

i. On each occasion of battle, combat methods will be innovated for the approach and deployment of the Task Force and for the attacks of the air attack units. Original tactics will be used and the enemy surprised.

j. Air combat directed against an attacking enemy fleet, in addition to the above, will be as outlined in I, C, iii.

k. When land bases are used for air combat, action will be as outlined in I, D, ii.

Page
14/31

51. A Task Force attack on enemy air bases normally is limited to times when strategical raids can be anticipated and to other special occasions. With the co-operation of the base air forces and submarine forces, the movements of the Task Force will be concealed and thorough scouting carried out. When the enemy fleet appears, it will be attacked immediately with all available forces.

E. SURFACE ACTIONS

1. Approach

52. In combat during an approach by surface units a strict defensive alert generally will be maintained against enemy airplanes and submarines. Every effort will be made to conceal our intentions. At the same time close liaison will be maintained with friendly forces and a suitable advance made in the direction of the enemy.

53. Surface forces will maneuver in co-ordination with the Task Force. A Task Force air attack will be begun in co-ordination with the vanguard of the Task Force. Forces responsible for diversionary feinting movements will carry them out intermittently as the occasion demands. They also may evade the enemy tracking planes and deliver an attack.

54. The order of approach for surface forces will be established by each force. The relative position of the forces will be ordered when necessary by the senior commanding officer present in the combat area.

55. The order of approach of the Main Body or of the Main Body and Battleship Force will be the same as the order of cruising under alert (KEIKAI KOKO).

Page
14/32

ii. Deployment

56. When the Task Force has ascertained the enemy situation, it will quickly begin the attack. The vanguard will proceed in the direction of the enemy. (In the case of the Combined Task Force, the vanguard will have as its nucleus 2 Fleet and 3 Fleet, less the carrier force. The same applies below.)

Surface forces co-operating with the Task Force will maneuver in accordance with the situation or will follow the lead of the vanguard of the Task Force.

57. When each unit has drawn near the enemy, it will deploy suitably. The order at the time of deployment generally will accord with the relative positions of friendly forces at the time. When the Main Body and the Battleship Force draw near the enemy at the same time as the vanguard of the Task Force, normally the vanguard of the Task Force will maneuver so as to become either the leading unit or the rear unit in relation to the Main Body and Battleship Force. If the situation requires, the senior commanding officer present in the combat area will take command of all forces.

58. The outline for deployment of the Main Body and the units acting with it is as follows; the outline for deployment when there is no Main Body conforms to this:

a. At a suitable time preliminary orders for deployment will be given. About 15 minutes before gun action begins (when the distance between our forces and the enemy is about 50 km), final orders for completion of deployment will be given.

b. The order of battle, the guide unit (unless otherwise ordered, BatDiv 1) and the direction of deployment will be ordered. If necessary, the direction of attack of the Main Body will be designated.

c. Before deployment the Battleship Force, as in the case of the Main Body, will form one line in the direction of deployment. A line abreast formation will be used for the approach.

Page 14/33 d. When changing the direction of deployment, the guide unit (unless otherwise ordered, BatDiv 1) and the new direction of deployment will be indicated. If necessary, the direction of attack of the guide unit will be indicated.

e. The order of battle will be a column formation based on the relative positions at the time.

f. The interval between each unit in order of battle will be standardized at 4 km. The commanding officer of each unit may modify this in accordance with the situation.

111. Day Actions

59. The enemy will be quickly engaged and destroyed by co-operating with air attack units and by exploiting the success of their attacks.

60. When the enemy is routed, the forces nearest him will pursue and prevent withdrawal. The whole force will then close in and destroy the enemy. An element will eliminate the enemy remaining in the combat area.

61. When the enemy closes up and withdraws, repeated air attacks will be used to reduce his speed and thus make it possible to engage and destroy him before he comes within range of his own air power.

62. Surface forces will proceed in accordance with the reports on the enemy situation made by the air forces. When the enemy is discovered, an accurate report of the enemy situation will be made to the air forces. The air attack will be aided and air and surface forces will co-operate in the destruction of the enemy.

63. Day actions by surface forces normally are actions on same course with concentration on the van. At a suitable time the deployment will be completed. The surface forces will proceed into the path of the enemy main force and take up a position which will permit them to overwhelm the enemy van. All forces will co-operate in cornering the enemy main force. Then the whole force will concentrate and destroy the enemy.

If the enemy deploys for an action on opposite course or reverses course during the fight, an action in opposite course normally is carried out.

