A. GENERAL-As with battleships, cruiser tactics and doctrine is the product of studies of the between wars fleet problems.

B. TACTICS-The basic evolution unit for cruisers is the division, usually composed of two to four ships. Standard distance is 600 yards and interval 2600 yards. Steerageway is 6 knots and the cruiser standard tactical diameter is 1000 yards. Cruisers will accelerate in accordance with the following tables:

For use when boiler power is prescribed for a maximum formation speed of 23 knots or less.

Increase in speed in knots

Present speed in knots	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
10	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	3	5	5	5	5	7	10
11	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	3	4	4	4	5	7	10	
12	1	1	1	1	1	2	3	4	4	4	5	7	10		
13	1	1	1	1	2	3	4	4	4	5	7	10			
14	1	1	1	2	3	4	4	4	5	6	9				
15	1	1	1	3	4	4	4	4	6	9					
16	1	1	2	3	3	3	4	6	9						
17	1	2	3	3	3	4	5	8							
18	1	3	3	3	3	5	8								
19	2	2	2	3	4	7									
20	2	2	2	4	7										
21	2	2	3	6											
22	2	3	6												
23	2	5													
24	3														

PRESENT SPEED IN KNOTS

In accelerating and decelerating between 0-10 knots it becomes necessary to abandon the table. The throttle should be opened or closed immediately and chest pressures adjusted for required RPM. No time allowance is prescribed.

For use when boiler power is prescribed for a maximum formation speed in excess of 23 knots

Increase in speed in knots

PRESENT SPEED IN KNOTS	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
10	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	4	5	6	9	9	9
11	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	4	5	6	9	9	9	
12	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	4	5	6	9	9	9		
13	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	3	3	3	3	4	5	6	9	9	9			
14	1	1	1	1	1	2	3	3	3	3	3	4	5	8	8	8				
15	1	1	1	1	1	2	3	3	3	3	4	5	8	8	8					
16	1	1	1	1	2	3	3	3	3	4	5	8	8	8						
17	1	1	1	1	2	3	3	3	4	5	8	8	8							
18	1	1	1	1	2	3	3	4	5	8	8	8								
19	1	1	1	1	2	3	3	4	7	7	7									
20	1	1	1	1	2	3	4	7	7	7										
21	1	1	1	2	3	4	7	7	7											
22	1	1	2	3	4	7	7	7												
23	1	2	2	3	6	6	6													
24	1	2	3	6	6	6														
25	1	2	5	5	5															
26	1	4	4	4																
27	3	3	3																	
28	3	3																		
29	3																			

1. Distribution of Pressure-Cruiser operations often require periods of separation while scouting, screening, patroling and picketing. Because of this their operations must be directed so that widely separated forces react to pressure from an enemy to:

a. gain information
b. drive him in a direction
c. to pursue
d. to prevent movement

The cruisers operating in distribution of pressure generally operate around a focus rather than a guide. Commonly the focus is the enemy main body.

To achieve this two methods are preferred.

a. Relative Position Method

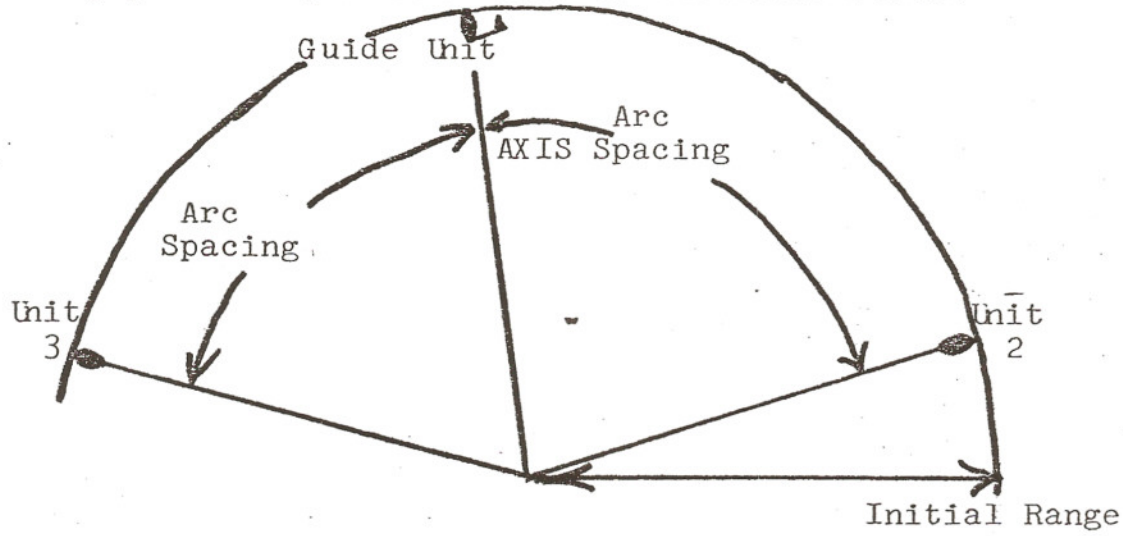
Form	Ahead	Bow	Beam	Quarter	Rear
C11	1	1			
C12		1-1			
C13		1	1		
C14			1	1	
C15				1-1	
C16		1		1	
C17		1	1	1	
C18	1	1-1			
C19	1	1	1		
C20				1-1	1
C21		1-1		1-1(i.e.surrounded)	
C22		1	2	1	

