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**To:** Submarine Squadron Commanders, SubPacFlt

**From:** ComSubPac

**Date:** March 1942

**Subject:** Mission Orders Cycle 2

**RMKS/1** A serious shortage of ordinance will require an adjustment to pre-war attack doctrine, the following procedures are to adopted immediately:

- A.** All boats are to submerge when within 500 miles of a Japanese airfield and remain submerged during daylight hours. At night surface running will be on one engine to conserve fuel. Every effort is to be made by your commanders to concentrate their attacks to night surface attacks.
- B.** The standard three-torpedo spread is to be adjusted to a maximum of two torpedoes per target, use two torpedoes only when absolutely necessary. For Capitol Ships use according to need without being proliferate.
- C.** Revised settings for torpedo depth: MK 14 torpedoes are to be set for five feet beneath keel depth, MK 10 torpedoes are to be set for contact hits MOT. Our shortage of torpedoes means that each torpedo must be used for maximum effectiveness and a minimum number of torpedoes fired. Therefore MK 14 beneath-keel explosion is essential. Deviations from this policy will not be tolerated, BuOrd informs, and I concur, that reported failures are most likely due to *Faulty Maintenance, Faulty settings or Faulty Estimation of Target Range, Course or Speed*. These must be rectified.

**RMKS/2** With the shortage of MK XIV torpedoes BuOrd has authorized all Captains to substitute 30% of their boats maximum torpedo load with the older MK X torpedo.

**RMKS/3** Admiral Nimitz has directed a series of hit and run attacks on the islands of Kwajalein, Wake, Marcus and Rabaul. Any boats in these areas of operation will be on the alert for sudden surprise attacks by friendly Air Forces.

**RMKS/4** ONI believes that Main IJN striking force, including 4 CV's and 2 BB's are staging at Palau. It is believed that the next enemy move will be the occupation of Timor in the East of the Malay Barrier or the Coral Sea.

**RMKS/5** Target priorities remain the same:

1. Capitol Ships
2. Cruisers

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3. Troop Transports and Light Transports
4. Oil Tankers and Supply Ships

**RMKS/8** Submarine Squadrons are assigned to the following areas:

**SubRon1M:** PacFlt – Aleutian Islands  
SubAsiatic – Java Sea

**SubRon3A:** PacFlt – Caroline Islands  
SubAsiatic – Malaysia

**SubRon7A:** PacFlt – Formosa  
SubAsiatic – South China Sea

**SubRon8A** PacFlt – Northern Mariana Islands  
SubAsiatic – Philippines

**RMKS/7** All Submarine Squadron Commanders are to acknowledge these orders.

**Note:** In the event of any Submarine being on station for 10 days without sighting the enemy, the submarines CO should contact his ComSubRon and request redeployment.

All Squadron Commanders are to acknowledge these orders!

*Good Hunting and Good Luck*

*Thomas Withers Jr.*

**Thomas Withers Jr.  
Rear Admiral  
ComSubPac**

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