

SOUTH PACIFIC FORCE
OF THE UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
HEADQUARTERS OF THE COMMANDER

26 May 1944.

Honorable James V. Forrestal,
Secretary of the Navy,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Congratulations on your appointment as Secretary of
the Navy and best wishes for a very successful administra-
tion of the department.

I was delighted to receive the radio news of the
President's action.

Sincerely,

H. E. STASSEN.

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SOUTH PACIFIC FORCE
OF THE UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
HEADQUARTERS OF THE COMMANDER

24 May

1944.

MEMORANDUM

From: FLAG SECRETARY

To: 01

Reference: (a) Your memorandum to Staff of
13 May 1944.

1. At 1330 24 May, Lieutenant Commander Dacey relieved me of duties as Flag Secretary and took over my desk except as to Third Fleet matters and for such matters as are of continuing concern to you and the Admiral.

2. Lieutenant Hughes also relieved Lieutenant (jg) Carroll and took over his desk.

3. Lieutenant (jg) Carroll will follow through on Third Fleet matters and other items of concern to you.

H. E. STASSEN.

SOUTH PACIFIC FORCE
OF THE UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
HEADQUARTERS OF THE COMMANDER

22 May 1944

The Secretary of the Treasury
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

With further reference to Admiral Halsey's letter of March 13 and your reply of March 27, I am pleased to advise you that the exhibit of unusual items fabricated by servicemen in the South Pacific, and sponsored by the American Red Cross, has been forwarded to your department. They are contained in three boxes, total weight of the three being 150 lbs., and are covered by Bill of Lading #17588-44.

Enclosed with the shipment, and in a letter from Miss Crockett of the Red Cross, is descriptive information of the enemy material and other sources of metals used in the fabrication. It is respectfully requested that after the department has completed its use of the exhibit for War Bond drives, the respective items be packed and forwarded to the individual consignees indicated. This can be done either by your department or by a conveniently located Naval Supply Officer.

Respectfully,

H. E. STASSEN,
Flag Secretary.

SOUTH PACIFIC FORCE
OF THE UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
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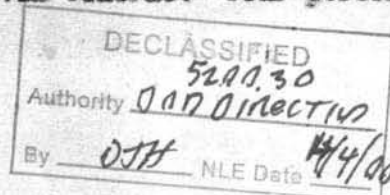
~~SECRET~~ and ~~PERSONAL~~

14 May 1944.

MEMORANDUM

From: The Flag Secretary.
To : The Chief of Staff.
Subject: Pearl Harbor Trip 8 May to 14 May.

1. Arrangements at Pearl are completed for suitable and well located offices for the Commander THIRD Fleet.
2. Procurement of most of the necessary furniture, desks, chairs, filing case safes, etc has been completed and the remainder arranged for with the Service Force and the Cincpac's Flag Secretary's Office.
3. Adequate telephone service has been ordered and approved through JicPoa - Commander Le Gendre.
4. Our space is on the second deck of the new JicPoa building as noted on the attached chart. A shift in the additional space was made at the request of JicPoa but, with equal floor space and equal or greater convenience to us. The floor plan approved by you is being carried out precisely. General Twitty personally put through the final needed instructions stating that he wanted OO and yourself satisfied and instructed his subordinates that the way to satisfy them was to meet my requests, which I in turn kept on a reasonable and accommodating basis.
5. I personally checked with the building foreman in laying out the partitions and all were in place before departure from Pearl. Only completing the sheeting up and hanging the doors remained to be done.
6. The JicPoa building will have a fairly strict security system, requiring officers and personnel working in the building to wear a pass with picture on a string around the neck, and requiring visitors to sign in and sign out. It is the system in effect on their present building and I recommend we conform without question. It will relieve our own security problem at the same time. I will arrange for identification negatives to be taken at Noumea of all of our officers and personnel going to Pearl and will forward negatives to JicPoa so that all passes are ready on arrival. This will avoid the confusion and delay incident to temporary passes.
7. The letter to Assistant Secretary of the Navy requesting cars was signed by the Admiral and forwarded via CincPac. Your personal letter to Morell was also forwarded.



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SOUTH PACIFIC FORCE
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HEADQUARTERS OF THE COMMANDER

SECRET and PERSONAL

14 May 1944

Subject: Pearl Harbor Trip 8 May to 14 May.

8. Commanders Moulton and Hoerner are to be at Majuro on 2 June.

9. I conferred with Captain Cecil of PacFlt Radar Center regarding CIC and Flag Plot setups and secured a blueprint of the floor plan of same for Iowa class battleships.