The numbers 1 and 2 indicate the number of units in each position.

b. True Bearing Method

Plan C23

When it is desired to position the pressure distribution by true bearings, Plan C23 will be used as described below:



Definitions

Focus	Center of enemy formation
Axis	The true bearing of the focus from cruiser guide or designated unit. It points in the direction pressure is to be applied.
Arc Spacing	The angular distance between units in TENS of DEGREE right or left of axis, from the focus.
Initial Range	The distance from the focus at which the formation i to be completed. Unless otherwise specified by signal it is 28,000 to 30,000 yards.

Signals

This plan will be placed in effect by signal:

XX - Form cruiser disposition C23 TACK THREE NUMERALS TACK ONE or TWO NUMERALS. The first(three)numeral group is the true directio of the axis. The second(one or two)numeral group is the arc spacing in tens of degrees. Changes in the direction in which pressure is to be applied will be effected by signal to rotate the axis. In execution of such signals note the axis, as defined in this special case, rotates around the enemy focus and not own guide. Changes in initial range will be ordered by the appropriate general signal.

attack etc.

a. Scatter Plan C61

Formation One cruiser division in column, or differing no more than 15° from column.

Procedure All ships:
(a) Take flank speed;
(b) First and third ships turn right 45°; second and four ships turn left 45°.
(c) After formation has been broken ships resume former course to the front, or other desired course, with or without zigzag, on signal by division commander.

b. Scatter Plan C62

Formation One cruiser division or section in line, or differing no more than 15° relative from line.

Procedure All ships:
(a) Take flank speed
(b) Flank ships turn away from the center; interior ships turn 30° away from the center; center ship(if there are three ships) turn 30° to right;
interior ships(center ship) delay starting turn until flank ships have commenced turn in proper direction;
(c) After the formation has been broken resume former course to the front, or other desired course, with or without zigzag, on signal by division commander.

c. Scatter Plan C63

Formation One cruiser division in line of bearing greater than 15° relative from line or column.

Procedure All ships:
(a) Take flank speed
(b) Flank ships turn 60° away from center; interior ships turn 30° away from center; center ship(if there are three ships) turn 30° toward retired flank;
interior ships(center ship)delay starting turn until flank ships have commenced turn in proper direction
(c) After the formation has been broken resume course to the front or other desired course, with or without zigzag, on signal by division commander.

d. Scatter Plan C64

Formation Two, three or four cruiser divisions in column of divisio guides

Procedure Each division on signal of its division commander;
(a) Take flank speed
(b) Division A(van) ships right 45°; Division B ships left 45°; Division C ships right 45°; Division D ships left 45°
(c) When formation is broken at least 1000 yards from the former track of the column, resume course to the front or other desired course, with or without zigzag, or scatter on signal by division commander.

e. Scatter Plan C65

Formation Two, three or four divisions in line of division guides.

Procedure On signal by division commanders all divisions:
(a) Take flank speed
(b) Flank divisions turn 60° away from center; interior divisions turn 30° away from center; center division (if there are three) turn 30° to right; interior divisions (center) delay starting turn until flank divisions have commenced turn in proper direction.
(c) After the formation has been broken and sufficient sea room is available, divisions resume former course to the front, or other desired course, with or without zigzag, or scatter on signal by division commander.

f. Scatter Plan C66

Formation Two, three or four divisions in line of bearing of divisio guides.

Procedure On signal by division commanders all divisions:
(a) Take flank speed
(b) Flank divisions turn 60° away from center; interior division turn 30° away from center; center division (if there are three) turn 30° toward the retired flank interior divisions(center) delay starting turn until flank divisions have commenced turn in the proper direction.
(c) After the formation has been broken and sufficient sea room is available, divisions resume former course to the front, or other desired course with or without zig zag, or scatter on signal by division commander.

g. Scatter Plan C67

Formation Line of squadron columns, squadrons normally in column.

