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BY BREVENCE
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Date:

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#### SUBJECT: DIGITAL COMPUTATION FOR ANTI-SUBMARINE PROBLEM

To: Director, Special Devices Center From: Jay W. Forrester and Robert R. Everett

Date: October 1, 1947

As an illustration of the use of digital computers as control and simulation devices, we have made a brief study of a simplified version of the anti-submarine problam. The objective of this study has been to estimate the storage capacity and computing time required in a digital machine and no serious attempt has been made to achieve completeness or accuracy. Examples are for that purpose of illustration only. Coding for the control of a surface. ship has been worked out in some detail and the results extrapolate to the case of the submarine. Relative radar positions of one surface craft with respect to each other surface craft have been could using a straightforward but very inefficient method. The radar results have heen extrapolated to the sonar problem. Both the radar and solar codes represent substantially more computation than would probably be used in a large problem. Surface ships have been provided with two types of dupth charges. Computing programs have been estimated for charges with pre-set depths as well as charges with proximity-fuses.

Submarines in this particular example have been provided with no example and only with sonar for communication and information gathering wien below the surface and with the added possibility of radar data then on the surface.

Storage capacity and computing speed are compared with the Whirlwind I digital computer, and it is shown that for the simplified problem selected, the Whirlwind I computer is entirely adequate for a problem involving 10 ships, 5 submarines, interconnecting radar and sonar data, and depth charges in any number up to 20 pre-set units and 20 proximity-fuse units in the water at one time.

SUMMANT: In evaluating any simulation problem, it is imperative that the limitations of the particular forms of simulation are understood. There are very few limitations imposed on the

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simulation problem by a digital computer except those dictated by the storage capacity of the machine and the available computing time.

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For the purposes of this example, a destroyer is illustrated in Fig. 1. The controls and indicators in this sketch represent the only facilities available to the destroyer personnel. It will be noted in Fig. 1 that controls are available for rudder position, propeller r.p.m. and depth charge release and depth setting. Indicators are available for bearing, ship's speed, radar data, sonar data, latitude, longitude, rudder position, and propeller r.p.m. As sot up in this example, no other features are available in the destroyer, and extension to computation of depth charge release point or for more realistic simulation of the destroyer or data presentation will require additional computing program and computing time.

The submarine in this example would have available the controls for speed, turn and climb angle and indicators for radar and sonar information.

In the following table storage is calculated in numbers of registers, of which there will be approximately 2000 in the Whirlwind I computer. The table is a summary of the storage registers and computing time for the different elements being simulated. A computation time of 20 microseconds for each control order is assumed, and the numerical values are derived from the programs and sketches toward the end of this memorandum.

		Program Storage Revisters	Data Registers	Storage Registers for each unit	Comput: po un:	ing time ar Lt
1.	Ship Fosition	100	100	10	2	milliseo
2.	Submarine Positio	n / 100*	30	12	4	millisec
3.	Relative Radar Positions	40	lo		0.5 <b>9</b> n	millisec
40	Relative Sonar Positions	30**	10	jai ur	1.0n	millisec
5.	Pre-set Depth Charge	220	100	6	.5	millisec
6.	Proximity Depth Charge	260 750	100	8	2	millisec

" In addition to the ship program which would be used for submarines also.

\*\* In addition to the radar program which would be used for somar also.



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It will be observed from the first line of the table that approximately one hundred control orders are required for calculating the X-position, the Y-position, the bearing, and the speed of a ship, and in addition the correction of these control orders for computation of the next ship. Data necessary in the ship computation will require approximately one hundred registers for coefficients, index numbers, and a table of sine and cosine values. The program and data storage is required only once regardless of the number of ships employed in the problem.

In addition to program storage, each ship will require some 10 storage registers for storage of ship's bearing, speed, X coordinate (longitude), Y coordinate (latitude), turn rate, number of depth charges remaining, demage, etc.

From the last entry of the first line, 2 milliseconds are required for calculating the preceding data about a single ship.

Submarine information in the second line has been estimated to require about one hundred control orders in addition to those used for ships. A ship program would be used for finding X and Y coordinates of the submarine. Additional orders would be used for calculating depth and for the necessary indexing orders. Additional data storage of about 30 entries would be required, and each submarine might require 12 storage registers for retaining bearing, pitch, speed, X coordinate, Y coordinate, depth, turn rate, pitch rate, and damage. Computing time is estimated at 4 milliseconds per submarine.

