CARE OF FLEET POST OFFICE San Francisco, Calif.

Serial: 0113 CONFIDENTIAL

16 OCT 1945

From: Commanding Officer.

To: Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.

Subject: War Diary for the Month of May 1945.

Reference: (a) PacFlt Conf. Ltr. 1CL-45

1. The War Diary for this vessel, covering the period 1 - 31 August 1945, is submitted in accordance with reference (a).

2. All times are "I".

1 August 1945: 0000 Disposition 5F, in station #5 of second replenishment line. 0004 Changed course to 180°T. 0008 USS ASHTABULA assumed guide. 0729 maneuvered to take station on USS TOPEKA, 1000 yards astern. 1055 Advised by Commander Third Fleet of possible S/M in vicinity. 1105 Commenced independent zig zagging as security measure. 1233 Sounded submarine alert, set. condition able below third deck. 1317 Secured from submarine alert. 1244 Maneuvered to take station in disposition 5R, USS BENNINGTON guide. 1466 USS INGERSOLL (DD-652), exploded a mine.

0800: 27-36N,137-30.1E 1200: 27-02.3N,137-28.2E 2000: 25-39.5N,137-48.3E

<u>2 August 1945</u>: 0502 Changed course from 180°T to 300°T. 0908 Formed 5V, USS DAYTON guide. 0938 Firing at towed sleeves. 1030 Completed firing. Ammunition expended:

48 rounds 5"/38 A.A. common

1528 rounds 40mm

244 rounds 20mm

1153 Changed course to 130°T. 1245 Firing at towed sleeves. 1400 Completed firing. Ammunition expended:

31 rounds 5"/38

222 rounds 40mm

52 rounds 20mm

1413 Formed 5R, USS BENNINGTON guide. 1833 Changed course to 205°T . 1936 Changed course to 270°T .

0800: 24-29.8N,138-33.4E 1200: 24-42.7N,137-57.3E 2000: 24-34.2N,138-42E

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3 August 1945: 0202 Changed course to 330°T. 0423 Changed course to 030°T 0516 Nine (9) destroyers left formation. 0525 Formed 5F. 0706 Joined firing line. 0730 Completed firing. Ammunition expended:

19 rounds 5"/38 A.A. common

420 rounds 40mm

489 rounds 20mm

0842 Came alongside USS NEOSHO, (AO48) to port to receive fuel. 0901 USS DASHIELL (DD-659) came alongside to deliver guard mail. 0942 Cast off all lines, fueling being completed. 1017 Firing at towed sleeves. 1107 Firing completed. Ammunition expended:

34 rounds 5"/38 A.A. common

901 rounds 40mm

431 rounds 20mm

1110 Formed 5R, USS BENNINGTON guide. 1949 Force axis changed to 120°.

0800: 25-091N,137-34E 1200: 25-11.2N,137-38.2E 2000: 25-44N,137-29E.

4 August 1945: 0530 Received USS MANSFIELD (DD-728) alongside for fueling. 0602 USS MANSFIELD (DD-728) completed fueling, cleared side. 0618 Received USS COLLETT (DD-730) alongside for fueling. 0647 USS COLLETT (DD-730) cleared side, no fuel transferred. 0651 Changed course to 090°T. 0715 Changed course to 330°T. 0729 Received USS COLLETT (DD-730) alongside for fueling. 0804- USS COLLETT (DD-730) cleared side, fueling being completed. 0935 Changed course to 110°T. 1146 Formed 5V, USS TOPEKA guide. 1207 Firing at towed sleeves. 1410 Completed firing. Ammunition expended:

9 rounds 5"/38 A.A. common

841 rounds 40 mm

640 rounds 20mm

0800: 28-16.4N,135-53E 1200: 28-30N,136-18E 2000: 2B-32.9N,138-33E

<u>5 August 1945</u>: 0500 Passed mine 200 yards to port. 1551 Changed course to 330°T. 1700 Changed course to 050°T.