Procedure Each division on signal of its division commander:
(a) Take flank speed
(b) Van division right squadron-ships right 30°; rear division right squadron-ships right 60°; van division left squadron-ships left 30°; rear division left squadron-ships left 60°
(c) After the formation has been broken resume course to t front or other desired course, with or without zigzag, or scatter on signal by division commander.

3. Screening-Screen stations are determined thus:
(a) The screening distance between ships or groups of ships in terms miles or degrees of arc will be the quotient obtained by dividing the length of the assigned line or number of degrees in the assig sector by the number of ships or groups of ships assigned to that line or sector.
(b) Flank ships or groups of ships will be stationed at a distance fr the end or limit of the assigned line or sector equal to 1/2 of t screening distance as defined in (a) above.

4. Scouting-In organizing a search or scout operation the following information should be understood or supplied:

a. Search plan, kind and method; day, night or both
b. Objective of search
   1. Description of object
   2. For early information or large area
c. General direction of own movement or enemy movement
d. Scouting line
   1. Origin 2. Direction 3. Interval 4. Area
e. Composition of forces(ships, planes)
   1. Guide 2. Order of Units 3. Distance 4. Units per station
   5. Support; striking force; position 6. Arming of planes
f. Course
   1. Initial 2. Scouting 3. Changes; reversal 4. Retirement
   5. Future
g. Speed
   1. Initial 2. Scouting 3. Retirement 4. Future
h. Time
   1. Start Operation 2. Start Scouting 3. Change course
   4. Daylight or dark 5. Length of Flights 6. Time of recovery
   7. End operation or search
i. Radius of visibility
j. Enemy
   1. Position 2. Time 3. Course 4. Speed 5. Composition
   6. Origin; destination; intention
k. Action on contact: plane down; concentration
l. Action on reduced visibility
m. Rendezvous, ship, planes: landing place; smooth water concentration
n. Weather prediction: visibility, ceiling, force and direction wind, surface, aloft_____feet
o. Fuel restrictions: logistic limitations
p. Special orders: reports from scouts
q. Zone time
r. Communication organization: conditions and restrictions; RDF intelligen
s. Chart reference
t. Reference position, S.O.P.
u. Plan No._____

The following are examples of scouting lines:

5. Order of Divisions
   a. The order of divisions for heavy cruisers will be as follows:
      COMPOUND FORMATIONS-van to rear, right to left-4,6,7,5
      SCOUTING LINE-van to rear, right to left-4,6,7,5
      SCREENING LINE OR ARC-clockwise-5,7,6,4
   b. The order of divisions for light cruisers will be as follows:
      COMPOUND FORMATIONS-van to rear, right to left-9,3,8
      LINE OF DIVISIONS or similar formations-right to left-9,3,8
      SCOUTING LINE-right to left-9,3,8
      SCREENING LINE OR ARC-clockwise-8,3,9

C. DOCTRINE
1. Cruiser Activities
   a. Fleet Activities; Screening, scouting, general engagement,cooperatio with other forces, landing force, fleet emergency force
   b. Independent Activities; Strategic control; enforcement of neutrality detached operation against enemy naval forces: commerce destruction; raids on commerce, enemy ports and bases; blockades; visit and searc Commerce protection; escort; patrol: intelligence service; recon-naissance: bombardment: despatch duty and communication relay.

2. Scouting-Heavy cruisers are preferable. If light cruisers are used the more powerful units should occupy interior stations. Aircraft should be utilized to the fullest.
   a. Action on Contact-Contacting units will
      i. Report contact properly
      ii. Develop contact. Determine if objective of scout mission has bee located.
   b. Contact Scouting-Contact scouting sectors are based on center of enemy disposition.

3. Tracking-Generally aircraft will be used in tracking with contact tracking ulilized only occasionally or in the event of great superiorit of the tracking units or speed superiority that allows such tracking with relative impunity. Detached enemy units will be destroyed when opportunity presents itself. Flank units will observe and report any changes in enemy course. Rear units will trail. Tracking units sharp on enemy bow are not desirable because of the danger from own torpedo attacks.

4. Operations
   a. Offensive Action-Cruisers by the nature of their duties, are likely to encounter enemy forces suddenly. THE ABILITY TO USE ALL BATTERIES IMMEDIATELY AND EFFECTIVELY IS AN ABSOLUTE NECESSITY FOR ALL CRUISERS. Since there will be little time in the presence of the enemy for pro-longed consideration of courses of action, Cruiser Commanders should, insofar as possible, anticipate the probable situations which may con-front them and select tentative courses of action to be followed in ea case. Consideration should always be given to the benefits of prompt offensive action, even though the cruiser mission be primarily defensi

   b. Factors Affecting Decision to Engage-Cruiser commanders must be familiar with the offensive and defensive characteristics of their own and foreign vessels which they may engage.