The code for the determination of

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A Relative radar position for this example has been set up on a rather inefficient basis. As programmed, it requires 40 control orders, 10 data storage registers, no storage for each individual ship since this data is available in the ship storage, and a computing time at each ship equal to 1/2 millisecond times the total number of ships. Sonar information is estimated on a similar basis.

This control code is established on the basis that radar and sonar scopes will write targets at random times and in random order and will not sweep in the normal radial fashion. Additional equipment would be required for production of radial scope sweep.

Computing programs for depth charges include automatic selection of any targets within range as well as calculation of damage according to a table of tabular entries.

Proximity and damage computation take into account the cylindrical shape of the submarine. Calculation of pre-set depth charges will require a program of about 220 entries, a table of data of 100

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entries, and a storage of 6 entries for each depth charge which has been launched and which has not yet exploded. An average computing time of 1/2 millisecond will be required for each depth charge which is still sinking. More storage for program and substantially more computing time is required for the proximity-fuse depth charge because the firing location cannot be predicted ahead of time but must be continually examined for proximity of a target.

The tabulation indicates that 750 program orders would be required and about 350 data entries. Setting up the problem, therefore, requires 1100 of the available 2000 storage registers. The remaining storage registers are therefore available for storing the data of individual ships, submarines, and depth charges.

The table below shows the storage requirement and computing time for a tactical problem involving 10 ships, 5 submarines, and, at any one time, 20 pre-set depth charges, and 20 proximity depth charges having the characteristics summarized previously. If such a problem were set up on the Whirlwind I computer which has a 16 binary digit register length, all quantities would be used at this register length except for latitude and longitude which will require more sensitivity and which would be calculated to 32 binary digits or approximately 10 decimal places.

		computing
Units	Storage	Time
10 ships	100	20 milliseconde
5 submarines	60.	20 - "
20 pre-set depth charges	120	10 "
20 proximity depth charges	160	40 "
Reder	-	50 . "
Sonar	an.	125 "
Total	440	265 milliseconds
Program and Data	1100	
Total	1540 registers	0.26 second
2001	) Contractions,	

It will be seen from the tabulation that the proposed problem will require 1540 storage registers of the available 2000 and will require a computation time of approximately 1/4 second. The assumption has been made in this tabulation that depth charge positions will be calculated at twice the frequency of ship and submarine positions. In other words, the position of each ship and submarine will be calculated each quarter second and the position of each depth charge, each 1/8 second. This computation frequency is probably four times as high as necessary.

DETAILS OF COMPUTING PROGRAMS: Figure 2 illustrates the general

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procedure in solving the control and simulation computation under consideration. Beginning at the point marked "start", the new position of the first ship is computed, based on available data regarding its previous position and its speed and bearing during the previous time interval. After computation is complete for the first ship, the control orders are indexed to the position of the second ship and the same program of computation is repeated for the second ship. Repetitions of this computing program are continued until all ships have been calculated, after which a conditional program order transfers the computing operation to loop 2 for submarine position. New positions of all submarines are likewise calculated, and the control is shifted to the program for radar relative locations in which each ship is positioned with respect to every other ship and the proper data fed to a radar scope. Computation of relative sonar positions are then calculated and control is shifted to the computing operations required for depth charge location. evaluation, and damage computation. For the problem of 10 ships and 5 submarines, this computing program requires about 1/4 second after which control is returned to the beginning and the entire cycle and all subcycles are repeated.

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Figure 2 has shown the overall approach to the computation problem with the major and first minor cycles of computation shown. We will now examine in more detail the computations indicated in the box marked "Ship Position" and the loop 1 circuit. Figure 3 shows the steps required in computing ship position. From the start order, we first calculate a new X (longitude) position for the ship, continue to a Y (latitude) position, then calculate a new bearing and finally a new ship's speed. At this point, a choice or comparison must be made by means of a conditional program order to determine whether or not all ship positions have been calculated. If all positions have been calculated, control is shifted to the submaring cycle. If all positions have not been calculated, the control orders are Andexed to a new ship lecation and the cycle completed for another surface ship.

