

KULA GULF

0140 6 July 1943

Background: When the Americans invaded New Georgia, they subjected the Japanese garrison on the neighboring island of Kolombangara to a vigorous naval bombardment. Upon hearing reports of a Japanese attempt to run reinforcements down to New Georgia, the American bombardment force dashed off to intercept the Japanese column.

Forces:

Nihon Kaigun Rear Admiral Akiyama Teruo	Division 1:	Niizuki Suzukaze Tanikaze	(Akitsuki - flag) (Kagero) (Kagero)
	Division 2:	Amagiri Hatsuyuki Nagatsuki Satsuki	(Fubuki - flag) (Fubuki) (Mutsuki) (Mutsuki)
United States Navy Rear Admiral Walden L. Ainsworth	Division 1:	Nicholas O'Bannon	(Fletcher - flag) (Fletcher)
	Division 2:	Honolulu Helena St. Louis	(Brooklyn - flag) (St. Louis) (St. Louis)
	Division 3:	Jenkins Radford	(Fletcher - flag) (Fletcher)

Set-up:

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The Japanese friendly edge is the north edge and the northern 15 inches of the west edge. The American friendly edge is the east edge.

The coast of Kolombangara extends up the west edge from the south edge to within 15 inches of the northern edge.

The Japanese begin in a line ahead formation, with Division 2 following Division 1 on a course of 0 degrees (due north). Niizuki, the leading Japanese ship is 30 inches from the north edge and 23 inches from the west edge.

The Americans begin on a course of 300 degrees with divisions in line ahead. Nicholas is the leading ship, starting 35 inches from the west edge and 7 inches from the north edge.

Victory Conditions: Victory is decided on points:

- 1 per Japanese Division 1 destroyer sunk;
- 2 per Japanese Division 2 destroyer sunk;
- 1 per American destroyer sunk or American cruiser torpedoed but not sunk;
- 2 per American cruiser sunk.

Special Rules.

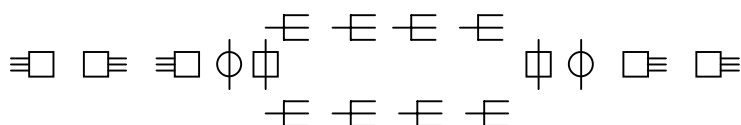
1. All Japanese ships are alert.
2. All U.S. ships have SG search radar, CICs and Mk 8 or Mk 12 fire control radar.
3. Base visibility is 4 (gunfire visibility factor of -5)-- a calm, partly cloudy, moonless night.
4. Japanese Division 2 has troops aboard. As a result, it may not reload torpedo mounts.
5. (Optional.) The Japanese destroyers Mochizuki, Mikazuki (Mutsukis) and Hamakaze (Kagero) were unloading troops to the south. Mochizuki passed back through the battle area after the main engagement. Roll two dice in each Visual Sighting Segment; if a three or less is rolled, one of this group enters as a separate division on the south edge and 20 inches from the west edge.

Outcome: The opposing ships closed and traded shells and torpedoes at 7000 yards range. When the firing stopped, Niizuki had been annihilated by six inch shells and Helena sunk by a Long Lance in her vitals.

Brooklyn

<u>Navy Class</u>	United States Navy Heavy cruiser	<u>Date</u>	1942
<u>Surface Armament</u>		<u>Ranges</u>	<u>Directors</u>
Main Battery:	6 inch guns in 5 triple turrets	24 inches	Fore and aft
Secondary Battery:	5 inch guns in 8 single mounts	15 inches	Fore and aft
<u>Speed</u>	4.25"	12 boilers	4 engines
<u>Flotation</u>	Total: 70	DIW: 35	Sinking: 48
		<u>Torpedo Hits</u>	17.7"-18": ±1 20.5"-22.5": ±2 24": ±3

Armament Arrangement



Notes

- Heavy cruiser size, but light cruiser guns.
- Class included Brooklyn, Honolulu and Boise.

