

U. S. S. OKLAHOMA CITY (CL91)

CARE OF FLEET POST OFFICE
San Francisco, Calif.

Serial: 089
CONFIDENTIAL

12 JUL 1945

From: Commanding Officer.
To: Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.

Subject: War Diary for the Month of June 1945.

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

1. The War Diary for this vessel, covering the period 1-30 June 1945, is submitted in accordance with reference (a).

1 June 1945: OKLAHOMA CITY steaming in company with TOPEKA (Rear Admiral Holden, ComCruDiv 18 and CTU 12.5.2) in accordance with ComCruDiv 18 movement order 1-45. 0600 K Exercised at dawn general quarters. 0601 K Sighted Ulithi Atoll, Caroline Islands, bearing 238°(T), distance 9 miles. 0626 K Maneuvering on various courses at various speeds while approaching swept channel. 0815 K Task Unit 12.5.2 dissolved. Reported to Com3rdFleet for duty by ComCruDiv 18 despatch. 0822 K Moored port side to U.S.S. TALLULAH, berth 28, to fuel. 1321 K Underway to shift berths. 1404 K Anchored in berth 105, Ulithi Lagoon.

2 June 1945: 1741 K U.S.S. PRAIRIE (SOPA) indicated "flash blue". Set the watch Condition III in the A.A. battery. 1744 K PRAIRIE indicated "all clear". 1950 K Secured from Condition III. Set the in port watch.

3 June 1945: Anchored as before.

4 June 1945: 1116 K Underway from Ulithi with TG 30.2 TOPEKA (CTG 30.2 and ComCruDiv 18), BON HOMME RICHARD, MOALE, and RINGGOLD in compliance ComCruDiv 18 maneuvering order 2-45 and Port Director Ulithi despatch 040438 of June, proceeding to rendezvous with CTG 30.8 for temporary duty until such time as we may be company with TF 38, at which time OKLAHOMA CITY to report to CTG 38.4 for duty. 1350 K Formed special cruising disposition 1-R, base course 324°(T), speed 21, OKLAHOMA CITY position 2225. 1700 K Set all clocks back to zone time "Item". 1818 I Exercised at general quarters for dusk alert.

2000: 12°33'N, 138°21'E

5 June 1945: 1000 - 1100 I TG 30.2 fired at TDD's. Ammunition expenditure:

32 rounds 5"/38
665 rounds 40mm
973 rounds 20mm

0800: 15°58'N, 135°51'E 1200: 17°03'N, 135°08'1E 2000: 19°01'N, 133°39'E

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6 June 1945: 0318 I Made radar contact and identification by TBS of TENNESSEE and escorts. 0324 I Changed base course and fleet axis to 333°(T). 1510 I Sighted TG 30.8 and proceeded independently to fuel from U.S.S. KANKAKEE. 1605 I ComCruDiv 18 reported OKLAHOMA CITY to CTG 38.1 for temporary duty. 1804 I Completed fueling and cast off from KANKAKEE. 1810 I On station 1,000 yards astern of TOPEKA, course 090°(T), speed 10 knots. 1857 I Exercised at general quarters for evening alert. Maneuvering on various courses at various speeds while joining TG 38.1. 2133 I On station 4.5220, cruising disposition 5R in TG 38.1. Group axis 270°(T), Course 060°(T), speed 15, HORNET (guide and OTC) information center. OKLAHOMA CITY assigned long and medium range air radar search.

0800: 22°30'N,131°14'E 1200: 23°36'N,130°22'E 2000: 24°31'N,129°21'E

7 June 1945: 0650 I Received official mail concerning operations in progress from U.S.S. HARRIS. 1032 I Rotated group axis to 340°(T). 1802 I U.S.S. MANSFIELD alongside to receive official mail. 1905-20'00 I Exercised at general quarters for dusk alert.

0800: 24°50'N,129°53'E 1200: 25°29'N,129°26'E 2000: 25°53'N, 129°31'E

8 June 1945: 0923 I Rotated group axis to 310°(T). 1145 I Bogey reported by CTG 38.1 bearing 300°(T), 26 miles. Went to general quarters. 1155 I Bogey identified as friendly aircraft. Secured from general quarters. 1400-1458 I Exercised at general quarters for purposes of security while aircraft strike returned from KANOYA. 1850-1934 I Exercised at general quarters for dusk alert.