We can now consider in still more detail the exact computer control operations required in each of the boxes indicated in Fig. 3. Before doing this, a definition of flow diagram symbols and a definition of computer control operations will be required. The following computer control operations taken from the Whirlwind I Computer Block Diagram Report No. B-127 by Everett and Swain are included. It is probable that Report R-127 must be studied before the remainder of this memorandum can be effectively understood. A discussion to follow presumes an understanding of the basic computer operations and how they are handled.

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Symbols	
QA	"Accumulator" register of Arithmetic Element
AR	"A-Register" of Arithmetic Element
BR	"B-Register" of Arithmetic Element
S(x)	Storage Register x, where x is identifying number of the storage register to be used in the computing operation.

Operation	Code	Designation	Description	Meaning
	Ca	21	Clear and add.	Clear AC and add the contents of register $S(x)$ into it.
	ad.		Add.	Add the contents of register $S(x)$ to whatever is already in AC.
-7	Cm			Clean AC and enhance the
	05		Subtract.	contents of register S(x) into it.
	su.		Subtract.	Subtract the contents of register $S(x)$ from whatever is already in AC.
đ	mr		Multiply and round off.	Multiply the contents of register S(x) by whatever is in AC and round off the result to one register length.
	mlı		Multiply and hold full product.	Multiply the contents of register S(x) by whatever is in AC but do not round off.
	dv		Divide.	Divide the contents of AC by Whatever is in register $S(x)$ .
	ts		Transfer to Storage.	Transfer the contents of AC to register $S(x)$ .
	162?		Shift right.	Shift the contents of AC and BR to the right the number of
		NC	LAUSIFIED	digits designated by the number in the register number section
		A State of S		I the order.

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ation Code Designation	Description	Meaning
sl	Shift left.	Shift the contents of AC and BR to the left the number of digits designated by the number in the register section of the order.
۹D	Subprogram	Transfer the register number S(x) to the program counter.
ab	Conditional Program	Transfer the register number S(x) to the program counter if the number in AU is non- negative.
\$d.	Transfer digits.	Transfer the left-hand 11 digits in AC to the register position section of the order in $S(x)$ .
tx	Transfer externally,	Similar to ts except that the transfer is made to a location external to the computer. These external locations are identified by register numbers as are storage registers.

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Figure 4 illustrates the symbols to be used in the detailed flow diegrams that follow.

In Fig. 4a we have a symbol indicating that orders 1 and 2 have been executed by the computer. In general the circle may be thought of as representing the arithmetic element of the computer. In Fig. 4b is shown a storage register as a rectangle with the register identification number in brackets beneath. Text in the box is descriptive of the quantity being stored. Dotted lines extend to and from storage boxes to avoid confusion with flow lines in the computations which are shown solid. Figure 4c shows a symbol indicating transition from one computing operation to the next but without transfer of numerical quantities residing in the arithmetic element. Double lines of Fig. 4d likewise lead to the next operation but indicate that numerical values of the previous computation are carried over into the next cycle. The symbol for a conditional subprogram is shown in Fig. 4e where a choice in computing paths is available. The choice of alternate output channels is made on the basis of positive or negative numbers in the arithmetic element. The broken line of Fig. 4f is used where necessary to indicate the source of a control

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In this memorandum such indication is necessary only as a order. result of the digit transfer order td where the computer generates its own control orders. A transfer operation is shown in Fig. 4g where operations 1 and 2 transfer a number from register 276 to the arithmetic element and thence to register 47. Operations involving incoming arrows always take place before operations involving outgoing arrows. A more complicated operation is shown in Fig. 4h. A number resulting from the previous operation is added by order 1 to the number in register 49 and the resulting sum is stored in register 88. The result of this computation is not used in the next operation as indicated by the single flow line leading from the operation circle. A still more complicated sequence is illustrated in Fig. 41. Numerical values are not retained from the previous operation. ad represents an add order carried out by operations 1 and 2 bringing the contents of registers 27 and 63 into the arithmetic element and storing the result in register 80. The sum residing in the arithmetic element after this operation is used as the basis of a conditional subprogram as represented by the triangle. A negative number in the arithmetic element results in continuation of the program through orders 4 and 5 while a positive number in the arithmetic element transfers the control to some other order, for example, 28. A td operation involving transfer of digits such as might be required in interpolation is shown in Fig. 4j. Orders 1 and 2 add the contents of registers 99 and 143 and transfer the left-hand or register identification digits to register 4. In this case the order constructed by operation 3 is used immediately as operation 4, for extracting a value from a series of stored functions here referred to as a table of sines. The value of the sine is then carried over to the next operation.

