

**DECLASSIFIED**

Authority: E.O. 13526

By: NDC NARA Date: Dec 31, 2012

DESTROYER DIVISION TEN  
U.S.S. MUGFORD (DD389)  
Flagship

CDD-10/A12  
Serial 72

28 October 1945.

RESTRICTED

From: Commander Destroyer Division TEN.  
To : Chief of Naval Operations.  
Via : (1) Commander Task Group 55.6 (ComDesRon 24).  
(2) Commander Task Force 55 (ComCruDiv 13).  
(3) Commander FIFTH Fleet.  
(4) Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet.

Subject: Action Report, Evacuation and Occupation of Kyushu,  
8 September - 28 October 1945.

All Encls. Rec'd.  
XOS Routing Section  
Enclosure:

Reference: (a) PacFlt conf ltr 1CL-45 of 1 January 1945.  
(A) Subject Report.

1.  
forwarded.

In compliance with reference (a), enclosure (A) is

1 3 217

*W. S. Rodimon*  
W. S. RODIMON.

Copy to:  
CNO (1) direct.  
CinCPac (3) direct.  
Comdespac (1).  
CDS-5 (1).

153384

ACTION REPORT  
EVACUATION AND OCCUPATION OF KYUSHU  
8 SEPTEMBER - 28 OCTOBER 1945

PART I - BRIEF SUMMARY OF OPERATION

From 8 September to 28 October 1945 Destroyer Division TEN was assigned to the Surface Patrol and Escort Unit (TG 55.6) of ComFIFTH Fleet's Western Japan Force (TF 55). During this period ships of this division participated in various phases of the operation involving evacuation of Allied prisoners-of-war; support of amphibious landings; and the military occupation of the Sasebo-Nagasaki Area on the Island of Kyushu, Japan.

PART II - COMPOSITION AND LOCATION OF REPORTING UNIT

Prior to this operation Destroyer Division TEN was situated at Buckner Bay, Okinawa, and composed of the following ships:

USS MUGFORD (DD389) (F)  
USS HELM (DD388)  
USS RALPH TALBOT (DD390)  
USS BAGLEY (DD386)  
USS PATTERSON (DD392)

On 7 September PATTERSON detached from the division and departed Buckner Bay with orders to proceed to the Canal Zone and report on arrival to CinCLant for disposition.

PART III - CHRONOLOGICAL ACCOUNT OF OPERATION

Phase 1. - Evacuation of Prisoners-of-war from Nagasaki

On 9 September CTF 55, Commander Western Japan Force, (Rear Admiral DEYO, USN, Commander Cruiser Division THIRTEEN, in SANTA FE (CL60)), constituted TU 55.7.1 (Advance Unit - POW Evacuation Group - Nagasaki Area) as follows: CTG 55.7 (Rear Admiral FAHRION, USN, Commander Cruiser Division FOUR) in WICHITA (CA45), HAVEN (AHL2), CDD 10 in MUGFORD (DD389), SMITH (DD378), WEBER (DE675), and CORSON (AVP37). This force departed Buckner Bay 10 September enroute Nagasaki, and on arrival 11 September commenced evacuation of Allied prisoners-of-war.

On 13 September RALPH TALBOT departed Buckner Bay on order of CTF 55 to proceed to Nagasaki and there to await his arrival. CTF 55 boarded RALPH TALBOT on 15 September at Nagasaki and hoisted his flag. On 16 September RALPH TALBOT departed Nagasaki enroute Sasebo with CTF 55 on board to make preliminary arrangements with the Japanese concerning the scheduled landings, occupation, and inspection of Japanese Naval vessels.

Enclosure (A) to CDD-10 ltr  
serial 72 of 28 October 1945.

ACTION REPORT  
EVACUATION AND OCCUPATION OF KYUSHU  
8 SEPTEMBER - 28 OCTOBER 1945

On 18 September CTG 55.7 constituted TU 55.7.52 as follows: CTU 55.7.52 (Captain HARRIS, USN) in CAPE GLOUCESTER (CVE109) and CDD 10 in MUGFORD (DD389). This force departed Nagasaki 18 September and proceeded Naha, Okinawa, where on arrival 20 September CAPE GLOUCESTER discharged evacuee passengers. The task unit was then dissolved and the same ships were reconstituted TU 55.7.13 to return to Nagasaki. TU 55.7.13 departed Naha 21 September enroute Nagasaki.