ESTIMATED OUTER LIMITS FOR ACCURATE FIRE CONTROL-TOP SPOT

Type of Ship	BB	CA	CL	CL	CL	
Caliber of Guns	14" 16"	8"	6"	5.5"	5.1"	
Modern control and optical gear	22	20	18	16	14	Thousands
Recent control and optical gear	20	18	15	14	13	of

Cruiser gunfire as it affects Light Cruisers. Estimated ranges of penetratic of Class B Armor. Ranges in thousands of yards.

Target Angle	Thickness of Side Plates 2"	2.5"	3"	4"	5"	Deck Plates 1"	1.5"	2"	
8" Projectiles									
90°	30	30	29	24	20	12	18	21	
60°	30	30	25	21	17				
45°	30	24	20	15	12*				
6" Projectiles									
90°	23	20	17	12	10	15	19	22	
90°	14	11	9*	X	X	17	21	24	OMAHA CLASS
60°	19	16	14	10	7				
60°	12*	9*	7*	X	X				OMAHA CLASS
45°	16	13	11*	7*	4*				
45°	X	X	X	X	X				OMAHA CLASS
5.5" Projectiles									
90°	17	14	12	9	7	16	20	23	
60°	14	11	9	8	X				
45°	10	8	6*	X	X				
5.1" Projectiles									
90°	13	10	8	6	4	17	21	X	
60°	10	8	6	4	X				
45°	6	6	X	X	X				

Target angle has no effect on Deck Plates

*Indicates plate probably holed but projectile probably breaks up
XIndicates no penetration within range of gun.

5. Fire Distribution-The fire distribution of all cruisers should be in acco dance with the following general principles:

a. Divided fire should be used only when by reason of concentration or inferiority in the number of our ships we cannot otherwise cover all necessary targets.
b. For heavy cruisers, concentrations greater than triple are not desirable. For light cruisers, concentrations greater than double are not desirable.

III. GENERAL FIGHTING INSTRUCTIONS

A. SURFACE ACTION-The plans and procedures outlined in this section were developed in the 1939-1940-1941 Fleet problems and represent the final evolution of U.S. Navy Battle Line tactics.

1.Battle Disposition-The normal battle disposition recommended for the U.S. Navy's battle forces is as shown in the illustration. The rules for positioning of the flank forces are:

A defensive element:

(a) Stationed at a distance 12,000 yards from the center of own battle line(less distance in reduced visibility, or if battle line support is required) at an angle from the fleet axis such as to permit interposing between the enemy and own battle line on or outside of the locus of enemy destroyer torpedo firing points. Stations of other flank units are calculated from the distance of the outer limit of Area A in which this defensive element is stationed. Should the flank commander desire to increase or decrease the distance of this element from the battle line he may do so by signal designating distance of outer limit of Area A from the center of the battle line. Should lack of time or other circumstances prevent a flank commander from designating area limits by signal, all unit commanders shall interpret the station taken by the flank commander as indicating the approximate stations the several units should occupy.

(b) Capable of effecitve defensive action against an unsupported attack of enemy destroyers in the opposed light forces. In estimating the required strength of this element it may be assumed that a light cruiser(modern) can provide effective defense against 4-6 destroyers; a heavy cruiser or light cruiser(old) 3-4 destroyers; a modern destroyer, 2 enemy destroyers. Old destroyers can provide effective defense against old destroyers and in such case in ratio 1 to 2 enemy destroyers.

(c) This defensive element of the flank force is not necessarily restricted to defensive action. Its initial task is the defense of own battle line against a surprise or early initiated attack by destroyers in the enemy van light forces. When our light forces are operating on the tactical offensive, or in a favorable opportunity occurs, it may be employed in an attack.

A destroyer attack element:

(a) Stationed in an area outside(more distant from own battle line) of the defensive element.

(b) Capable of effective offensive action against the enemy battle line. This element should comprise one to four squadrons of destroyers(normally all destroyers of the van light forces not assigned to the defensive element) and in addition such cruisers as may be available to support the destroyers in an attack. When cruisers are limited the cruisers of the defending element may be directed to operate in support of our attacking destroyers. Also cruisers of the STRENGTH ELEMENT (below), may be used to support our attacking destroyers.

A strength element

(a) Stationed in an area outside(more distant from own battle line) of the destroyer attack element.

(b) Capable of preventing the turning of the light force flank and preventing the forcing of won light forces out of position. Preferably strong enough to drive the enemy light forces out of position. When own light forces are so superior to those of the enemy as to warrant the initiation of a destroyer attack, this strength element is used alone or in coordination with cruiser units in the destroyer attack element, or defensive element, to attack the enemy light forces preliminary to, or simultaneously with the initiation of own destroyer attack.