0800: 26°48'N,133°19'E 1200: 26°57.7'N,133°06'E 2000: 25°53'N,132°30'E

9 June 1945: 0200 I Radar contact on bogey orbiting 330°(T), distance 81 miles. 0220 I Bogey opened and disappeared from screen. 0553 I Commenced maneuvering on various courses at various speeds to go along side U.S.S. CALIENTE. 0627-0748 I Fueling from CALIENTE. 0816 I Took position 2,000 yards astern QUINCY. 0812-0855 I Held anti-aircraft; firing at TDD1 s. Ammunition expended:

1,232 rounds 40mm
2,319 rounds 20mm

0855-1152 I Launched and controlled TDD's for other ships in the group. 1126 I U.S.S. GARFIELD came alongside to deliver guard mail. 1227 I

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Took station 2,000 yards bearing 180°(T) from TOPEKA. 1308 I Formed cruising disposition 5R, station 4220, HORNET (guide and OTC) in group center, group axis 070°(T). 1340 I U.S.S. MADDOX alongside to deliver guard mail. 1434-1438 I Catapulted two aircraft for air-sea rescue guard to accompany air strike against OKINO DAITO SHIMA (RASA ISLAND). 1706 I Rotated group axis to 090°(T). 1749 I Assumed new station. 4.5180, HORNET guide at group center. 1827.1 Recovered two aircraft returned from air-sea rescue duty. Mission uneventful.

0800: 24°04'N,132°17'E 1200: 24°14'N,132°54'E 2000: 24°13'N,134°10'E

10 June 1945: 0300-0331 I A.A. battery ordered to "hold fire" while BON HOMME RICHARD launched night fighters. 1328 I Took station 4220 in formation 5R, HORNET guide in group center.

0800: 24°00'N,131°37'E 1200: 23°52'N,131°37'E 2000: 23°15'N,131°11'E

11 June 1945: 0630 I U.S.S. MOORE came alongside to receive guard mail. 0850-1100 1 Fired anti-aircraft practice at sleeve. Ammunition expended:

88 rounds 5"/38
1,181 rounds 40mm
4,605 rounds 20mm

1404-1445 I Went to air defense to simulate repelling air attack by carrier planes. 1555 I Formed column 1,000 yards astern of TOPEKA for TDD exercise. 1656-1727 I Fired at TDD's. Ammunition expended:

42 rounds 5"/38
1,916 rounds 40mm
939 rounds 20mm

1852 I Regained station 4220 in formation 5R, HORNET guide at group center.

0800: 20°20'N,129°20'E 1200: 19°31'N,129°40'E 2000: 18°15'N,129°30'E

12 June 1945: 0602 I Support unit (TU 38.1.5) formed disposition 4RS. OKLAHOMA CITY in position 6040, 1,000 yards astern of TOPEKA, and a unit of TU 38.1.52. Assumed short range air search. 0907 I Formed cruising disposition 4V9S, axis 200°(T), guide in MASSACHUSETTS in station 4000, OKLAHOMA CITY station 4180. 1034-1140 I Exercised at general quarters for simulated battle problem.

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Formed cruising disposition 4S9S guide in MASSACHUSETTS in station 2.5000. OKLAHOMA. CITY station 2.5180. 1340 I Formed disposition 4V9S. 1350-1533 I Fired anti-aircraft practice at sleeve. Ammunition expended:

52 rounds 5"/38

1555 I Formed cruising disposition 4S9S.

0800: 15°46IN,129°46IE 1200 15°00'N,129°36'E 2000: 13005'N,127°56'E

13 June 1945: 0500 I Took station in column 1,000 yards astern of TOPEKA. 0621-1009 I Exercised at general quarters for main and secondary battery firing at towed sled target. Ammunition expended:

60 rounds 61"/47
60 rounds 5"/38

1140 I Took station in formation 4V9S. 1301 I Took station 1,000 yards astern of TOPEKA in preparation for entering port. 1606 I Entered San Pedro Bay, Leyte, P.I. in accordance with Com3rdFleet despatch 100019 of June 1945. 1718 I Anchored south sector of berth 67.