Phase 2. - Support of Landings at Sasebo and Nagasaki

While approaching Nagasaki on 22 September TU 55.7.13 was dissolved and CAPE GLOUCESTER (CVE109) and MUGFORD (DD389) were ordered to join TG 55.5 (Rear Admiral SAMPLE, USN, ComCarDiv 22), comprising SUWANEE (CVE27)(F), STRAUS (DE409), and COGLAN (DD606), operating off Nagasaki as Carrier Group furnishing air support for Sasebo-Nagasaki landings. On 23 September HELM and BAGLEY took previously assigned stations in the approaches to Sasebo and Nagasaki as marker vessels for ships engaged in the landing operations. On 24 September HELM was directed to depart Sasebo and escort WHITING to Okinawa and BAGLEY to proceed Sasebo. On 25 September MUGFORD departed the Nagasaki Area with units of TG 55.7 and proceeded to Sasebo. For the remainder of the month the HELM remained at Okinawa available as escort, and MUGFORD, BAGLEY, and RALPH TALBOT remained at Sasebo, assisting in the inspection of Japanese naval vessels.

Phase 3. - Occupation of Sasebo

The ships of Destroyer Division TEN were moored in Sasebo Harbor most of the month of October during which time their officers assisted in the inspection of various Japanese naval vessels.

On 1 October RALPH TALBOT departed Sasebo to transport a technical intelligence team to Okinawa, and returned on 2 October. On 7 October HELM escorted CHENANGO (CVE28) from Okinawa to Sasebo. On 13 October RALPH TALBOT served as plane guard for CHENANGO during local flight operations, and BAGLEY departed Sasebo to make courier trip to Nagasaki, Wakayama, and return. On 15 October MUGFORD served as plane guard for CHENANGO during local flight operations. On 17 October BAGLEY returned to Sasebo, completing her courier trip. On 20 October HELM departed Sasebo to escort CHENANGO to Yokusuka, and RALPH TALBOT departed to make courier trip to Nagasaki, Wakayama, and return. On 24 October BAGLEY departed Sasebo on courier trip. On 25 October RALPH TALBOT returned to Sasebo and MUGFORD departed to escort FAYETTE (APA43) and TAZEWELL (APA209) to a point 200 miles east of Van Diemen Straits and return. On 27 October HELM returned to Sasebo from Yokusuka. On 28 October MUGFORD returned to Sasebo. On the same day CTF 55 (CTG 55.2) detached the division from the force and directed it to report to Port Director, Sasebo for routing eastward to the United States.

Enclosure (A) to CDD-10 ltr  
serial 72 of 28 October 1945.

DESTROYERS, U. S. PACIFIC FLEET  
DESTROYER SQUADRON TWENTY-FOUR

CDS24/A16-jcj

c/o FLEET POST OFFICE

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

Serial: 184

30 October 1945

RESTRICTED

1 3 217

FIRST ENDORSEMENT to:  
CDD-10 Ltr. A12 Serial 72  
of 28 October 1945.

From: Commander Destroyer Squadron TWENTY-FOUR.(CTG 55.6).  
To : Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet.  
Via : (1) Commander Task Force 55 (ComCruDiv 13).  
(2) Commander FIFTH Fleet.  
(3) Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet.

Subject: Action Report, Evacuation and Occupation of Kyushu,  
8 September - 28 October 1945.

1. Forwarded.

2. Attention of Commander Destroyer Division TEN is directed to change of addressee from Chief of Naval Operations to Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, in accordance with instructions contained in PacFlt conf. ltr. 1CL-45 of 1 January 1945 (Reference (a) of basic letter).

  
E. W. YOUNG

cc:  
ComDesDiv 10

## FILE NO.

FB3-13/A16

Serial: 536

UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET  
 COMMANDER CRUISER DIVISION THIRTEEN  
 C/O FLEET POST OFFICE  
 SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

SECOND ENDORSEMENT to  
 CDD-10 ltr. Action Report,  
 Evacuation and Occupation  
 KYUSHU, 8 September to  
 28 October 1945.

1 3 217

15 November 1945.

From: Commander Cruiser Division THIRTEEN (Formerly Commander  
 Task Force FIFTY-FIVE).  
 To : Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet.  
 Via : (1) Commander FIFTH Fleet.  
 (2) Commander In Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet.

Subject: Action Report, Evacuation and Occupation of Kyushu,  
 8 September - 28 October 1945.

1. Forwarded.

*W. R. EDSALL*  
 W. R. EDSALL,  
 Chief of Staff.

CC:  
 ComDesDiv 10

*FB4(10)/A4-3 ✓*

Al6-3(2e-A)

COMMANDER FIFTH FLEET  
UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET  
FLAGSHIP OF THE COMMANDER

Serial: 1873

27 DEC 1945 3 46 PM

THIRD ENDORSEMENT to  
CDD-10 ltr. Action  
Report, Evacuation  
and Occupation Kyushu  
8 September to 28  
October 1945.

1 3 217



From: Commander FIFTH Fleet.  
To: Chief of Naval Operations.  
Via: Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet.

Subject: Action Report, Evacuation and Occupation of Kyushu,  
8 September - 28 October 1945.

- 1. Forwarded.

*G. C. ...*  
By direction: *A*

*No*

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