

CONFIDENTIAL.

(I) MINES.

No mine laying or mine sweeping activities by the enemy were observed.

On 20 March at 2335H one floating mine was observed off the entrance to Camranh Bay (Lat. 11-51 N., Long. 109-19 E). This mine appeared to be of the moored type, spherical in shape, with characteristic horns.

(J) ANTI-SUBMARINE MEASURES AND EVASIVE TACTICS.

Following the attack of 4 March off Cape Varella evasive tactics were of the normal run consisting of going as deep as possible consistent with the bottom in order to keep the charges above, maneuvering to keep the escorts astern, and fish tailing away from scene of attack to deep water. It is believed that the escorts never had positive contact although they echo-ranged in our vicinity for three hours, possibly to keep the submarine down. This primary depth-charging was the "saturation" type, rolling them off rapidly over a large area which proved very ineffective in this case.

The depth-charging of 21 March off the entrance to Camranh Bay was very close and severe. Evasion consisted of remaining on the bottom in 270 feet of water and mud after being knocked there by the first pattern of charges. The escorts original attack followed either the sighting of the scope or after being coached on by a plane and smoke float. The latter is believed to be correct as the escort did not echo-range in our direction preceding the initial attack. It is also true that he may have played the game smarter than we did. This attack was also a "saturation" depth charging. During the hour of echo-ranging by the escorts - most of the time on short scale - although they worked all over and around us within 1500-800 yards and pinged consistently in our direction, they never positively had contact.