0800: 29-53N,141-31.5E 1200: 30-30.7N,142-46.3E 2000: 32-08.8N,144-01.9E

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<u>6 August 1945</u>: 0814 Changed course to. 160°T. 0816 Formed 5V, this ship guide. 0831-0922 5" firing at sleeves. 1015 Launched one drone for machine gun and 5" firing. 1100 Firing completed. Ammunition expended:

111 rounds 5"/38 254 rounds 40mm

1114 Formed 5R, USS BENNINGTON guide. 1127-1531 Various course and speed changes to 330°T 16 knots. 1606 USS MURRAY (DD-576) sighted mine, sank same at 1627. 1619-1627 USS TAUSSIG alongside. 1752 Changed course to 180°T .

0800: 34-20N,146-38E 1200: 34-49.9N,146-59.7E 2000: 36-01.8N,147-31.1E

 $\frac{7 \text{ August } 1945:}{2000}$ 0425-0451 Maneuvered to formation 5F, USS MARIAS (AO-57) as guide. 0835-0950 Alongside USS MARIAS (AO-57) for fueling. 0848-0902 SS MC KEE (DD-575) alongside. 1030 Catapulted one (1) aircraft. 1207 Recovered one (1) aircraft. 1334-1420 Drone firing. Ammunition expended:

25 rounds 5"/38 412 rounds 40mm 343 rounds 20mm

1424 USS KNAPP reported sound contact, evaluated as fish. 1530 Formed 5R on course 340°T, speed 15 knots, USS BENNINGTON guide.

0800: 38-08N,148-09E 1200: 38-07.5N,147-30E 2000: 39-27.5N,146-22.6E

<u>8 August 1945</u>: 0500 Changed course to 100°T. 0718 Bogey at 148-28. Condition one (1) set in AA battery. 0745 Bandit opening range. 0803 Secured from AA condition one (1). 1200 Bogey at 320-70. 1240 CAP destroyed one (1) Nick at 270-100. 1342-1347 USS MOORE alongside to deliver official mail. 1437-1515 USS MC KEE alongside for fuel. 1521 Bogey at 005-75. 1525 USS TAUSSIG alongside for fuel. 1540 CAP destroyed one (1) Betty, at 070-35. 2115 Changed course to 265°T.

0800: 40-02.6N,144-13.2E 1200: 39-44.1N,144-41E 2000: 38-29.7N,146-14.9E

<u>9 August 1945</u>: 0340 USS SOUTH DAKOTA, USS MASSACHUSETTS and USS INDIANA left formation. This ship took station 4052 in 5R. 0406 Carriers commenced strike launchings. 0822 General quarters for returning strike. Condition one (1) easy set at 0919. 1242 Set AA condition one (1).

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9 August 1945: (Con'd): At 1250 CAP splashed one (1) MYRT at 250-50. Two (2) KATES splashed to N.W. 1258 Set condition one (1) easy. 1303 Set condition one (1) in AA battery. Formed disposition 5V. Bogey reported friendly. 1318 Set condition one (1) easy. Formed disposition 5R. 1450 USS BORIE, of Tomcat One (1), reported by ZEKE in suicide

1450 USS BORIE, of Tomcat One (1), reported bit by ZEKE in suicide attack. 1458 Set condition one (1) in AA battery. Formed 5V. Ship to general quarters at 1514. 1610 Enemy plane downed by AA at 140-10. 1659 Set condition one (1) easy. 1920-1927 Friendly plane crashed into formation. 2001 Secured from condition one (1). 2010 Formed 5R.

0800: 38-07N,144-18.2E 1200: 38-19.4N,144-18.2E 2000: 38-10.9N,144-17.5E

10 August 1945: 0400 Carriers commenced launching strikes. 0531-0619 USS RODGERS alongside for fuel. 0635 USS SOUTH DAKOTA, USS MASSACHUSETTS and USS INDIANA rejoined formation. This ship took station 4036 in 5R. 0812 Set AA condition one (1) for returning strike. 0904 General quarters for returning strike. 0913 Set condition one (1) easy. 0916-2047 Various changes of course and speed. 1644 Bogey reported at 220-70. Set AA condition one (1). Formed disposition 5V. 1652 Set condition one (1) easy in AA battery, bogey reported friendly. 1846 Secured from AA condition one (1) easy. 1816 Formed 5R.