Figure 5 is a detailed operation-by-operation flow diagram for the X-position computation indicated in the ship cycle calculation of Fig. 3.

The following equations are solved to obtain the new X coordinate for the ship:

(Ship Speed) (Sine of Bearing) = Rate in X direction

(Rate in X) (Solution time Interval.) = Increment in X-position

(X Increment) + (Old X-position) = new X-Fosition

The first twelve operations are required for obtaining the sine of the ship's twering angle. Operation 13 multiplies sine bearing by ship's speed. Operation 14 multiplies this quantity by the solution time interval to obtain the increment in X-position. Operation 15 adds the old X-position to obtain the new X-position. Operations 16 and 17 transmit the new X-position to the storage and to the external indicator at the destroyer control.



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Order numbers in the following tabulation agree with these on the flow diagram:

Order Number	Register Number	Operation	Description
1	S(C)	Ga	These orders combine
2	200	ed.	the ship's bearing
3	8	td	angle and the index number to obtain an interpolation order for the first ex- traction from the sine table.
4	201	ba	Linear interpolation
5	10	tđ	is used and the resulting order starts the second entry from the sine table.
6	12	sl	The increment in
7	00 -	t.	interpolation between gine table entries.
8	м	0.5	Two entries from the
9	101	1.8	sine table are ex-
10	M+3.	ad	tracted; the first entry is stored and the difference taken.
11	100	mr	The difference is multiplied by the bearing increment.
13	101	IRL	The increment in sine value is added to the first table entry, resulting in the final value of sine bearing.
13	S(C+1)	132	Ship's speed is multiplied by sine
			Depart TLP.

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Order Number	Register Number	Operation	Description
14	259	mr	X direction rate is multiplied by the time elapsing between con- secutive solutions of ship's position.
15	s(0+2)	ad	The X-position increment is added to the old X-position.
16 17	s(C+2) s(C)	ts tr	The new X-position is transmitted to the storage register and to the external indicator at the destroyer control.

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A similar computing program is followed for calculating the Y(long the)-position of the ship,

Figure 6 illustrates the computing flow diagram for the calculation of turn rate and bearing of the ship. Bearing of a ship is calculated as a double exponential function in which the ship exhibits an exponential approach to the steady state turn rate and in which the turn rate is integrated to obtain the new ship's bearing. The exponentials and integrations are approximated by straight line segments of the curves. The following equations are solved for turn rate and bearing.

$$(TR)_{SS} = D_{R} \left[ \left( x \text{ speed} \right) + \left( B x \text{ EPM} \right) \right]$$

$$(TR)_{1} = (TR)_{0} + (\text{constant}) \left[ (TR)_{SS} - (TR)_{0} \right]$$

$$(\frac{\text{Course}}{\text{Bearing}})_{1} = (\frac{\text{Rearing}}{\text{Rearing}})_{0} + (\text{constant})(TR)_{1}$$

$$(\frac{\text{course}}{\text{spearing}})_{1} = (\frac{\text{Rearing}}{\text{Rearing}})_{0} + (\text{constant})(TR)_{1}$$

The first equation defines the steady state turn rate as a function of speed, and propeller RPM. The second equation sets the new turn rate at the old turning rate plus a constant times the difference between the old rate and the steady state rate. Equation three defines the new ship's of boaring as the old bearing plus a constant times the new turning rate. Hours a state flow state rate. Hours and correspond to the order tabulation below.



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Order Number	Register Number	Operation	Description
1	S(C+1)	Ca	These orders store the
2	261	mr	product A times the
3	100	ta	speed in register 100.
4	s(C)X	Ga	We obtain the product B
5	262	mr	times RFM.
6	100	ad	The quantity A times speed is added.
7	S(0+1)X	mr	Result of the previous computation is multiplied by rudder position to obtain steady state turn rate.
8	s(C+4)	era,	Old turn rate is subtracted.
9	263	mr	Difference is multiplied by exponential constant to give increment in turn rate.
10	S(C+A)	ad	Old turn note is added to
11	S(C+4)	ts	obtain new turn rate.
13	259	mr	The new turn rate is multiplied by the solution time interval factor to obtain bearing increment.
13	S(C)	ed.	Bearing increment is added
14	s(c)	<b>t</b> s	to old bearing position to obtain new ship's bearing.