Hits

	Fuel Oil 1	11-15	Forward Void
	Main Magazine A	16-21	Main A
	Main Magazine B	22-24	Main B
	Main Magazine M	25-31	Main M
	Plot/CIC	32	Bridge, Forward Secondary Director, AAMGs
	Plot/CIC	33	Forward Primary Director, Secondary 1 or 2, Bridge, AAMGs
	Boiler Room 1	34	Search Radar
	Boiler Room 2	35	Funnel, Secondary 3 or 4
	Boiler Room 3	36	Searchlights 1 or 2
	Boiler Room 4	41	Secondary 5 or 6, Searchlights 3 or 4
	Boiler Room 4	42	Secondary 7 or 8, Funnel
	Engine Room 1	43-45	Void
	Engine Room 2	46	AAMGs, Aft Main Director
	Engine Room 2	51	AAMGs, Aft Secondary Director
	Main Magazine X	52-53	Main X
	Main Magazine Y	54-56	Main Y
	Fuel Oil 2, Propshafts 1 or 2	61	Catapult 1 or 2, Hanger
	Fuel Oil 2, Propshafts 3 or 4	62	Catapult 1 or 2, Hanger
	Steering	63-64	Catapult 1 or 2, Hanger
	Void	65-66	Hanger

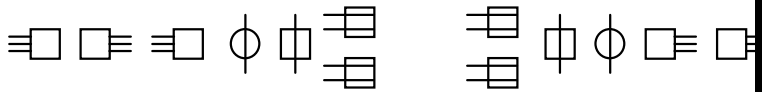
Internal Diagram

FO1 4FP	PM A 2FP	PM B 2FP	PM M 2FP	PL 2FP	BR1 B1 7FP	BR2 B3 7FP	BR3 B5 7FP	BR4 B7 7FP	ER1 E1 11FP	ER2 E3 11FP	PM X 2FP	PM Y 2FP	FO2 2FP	ST 1FP	V 1FP
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St. Louis

<u>Navy Class</u>	United States Navy Heavy cruiser	<u>Date</u>	1942
		<u>Armor</u>	no modifier
<u>Surface Armament</u>		<u>Ranges</u>	<u>Directors</u>
Main Battery:	6 inch guns in 5 triple turrets	24 inches	Fore and aft
Secondary Battery:	5 inch guns in 4 twin mounts	18 inches	Fore and aft
<u>Speed</u>	4.25"	12 boilers	4 engines
<u>Flotation</u>	Total: 70	DIW: 35	Sinking: 48
		<u>Torpedo Hits</u>	17.7"-18": ±1 20.5"-22.5": ±2 24": ±3

Armament Arrangement



Notes

- Variant of the *Brooklyn* class, with 5 inch 38 caliber guns in twin mounts and a revised internal arrangement.
- In class: St. Louis, Helena.

Hits

Fuel Oil 1	11-15	Forward Void
Main Magazine A	16-21	Main A
Main Magazine B	22-24	Main B
Main Magazine M	25-31	Main M
Plot/CIC	32	Bridge, Forward Secondary Director, AAMGs
Boiler Room 1	33	Forward Primary Director, Bridge, AAMGs
Boiler Operating Station 1	34	Search Radar, Secondary 1 or 2
Boiler Room 2	35	Funnel, Secondary 1 or 2
Engine Room 1	36	Searchlights 1 or 2
Engine Room 1	41	AAMGs, Searchlights 3 or 4
Boiler Room 3	42	AAMGs, Funnel
Boiler Operating Station 2	43	Void
Boiler Room 4	44	Void
Engine Room 2	45	Secondary 3 or 4
Engine Room 2	46	AAMGs, Aft Main Director
Secondary Magazine	51	AAMGs, Aft Secondary Director
Main Magazine X	52-53	Main X
Main Magazine Y,	54-56	Main Y
Fuel Oil 2, Propshaft 1 or 2	61	Catapult 1 or 2, Hanger
Fuel Oil 2, Propshaft 3 or 4	62	Catapult 1 or 2, Hanger
Steering	63-64	Catapult 1 or 2, Hanger
Void	65-66	Hanger

