

DECLASSIFIED

Authority: E.O. 13526

By: NDC NARA Date: Dec 31, 2012

REG. NO 355
R. S. NO
REG. SHEET NO 135

CVE29/A12-1/A16-3
Serial: 097

U. S. S. SANTEE (CVE-29)
C/O FLEET POST OFFICE
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

1 October 1945.

From: The Commanding Officer.
To : The Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.
Subject: War Diary - September 1945.

September 1, 1945

The ship is steaming in company with the U.S.S. BLOCK ISLAND (CVE106) and CortDiv#57, less U.S.S. KOINER (DE331) and U.S.S. O'REILLY (DE330), forming Task Group 77.1 less Task Unit 77.1.2. Commander Task Group and Officer in Tactical Command is Rear Admiral D. Ketcham, U.S.N. (ComCarDiv#27) in the U.S.S. BLOCK ISLAND (CVE106). 0920 Task Unit 77.1.2, the U.S.S. CHEPACHET (AO#78) and the U.S.S. WALTON (DE361) joined the formation.

POSITIONS:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
	22° - 57'N	23° - 29'N	23° - 31'N
	127° - 34'E	127° - 32'E	127° - 55'E

September 2, 1945

Steaming as before.

POSITIONS:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
	24° - 53'N	25° - 10'N	24° - 48'N
	128° - 35'E	129° - 09'E	130° - 09'E

September 3, 1945

Steaming as before. 0705 Task Unit 77.1.2 left the formation to report for duty to C.T.G. 71.2. 1236 Lieut. Comdr. Victor (n) Gang, MC, 99161, U.S.N.R. was washed over the side from the forecastle. 1302 The U.S.S. FINCH (DE328) recovered the body of Lieut. Comdr. Gang. 1400 Lieut. Comdr. Gang was pronounced dead. Cause of death was drowning. 1831 Burial services were held aboard the U.S.S. FINCH for Lieut. Comdr. Gang at latitude 23 -04'N, longitude 129 -05 E. 1930 A heavy swell breaking over the port bow resulted in the following material damage: Two forward staterooms on gallery deck, port side, had contents damaged and deck tilted upward. Number 4 gun mount sponson was tilted upward; catwalk forward of Mount number 2 was destroyed. 2100 Jettisoned about 100 rounds of 40MM ammunition which had been damaged by the heavy seas.

POSITIONS:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
	23° - 29'N	23° - 02'N	23° - 09'N
	130° - 50'E	130° - 47'E	129° - 14'E

147651

DECLASSIFIED

Authority: E.O. 13526

By: NDC NARA Date: Dec 31, 2012

U.S.S. SANTEE (CVE29)

CVE29/A12-1/A16-3
Serial: 097

1 October 1945.

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

Subject: War Diary - September 1945.

September 4, 1945

Steaming as before. This Task Group was enroute to Korea as support for occupation forces there, but is now proceeding to northern Formosa to effect rescue of prisoners of war now held on the island.

POSITIONS:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
	23° - 29'N	23° - 31'N	23° - 29'N
	126° - 34'E	125° - 31'E	123° - 28'E

September 5, 1945

Steaming as before. 0248 U.S.S. GARY (DE326) and U.S.S. FINCH (DE328) left the formation and proceeded to Kirun, Formosa to arrange for transfer of prisoners of war. 1115 U.S.S. BRISTER (DE327) and U.S.S. KRETCHNER (DE329) left the formation to rescue evacuees. 1934 Destroyer Escorts rejoined the formation. 2040 Commenced receiving aboard evacuees, (ex-Japanese Prisoners of war) from northern Formosa, having been transferred from the U.S.S. KRETCHNER (DE329). 2202 Completed transfer of evacuees, having received a total of one hundred and fifty-five (155) officers and men of British nationality from the Malayan Forces comprised of various units of the British and Indian Armies who were made prisoners of war on 15 February 1942 at Singapore and various other places in Malaya. Evacuees are from Camp Kinkasaski and another prison camp on Formosa of undetermined name, generally referred to as "The Jungle Camp". Senior officer among the evacuees is Captain J. E. R. Francke, #ST124 of the Royal Indian Army Service Corps. The evacuees were de-loused, treated for Pediculosis, Dysentary, Beri Beri, Malnutrition and various other diseases and conditions; issued clothing and berthed on the hangar deck.