0800: 38-25N,143-45E 1200: 38-33.6N,143-49E 2000: 38-20N,144-54.5E

11 August 1945: Changed course from 040°T to 270°T. 0442 Changed course to 115°T. 0500 Changed course to 250°T. 0524 Changed course to 150°T. 0601 Formed 5F. 1000-1137 alongside USS CACAPON. 1010-1015 USS RINGGOLD (DD-500) alongside to deliver guard mail. 1113-1124 USS RINGGOLD (DD-500) alongside for transfer of personnel. 1135-1136 USS TAUSSIG (DD-746) alongside for delivery of equipment. 1410 Formed 5R, USS BENNINGTON guide. 1723 Changed course from 125°T to 000°T. 1806 Changed course to 270°T. 1835 Changed course back to 000°T. 2303 Changed course to 270°T.

0800: 38-36N,148-05E 1200: 38-06N,148-31E 2000: 38-13N,149-15.3E

12 August 1945: 0342 Changed course from 265°T to 120°T. 0353 Changed course to 275°T. 0600 Changed course to 140°T. 0819 ComBatRon Two (2) transferred from USS SOUTH DAKOTA to USS ALABAMA. 1148 USS ALABAMA cleared formation. 1148-1620 Various course changes to 250°T. 1800 USS RODGERS sighted mine, sank same at 1831.

0800: 33-25.1N, 147-17.3E 1200: 37-51N,147-55.2E 2000: 36-42.4N,145-45.2E

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13 August 1945: 0416 Carriers commenced launching first strike of the day, against Tokyo area. 0530 Set condition one (1) in AA battery. 0535 General quarters for returning strike. 0543 Set condition one (1) easy. 0520 CAP splashed MYRT to West. 0605 Bogey at 345-20. Condition one (1) set in AA battery. Formed 5V at 0620. Bandit splashed by CAP. 1147 Bogey at 270-80. 1154 CAP splashed one (1) GRACE. 1305 Two (2) MYRTS splashed, CAP at 290-45. 1340 One (1) GRACE splashed, CAP at 235-70. 1400 One (1) JUDY splashed, CAP to N.E. 1657 One (1) FRANK splashed, CAP at 110-20. AA condition one (1) had been set at 1620. 1845 Two (2) NICKS splashed, CAP to N.W. 1900 One (1) FRANCES splashed, CAP to W. 1920-2300 Various course changes to 165°T, 21 knots. 2030 Set condition three (3).

0800: 35-14.3N,142-23E 1200: 35-26N,142-34E 2000: 34-40N,142-46E

14 August 1945: 0655 Maneuvered to form. 5F for fueling, USS PLATTE (AO-24 guide. 0700 USS SOUTH DAKOTA left formation, USS ALABAMA joined and assumed USS SOUTH DAKOTA'S station. 0935 Alongside USS PLATTE (AO-24) for fuel. 1016-1019 USS DASHIELL (DD-651) alongside. 1105-1200 Firing at TDD's. Ammunition expended:

23 rounds 5"/38 544 rounds 40mm 159 rounds 20mm

1203-1220 Maneuvered to assume 5F, with USS AUCILLA guide. 1630 USS ALABAMA assumed guide. 1701 USS MC KEE alongside to deliver passengers. 1715 Formed 5R, USS BENNINGTON guide. 1839 Changed course from 000°T to 290°T.