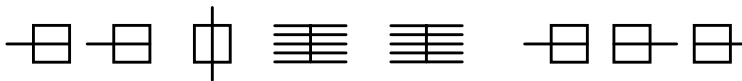
Internal Diagram

FO1	PM	PM	PM	PL	BR1	BOS	BR2	ER1	BR3	BOS	BR4	ER2	PM	PM	FO2	ST	V
4FP	A	B	M	2FP	B1	1	B3	E1	B5	2	B7	E3	X	Y	2FP	1FP	1FP
	2FP	2FP	2FP		B2	4FP	B4	E2	B6	4FP	B8	E4	2FP	2FP			
					5FP		5FP	11FP	5FP		5FP	11FP					

Fletcher

<u>Navy</u>	United States Navy	<u>Date</u>	1942
<u>Class</u>	Destroyer	<u>Armor</u>	None
<u>Surface Armament</u>		<u>Ranges</u>	<u>Directors</u>
Main Battery:	5 inch guns in 5 single mounts	18 inches	Fore
Torpedoes:	21 inch torpedoes in 2 quintuple mount 2 special hits	6 inches at 5.50" 10 inches at 3.25"	Port and starboard
<u>Speed</u>	4.50	4 boilers	2 engines
<u>Flotation</u>	Total: 30	DIW: 15	Sinking: 20
		<u>Torpedo Hits</u>	17.7"-18": ±1 20.5"-22.5": ±3 24": ±5

Armament Arrangement



Notes

- Most numerous class of USN fleet destroyers, with 175 ships in the class.
- Most early units built with twin 40mm mounts on the after pilothouse and the fantail. Some of the earliest (*viz* Fletcher) had one 1.1 inch mount on the pilothouse instead.

Hits

Fuel Oil 1	11-14	Void
Forward Main Magazine	15-21	Main A
Fuel Oil 2	22-24	Main B
Fuel Oil 3	25	Bridge, AAMGs
Fuel Oil 3	26	Bridge, Main Director
Boiler Room 1	31	Search Radar
Boiler Room 1	32-33	Funnel
Engine Room 1	34-36	Torpedo A
Boiler Room 2	41	Searchlight 1 or 2, Funnel
Boiler Room 2	42-43	Torpedo B
Boiler Room 2	44	AAMGs, Torpedo B
Engine Room 2	45	AAMGs, Main M
Engine Room 2	46	Main M
Engine Room 2	51	Main M
Aft Main Magazine	52	AAMGs
Aft Main Magazine	53-55	Main X
Fuel Oil 4	56-62	Main Y
Void, Propshaft 1 or 2	63-64	Void
Steering	65-66	Steering [,AAMGs]

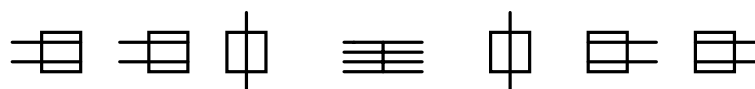
Internal Diagram

FO1	PM	FO2	FO3	BR1	ER1	BR2	ER2	PM	FO4	V	ST
1FP	A&B	FO	FO	B1	E1	B3	E2	MX	3FP	1FP	1FP
	1FP	2FP	2FP	B2	4FP	B4	4FP	1FP			
				5FP		5FP					

Akitsuki

<u>Navy Class</u>	Imperial Japanese Navy Antiaircraft Destroyer	<u>Date</u>	1942
<u>Surface Armament</u>		<u>Ranges</u>	<u>Directors</u>
Main Battery:	3.9 inch guns in 4 twin mounts	20 inches	Fore and aft
Torpedoes:	24 inch torpedoes in 1 quadruple mounts 4 reloads 3 special hits	22 inches at 6.00" 35 inches at 5.00" 44 inches at 4.50"	Aft
<u>Anti-aircraft</u>	Heavy: 3	Heavy MGs: 0	Light MGs: 2
<u>Speed</u>	4.25"	3 boilers	2 engines
<u>Flotation</u>	Total: 27	DIW: 14	Sinking: 18
<u>Torpedo Hits</u>	17.7"-18": ±1	20.5"-22.5": ±3	24": ±5

Armament Arrangement



Notes

- Purpose-designed as antiaircraft destroyers to escort fast carriers, but frequently used as flagships.
- Twelve in class.

