

DECLASSIFIED

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By: NDC NARA Date: Dec 31, 2012

U. S. S. BENNINGTON (CV 20)

REG. NO 4783  
R. S. NO  
REG. SHEET NO 206

IN REPLY  
REFER TO

CV20/A12

10/gep

Serial: 0372

c/o Fleet Post Office,  
San Francisco, Calif.,

21 SEP 1945

CONFIDENTIAL

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

Subject: War Diary - Submission of.

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

Enclosure: (A) War Diary of U.S.S. BENNINGTON (CV-20) for the  
Period 1 August through 31 August 1945.

1. In compliance with reference (a) enclosure (A) is submitted  
herewith.

*B. L. Braun*  
B. L. BRAUN.

cc:  
CinCPac  
ComAirPac  
CTG 38.1

142538

U. S. S. BENNINGTON (CV 20)

IN REPLY  
REFER TO

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

WAR DIARY

of

U.S.S. BENNINGTON (CV-20)

1-31 AUGUST 1945



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

1-31 August 1945

The BENNINGTON operated as a unit of Task Group 38.1 throughout the month and operations were conducted in compliance with Commander Task Group 38.1's Operation Plan 1-45, Commander Task Force 38's Operation Plan 4-45, Commander THIRD Fleet's Operation Plans 10-45 and 11-45 and Commander Task Force 38's Operation Orders 2-45 and 3-45.

All times given are Zone ITEM (-9), and all bearings are true unless otherwise specified.

TASK ORGANIZATION:

TG 38.1, Rear Admiral T.L. SPRAGUE, USN, (ComCarDiv 3), USS BENNINGTON (CV-20), (F), USS HANCOCK (CV-19), USS LEXINGTON (CV-16), USS BELLEAU WOOD (CVL-24), USS SAN JACINTO (CVL-30), USS MASSACHUSETTS (BB-59), USS INDIANA (BB-58), USS SOUTH DAKOTA (BB-57) (F), TOPEKA (CL-67), (F), ATLANTA (CL-104), DAYTON (CL-105), DULUTH (CL-86), OKLAHOMA CITY (CL-91), AMSTERDAM (CL-101), SAN JUAN (CL-54), and 21 DD's.

1 August 1945

Operated in fueling area on various courses and at various speeds in company with Task Group 38.1 and units of Task Unit 30.8.1. OTC in BENNINGTON; guide in USS SOUTH DAKOTA (BB-57), cruising disposition 5-F. Alongside USS LASSEN (AE-3) for rearming, 0535-0958. Transferred patients to USS RESCUE (AH-18) alongside, 0701-0730. Replenishment group left formation, except USS SHASTA (AE-6) and USS LASSEN (AE-3). Formed cruising disposition 5-R and BENNINGTON assumed the guide, 1249. Received 6 pilots aboard from USS MURRAY (DD-576). SHASTA and LASSEN left the formation, 1555. Transferred and received mail, freight, material, etc. to and from various DD's during the day.

Air Operations: Launched flyable duds (2VBF, 3VF, 1VB), 1005, and landed replacement aircraft (5VF), 1230-1234.

Takeoffs: 6      Landings: 10

Positions:	0800(I)	1200(I)	2000(I)
	27-22 N	27-00 N	25-43 N
	137-27 E	137-27 E	137-49.5 E

2 August 1945

Underway on various courses and at various speeds in company with Task Group 38.1, operating south of fueling area to avoid a typhoon. OTC and guide in BENNINGTON. DE HAVEN sank mine astern of the formation, 0532. Formed cruising disposition 5-V for gunnery exercises, 0908. Conducted gunnery exercises including sleeve firing, 0935-1128; 1246-1415. Conducted damage control problems, 1300-1400. Formed cruising disposition 5-R, 1419.



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Transferred mail to HMS QUALITY (DD-18) alongside, 1500-1504. Fueled MOORE alongside, 1512-1545. ComBatDiv 8 in USS SOUTH DAKOTA (BB-57) assumed tactical command and guide, 1756. ComCarDiv 3 in BENNINGTON resumed tactical command and BENNINGTON resumed the guide, 1830-1833.

Ammunition Expended in Practice Firing:

5"/38 Cal. - 59 rds., 40mm - 1,700 rds., 20mm - 1,868 rds.

Air Operations: Launched and recovered Tow planes (3VT), 0858-1201.  
Takeoffs: 3 Landings: 3

Positions:	0800(I)	1200(I)	2000(I)
	24 36'N	24 48'N	24 37'N
	138 32'E	137 56'E	138 38'E

3 August 1945

Underway on various courses and at various speeds in company with Task Group 38.1, operating in an area south of the fueling area to avoid a typhoon. OTC and guide in BENNINGTON. Received fuel oil from USS MARIAS (AO-51). Conducted gunnery exercises. Received freight, officer messenger mail, personnel and material from, and transferred personnel, material and radio equipment to various DD's alongside during the day.