0800: 31-46.8N,144-06E 1200: 32-02N,144-34E 2000: 32-49N,144-55.3E

15 August 1945: 0420 Changed course from 300°T to 170°T. 0440 Changed course to 000°T. USS ALABAMA designated guide. 0528 Changed course to 180°T. 0559 Changed course to 000°T. 0611 USS BENNINGTON reassumed guide. 0642 Condition one (1) set in AA battery for returning strike. Formed 5V. 1650 General quarters for returning strike. 0656 Set condition one (1) easy. Various course changes to 220°T at 1143. 0810 Set AA condition one (1). Bogey reported at 010-11. Secured to condition one (1) easy at 0839, bogey identified as friendly. 0842 Received AlNav from SecNav: Japanese government has accepted Potsdam terms. 0923 Secured from condition one (1) easy. 1315 Set condition one (1) in AA battery. Five (5) bogey's splashed by CAP in vicinity of formation. 1335 Set condition one (1) easy in AA batteries. 1437 Secured from condition one (1) easy in AA batteries. 1620-1703 USS MASSACHUSETTS guide.

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15 August 1945 (Con'd): Changed course to 300°T. 1820-1840 USS ALABAMA guide: 1824 Formed 5R, course 140°T.

0800: 34-27N,141-55.3E 1200: 33-55.6N,142-51E 2000: 33-01.1N,143-52E

16 August 1945: " 0516 USS BELLEAU WOOD reported mine, sunk by USS DASHIELL (DD-659) at 0600. 0741 Formed 5V, USS TOPEKA guide. 0810 Changed course to 090°T. 1042 Formed 5R, USS TOPEKA guide. Changed course to 180°T. 1142 USS INDIANA guide. 1221 USS BENNINGTON guide. 1250 Formed 5V, USS TOPEKA guide. 1306-1528 Sleeve firing. Ammunition expended:

728 rounds 40mm 1267 rounds 20mm

1537 Formed 5R. 1600 Catapulted one (1) aircraft to return to USS ALABAMA. 1609 USS BENNINGTON guide. 1720-2000 Various course and speed's, from 300°T 15 knots to 000°T 17 knots.

0800: 32-25N,142-23.1E 1200: 32-15.1N,142-46.9E 2000: 32-19N,144-41E

17 August 1945: Changed course from 000°T to 240°T. 0549 Changed course to 070°T. 0751 Formed 5V for firing, USS TOPEKA guide. 1032 Formed 5R, USS TOPEKA guide. 1049 USS BENNINGTON guide. 1210 Changed course to 300°T. 1252 Formed special 5V, USS TOPEKA guide. 1301-1731 Various course changes to 060°T. 1735 Formed 5R, USS TOPEKA guide. 1750 USS BENNINGTON guide. 1742 USS MANSFIELD alongside for mail. 1829 Changed course to 335°T. 2230 Changed course to 190°T.

0800: 32-49N,143-43.8E 1200: 32-23.5N,143-02.5E 2000: 33-06.4N,144-14.8E

18 August 1945: Changed course from 190°T to 300°T. 0445 Changed course to 150°T. 0519 Formed 5F. 0548-0714 Alongside COSSATOT for fuel. 0830-0916 Left formation, entered TG 38.4. 1219-1228 USS DEHAVEN alongside with official mail. 1425-1649 Alongside USS GARRARD (PA-84) for transfer of personnel, mail and freight. 1600-1613 USS STODDARD alongside. 1740 Re-assumed station in TG 38.1, course 150°T in formation 5R, USS LEXINGTON guide. 1847 USS PENNINGTON guide, course 345°T. 1905 maneuvered to avoid collision with British DD. 2301 Changed course to 290°T

0800: 32-00N,143-45E 1200: 31-10N,144-09E 2000: 3108.4N,144-19.5E

19 August 1945: 0400-0505 Various course changes to 150°T. 0505 Formed 5F, USS GARRARD guide. 0551-0655 USS RINGGOLD alongside. 0614-0637 USS MC KEE alongside for transfer of mail and freight. 0650-0725 USS SCHROEDER alongside for transfer of personnel, mail and freight. Two (2) Marine Officers and thirty-seven (37) men (marines) left for temporary duty on USS GARRARD.