Hits

Fuel Oil 1	11-14	Void
Forward Main Magazine	15-21	Main A
Forward Main Magazine	22-24	Main B
Fuel Oil 2	25	Void
Boiler Room 1	26	Bridge
Boiler Room 1	31	Forward Main Director, Bridge
Boiler Room 1	32	Funnel
Boiler Room 2	33-41	Funnel
Boiler Room 2		AAMGs
Boiler Room 2	42	Torpedo Director
Engine Room 1	43-45	Torpedo A
Engine Room 2	46	Searchlight, Torpedo Reload
Engine Room 2	51	Torpedo Reload
Engine Room 2	52	Aft Main Director
Aft Main Magazine	53-55	Main X
Aft Main Magazine	56-62	Main Y
Propshaft 1 or 2, Fuel Oil 3	63-64	Aft Void
Steering	65-66	Steering

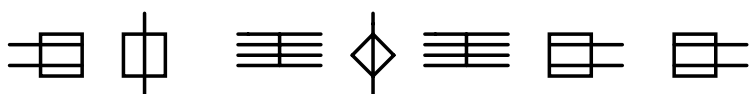
Internal Diagram

FO1 1FP	FM A&B 2FP	FO2 2FP	BR1 B1 3FP	BR2 B2&B3 6FP	ER1 E1 4FP	ER2 E2 4FP	AM X&Y 2FP	FO3 2FP	ST 1FP
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Asashio/Kagero/Yugumo

<u>Navy</u>	Imperial Japanese Navy	<u>Date</u>	1942
<u>Class</u>	Destroyer	<u>Armor</u>	None
<u>Surface Armament</u>		<u>Ranges</u>	<u>Directors</u>
Main Battery:	5 inch guns in 3 twin mounts	18 inches	Fore
Torpedoes:	24 inch torpedoes in 2 quadruple mounts	22 inches at 6.00"	Aft
	8 reloads	35 inches at 5.00"	
	3 special hits	44 inches at 4.50"	
<u>Speed</u>	4.50	3 boilers	2 engines
<u>Flotation</u>	Total: 28	DIW: 14	Sinking: 18
<u>Torpedo Hits</u>	17.7"-18": ±1	20.5"-22.5": ±3	24": ±5

Armament Arrangement



Notes

- All three classes were similar in game terms.
- Ten Asashios, 18 Kageros and 20 Yugumos were built.
- Use cruiser turn radius for Asashio class.

Hits

Fuel Oil 1	11-13	Void
Forward Main Magazine	14-21	Main A
Fuel Oil 2	22	Void
Fuel Oil 2	23-24	Bridge
Boiler Boom 1	25	Main Director, Bridge
Boiler Boom 1	26	Void
Boiler Boom 1	31	Reload A
Boiler Room 2	32	Reolad A
Boiler Boom 2	33	Funnel
Boiler Boom 2	34	Torpedo A
Boiler Boom 3	35	Torpedo A
Boiler Boom 3	36	AAMGs
Boiler Boom 3	41	Funnel
Engine Room	42	Searchlight
Engine Room	43-44	Torpedo B
Engine Room	45	Torpedo Director
Engine Room	46	Reload B
Void	51	Reload B
Aft Main Magazine	52-54	Main X
Aft Main Magazine	55-61	Main Y
Propshaft 1 or 2, Fuel Oil 3	62-64	Aft Void
Steering	65-66	Steering

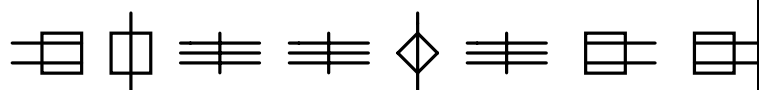
Internal Diagram

FO1 1FP	PM A 1FP	FO2 FO 4FP	BR1 B1 3FP	BR2 B2 3FP	BR3 B3 3FP	ER2 E1,E2 6FP	V 2FP	PM Y 2FP	FO3 2FP	ST 1FP
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Fubuki

<u>Navy Class</u>	Imperial Japanese Navy Destroyer	<u>Date</u>	1940
<u>Surface Armament</u>		<u>Ranges</u>	<u>Directors</u>
Main Battery:	5 inch guns in 3 twin mounts	18 inches	Fore
Torpedoes:	24 inch torpedoes in 3 triple mounts	22 inches at 6.00"	Aft
	9 reloads	35 inches at 5.00"	
	3 special hits	44 inches at 4.50"	
<u>Speed</u>	4.25	4 boilers	2 engines
<u>Flotation</u>	Total: 28	DIW: 14	Sinking: 18
		<u>Torpedo Hits</u>	17.7"-18": ±1 20.5"-22.5": ±3 24": ±5

Armament Arrangement



Notes

- Original "Special Type" destroyers -- a ground-breaking design.
- Nineteen in class.