Total Flights: 35. 98 hrs. 30 min.
TASP Flights: 11. 32 hrs. 30 min.
TCAP Flights: 24. 66 hrs. 00 min.

POSITIONS:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
	24° - 55'N	25° - 01'N	25° - 07'N
	122° - 35'E	122° - 44'E	122° - 12'E

September 6, 1945

Steaming as before. 0953 U.S.S. FINCH (DE328), U.S.S. BRISTER (DE327), U.S.S. KRECHNER (DE329), and U.S.S. GARY (DE326) left the formation to pick up evacuees from Kirun, Formosa. 1750 Destroyer Escorts rejoined the formation. 1811 Commenced receiving aboard evacuees (ex-Japanese prisoners of war) from northern Formosa, having been transferred from the U.S.S. FINCH (DE328) and the U.S.S. BRISTER (DE327). 2257 Completed transfer of evacuees, having received a total of three hundred and twenty-two (322) officers and men.

DECLASSIFIED

Authority: E.O. 13526

By: NDC NARA Date: Dec 31, 2012

U.S.S. SANTEE (CVE29)

CVE29/A12-1/A16-3
Serial: 097

1 October 1945.

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

Subject: War Diary - September 1945.

September 6, 1945

Two hundred and eighty-two (282) officers and men are of British nationality from the British and Indian Armies who were made prisoners of war on 15 February 1942 at Singapore and various other places in Malaya. Thirty (30) officers and men are members of the United States Army and Navy captured on Bataan, Corregidor, and various other islands in the Philippines Area. Ten (10) officers and men are from the Dutch Army and Merchant Marine who were captured in Java. Evacuees are from Camp Taihoku, located in northern Formosa. Evacuees were de-loused, treated for Pediculosis, Dysentery, Beri-Beri, Malnutrition, and various other diseases and conditions; issued clothing and berthed on the hangar deck.

Total Flights: 2.5 hrs.

TASP Flights: 2.5 hrs.

POSITIONS:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
	25° - 03'N	25° - 06'N	25° - 03'N
	122° - 30'E	122° - 07'E	122° - 08'E

September 7, 1945.

Steaming as before.

POSITIONS:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
	23° - 19'N	22° - 25'N	20° - 58'N
	122° - 07'E	121° - 30'E	121° - 06'E

September 8, 1945

Steaming as before.

POSITIONS:	<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
	18° - 25'N	17° - 32'N	15° - 41'N
	120° - 13'E	120° - 00'E	119° - 37'E

September 9, 1945

Steaming as before. 0847 Anchored in Berth #116, Manila Bay, Luzon, Philippine Islands. 1000 Commenced disembarking evacuees. 1310 Completed disembarking the four hundred and seventy-seven (477) evacuees.

September 10 - 13, 1945, Inclusive

Anchored as before. During this period the ship was receiving required logistics.

DECLASSIFIED

Authority: E.O. 13526

By: NDC NARA Date: Dec 31, 2012

U.S.S. SANTEE (CVE29)

CVE29/A12-1/A16-3
Serial: 097

1 October 1945.

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

Subject: War Diary - September 1945.

September 14, 1945

Anchored as before. 1055 Underway from Manila Bay, Luzon, Philippine Islands to Okinawa, Ryukyu Islands in accordance with ComFifthFleet Dispatch #130121 of September 1945.

POSITION: 2000
15° - 23'N
119° - 42'E

September 15, 1945

Steaming as before.

POSITIONS: 0800 1200 2000
18° - 11'N 18° - 23'N 17° - 16'N
120° - 11'E 120° - 10'E 119° - 39'E

September 16, 1945

Steaming as before.

POSITIONS: 0800 1200 2000
16° - 11'N 16° - 53'N 18° - 08'N
119° - 03'E 119° - 18'E 119° - 58'E

September 17, 1945

Steaming as before.

POSITIONS: 0800 1200 2000
19° - 48'N 20° - 06'N 21° - 15'N
121° - 13'E 122° - 10'E 123° - 40'E

September 18, 1945

Steaming as before.