41
33

64. The types of day action are established as follows:

TYPES	OUTLINE OF COMBAT		
Day Action KO	After the battleship division has begun the fight, at the first opening the entire force will carry out a strike.	Method 1	The leading unit will move out. Later it will return. At that time the deployment will be made.
Day Action OTSU	When visibility is very good, for a while the battleship division will fire at long-range with the angle of elevation of the main batteries at about maximum. The auxiliary forces will maneuver out of effective range of the enemy main batteries. Guns of large caliber and torpedo attacks by cruiser divisions will be used to create an opening. Then the entire force will make its strike.	Method 2	The whole force will deploy as a unit. Unless otherwise ordered, this method will be used.
Day Action HBI	Local superiority will be obtained by drawing up the entire force in a compact formation. One flank of the enemy main force then will be attacked.		

65. Types of action on opposite course are established as follows:

TYPES	OUTLINE OF COMBAT
Action on Opposite Course Method A	Using the greater part of the auxiliary vessels, an advance will be made into the path of the enemy main force. Then an attack will be delivered.
Action on Opposite Course Method B	The dispositions of the time will be used and an engagement while circling an opposite course carried out. Unless otherwise ordered, this method will be used.

66. The fundamental outline for the conduct of a day action by surface forces is as follows. However, each force commander, in accordance with the situation, will maneuver so as to conform to the plans of the senior commanding officer present in the combat area.

Page
14/35

a. In Method 1, Day Actions KO and OTSU, the leading unit (vanguard of the Task Force) will proceed in the direction of the enemy and endeavor to obtain information of his situation. At the order for deployment the fast battleship division will take station about 8 km obliquely to the rear of the Main Body. It will maneuver so that it can begin the gun action against the enemy main force at the same time as the Battleship Force and the Main Body. Other leading units will endeavor to deliver effective torpedo attacks against the enemy main force at the same time as the Main Body begins its gun action. They will also maneuver so as to take up stations in the order of battle. In such occasions the commanding officers of the leading units will report the time of firing and the anticipated time of impact of the torpedoes.

In Method 2, Day Actions KO and OTSU, action is the same as for Method 1 except that the leading unit does not move out very far.

b. The Main Body will concentrate fire on the van of the enemy main force. The whole force will be warned an hour before the gun action of the Main Body is expected to begin. The beginning of the gun action as well as the targets of attack will be communicated to the whole force.

During the gun action normally efforts will be made to divide the enemy by means of smoke screens. An attack will follow.

When an element of the enemy moves out from the main force and an interval of time remains before the gun action against the enemy main force is to begin, it will be fired on.

c. The leading and last units will attack the enemy under the direction of their respective commanding officers. They will also deliver torpedo attacks against the enemy main force.

d. Preparations for a strike normally will be ordered about 15 minutes before the shift to it. However, in some situations a strike may be ordered immediately.

e. When the shift to the strike is made, the whole force will close in, attacking fiercely. Cruiser divisions will try to open up the way for the destroyer squadrons and repeatedly deliver torpedo attacks. The destroyer squadrons will attack the enemy main force and by co-operation prepare to meet any enemy reversal of course or large-scale evasive action.

f. Lookout and radar search directed against attacking enemy airplanes will be maintained strictly during the action. Enemy airplanes will be quickly discovered and reported to the entire force. Antiaircraft fire, evasive maneuvers and swift, suitable emergency measures will be used and the enemy airplanes attacked. Damage will be localized and the action continued.

g. The submarines present will attack the enemy.

h. When the enemy flees in disorder, he will be pursued and destroyed.

iv. Dusk Actions

67. Types of dusk action for surface forces are established as follows:

TYPES	OUTLINE OF COMBAT
Dusk Action KO	This type is based on Day Action KO. A single decisive action will be fought. Unless otherwise ordered, this method will be used.
Dusk Action JTSU	Nightfall will be awaited with the object of fighting a night action. Then an all-out action will be joined.

68. The conduct of a dusk action, in addition to conforming to the outline for day action, will be as follows:

a. As far as possible, deployment will be made and stations taken so that the enemy is silhouetted against the setting sun. The action will be conducted utilizing meteorological conditions. On the other hand, after sunset enemy observation will be interfered with by using a smoke screen as a background.

b. In Dusk Action OTSU, each unit will act as a strongly knit body so that it will not be destroyed piecemeal.

v. Night Actions

Page
14/37

69. If darkness has fallen by the time the surface forces attack to exploit the success of the air combat, they will engage and destroy the enemy by night action.

70. Night action is based on the close co-operation, under suitable control of every force and the utilization of the advantages of each. The enemy present will be attacked resolutely and destroyed with one blow.

71. At a time when a night action is being conducted, the necessary matters concerning the type of night action, the forces participating (when necessary), the outline of allocation for the night action, and movements of each force after the action will be ordered beforehand.