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19 August 1945 (Con'd): 0708-0726 USS MADDOX alongside for transfer of mail and freight. 0743-0807 USS MOORE alongside for transfer of mail and personnel. 0746-0848 USS MURRAY alongside for transfer of mail and personnel. 0843-0846 USS SCHROEDER alongside for transfer of freight. 0921-0950 Alongside USS SAN JACINTO for transfer of mail, freight and personnel. 1001-1008 USS MADDOX alongside for transfer of personnel. 1050-1124 Alongside USS MASSACHUSETTS for transfer of mail, freight and personnel. 1630 USS ALABAMA guide. 1708-1714 USS SCHROEDER alongside for transfer of mail. 1800 Formed 5R, USS BENNINGTON guide. 1837-1915 Changed course to 355°T.

0800: 31-35.5N,143-26E 1200: 31-09N,143-43.5E 2000: 30-41.5N,143-56E

20 August 1945: 0103 changed course from 000°T to 290°T. 0439 Formed 5F course 150°T USS ESCAMBIA guide. 0905 Launched one (1) aircraft. 1426-1435 USS SCHROEDER alongside for transfer of personnel. 1809 Formed 5R. USS BENNINGTON guide. 1906-2034 Course changes to 000°T.

0800: 31-31N,143-30E 1200: 31-02.9N,143-53E 2000: 30-39.5N,144-00E

21 August 1945: 0000-0334 Course changes to 150°T. 0443 Formed 5F. 0803-0829 Alongside USS ESCAMBIA (AO-80) for fuel (cancelled). 0916 Changed course to 235°T. 0934 (AO-70) designated guide. 0948 USS O'BANNON alongside. 1146-1253 Alongside USS ESCAMBIA (AO-80) for fuel. 1722 Formed 5R, USS HANCOCK guide. 1843 USS BENNINGTON guide. 1910 Changed course to 325°T.

0800: 31-31.6N,143-32E 1200: 31-07.5N,143-04.3E 2000: 30-36.9N,141-35.6E

 $\underline{22}$ August $\underline{1945}$: 0446 Formed disposition 5F, USS AUCILLA guide. 0837-0844 USS BRUSH alongside for transfer of mail. 0840 Formed disposition 5R, USS BENNINGTON guide. 0910-1838 Various course changes to 010°T at 1838.

0800: 30-57.5N,142-01.8E 1200: 31-22N,142-21E 2000: 32-22.3N,142-44.1E

23 August 1945: 0521 Received mail from USS MOORE. 0725-0812 USS ALABAMA assumed guide. 0923 USS PRESIDIO designated guide. 0957-1213 alongside USS PRESIDIO for transfer of personnel. 1237-1303 USS SAN JUAN alongside for transfer of mail and passengers. 1318-1432 USS ASTORIA alongside for transfer of mail and passengers. 1323-1352 USS AMSTERDAM alongside for transfer of mail and passengers. 1509 USS SAN JUAN left formation. 1727 USS BENNINGTON designated guide. 1741 USS PRESIDIO left disposition. 1515-1843 Various course changes to 345°T at 1843.

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23 August 1945 (Con'd):

0800: 33-28.8N,149-19.4E 1200: 32-56.6N,143-24.9E 2000: 33-07.2N,144-29.8E

24 August 1945: 0526-0645 USS ALABAMA designated guide. 0627-0636 USS MC KEE alongside for transfer of mail. 0815-1800 Various course changes to 000° T at 1800. 1309-1320 USS HIGBEE alongside for transfer of mail. 1438-1447 USS HIGBEE alongside for transfer of mail.

0800: 35-44.9N,144-16.6E 1200: 36-38N,144-13E 2000: 37-57.9N,143-50.2E

 $\underline{25}$ August $\underline{1945}$: 0340-1902 Various course changes during the day, from course 340°T at 0340 to course 000°T at 1902.

0800: 39-16.2N,143-47.2E 1200: 38-48.1N,143-35E 2000: 38-44.1N,144-01.1E

<u>26 August 1945</u>: 0436 Changed course to 270°T, to 140°T at 0660. 0840-0846 USS MOORE alongside for transfer of mail. 0955 Changed course to 290°T. 1037-1046 USS MURRAY alongside. 1118-2059 Various course and speed changes to 150°T, 17 knots.