An explanation of the TYPICAL BATTLE DISPOSITION shown in the illustration follows:

Areas for light forces in the van and rear are lettered B, C, D, E, F etc with A as the battle line station. The radius of the arc constituting the outer limit of B area will be 12,000 yards unless otherwise directed by the task force commander. This radius may be lessened in reduced visibility and should be increased to 14,000 yards if more than one squadron of destroyers is assigned to area B after deployment. The radii of other areas should be determined by adding to the limiting radius of the area next toward the battle line, of an amount equal to the required maneuvering length plus 1,000 yards. The maneuvering length for a destroyer squadron is 3,400 yards, for other types, number of ships times distance.

For example:

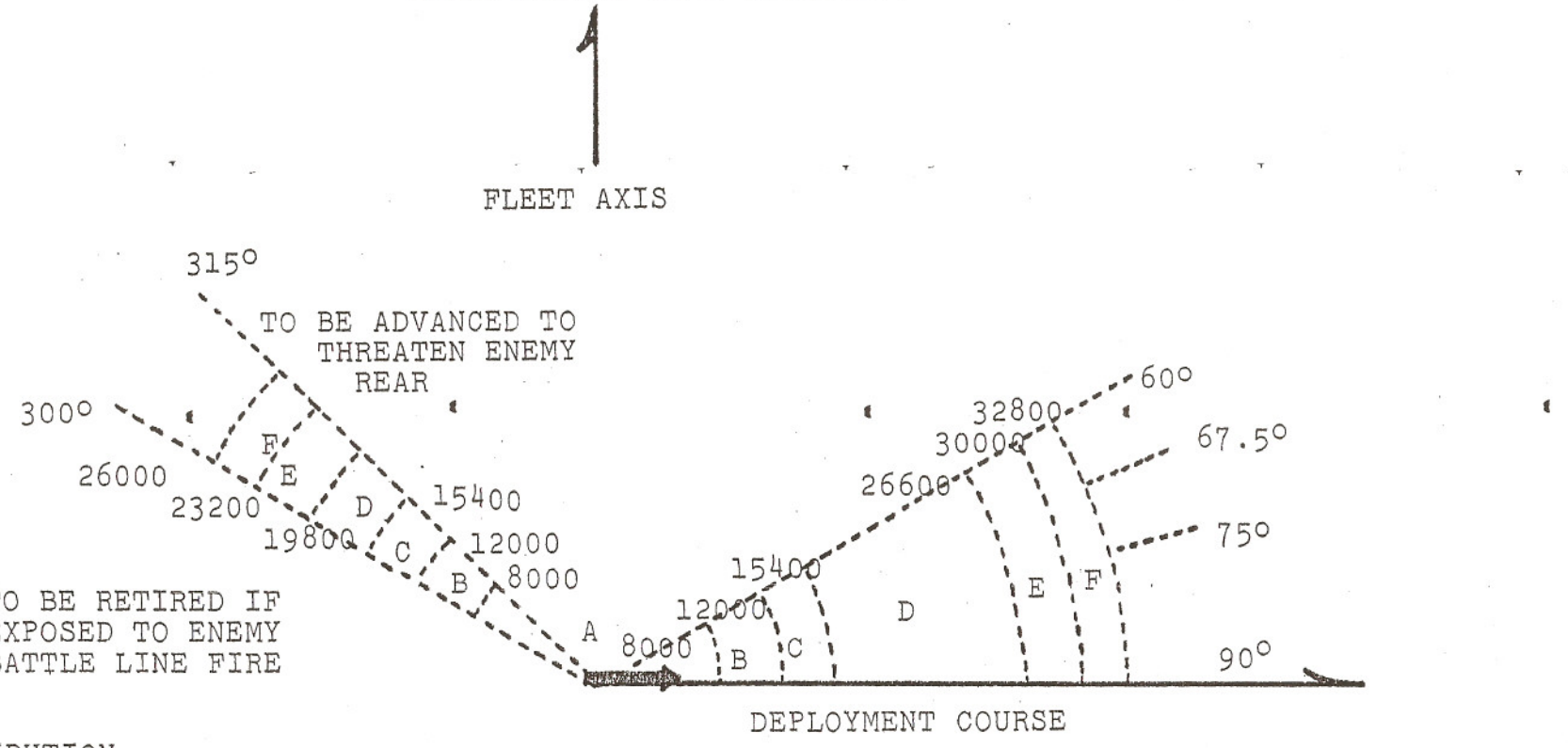
Area B-1 Squadron DD	-outer limit 12,000 yards
Area C-1 Division(4) CL	-column 2,400 plus 1,000=15,400
Area D-3 Squadrons DD	-10,2000 plus 1,000=26,600
Area E-1 Division(4) CL	-Maneuvering length 2,400 plus 1,000=30,000
Area F-1 Division(3) CA	-Maneuvering length 1,800 plus 1,000=32,800

Signal "Area. Take position in the disposition in --- designated."