72. Types of night action are established as follows:

TYPES	OUTLINE OF COMBAT
Night Action EO	The entire force acting as a unit will carry out a night action against a single target.
Night Action OTSU	When the enemy is divided, the entire strength will be used to attack and destroy the nearest and most powerful enemy forces. Then the rest of the enemy will be dealt with.
Night Action HEI	When the enemy is divided, our forces also will divide and carry out night action.
Night Action YEI	The routed enemy will be pursued. He will be engaged and destroyed as in the outline for day pursuit action. One element will be designated to destroy damaged enemy ships.
Night Action BO	Enemy delaying (screening) forces will be secretly bypassed and night action carried out against the enemy main body.

73. Night action normally will be carried out in accordance with the following outline:

a. If our surface forces have not met those of the enemy by dusk, an attempt will be made to engage in a night action. In such circumstances, efforts will be made to track and attack with airplanes. The Night Operations Force will proceed quickly.

Page
14/38

b. The Night Operations Force will be guided by tracking planes and will be supported by the battleship division. All units will co-operate on their own initiative and maintain local superiority. The enemy screening forces will be smashed and an advance made. The principal target of attack will be engaged. The principal target will be closed in on by using either an attack on one flank or an envelopment.

c. Normally an advance will be made after the powerful enemy delaying forces have been destroyed. As far as possible, destroyer squadrons will avoid being involved in this action or, if the circumstances require, the entire force secretly will outflank the enemy delaying force and then by-pass it.

d. The fast battleship division will participate actively in night action. It will be normally responsible for the cover and advance of the Night Operations Force.

e. Aircraft carriers will not enter the area of night action. They will co-operate with the Night Operations Force by supplying scouting and tracking planes. They will also carry out night air attacks.

f. Submarines will not participate in night actions other than to co-operate in scouting. This limitation, however, does not apply where a good opportunity presents for attacking the enemy without interfering with the Night Operations Force.

g. The targets of attack normally will be enemy aircraft carriers, battleships and large cruisers, in that order. In interception operations directed against an enemy accompanied by an invasion force, however, the enemy transport convoy will be the principal target.

h. When necessary, in addition to carrying out O** type fire, an attack at close quarters will be made as far as possible.

i. Enemy airplanes attacking at night will be evaded by suitable maneuvers and the action continued.

j. Night action in narrow waters will be in accordance with I, viii as well as v.

vi. Dawn Actions

74. Dawn actions by surface forces will utilise meteorological conditions or take advantage of a dispersed enemy in order to destroy him.

75. Types of dawn action are established as follows:

TYPES	OUTLINE OF COMBAT
Dawn Action KO	The enemy fleet will be engaged and attacked all through the night by the air and submarine forces. The surface forces will concentrate and approach the enemy. A dawn action will be carried out in accordance with Day Action HEI.
Dawn Action OTSU	1. The night action of the surface forces having been broken off, fighting will be rejoined in accordance with the outline for Dawn Action KO. 2. Night action will be ended about four hours before dawn. The concentration will be based on the position of the Main Body (the force under the command of the senior commanding officer present in the combat area) as indicated by distance and bearing from the enemy main force. The order of stations for each force will be ordered.
Dawn Action HEI	The Night Operations Force will attack repeatedly the enemy during the night. The Main Body and Battleship Force will participate in this and carry out a dawn action.

Note: The symbol ** after a conventional sign or abbreviation indicates that this is an exact reproduction of that appearing in the original document.

76. Dawn action normally is carried out in accordance with the following outline:

a. In Dawn Actions XO and OTSU deployment will be made and stations taken in such a way that the enemy is kept to the east. The gun action of battleship divisions will begin about 30 minutes before sunrise.

b. In Dawn Action HEI the Main Body and the Battleship Force normally will approach from the direction and position of the main force of the Night Operations Force and attack. When separated from the Main Body, the Night Operations Force will avoid being destroyed piecemeal and also avoid creating confusion among friendly forces. It will concentrate before dawn and while attacking whatever enemy is present, it will maneuver so as to rendezvous with the Main Body. When near the Main Body the Night Operations Force will maintain liaison with it and enter the dawn action.

Page
14/40

vii. Immediate Actions

77. When, as a result of the weather, visibility, etc, the enemy surface force is encountered suddenly, immediate action will be taken and the enemy will be annihilated.

78. The initiative will be seized in an immediate action by making effective use of lookouts, radar ranging equipment, sound locators, etc, and by being fully prepared. Local superiority will be maintained through close liaison between the various forces. The enemy will be engaged and destroyed.

79. The vanguard of the Task Force or other force engaged in immediate action will attack and destroy the enemy aircraft carriers. If possible, the enemy aircraft carriers will be closed in on from windward. They will be kept from launching their airplanes and destroyed.