Air Operations: Maintained Message Drop flights (2VF), 0445-0927; Tow planes (4VT), 0810-1226; ASP (4VT), 0810-1226 and DCAF #4 (4VBF, 8VF), 1400-1827. Landed 3 replacement planes (VB), 1226.

Takeoffs: 22 Landings: 25

Ammunition Expended in Practice Firing:

5"/38 Cal. - 33 rds., 40mm - 881 rds., 20mm - 2,081 rds.

Positions:	0800(I)	1200(I)	2000(I)
	25 07'N	25 11'N	25 55'N
	137 23'E	137 52'E	137 27'E

4 August 1945

Underway on various courses and at various speeds in company with Task Group 38.1, operating in an area south of the refueling area to avoid a typhoon. OTC and guide in BENNINGTON. Fueled TAUSSIG alongside, 0528 - 0559; DE HAVEN alongside, 0607-0630 and BRUSH alongside, 0731-0757. At AA defense for simulated Kamikaze attack, 0920-1021. Conducted gunnery exercises in disposition 5-V with TOPEKA as guide, 1147-1413. BENNINGTON resumed the guide in disposition 5-R, 1447.



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Air Operations: Maintained Training Strike (4VBF, 4VF, 8VB, 7 VT), 0701 - 1129, which made runs on towed sled and simulated Kamikaze attack on the Task Group. Maintained Tow planes (2VT), 1059-1501.  
Takeoffs: 25 Landings: 25

Ammunition Expended in Practice Firing:

5"/38 Cal. - 34 rds., 40mm - 570 rds., 20mm - 1,212 rds.

Positions:	0800(I)	1200(I)	2000(I)
	28 22'N	28 30.5'N	28 44'N
	135 54.5'E	136 17'E	138 27'E

5 August 1945

Underway on various courses and at various speeds in company with Task Group 38.1 operating en route to launching point for Northern Honshu strikes. OTC and guide in BENNINGTON. Made radar contact with land bearing 342 T, distant 25.6 miles, identified as SOFU GAN. Fueled Mc KEE, COLLETT, and BLUE alongside. At AA defense to repel simulated Kamikaze attacks, 0920-1000. TAUSSIG sighted mine bearing 050 T, distant 5000 yards, 1808. Changed course right to 090 T to avoid mine, 1812. TAUSSIG exploded mine bearing 320 T, distant 2500 yards, 1818.

Air Operations: Maintained Training Strike (4VBF, 4VF, 8VB, 6VT), 0635 - 1114; Fighter Director Exercise (4VF), 1030-1451; Sector Search (8VBF, 8VF), 1333-1812, for reported Jap transport. Results were negative. Landed and launched two LEXINGTON VBF, 1451 and 1719.  
Takeoffs: 44 Landings: 44

Positions:	0800(I)	1200(I)	2000(I)
	30 06'N	30 47'N	32 13.5'N
	141 33'E	142 45'E	144 04.5'E

6 August 1945

Underway on various courses and at various speeds in company with Task Group 38.1, operating in an area approximately 300 miles east of Tokyo, Japan. OTC and guide in BENNINGTON. Fueled HIGSBEE, MURRAY, DASHIELL alongside. OKLAHOMA CITY took guide for gunnery exercises. Conducted gunnery exercises, 0830-1056. Conducted battle problem, 0946-1104. BENNINGTON resumed guide, 1116.

Ammunition Expended in Practice Firing:

5"/38 Cal. - 71 rds., 40mm - 175 rds., 20mm - 227 rds.

Air Operations: Maintained Tow planes (4VT), 0730-1148, and DCAP #2 (8VBF), 0730-1148.



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Takeoffs: 12 Landings: 12

Positions:	0800(I)	1200(I)	2000(I)
	34 17'N	34 54'N	36 00'N
	146 31.5'E	146 31'E	147 31'E

7 August 1945

Underway on various courses and at various speeds in fueling area in company with Task Group 38.1 en route to launching point for strikes against Northern HONSHU. OTC and guide in BENNINGTON. Received fuel oil, lubricating oil and aviation gasoline from USS CACAPON (AO-52). Conducted gunnery exercises, 0848-0926; 1335 - 1435. Emergency course change right to 000 T and PGC; USS KNAPP (DD-653) destroyer in the screen, made underwater contact, 1427. KNAPP lost underwater contact, 1438. Various destroyers alongside during the day to transfer and receive personnel, freight, material, supplies, mail, cameras, etc.