0800: 10°59'N,126°57'E 1200: 10°43'N,126°22'E

14 June 1945: Anchored as before.

15 June 1945: 0853 I Task Unit 30.1.2, OKLAHOMA CITY (CTU 30.1.2) NICHOLAS (ComDesRon 21), O'BANNON and TAYLOR underway from San Pedro Bay, Leyte P.I. in compliance with CTU 30.1.2 Movement Order 1-45 and Com3rdFleet despatch 130127 June, directing ComDesRon 21 in NICHOLAS with O'BANNON and TAYLOR to report to CTU 32.1.3 for duty and OKLAHOMA CITY to report to CTG 32.1 for temporary duty. 1415 I Formed special cruising disposition 1V, axis 006°(T), this ship guide in position 1.5180. 1430-1547 I Fired anti-aircraft exercise at TDD's. Ammunition expended:

34 rounds 5"/38
816 rounds 40mm
1,034 rounds 20mm

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1547 I Destroyers formed anti-submarine Screen 53. 1900-1945 I exercised at general quarters for dusk alert. Held surface radar tracking exercise.

1200: 10 35'N,125 45'E 2000: 12.41'N,126 22'E

16 June 1945: 0911-1030 I Fired anti-aircraft exercise at TDD's. Ammunition expended:

22 rounds 5"/38
32 rounds 40mm

1207 I O'BANNON came alongside to deliver TDD's. 1900-1947 I Exercised at dusk general quarters. Held surface radar tracking exercise.

0800 17°04'N,126°53'E 1200: 18°19'N,127°05'E 2000: 21°08'N;126°37'E
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17 June 1945:. 0518 I Sighted TG 30.6 and TU 30.8.5 bearing 060°(T) distance 12 miles. 0520 I Sighted TU 32.1.3 bearing 000°(T) distance 12 miles. 0707 I Reported this unit for duty to CTU 32.1.3 in FANSHAW BAY in accordance with CTG 32.1 despatch 150711 June and dissolved TU 30.1.2. 0745 I Took station 1,000 yards astern U.S.S. CANEY. 1138-1224 I Fueled from U.S.S. CANEY. 1314 I Took station with TU 32.1.3 as guide at center of formation 5RM, fleet axis 000°(T). TG 30.6 and TU 30.8.5 departed on previously assigned duty. 1915-2002 I Exercised at general quarters for dusk alert. 2048-2112 I At general quarters on report from CIC of low flying aircraft. Identified as friendly surface group, TU 30.29.11.

0800: 23°45'N,129°30'E 1200: 23°12'N,129°10'E 2000: 23°41'N,127°53'E

18 June 1945: 0600' I Placed two SC-1 planes in condition 11 for air-sea rescue duty. 0733-0838 I Went to general quarters for security while first group of carrier aircraft returned from strike against SAKISHIMA GUNTO. 1240 I O'BANNON came alongside to transfer guard mail. 1615-1620 I Changed course to avoid suspected submarine sound contact. Contact proved non-sub. 1900 I Secured from air-sea rescue readiness. 1924-2011 I Exercised at general quarters for dusk alert. 2000 I Intercepted and reported to CTU 32.1.3 possible radar transmissions from the general direction of SAKISHIMA GUNTO.

0800: 24°49'N,127°12'E 1200: 24°39'N,127°06'E 2000: 24°37'N,127°05'E

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19 June 1945: 0445 I Formed cruising disposition 5RN, OKLAHOMA CITY guide at unit center, for launching first strike against SAKISHIMA GUNTO. 1510 I Formed cruising disposition 5RM. 0600 I Place two aircraft in Condition 11 for air-sea rescue duty. 0838-0947 I Exercised at general quarters for drill purposes. 1900 I Secured from air-sea rescue readiness. 1929 I SHIPLEY BAY, O'FLAHERTY, and TILLS detached by order of CTU 32.1.3 and ordered to proceed on mission assigned. 1925-2013 I Exercised at general quarters for dusk alert.

