpedo attack in conjunction with the attack of the screening force, destroying the enemy in a close-range attack. Searchlights and star shells will be used freely.

(2) When visibility is good (more than 10 km)

First, a surprise torpedo attack will be made, if possible, from the limit of the field of vision. At the proper time, the enemy will be attacked fiercely from close range as indicated above (with the aid of star shells).

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e. At the time of the action, a diversion will be created by attacks of friendly airplanes and by silhouetting the enemy with parachute flares. An effort will be made to take advantage of weather and geographical factors.

f. If attacked by artillery from strategic enemy positions, a watch will be kept against surprise attack by enemy light craft. Rapid and constant changes of target will be expected.

3. Actions against destroyers and torpedo boats.

Electric ranging gear and strict surface lookouts will be utilized to detect the enemy before his approach. The division will proceed toward the enemy at the highest possible speed and at a distance of about 10 km (if destroyers) or 6 km (if torpedo boats) will execute a rapid turn and deliver a quick gunnery attack with the aid of searchlights. In general, the division will maneuver to prevent the enemy from approaching within 5 km and will annihilate him at one blow. If the circumstances warrant, the main battery, antiaircraft guns and machine guns will be used together.