BATTLE PLANS-Battle will be governed by a definite plan, normally previously prescribed, but such original plan is subject to modification or change, either prior to or during an engagement, as developments dictate.

TYPICAL BATTLE DISPOSITION

The angle from the deployment course is projected in the direction of the enemy as much as is consistent with a changing situation which involves several factors such as strength and pressure exerted by the enemy light forces and own strength and tactical attitude.



DISTRIBUTION

AREA	FORCE	REAR	VAN
B	DDs	1 Sq(9DD)	1 Sq(9DD)
C	CLs	1 Dv(4CL)	1 Dv(4CL)
D	DDs	1 Sq(9DD)	3 Sq(27DD)
E	CLs	1 Dv(4CL)	1 Dv(4CL)
F	CAs	1 Dv(3CA)	1 Dv(3CA)

The LIGHT FORCE extend from the inner area B outward; the limits of each area depending upon the number of each type assigned by the FLANK FORCE COMMANDER to each area as prescribed in the text.

a. Preliminary Attack-Cruisers may seek to destroy, disprese or damage enemy light forces to clear area for own destroyer torpedo attack. To succeed such an attack should:
i. Contain superior light force strength
ii. Comprise cruisers primarily.
iii. Torpedo attack after battle lines actually engage.
Heavy cruisers attack enemy cruisers(CA or CL)

b. Simultaneous Attack-In this attack cruisers attempt to destroy enemy light forces in coordination with the destroyer torpedo attac on enemy battle line.
Light cruisers attack enemy destroyers.
Heavy cruisers attack enemy cruisers.
Cruisers keep clear of torpedo launch points and cover destroyer retirement.

Conversely own light forces should be deployed at or near locus of torpedo firing points(12,000 to 14,000 yards from Battle Line cente

c. General-In order to permit rapid transmission of instructions to th flank forces, the following plans are provided for use with the general signal meaning "Light Forces will operate according to batt plan indicated.":
Plan 1-Tactical offensive
Plan 2-Tactical defensive
Plan 3-Divided-part tactical offensive, part tactical defensive.
Plan 4-Make normal deployment, nature of initial operations to be decided when tactical situation is more definitely known.
Plan 5-Tactical offensive-Designated units prepare to make a preliminary attack.

Note: If deployment is ordered before the order to attack is given, the designated units will take stations in the general vicini of their normal deployment stations.
Plan 6-Tactical offensive-Light forces in the van prepare to make a simultaneous attack.

Note: If deployment is ordered before the order to attack is given, the light forces in the van will take stations in the general vicinity of their normal deployment stations, but as near to the enemy light forces as possible without becoming engaged.

Plan 7-Divided-Light force units designated prepare to make simulta eous attack-Units of light forces not designated operate defensively, but if practicable during the attack of the offensive units, move into the outer area and prepare to attack enemy battle line with torpedoes.

d. Flank Force Strength-Fighting strength is necessary in the flank unit most distant from own battle line in order to prevent the flank from being turned and own light forces being driven out of position.

e. Light Force Stations-The most advantageous station for own attackir destroyers is that from which they can reach suitable torpedo firir points with the least exposure to enemy gunfire. This requires tha van light forces operating on the tactical offensive be oriented with respect to the enemy objective, and not in a fixed area relati to own battle line. The position to be attained by the attacking destroyers will depend on comparative strength and distribution of

for to the opposed enemy light forces; in all [illegible] parallel courses, this station will normally be about 22,000 yards from the center of own battle line, on a bearing 70^{0} to 75^{0} from the fleet axis.

f. Cruiser Action-Cruiser action against enemy light forces either preliminary to or simultaneously with the attacking destroyers, will normally be most effective when initiated from two stations, one on each side of the station of the attacking destroyers.

3. Small Task Forces-The U.S. Navy employs three types of "Battle line" formations for small battleship/cruiser task forces in surface action. They are known as A, B and C formations. "A" formations are essentially scaled down versions of the battle disposition shown under the section Battle Disposition above.