10. He strongly recommended maintaining an adequate air and surface plot and recommended the installation of the new powerful SM radar in the BB Flagship for THIRD Fleet. This type is now installed only in CVs. Dow of course should be consulted on this, but from my conference with Captain Cecil and with FIFTH Fleet Staff, I recommend a more adequate Flag Plot and CIC setup including air and including SM radar and a monitor setup adequate for both the TBS and VHF circuits.

11. I went aboard the MASSACHUSETTS and conferred with the Executive and Gunnery Officer on their CIC and Flag Plot. Obtained a number of good suggestions and a reemphasis on monitor of communications and relocation of plots and DRT in CIC.

12. I recommend that we obtain assignment of our Flag Ship at earliest date and that we supervise necessary revisions of Flag Plot and CIC to conform to Admiral Halsey's desires of results to be obtained. If one of the new BBs still in the yard but due out soon was assigned we might be able to get almost exactly what we want with a minimum of difficulty. Believe the entire Flag Plot and CIC should be developed on the assumption that Admiral Halsey will be using it to direct the fleet when a major engagement with the Jap Fleet takes place. Nothing short of that is adequate in view of the ultimate importance of the event if it occurs and the tremendous preparation of ships and men being made for that eventuality. The critical nerve center of it all should not be spared in preparations.

13. Admiral Towers feels the need of a ComFairSouthwest setup for logistic support of the new Southwest command from 159° West. He would like you to take this question up with the Southwest conferees in the current conference and advise him. He envisions a setup similar to ComFairSouth under SoPac in the past year.

14. On this same question Admiral Pownall prepared a dispatch which was submitted to Admiral Towers but not yet released when we departed Pearl. Copy is attached. Admiral Pownall talked to Admiral Halsey and Admiral Halsey had a different view than the above, having in mind that this command will be handling carrier replacements and support might better be South than Southwest.

SOUTH PACIFIC FORCE
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SECRET and PERSONAL

14 May 1944.

Subject: Pearl Harbor Trip 8 May to 14 May.

15. Captain Collins, CinCPac Operations, restated his desire to secure a senior Lieutenant or junior Lieutenant Commander for his Operations section at Pearl, to start on fleet organization and work up.

16. Captain Collins also asked that I tell you that Admiral Sherman is looking for a Captain for CinCPac Plans with operations and amphibious experience to work on task force organization from plans standpoint etc.

17. General Twitty restated his interest in obtaining Fred Munson at an early date. He is contacting the War Department.

18. I believe the more capable officers we can nominate to and place for CinCPac staff the better, so long as our own key THIRD Fleet Staff is not disturbed.

19. Toward a general attitude on part of high command that a Rear Echelon for THIRD Fleet Headquarters is not necessary and an equally strong opinion on part of those officers on FIFTH Fleet Staff and CinCPac Staff, who are actually confronted with the administrative problems, that a Rear Echelon is highly desirable. I reaffirm my recommendation that a Rear Echelon of THIRD Fleet Staff be always maintained at Pearl and that an Advance Echelon be sent from there to any major harbor at which we will be based for any extended period of time.

20. FIFTH Fleet Communications officer recommended a total of 22 to 24 GWO's, including the ships GWO's, when at sea. This means about 16 for THIRD Fleet plus 8 for ship. Use 12 on shore. FIFTH Fleet has 31 raidomen as follows: 3 CRM, 6 RMLc, 12 RM2c, 10 RM3c and also 6 yeomen. Will pass this to 20.

21. Recommend that one of our flag plot officers be sent up in advance to make a copy of Ship's Characteristic Cards for all combatant ships and major amphibious ships which are likely to be in the THIRD Fleet for STALEMATE, and that these cards be kept up to date in a readily available form. Attached is the large card used by CinCPac operations. Ours should be small and perhaps on the compact visible cards method of Rand McNally.

22. I have FIFTH Fleet distribution list for Operation Plans and for annexes.

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SECRET and PERSONAL

14 May 1944.

Subject: Pearl Harbor Trip 8 May to 14 May.

23. Attached is a memorandum of Cincpac Plans given me by Admiral Sherman as to why the 77th and 81st divisions cannot be exchanged for the 25th and 43rd divisions to make later available for STALEMATE. When comparing shipping requirements appears to overlook the fact that the 25th and 43rd would need troopship to Southwest in any event.