Air Operations: Launched and recovered Message Drop Planes (2VF), 0345 - 0818; launched Flyable Dud (1VF), 0925, and landed replacement (1VF), 1015.  
Takeoffs: 3 Landings: 3

Ammunition Expended in Practice Firing:

5"/38 Cal. - 77 rds., 40mm - 345 rds., 20mm - 991 rds.

Positions:	0800(I)	1200(I)	2000(I)
	38 04'N	38 04'N	39 25'N
	148 07'E	147 42'E	146 34'E

8 August 1945

Underway on various courses and at various speeds in company with Task Group 38.1 operating in an area approximately 100 miles off the coast of Northeast HONSHU. OTC and guide in BENNINGTON. Bogey reported bearing 290 T, distant 32 miles, 0626. Bogey reported opening to the southwest, 0643. Bogey reported bearing 167 T, distant 37 miles, closing, 0716. Two bogies on screen closed to 078 T, distant 19 miles, 0728. Bogeys opened to the north and faded, 0736. Bogey reported bearing 328 T, distant 60 miles. Set air defense condition I, material condition "Zebra", 1203. Bogey tallyhoed by friendly fighter, set air defense condition I Easy and material condition "Yoke", 1237. Bogey splashed bearing 270 T, distant 100 miles, 1241. Fueled DASHIELL and BLUE, 1432-1557. Bogey reported bearing 025 T, distant 42 miles, set air defense condition I, material condition "Zebra", 1536. Bogey, identified as a "Betty", splashed by CAP, 1541. Secured from air defense condition I, set air defense condition III, material condition "Yoke", 1544. Fueled JOHN RODGERS, 1701 - 1740.

Air Operations: There were no Air Operations due to bad weather.



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Positions:	0800(I)	1200(I)	2000(I)
	40 07'N	39 44'N	38 11'N
	144 12'E	144 51.5'E	146 31'E

9 August 1945

Underway on various courses and at various speeds in company with Task Group 38.1 operating in an area approximately 120 miles east of SENDAI, Japan, launching and recovering strikes against airfields and shipping in Northern HONSHU, Japan, and in support of bombardment at KAMAISHI. Task Group 34.8.1 left the formation, 0344. Changed cruising disposition to 5-V and set material condition "Zebra". Bogey reported bearing 140 T, distant 42 miles, 1241. Bogey splashed by CAP bearing 220 T, distant 55 miles, 1254. Formed cruising disposition 5-R, set air defense condition 1 Easy, 1259. Bogey reported bearing 120 T, distant 17 miles. Formed cruising disposition 5-V, set air defense condition I Zebra, 1318. Bogey disappeared from radar screen bearing 115 T, distant 60 miles; set AA defense condition I Easy, 1320. Set air defense condition I, set condition "Zebra", 1457. Formed cruising disposition 5-V; bogies attacked pickets bearing 195 T, distant 55 miles, 1458. Radar screen reported clear of bogies, 1518. Maneuvered to avoid destroyer picking up downed pilot in the water, 1942. Formed cruising disposition 5-R, secured from material condition "Zebra", set condition "Yoke"; 2010.

Weather: Scattered to broken high and low type clouds. Ceiling unlimited. Visibility unrestricted. Surface winds southwesterly 12 to 20 knots. Moderate seas. No swell. Flying conditions average.

Air Operations: Maintained the following patrols: DCAP #1 (4VBF, 4VF), 0409-0935; BGCAP #2 (8VF), 0709-1235; DCAP #2, 0754-1235; DCAP #3 (4VBF, 4VF), 1043-1511; SUBCAP #5 (3VBF), BGCAP #4 (4VBF), SPOTCAP (7VF), BG GRAPHIC (2VF, 2VF-P), all 1141-1642; SUBCAP #6 (4VBF), 1345-1804, DCAP #4 (3 VBF, 4VF), 1345-1832, and MAPHO #1 (4VBF, 4VF-P), 1043-1511. SUBCAP #5 shot down one "Judy" over a submarine after the "Judy" had dropped a bomb and missed. Two of the members of SPOTCAP spotted for the MASSACHUSETTS (BB-59) in the bombardment of KAMAISHI with gratifying results.