POSITIONS: 0800 1200 2000
22° - 24'N 22° - 51'N 23° - 56'N
125° - 26'E 126° - 03'E 127° - 21'E

September 19, 1945

Steaming as before. 0855 Anchored in berth L#91, Buckner Bay, Okinawa Gunto, Ryukyu Islands.

DECLASSIFIED

Authority: E.O. 13526

By: NDC NARA Date: Dec 31, 2012

U.S.S. SANTEE (CVE29)

60-jfq

CVE29/A12-1/A16-3
Serial: 097

1 October 1945.

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

Subject: War Diary - September 1945

September 20, 1945

Anchored as before. 1040 Underway from Buckner Bay, Okinawa Gunto, Ryuku Islands to Wakayama, Honshu, Japan in accordance with C.T.F. #51 sortie plan #190753 of September 1945. Steaming in company with Task Unit 51.4.3. Commander Task Unit and officer in tactical command is C.T.F. #51, Vice Admiral J. D. Oldendorf, USN in the U.S.S. TENNESSEE (BB#43). The formation is screened by Task Unit 51.4.32.

POSITION:

2000

27° - 17'N

130° - 15'E

September 21, 1945

Steaming as before. 1433 TBM-3E, Engine Number 429641, Bureau #69246, piloted by Ensign Frederick A. Johnson, 406947, USNR, with SHARP, R. J., 869-60-74, RM3c, USNR, crashed into the sea after being catapulted. Pilot and crewman were recovered uninjured by the U.S.S. CAMPBELL (CGC#32). 1526 Conducted gunnery drills for training purposes firing at shell bursts.

Total Flights: 33. 101 hrs. 36 min.

Flights: 8. 24 hrs. 30 min.

Flights: 7. 18 hrs. 42 min.

VF Sorties: 18. 58 hrs. 24 min.

Ammunition Expended: 5"38 - 3 rounds.

40MM - 935 rounds.

20MM - 1,680 rounds.

POSITIONS:

0800

1200

2000

29° - 18'N

29° - 57'N

31° - 33'N

133° - 00'E

133° - 46'E

134° - 50'E

September 22, 1945

Steaming as before. 1106 Anchored in Wakanoura Wan, Honshu, Japan.

POSITION:

0800

33° - 50'N

134° - 52'E

DECLASSIFIED

Authority: E.O. 13526

By: NDC NARA Date: Dec 31, 2012

U.S.S. SANTEE (CVE29)

v

60-jfq

CVE29/A12-1/A16-3

Serial: 097

1 October 1945.

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

Subject: War Diary - September 1945.

September 23, 1945

Anchored as before.

September 24, 1945

Anchored as before. 0706 Underway from Wakanoura Wan, Honshu, Japan in accordance with orders of C.T.F. #51 dispatch #230250 of September 1945. The ship is steaming in company with Task Unit 51.3.13. Commander Task Unit and Officer in Tactical Command is Rear Admiral C. T. DURGIN, USN in the U.S.S. MAKIN ISLAND (CVE93). 1610 U.S.S. MCGINTY (DE635) joined the formation.

Total Flights: 25. 62 hrs. 06 min.

VT Sorties: 8. 21 hrs. 30 min.

VF Sorties: 17. 40 hrs. 36 min.

POSITIONS:

1200

33° - 24'N

134° - 53'E

2000

32° - 56'N

135° - 22'E

September 25, 1945

Steaming as before. This Task Unit is providing air coverage for Army Occupation forces landing at Wakayama.

Total Flights: 13. 35 hrs. 18 min.

VT Sorties: 1. 3 hrs. 18 min.

VF-TCAP: 12. 32 hrs. 00 min.

POSITIONS:

0800

33° - 15'N

135° - 11'E

1200

33° - 16'N

135° - 14'E

2000

33° - 20'N

135° - 03'E

September 26, 1945

Steaming as before. 1204 Anchored Berth B#36, Wakanoura Wan, Honshu, Japan.

POSITION:

0800

33° - 38'N

134° - 51'E

September 27 - 30, 1945, Inclusive.

Anchored as before. During this period the ship was receiving required logistics.

J. V. Peterson
J. V. PETERSON

cc: CincPac