Computation now proceeds to the calculation of ship's speed. Figure 7 shows the computation flow diagram for calculating ship's speed and also the comparison necessary to determine if all ship's positions have been completed and the alteration orders necessary for indexing the ship computation program to the next ship position. The representation for ship speed has been taken as an exponential approach to its steady state value. The following equations have been assumed:

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stored in ship index register

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Speed<sub>SS</sub> = C(HPM) - D(absolute Value of Turn Fate)(Speed) Speed<sub>2</sub> = Speed<sub>6</sub> + (Constant) (Speed<sub>SS</sub> - Speed<sub>6</sub>)

The following orders are required for calculation of speed:

Order Number	Register Number	Operation	Description
1	S(C+1)	Ca	These orders roult in the
2	S(C+4)	mr	storage of quantity D
3	264	mar	times turn rate times
4	100	ts	speed.
5	265	Ca	These orders result in
6	s(c)x	nir	the quantity C times RPM.
7	100	511	This subtract order produces the steady state speed time.
8	S(C+1)	572	Subtracts the previous ship's speed.
9	266	mr	Multiplies by the exponential constant
10	S(C+1)	ad	Result in new ship's
11	s(C+1)	ts	speed.
12	267	Ca	These orders add to the
13	268	ad	inder location of the
14	268	ts	ship under consideration
			the difference or interval
			in storage required to reach
			the next ship storage
			location The new index is

We next compare the new ship index number with the maximum number of ships being considered to see if the computation has yet reached the last ship in the series.





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Order Number	Register Number	Operation	Description
15	269	gra.	Subtract maximum number of ships.
16	271	ad	Compare to see if number in arithmetic element is positive or negative.

Alternate programs in the above comparison lead either to the submarine program, if all ships have been considered, or back to the beginning of the ship computation cycle after the required correction of control orders. If all ships have been considered, the ship index number must be reset to the first ship before continuing with the submarine program. This is accomplished in orders 17 and 18.

17	371	td	This transfors first
18	271	td	ship index number from
			number 268.

Assuming now that the new location and bearing and speed have not been computed for all ships, we follow the other alternate leading to a new order sequence arbitrarily chosen as beginning at 126. In the following set of operations, the ship index number from register 268 is transferred into the operation control orders for the previous sequence. For example, referring back to the orders for calculating the X location of the ship, the number S(C) must be substituted into orders 1 and 17 and into corresponding locations of the other control cycles.

126	268	Ca	Transfors ship index number to arithmetic element.
127 to 133		td	Transfers numbers S(C) to control order location, such as orders 1 and 17 in the program for X location.
134	371	ad	Adds 1 to ship index number.



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Register Number

Order Number

135 to 142

Transfer number to all program orders requiring S(C+1) such as order 13 of X location program.

Description

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Orders 143, 146, and 149 index in a similar manner to the numbers S(C+2), S(C+3) and S(C+4) and place these order numbers in their proper register locations.

Operation

td

Order 154 is a subprogram command returning the machine control back to order 1 of the X-position cycle to start with a new ship.

The previous discussions dispose of the ship's position and bearing computation. Solution of the submarine problem would be similar with extension to the computation of depth. We will consider next the calculation of relative radar position.

RADAR COMPUTATION: This computing program is relatively inefficient. Ships are selected one by one as local ships and the positions of all others calculated with respect to the local ship for presentation on the radar FPI. In Fig. 8 loop 1 is traversed once for each remote whip during the computation of a particular radar scope pattern. When all remote ships have been located, loop 2 is traversed to index the computer to a new local ship for calculation of a second radar scope pattern. Two comparison orders are indicated by triangles, the first to determine if all remote ships have been calculated for a particular PPI pattern and the second conditional program is used to determine if all PPI patterns have been computed. After all patterns are computed, the control is transferred to computation of sonar patterns. Figure 9 is a detailed flow diagram for the radar and control orders tabulated below:

Order Number	Register Number	Operation	Description
1	272	Cas	Establish a control order
2	5	td	making possible extraction of the remote ship X-coordinate
3	273	ad	The ship index number is
4	8	tå	increased by one giving a control order for extraction of the Y-coordinate.
5	x	CB	The differences in X-position
6	274	<b>SU</b>	between remote and loosl ships
7	X deflection	tx	are calculated and trans- mitted to the scope
			deflection circuits.
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Order Number	Register Number	Operation	Description
8 9 10	Y 275 Y deflection	Са 80. tx	These orders obtain Y axis deflection voltages.
11 12 13	279 13 2	oa td tx	These provide a scope write order for the proper local ship.
14 15	276 272	ad ta	The remote ship index is increased to a new position.
16	277	su.	This index is compared with the maximum number of ships in the problem.
17	18	¢p	A choice is made between continuing with a new remote ship at the same local positio by continuing at order 18 or if all remote ships have been completed, control is trans- ferred to the next local ship at order 19.
19 20	278 272	08. ts	The remote ship index is returned to its starting value.
21 22 23	276 279 279	ca ad ta	The local index is increased by one.
24 25	277 34	an cp	The local index is examined to see if all local scope ship patterns have been computed. Gontrol is trans- ferred to somer beginning at
	CONFID		order 35 if local ships are complete.



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Order Number	Register Number	Cperation	Description
35	278	C <sup>III</sup>	Local ship index is returned to its beginning value.

If a new local ship is to be calculated, control continues through orders 26 and 27.

Order Number	Register Number	Operation	Description
26	279	Ca	Orders are generated for
27	32	td	extracting the X coordinate
			of a new local ship.
28	273	ad	Orders are generated for
29	30	td	extracting the I coordinate
30	r	CA	of a new local ship.
31	275	ts	Y coordinate of a local ship is transferred to register 275.
32	x		The X coordinate of a new
33	274	\$8	local ship is transferred to register 274.
34	1	sp	This is a subprogram order
			returning control to order 1 at the beginning of the reder commuting cycle.

SONAR: Sonar computation would be done in a manner similar to radar with such additions as necessary to give depth readings.

<u>DEPTH CHARGES</u>: Fig. 10 shows a solution cycle schematic for pre-set depth charges. This schematic is of the same nature as shown in Fig. 3 for calculation of ship position. Figs. 11 and 12 illustrate the calculation cycle schematic for proximity firing depth charges. Control



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orders for the handling of depth charges have not been worked out in detail. Information is handled in the following general manuer.

Consider first the depth charge with pre-set firing depth. When a depth charge key in one of the destroyers is fired, the code number of the destroyer and the depth setting of the charge are transferred into the computer. The computer, knowing the ship position, bearing and speed, and knowing the depth setting of the charge can now compute the X and Y coordinates, the depth, and the time at which explosion will occur. This explosion time is then observed at all subsequent major cycles of the computation until explosion time has occurred.

At the time of explosion each submarine is examined for position to see if it is within the possible region of damage. If a submarine is within the possible region of damage, it is examined more closely as to bearing and is treated as a cylinder in shape to see if it is actually within the damage zone. If no submarine is within the damage zone, the depth charge is removed from the computer storage. If damage can occur the probable damage is observed in a table of values and multiplied by a statistical probability factor to arrive at actual damage. Damage is then added to the damage register of the submarine and the depth charge is removed from the computation.

Depth charges with proximity-fuges are initiated in the same manner as pre-set charges. The computer initially calculates the time of flight through air and the XI coordinates and the time of impact on the water. On successive computation cycles, the computer observes impact time until the depth charge reaches the water surface. At this time an examination in XY coordinates is made to find if any submarines are close enough that they might possibly reach the path of the sinking depth charge. If no submarines are sufficiently close, the depth charge is removed from the computation at this point. If possible submarines exist in the area, their code numbers are stored along with the depth charge data. At each major cycle of the computation, the new depth of the charge is calculated and its distance from all submarines previously identified is observed. If a submarine lies within the maximum detection sphere, the true distance and cylindrical shape of the submarine are taken into account to see if fuze operation can occur. If the charge is within the detection range, damage is calculated as before. If the proximity controlled charge reaches a maximum specified depth without being fired, it is automatically removed from the computation.

Figure Drawing rigure Drawing 1 B-30977 B-30983 2 A-30978 B-30984 8 3 A-30979 9 B-30985 B-30980 4 10 B-30986 5 B-30987 B-30981 11 6 B-30982 12 B-30988

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