The following strikes and sweeps were launched and recovered:

Strike Able #1 (15VF, 1VF-P), 0409-0935, was a fighter sweep to MATSU-SHIMA Airfield. Many planes were found on the field and in revetment and dispersal areas. BENNINGTON planes first bombed AA positions, then made rocket and strafing runs, destroying 10 planes and damaging 13 planes. AA was intense and one plane was shot down over the target, the pilot, Ens. C.J. STETLER, USNR, 368997, being lost. Plane piloted by Lt. Cdr. HOFFMAN of VF-1 was forced to ditch due to lack of fuel. Pilot was rescued by HARRISON.



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Strike Dog #2 (10VBF, 11VB), 0509-1005, made eight runs at MATSUSHIMA Airfield, damaging hangars and shops, destroying 17 planes on the ground and damaging 7 others. On the return flight a destroyer and other ships were located in ONAGAWA WAN and reported them for later attention.

Strike Easy #3 (8VBF, 14VT), 0709-1235, dropped 13 tons of bombs on the shop and hangar area at MATSUSHIMA Airfield, burned six planes on the ground, and damaged others. On the return trip it scored rocket hits on a DE in ONAGAWA WAN, causing the DE to roll over stern down in the water. It also scored one hit on a DD and sank several small vessels in the same harbor.

Strike Charlie #5 (1345-1804) was sent out to sink the ships remaining in ONAGAWA WAN. A DD was bombed and capsized and two PF's across the harbor were hit and blown up. Several smaller vessels were damaged and fires were started in ONAGAWA Town. Plane piloted by Ens. V.L. LANDAU, USNR, 390970, was hit by AA fire from the DD and crashed in the water. Pilot was lost.

Enemy planes shot down in air: 1  
Enemy planes destroyed on ground: 38  
Enemy planes damaged on ground: 39  
Takeoffs: 168 Landings: 165

Positions:	0800(I)	1200(I)	2000(I)
	38 09'N	38 18'N	38 07.5'N
	144 18'E	144 32'E	144 26.5'E

10 August 1945

Underway on various courses and at various speeds in company with Task Group 38.1 operating in an area approximately 125 miles southeast of SENDAI, Japan, launching and recovering strikes against airfields and shipping in Northern HONSHU, Japan. OTC and guide in BENNINGTON. Fuelled COLLETT and MURRAY. Received Lt. Comdr. M.C. HOFFMAN, USN, Commanding Officer of VF-1, aboard from HARRISON. Task Unit 34.8.1 rejoined the formation, 0730; formed cruising disposition 5-V, 1643. Resumed cruising disposition 5-R, 1816.

Weather: Scattered to broken cloudiness. Ceiling unlimited. Visibility 12 miles. Surface winds south southwest 15 to 22 knots. Seas rough. Southerly swell. Flying conditions average.

Air Operations: Maintained the following patrols: DCAP #1 (4VBF, 4VF), 0400-0853; SUBCAP #3, (4VF), 0659-1245; DCAP #2, (3VBF, 5VF), 0745-1205; GRAPHIC #1, (2VF, 2VF-P), 0932-1421; DCAP #3, (4VBF, 4VF), 1034-1518; RAPCAP #3, (4VF), 1034-1518; DCAP #4, (3VBF, 3VF, 1VF-P), 1330-1844; landed and launched 1 HANCOCK VBF. All patrols were routine. GRAPHIC #1 secured photographic coverage of MAMUROGAWA, MATSUSHIMA, MASUDO and HARANDO Airfields. Damage assessment photographs of the KAMAISHI Area



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were also taken.

The following strikes and sweeps were launched and recovered:

STRIKE ABLE #1, (12VF), 0400-0853, made one bomb hit on the DE type ship attacked the day before in ONAGAWA WAN, silencing the AA. The ship was resting on the bottom. It also made an unsuccessful attack on several smaller ships at the same location and made a rocket attack on a factory at SHIZU, 39 40'N, 141 45'E, causing unascertained damage.

STRIKE DOG #2, (10VBF, 1VF, 1VF-P, 11VB), 0501-0956, made several strafing runs at MATSUSHIMA Airfield, burning 1 Betty, and damaging other planes; then attacked the dock area at SHIOGAMA, 38 18'N, 140 02'E, setting two small vessels afire and sinking one other; made a rocket attack on a railway station and freight train at YAMOTO, 38 25'N, 141 12'E, and started fires in buildings at SHIOGAMA, and at AYUKAWA HAMA, 38 18'N, 141 30'E.

STRIKE EASY #3, (8VBF, 12VT), 0659-1205, hit the dockyard area at SAKATA, 38 56'N, 139 50' E, sinking one oiler and several smaller craft, and damaging dock installations.

STRIKE ABLE #4, (8VF), 0932-1421, returned to MATSUSHIMA Airfield and damaged three twin-engined planes in revetments; then made a rocket and strafing attack on hangars at MASUDA Airfield, strafed and rocketed a factory at ISHINOMAKI, 38 25'N, 141 17'E, and some luggers off shore nearby.