24. General Twitty and Captain Redmond both agreed we could take an RI unit with us afloat -- probably 3 officers and a few men and that they would office with JicPoa RI when ashore. We should request assignment of such a unit. Particular gratification would be ability to listen to Jap voice circuits when close abroad and interpret and evaluate.

25. Had satisfactory conference with Frank Morris.

26. LIFE wants to do a picture story on Admiral Bill Halsey and his SoPac Fighting Team, first to complete a major mission in this war. Recommend we cooperate. Their photographer will probably be through here enroute Guadalcanal and Majuro next week.

H. E. STASSEN.

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SOUTH PACIFIC FORCE
OF THE UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
HEADQUARTERS OF THE COMMANDER

18 May, 1944.

M E M O R A N D U M

From: FLAG SECRETARY

To: Force Personnel Officer.

1. It is requested that orders be issued to Ensign Mack A. DICK, USNR, who is temporarily assigned to the Officer Messenger Mail Center, Commander South Pacific, to report to the Commander U.S. Naval Advanced Base, Funafuti for duties in connection with the Officer Messenger Mail Center.

H. E. STASSEN.

SOUTH PACIFIC FORCE
OF THE UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
HEADQUARTERS OF THE COMMANDER

17 May 1944.

Dear Ken and Sis:

Thanks a lot for your kind hospitality on my recent trip to Pearl. It was good to see you again. I especially enjoyed visiting with the future generation of Carneys.

Trust this finds you all in best of health.

Sincerely,

H. E. STASSEN.

Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Carney,
2534 East Manoa,
Honolulu, T.H.

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SOUTH PACIFIC FORCE
OF THE UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
HEADQUARTERS OF THE COMMANDER

17 May 1944.

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Dillingham:

May I express to you my appreciation for the kind hospitality shown on my recent visit to Pearl Harbor. It added greatly to the pleasant side of the trip.

Sincerely yours,

H. E. STASSEN.

Mr. & Mrs. Walter Dillingham,
Diamond Head Road,
Honolulu, Hawaii.

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SOUTH PACIFIC FORCE
OF THE UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
HEADQUARTERS OF THE COMMANDER

17 May 1944.

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Pfleuger:

May I express to you my appreciation for the kind hospitality shown on my recent visit to Pearl Harbor. It added greatly to the pleasant side of the trip.

Sincerely yours,

H. E. STASSEN.

Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Pfleuger,
Nieu Honolulu,
Hawaii.

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SOUTH PACIFIC FORCE
OF THE UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
HEADQUARTERS OF THE COMMANDER

17 May 1944.

Dear General Leavey:

May I express to you and to Colonel Fellows my appreciation for your kind hospitality on my recent trip to Pearl Harbor.

Will look forward to seeing you personally.

Sincerely,

H. E. STASSEN.

Major General Edmond H. Leavey, USA,
Staff, CinCPac,
c/o Fleet Post Office,
San Francisco, Calif.

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SOUTH PACIFIC FORCE
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HEADQUARTERS OF THE COMMANDER

16 May 1944.

Dear Commander McNally:

May I express my appreciation for the many courtesies extended to me on the occasion of my recent visit aboard the MASSACHUSETTS. Your assistance was very helpful during this trip.

Sincerely,

H. E. STASSEN.

Commander James A. McNally, U.S.N.
Executive Officer,
U.S.S. MASSACHUSETTS,
c/o Fleet Post Office,
San Francisco, Calif.

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SOUTH PACIFIC FORCE
OF THE UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
HEADQUARTERS OF THE COMMANDER

16 May 1944.

Dear Captain Cecil:

May I express my appreciation for the many courtesies extended to me on the occasion of my recent visit to Pearl Harbor. Your assistance was very helpful during this trip.

Sincerely,

H. E. STASSEN.

Captain C. P. Cecil, U.S.N.
Officer in Charge,
Pacific Fleet Radar Center,
c/o Fleet Post Office,
San Francisco, Calif.

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SOUTH PACIFIC FORCE
OF THE UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
HEADQUARTERS OF THE COMMANDER

16 May 1944.

Dear Captain Momsen:

May I express my appreciation for the many courtesies extended to me on the occasion of my recent visit to Pearl Harbor. Your assistance was very helpful during this trip.

Sincerely,

H. E. STASSEN.

Captain C. B. Momsen, U.S.N.
Chief of Staff, Commander Training Command,
Submarine Force, Pacific Fleet,
c/o Fleet Post Office,
San Francisco, Calif.

