

- (11) On the 11th and 12th August, respectively, the Bermuda (22), the Halifax (13) and the Sydney (16) Sections of a Convoy left their assembly ports to effect junction at sea. The Bermuda Section, until junction with the Halifax Section, was under the ocean escort of H.M.S. "MONTCLARE". The combined Convoy sailed under the ocean escort of H.M.S. "VOLTAIRE". The 51 ships consisted of 38 British, 5 Norwegian, 4 Greek, 3 Dutch and 1 Swedish. All ships were bound for the United Kingdom with the exception of one Greek vessel, which was travelling to Eire. 11.8.40.
- (111) There were 15 independent trans-ocean sailings during the week, 7 from the Atlantic Coast and 8 from the Pacific Coast.

#### 4. Works

(a) During the week a total of 52 ships were inspected at D.E.M.S. ports at Halifax, Sydney, Saint John and Montreal. Reports from the West Coast at the time of the preparation of this report had not been received.

(b) The following ships were taken in hand during the week for the installation of 4" guns as D.E.M.S. equipment:

1. At Vancouver - S.S. AFRICA, Danish.  
S.S. HOYANGER, Norwegian.
2. At Halifax - S.S. STICKLESTAD, Norwegian.  
PAN NORWAY, Norwegian.  
S.S. CHARLES RACINE, Norwegian.  
S.S. JOHN W. MACKAY, Cable Ship.
3. At Quebec - The Canadian Icebreaker N.B. MACLEAN  
S.S. MAPLECOURT, Canadian.
4. At Saint John - S.S. FANO, Danish.
5. At Sydney - S.S. POLYANA, Norwegian; this vessel also is being fitted with bridge protection.

(c) Three ships of Norwegian registry are being provided with a Lewis gun for Anti-aircraft protection:

1. S.S. INGERFIRE
2. S.S. ANNAVORE
3. S.S. REIAS.

(d) The degaussing equipment of 46 vessels was inspected during the week; 42 of these were reported as satisfactory, 3 unsatisfactory and 1 was wiped. (Degaussing is demagnetisation by electrical contact. Wiped is demagnetisation by magnetic contact and is not much used except for about three weeks in dangerous waters. Ships that are wiped have to be continually subjected to the same process at wiping ports. This method of protection is generally used only on coastwise vessels.)