0800: 24°40',127°04'E 1200: 24°28'N,127°05'E 2000: 24°26'N,127°09'E

20 June 1945: 0440 I Formed cruising disposition 5RN for launching first strike against SAKISHIMA GUNTO. 0518 I Formed cruising disposition 5RM. 0600 I Placed two planes in Condition 11 for air-sea rescue duty, 0611 I FANSHAW BAY assumed formation guide while fueling escort. 0819 I This ship assumed formation guide. 0833-0849 I Exercised at submarine alert drill. 1331 I SPROSTON left formation on duty assigned. 1900 I Secured from air-sea rescue readiness. Detached from TU 32.1.3 and reported for duty with TU 32.1.1 in compliance with CTU 32.1.3 TBS orders. Took station 3330 in disposition 5RM. 1922 I Detached from TU 32.1.1 and reported to CTG 32.1 for duty. 1952 I Intercepted and reported to CTG 32.1 radar signal coming from general direction of SAKISHIMA GUNTO. 2000 I Detached by CTG 32.1 and ordered to proceed to San Pedro Bay, Leyte, P.I. in company with SARGENT BAY, RICHARD S. BULL, and HEMMINGER in accordance with orders from CTF 31. 2010 I Cleared disposition to southward and formed column with escorts in screening disposition 52 and OKLAHOMA CITY (OTC) 1,000 yards a stern of SARGENT BAY (guide).

0800: 24°47'N,127°08'E 1200: 24°42'N,127°01'E 2000: 24°35'N,127°12'E

21 June 1945: 0730 I Sighted TU 31.29.15, IDAHO (ComBatDiv 3), NEW ORLEANS, and escorts. 1840 I HEMMINGER came alongside to pick up guard mail for SARGENT BAY.

0800: 21°41'N,127°11'E 1200: 20°40'N,127°09'E 2000: 18°32'N,126°59'E

22 June 1945: 0840-1052 I Held anti-aircraft firing practice at sleeve; towed by SARGENT BAY plane. Ammunition expended:

110 rounds 5"/38
1,896 rounds 40mm
1,312 rounds 20mm

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1314-1445 I This unit fired offset practice. Ammunition expended:

24 rounds 6"/47 HC
40 rounds 5"/38 AAC
24 rounds 5"/38 Mk.53 fuze

1400-1523 I Held fighter direction exercises. 1534-1704 I Held surface radar tracking exercises.

0800: 15°34'N,126°45'E 1200: 14°37'N,126°35'E 2000: 12°37'N,126°25'E

23 June 1945: 0515-0615 I Exercised at general quarters for dawn alert. 0650-0725 I Conducted anti-aircraft firing at sleeves towed by SARGENT BAY planes. Ammunition expended:

64 rounds 5"/38
35 rounds 40mm
551 rounds 20mm

0900 I Entered Leyte Gulf. 1027 I All units were ordered to proceed independently on duty previously assigned. 1246 I Anchored in berth 54 San Pedro Bay, Leyte, P.I. 1259 I Underway to fuel. 1400 I Reported to CTG 38.1 for duty in accordance Com3rdFleet despatch 230635 June. 1409-1658 I Fueling alongside U.S.S. ABERENDA in berth 73, San Pedro Bay. 1658 I Underway for anchorage assigned. 1735 I Anchored in berth 54, San Pedro Bay.

0800: 10°35'N,125°59'E

24 June 1945: 0842-0854 I Set condition I in the anti-aircraft battery for Red alert.

25-29 June 1945: Anchored as before.

30 June 1945: 0558 I Underway for A.A. firing area in compliance with ComCruDiv 17 despatch 240650. 0805 I Anchored berth 955, Leyte Gulf, P.I. 0850-1120 I Conducted anti-aircraft firing at towed sleeves. Ammunition expended:

162 rounds 5"/38
2,444 rounds 40mm
1,905 rounds 20mm

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1245-1529 I Conducted anti-aircraft firing at towed sleeves and drones.
Ammunition expended:

30 rounds 5"/38
514 rounds 40mm
1,156 rounds 20mm

1544 I Underway for San Pedro Bay. 1811 I Anchored in berth 102-103
San Pedro Bay, Leyte, P.I.

C. B. HUNT

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