For ease of signaling, such plans are designated by three characters, as follows:

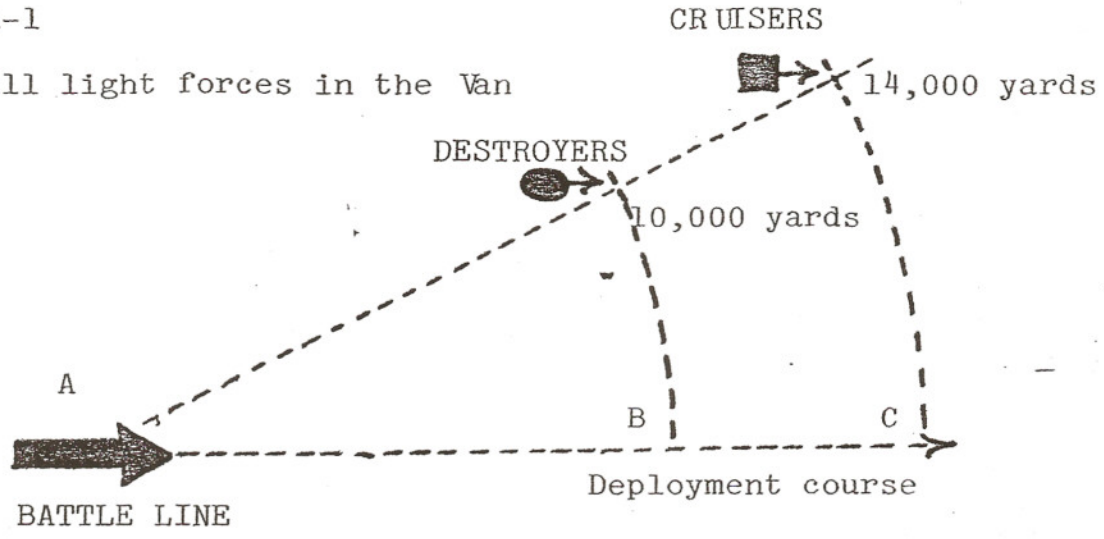
Numeral-Type of Action	1. Normal 2. Reverse 3. Pursuit 4. Retiring 5. Delaying 6. Withdrawal
Letter-Range	E. Extreme L. Long M. Medium C. Close
Numeral-Light Force Operations.	1. Both van and rear offensive 2. Both van and rear defensive 3. Van offensive, rear defensive 4. Van defensive, rear offensive 5. At discretion of light force commanders.

B and C are wedge and vee formations and though they may be used by battleships are principally cruiser/destroyer formations and suggested for use in conjunction with A formations; for example in "A-3" the van light forces are shown as in a B formation.

TYPE "A" BATTLE DISPOSITIONS FOR SMALL TASK FORCES

A-1

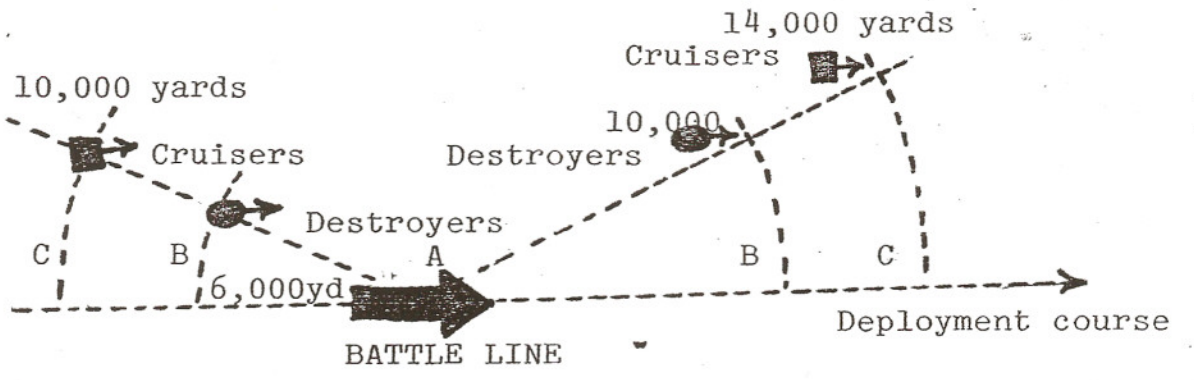
All light forces in the Van



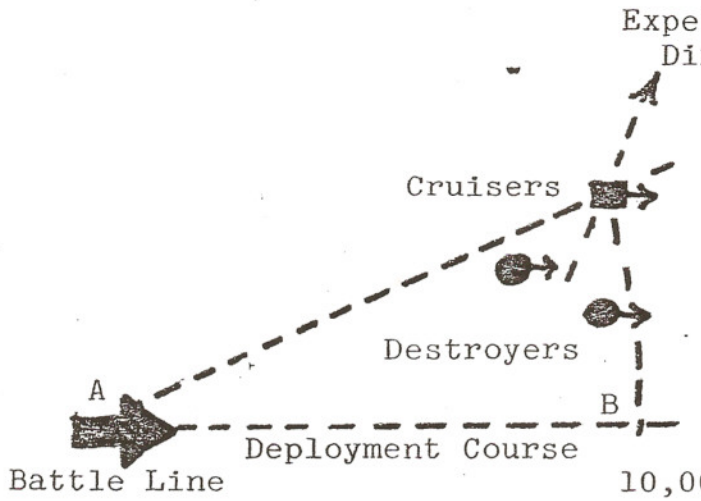
A-4-Same as A-1, except one destroyer is stationed 2,000 yards to 3000 yards astern of rear ship of battle line.