Hits

	Fuel Oil 1	11-13	Forward Void
Forward Main Magazine		14-21	Main A
	Fuel Oil 2	22	Void
	Fuel Oil 2	23	Bridge
	Fuel Oil 2	24	Bridge, Main Director
	Boiler Room 1	25	Bridge
	Boiler Room 1	26-31	Torpedo Reload A or B, Funnel
	Boiler Room 1	32	Torpedo A
	Boiler Room 2	33-34	Torpedo A
	Boiler Room 2	35-36	AAMGs, Funnel
	Engine Room 1	41	Searchlight
	Engine Room 1	42-43	Torpedo B
	Engine Room 2	44	Torpedo Director
	Engine Room 2	45-46	Torpedo C
	Engine Room 2	51-52	Torpedo Reload C
	Aft Main Magazine	53-55	Main X
	Aft Main Magazine	56-62	Main Y
Propshaft 1 or 2, Fuel Oil 3		63-64	Aft Void
	Steering	65-66	Steering

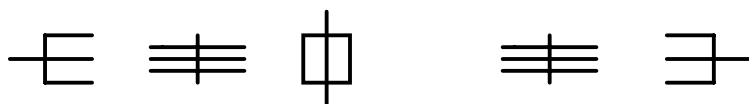
Internal Diagram

FO1 1FP	PM A 1FP	FO2 FO 3FP	BR1 B1 B2 5FP	BR2 B3 B4 5FP	ER2 E1 4FP	ER2 E2 4FP	PM Y 2FP	FO3 2FP	ST 1FP
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Mutsuki

<u>Navy</u>	Imperial Japanese Navy			<u>Date</u>	1942, as converted
<u>Class</u>	Destroyer-transport			<u>Armor</u>	None
<u>Surface Armament</u>			<u>Ranges</u>	<u>Directors</u>	
Main Battery:	4.7 inch guns in 2 single mounts			18 inches	Fore
Torpedoes:	24 inch torpedoes in 2 triple mounts			8 inches at 5.50"	Aft
	No reloads			16 inches at 4.50"	
	3 special hits				
<u>Speed</u>	4.25	4 boilers	2 engines		
<u>Flotation</u>	Total: 27	DIW: 14	Sinking: 18		
				<u>Torpedo Hits</u>	17.7"-18": ±1 20.5"-22.5": ±3 24": ±5

Armament Arrangement



Notes

- Twelve Mutsukis were converted to this role.
- These were the first destroyers to carry a 24 inch torpedo. They carried an early model of the torpedo, which was also found occasionally in Fubukis and light cruisers.

Hits

Fuel Oil 1	11-13	Forward Void
Forward Magazine	14-16	Mount A
Crew Spaces	21-23	Torpedo A
Fuel Oil 2	24	Bridge
Boiler Room 1	25	Bridge, Main Director
Boiler Room 1	26-31	Funnel
Boiler Room 1	32	AAMGs, Supply Area
Boiler Room 2	33-35	AAMGs, Supply Area
Boiler Room 2	36	Funnel
Engine Room 1	41	Searchlight
Engine Room 1	42-44	AAMGs, Supply Area
Engine Room 2	45	AAMGs, Supply Area
Engine Room 2	46-52	Torpedo B
Aft Magazine	53-54	Main M
Aft Magazine	55-56	AAMGs, Supply Area
Fuel Oil 3, Propshaft 1 or 2	61-64	Aft Void
Steering	65-66	Steering

Internal Diagram

FO1 1FP	PM A 1FP	V 2FP	FO2 FO 2FP	BR1 B1 B2 4FP	BR2 B3 B4 4FP	ER2 E1 4FP	ER2 E2 4FP	PM MY 2FP	FO3 2FP	ST 1FP
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