



19 November 2000

Re: Locations of Imperial Japanese Navy's submarines (6 ships)
As of around 19th November 1941

Military History Department
The National Institute for Defense Studies

1. I-58 (Belonging to 19 Submarine Group (Sg) of 4 Submarine Squadron (SS) under direct command of the Grand Fleet (GF) of Imperial Japanese Navy (IJN))

10 Nov: at anchor in Kure
20 Nov: Departed Hiroshima Bay
(by) 27 Nov: Arrived at Sanya of Hainan Island
1 Dec: Departed Sanya of Hainan Island
8 Dec: off Malay Peninsular (assigned to an operation)

2. I-59 (belonging to 28 Sg of 5 SS under direct command of the GF of IJN)

10 Nov: at anchor in Sasebo
8 Dec: under repair (recorded as "out of battle field")
31 Dec: located in Kobe (repair work completed)

3. I-60 (belonging to 28 Sg of 5 SS under direct command of the GF of IJN)

10 Nov: at anchor in Tama (Okayama Prefecture)
8 Dec: under repair (recorded as "out of battle field")
31 Dec: located in Kobe (repair work completed)

4. RO-33 (belonging to 21 Sg of 5 SS under direct command of the GF of IJN)

10 Nov: at anchor in Sasebo
8 Dec: located in Terashima Channel (berth close to Sasebo) (repair work completed)

5. RO-34 (belonging to 21 Sg of 4 SS under direct command of the GF of IJN)

10 Nov: at anchor in Maizuru
8 Dec: under repair (recorded as "out of battle field")

17 Dec: located in Terashima Channel (repair work completed)

6. RO-63 34 (belonging to 33 Sg of 7 SS of the 4th Fleet of IJN)

6 Oct (or later): Departed Maizudu

(On 5 July, 7SS received IJN Commander's order to station in the South Sea Islands, and from 22 July onward, ships under command of 7SS took turns in conducting war preparation construction in Japan)

10 Nov: work site (assumed to be in the South Sea Island)

4 Dec (or later): Departed Kwajalein

12 Dec: Reconnaissance of Howland Island

(Conclusion)

As for the location of each submarine as of 19 November 1941, it can be concluded, at this stage, that I-58 was most certainly in Hiroshima Bay (on the previous day of departure); and I-59, I-60, RO-33 and RO-34 were in Japan for repair work, and RO-63 was in the South Sea Islands (likely to be in Truk Islands, which was the work site = berth).

(References)

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