80. When the enemy, particularly aircraft carriers or an invasion convoy, has been encountered suddenly, his situation will be ascertained quickly and reported. The attack by the air forces will be facilitated.

viii. Engagements in Narrow Waters

81. In an engagement in narrow waters, the enemy situation will be investigated thoroughly and full advantage taken of terrain and weather. Our plans will be concealed. The enemy will be approached in concert with diversionary feinting movements. When the enemy is met, the initiative will be seized and a surprise attack made. During the movements close liaison will be maintained throughout the entire force. Our forces will make the most of their special capabilities and destroy the enemy.

Page
14/41

82. Not only is an engagement in narrow waters greatly hampered by the terrain, but very often both sides will plan to move under cover of night and launch an improvised surprise attack. It is essential, therefore, to have undergone definite and detailed study and practice. In a complex and difficult place of battle it is all the more important to maintain close liaison between the various air, sea and land forces; to develop approach and withdrawal tactics adaptable to the enemy situation; to perfect identification of friendly forces, measures for meeting the attacks of enemy craft, etc; and to carry out the engagement from start to finish under a well-organized, unified command.

83. Without the types of forces, strength and tactics suitable to the terrain, enemy situation, etc, engagements in narrow waters will not go as intended. Where small boats are used principally, the scope for ingenuity is vast: for example, in overcoming the enemy with improvised weapons or in achieving success in an unforeseen situation by adopting emergency measures. Therefore, the appropriate types and strength of forces must be selected. Tactics will be devised to make full use of the particular capabilities of the force.

At the same time attention must be given to the tactics of the enemy and to the particular capabilities of his forces. His shifting movements must be comprehended; his inventiveness must always be surmised. Care must be taken that our forces are never taken by surprise because of neglect or a failure of policy.

84. Because the chances of a sudden encounter with the enemy are great in narrow waters, especially at night, the forces must be constantly prepared for immediate action and move under the strictest alert.

85. Studies and plans will be made concerning the method of using submarines in an engagement in narrow waters so that they can manifest their particular capabilities in accordance with the terrain, enemy situation, etc. They will operate according to a disposition which enables them to adapt themselves to the changing situation.

86. Night engagements in narrow waters will be carried out in accordance with A, v, in addition to the following outline:

a. The enemy situation over the entire area will be ascertained through communications intelligence (TOSHIKI CHUO) as well as base air forces and submarine forces. The enemy will be smashed by air attacks and if he continues to approach, he will be tracked by airplanes of the base air forces and Night Operations Force.

b. In the approach our plans will be kept as secret as possible by taking advantage of terrain and weather, by strict control of radio transmission and by selection of deceptive routes. If necessary, diversionary feinting movements will be carried out. Every effort will be made to elude enemy tracking planes and fighter planes will be used to shoot them down.

c. The allocation of forces and the line of command will be clear and certain. The disposition for encounter with the enemy and the approach formation will be suitable. Confused fighting and firing at friendly forces will be prevented. To the fullest extent possible a definite schedule of movements will be arranged and also plans for meeting any changes therein. Especially close liaison with airplanes will be maintained.

d. The forces will be on the alert against improvised enemy plans. A sudden encounter with the enemy will be prevented by strict lookout and radar search. When the enemy is met, the initiative will be seized and offensive power concentrated. The enemy will be destroyed with a single blow.

Precautions will be taken against the following situations:

Reckless proceeding in a direction where the change in visibility is to our disadvantage and where the enemy is using radar.

Loss of an opportunity for launching torpedoes by veering off to avoid enemy radar-directed fire.

Being caught while dodging enemy airplanes and being drawn into a surface engagement with our forces scattered.

c. Night combat in narrow waters normally will be carried out by light forces and air forces. Unless circumstances absolutely require, battleship forces will not participate. Submarines will be charged with attacking the enemy at specially prescribed points.

Page
14/43

III. Essentials

A. COMMUNICATIONS

1. General Rules

a. Each unit or ship, whether cruising or at anchor, will strive to maintain secrecy of movement, location and plans by keeping the volume of communications at a minimum and by adopting suitable communication methods. Messages will be transmitted speedily and accurately. In some situations it is advantageous to send out deceptive messages.

b. In wireless communications suitable use will be made of code and of controls over transmission frequencies. Every precaution will be taken for the safeguarding of communications.

c. In visual communications the appropriate method will be selected in the light of the enemy situation, weather and terrain, contents of messages, etc. When necessary, messages will be encoded, night signalling suspended and similar measures taken.

d. Enemy communications will be actively intercepted in accordance with the following division. The combined communications units and other specially designated communications units will communicate intelligence and other data to the proper authorities. All other units or ships will also report promptly to the proper authorities important information which they have obtained on the enemy situation.

Page
14/44

(1). Combined communications units

General enemy situation

They will decide their areas of responsibility as occasion demands.

(2). Communications units specially equipped and staffed.

They will be responsible for the interception of enemy communications at specially designated places.

(3). Other communications units

For the most part, as directed by the respective force commanders, they will intercept the enemy communications important to their units from an operational standpoint.