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SOUTH PACIFIC FORCE
OF THE UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
HEADQUARTERS OF THE COMMANDER

15 May 1944.

Dear Harold:

Thank you for your many courtesies. It was a big help at Pearl.

Sincerely,

H. E. STASSEN.

Lieutenant H. C. Mustoe, USNR,
Flag Lieutenant,
Commander Service Force, Pacific Fleet,
c/o Fleet Post Office,
San Francisco, Calif.

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SOUTH PACIFIC FORCE
OF THE UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
HEADQUARTERS OF THE COMMANDER

15 May 1944.

Dear Admiral Calhoun:

May I express to you my appreciation for the many courtesies you extended to Admiral Halsey and his Staff on the occasion of our recent visit to Pearl Harbor. May I add a word of appreciation to you and to the officers of your Staff for the assistance given to me.

Sincerely,

H. E. STASSEN.

Vice Admiral W. L. Calhoun, USN,
Commander Service Force, Pacific Fleet,
c/o Fleet Post Office,
San Francisco, Calif.

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SOUTH PACIFIC FORCE
OF THE UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
HEADQUARTERS OF THE COMMANDER

15 May 1944.

Dear Admiral Towers:

May I express to you my appreciation for the many courtesies you extended to Admiral Halsey and his Staff on the occasion of our recent visit to Pearl Harbor. May I add a personal word of thanks to you and to the officers of your mess for the hospitality shown to me. I will look forward to an opportunity some time some place to reciprocate.

Sincerely yours,

H. E. STASSEN.

Vice Admiral J. H. Towers, USN,
Deputy Commander in Chief,
U.S. Pacific Fleet,
c/o Fleet Post Office,
San Francisco, Calif.

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SOUTH PACIFIC FORCE
OF THE UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
HEADQUARTERS OF THE COMMANDER

15 May 1944.

Dear Admiral Nimitz:

I wish to thank you for the many courtesies shown by you and by your Staff to Admiral Halsey and to his Staff during our recent visit to Pearl Harbor. May I add a personal word of appreciation for the kindness extended to me.

Sincerely,

H. E. STASSEN.

Admiral C. W. Nimitz, USN,
Commander in Chief,
U. S. Pacific Fleet,
c/o Fleet Post Office,
San Francisco, Calif.

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SOUTH PACIFIC FORCE
OF THE UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
HEADQUARTERS OF THE COMMANDER

13 May 1944.

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Army Special Service Officer.

Subject: Shuttlecocks - Request for.

1. As per telephone conversation of this date, it is requested that three boxes of shuttlecocks be issued to Commander South Pacific.

H. C. CARROLL,
Assistant Flag Secretary.

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SOUTH PACIFIC FORCE
OF THE UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
HEADQUARTERS OF THE COMMANDER

.....10 May....., 1944....

MEMORANDUM

From: FLAG SECRETARY

To: Force Personnel Officer.

1. This is to certify that Ensign J. C. McClure, USNR., is mentally, morally, and professionally qualified to be advanced to the rank of Lieutenant (junior grade) pursuant to AlNav 86 of 1 May 1944.

H. C. CARROLL.
Acting Flag Secretary.

SOUTH PACIFIC FORCE
OF THE UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
HEADQUARTERS OF THE COMMANDER

8 May 1944.

MEMORANDUM FOR: Commander Stassen.

1. The following items are listed for your immediate reference while at Pearl Harbor.

- (a) Office space to be made available to the THIRD Fleet.
- (b) The availability of office equipment such as desks, chairs, desk lamps, typewriters, mimeograph machines, etc.
- (c) How is mail delivered from the Fleet Post Office to CinCPac Headquarters? Should we provide a staff mail orderly? Same information on Officer Messenger Mail.
- (d) What is the present working uniform and liberty uniform for both officers and men at Pearl Harbor?
- (e) What is CinCPac's reaction to our memorandum regarding distribution of Fleet Letters?
- (f) Information on availability of enlisted personnel to augment the number we may take. Especially interested in yeomen or yeoman material.

H. C. CARROLL.

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SOUTH PACIFIC FORCE
OF THE UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
HEADQUARTERS OF THE COMMANDER

5 May, 1944.

MEMORANDUM

From: Senior Staff Duty Officer.

To: Dispatcher.

1. The Staff Duty Car shall not be dispatched from 1700 to 0800 without the permission of the Staff Duty Officer.

C. T. McNAMARA,
Commander, USNR.



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