0800: 40-38N,143-48.2E 1200: 40-09.8N,143-41.3E 2000: 40-05.2N,144-10.7E

27 August 1945: 0429 Formed 5F, 1800 axis. USS NANTAHALA guide. 0515 USS CALIENTE, dead ahead, reported man overboard. Sheered out to right. 0528 Man picked up by USS MADDOX. 0745 Received guard mail from USS SCHROEDER. 0813-0937 Alongside USS CALIENTE for fuel and transfer of personnel. 1205-1227 USS SCHROEDER alongside for transfer of personnel. 1317-1659 Alongside (AKA-20) for provisions. 2033 USS HANCOCK guide, course 000°T, speed 14 knots.

0800: 38-12N,145-09'E 1200: 37-40.5N,145-09E 2000: 36-17.8N,145-16.5E

 $\underline{28}$ August $\underline{1945}$: 0453 Changed course from 000°T to 230°T, axis 230°. 0504 USS VIRGO guide. 0722-0920 Out of disposition for firing. 0803-0843 Test firing, monthly VT test. Ammunition expended:

48 rounds 5"/38 A.A. common

1344-1354 USS MC KEE alongside for transfer of guard mail. 1557-1607 USS TAUSSIG alongside for transfer of personnel. 1745 Formed 5R, USS MASSACHUSETTS guide. 1804 USS TUCSON reported mine. 1835 Mine sunk by USS SCHROEDER. 1825-2030 USS BENNINGTON guide at 1812. Changed course to $230\,^{\circ}\text{T}$, speed 10 knots.

0800: 37-58.7N,144-52E 1200: 37-09.5N,144-22.1E 2000: 36-48.9N,144-11E

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29 August 1945: 0030 USS MURRAY rejoined formation after escorting captured Japanese submarine. 0602 Passed a mine 500 yards to port. 0844 Maneuvered to avoid mine off starboard bow. 0912 USS TAUSSIG left formation end proceeded for hospital ship in Sagami Wan. 1035 USS DEHAVEN reported a mine. 1042 Mine sunk by USS DEHAVEN. 1026-1758 Course and speed changes usually from course 230°T to course 045°T and back, ending on course 050°T, speed 15 knots at 1758.

0800: 35-35N,142-25E 1200: 35-17N,141-57.2E 2000: 35-01.5N,141-25.1E

30 August 1945: Various course changes throughout the day, from course 050°T to course 225°T and back. 0432 USS TAUSSIG rejoined formation. 1209-1300 Alongside USS ASTORIA for transfer of first personnel to leave ship pursuant to AlNav 196-45. 1702-1714 USS DASHIELL alongside for transfer of freight and guard mail. 1805 Left formation: USS MASSACHU-SETTS, USS LEXINGTON, USS ASTORIA, USS MURRAY, USS MC KEE, USS COLLETT, and USS MANSFIELD. 1825 On station in new position 4000 in 5R. Old 5R station 4052. On course 225°T for the night, at 1730.

0800: 35-40.6N,142-23E 1200: 35-54N,142-43.6E 2000: 36-41N,143-24E

31 August 1945: 0442 Changed course from 0500T to 225°T. 1452 Formed 5F on course 230°T, USS NANTAHALA guide. 0535-0830 Alongside USS VIRGO for provisions. 0909-1017 Alongside USS CALIENTE for fuel and passenger transfers. 1415 USS SAN JACINTO, escorted by USS BLUE and USS BRUSH left for U.S. 1640-1648 USS SCHROEDER alongside for transfer of mail. 1705 USS ALABAMA reported a mine. 1742 Two (2) mines detonated by USS MADDOX. 1755 Changed course to 320°T. 1802 Changed course to 050°T. 1810 USS BENNINGTON guide. 23"59 Changed course to 140°T.

0800: 38-31N,144-44E 1200: 38-08.1N,144-12.2E 2000: 37-46.5N,143-37E

C. B. HUNT.

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