A-2

Light forces equally divided



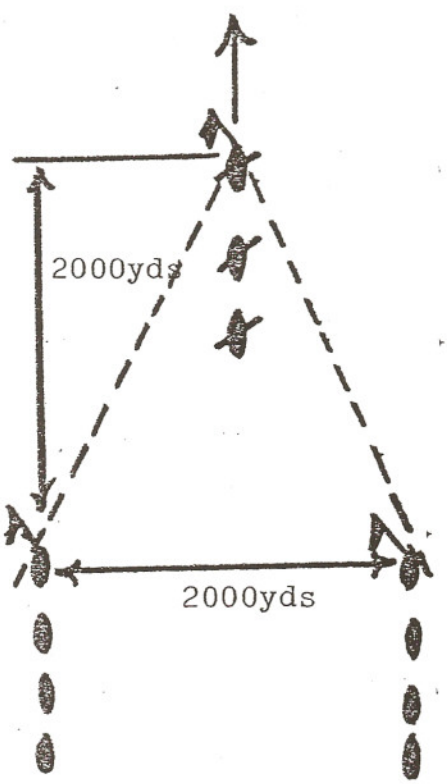
A-3
All light forces in Van in B Area, formed in Wedge or Vee at discretion of Light Force Commander



Wedge formation illustrated, vee similar. Note that the reference direction of vee or wedge should point in direction in which it is expected to attack not in the direction of the deployment course.

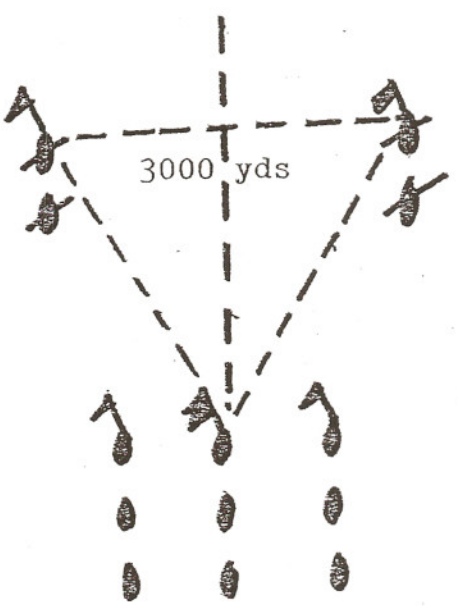
A-5
Same as A-3, except one destroyer is stationed 2000 to 3000 yards astern of rear ship of battle line.

TYPE "B" BATTLE DISPOSITION FOR SMALL TASK FORCES



Illustrated for one division of cruisers and one squadron of eight destroyers, latter formed in two-4 ship attack units. Any other formation of attack units may be substituted. Distances may be varied to suit requirements.

TYPE "C" BATTLE DISPOSITION FOR SMALL TASK FORCES



Illustrated for one division of cruisers and one squadron of nine destroyers, latter formed in three 3 ship attack units. Any other formation of attack units may be substituted. Distances may be varied to suit requirements.

REFERENCES-TACTICAL ORDERS AND DOCTRINE, BATTLESHIPS AND CRUISERS, U.S.NAVY

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3. CURRENT DOCTRINE, BATTLESHIPS, U.S.FLEET, 1938 (USF-17)
4. COMMANDER BATTLESHIPS, PACIFIC FLEET OPERATIONS ORDER 13-44, 6 Oct 1944 (CBP 13-44)
5. CURRENT TACTICAL ORDERS, CRUISERS, U.S.FLEET, 1941* (USF-20)
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*1944 reprint

REFERENCES SECTION BY SECTION

I. BATTLESHIP TACTICS AND DOCTRINE
   - A. GENERAL (USF-10A, USF-16, CBP 13-44)
   - B. TACTICS 1938-1942 (USF-16)
   - C. TACTICS FAST BATTLESHIPS
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II. CRUISER TACTICS AND DOCTRINE
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III. GENERAL FIGHTING INSTRUCTIONS (USF-10A)