STRIKE DOG #5, (8VBF, 10VB), 1130-1619, was prevented by the weather from reaching its target and bombed four freight trains in the freight yards at NAKANIIDA, 38 35'N, 140 52'E and a passenger train north of NAKANIIDA both with unobserved results. It also sank a freighter transport, strafed an escort vessel, and damaged and sank several smaller craft at OKACHI WAN.

STRIKE EASY #6, (7VBF, 7VF, 11VT), 1342-1844, joined with the other Carrier Air Groups in an attack on MAMUROGAWA Airfield. Planes were located under trees on both sides of the airfield, in bushes, and concealed under thatched roofs, trees, netting and foliage. Many runs were made and BENNINGTON planes destroyed twenty-two and damaged three enemy planes on the ground.

Takeoffs: 150      Landings: 150

Positions:	0800(I)	1200(I)	2000(I)
	38 26'N	38 32'N	38 07'N
	143 45'E	143 46'E	144 41.5'E

11 August 1945

Underway on various courses and at various speeds in company with Task Group 38.1 operating in fueling area. OTC and guide in BENNINGTON.



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Formed cruising disposition 5-F at 0602. Alongside U.S.S. MARIAS (AO - 57), receiving fuel oil and aviation gasoline, 0640-0919. Received and transferred mail, material and personnel to and from various destroyers during the day.

Air Operations: Launched and recovered 2VF(N) for message drops, 0404 - 1328; launched flyable duds, (1VF, 1VB, 1VT), 1155; recovered replacements, (3VF, 1VBF, 1VB), 1328.

Takeoffs: 5 Landings: 7

Positions:	0800(I)	1200(I)	2000(I)
	38 26'N	38 07'N	38 11'N
	147 59'E	148 42'E	149 14'E

12 August 1945

Underway on various courses and at various speeds in company with Task Group 38.1 operating in an area approximately 300 miles east of Honshu, Japan. OTC and guide in BENNINGTON. Fueled RINGGOLD, MADDOX, and McKEE. Received mail and transferred personnel to and from various destroyers during the day. JOHN RODGERS reported and sank mine at 0934. MASSACHUSETTS reported another mine at 1034, but JOHN RODGERS advised that mine could not be located, 1055.

Air Operations: Launched and recovered DCAP#2, (4VBF), 0901-1204; WEATHER RECCO, (1VF, 1VT), 1352-1806; DCAP#4, (8VF), 1533-1806.

Takeoffs: 14 Landings: 14

Positions:	0800(I)	1200(I)	2000(I)
	38 38.5'N	37 51'N	36 53'N
	147 24'E	147 05.5'E	146 01'E

13 August 1945

Underway on various courses and at various speeds in company with Task Group 38.1, operating in an area approximately 150 miles east of TOKYO, Japan, launching and recovering strikes against TOKYO SHIBAURA ELECTRIC COMPANY NO. 1, and airfields in the MITO area. OTC and guide in BENNINGTON. Set Air Defense Condition 1, material condition ZEBRA, 0330. Cruising disposition 5-R, TOMCAT reported bogey in vicinity, 0625. Formed Air Defense Disposition 5-V. Bogey faded from radar screen, 0630. Received and delivered officer messenger mail from MURRAY, 0742. Set Air Defense Condition One-EASY, 1213. Bogey reported bearing 225T, distance 48 miles, 1236. Bogey faded 1245. Set Air Defense Condition One, 1325. Observed burning plane in water bearing 024T, distance 12 miles, 1405 SWENSON reported mine bearing 257T, distance 3 miles, 1438. Plane crashed within screen bearing 140T, distance 6,000 yards, 1449. BRUSH rescued pilot in good condition, 1453. SWENSON exploded mine, 1459; MASSACHUSETTS reported mine 500 yards to her



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port and ordered DASHIELL to destroy it, 1526. Set Air Defense Condition One EASY, 1536, Set Air Defense Condition One, 1548. DASHIELL sank mine, 1552. Many bogies reported in area, 1620. Radar screen reported clear, 1711. Plane F4U #3 barrier-crashed while landing, 1751, pilot uninjured. Many bogies reported closing, 1815. Radar screen reported clear, 2030. Secured from Condition ZEBRA, set condition YOKE, 2046. Secured from Air Defense Condition One, set Air Defense Condition Three, 2054.

Weather: Broken to overcast skies, with occasional light rain, before 1200. Skies becoming scattered after 1200. Ceiling 3000-4000 feet, becoming unlimited after noon. Visibility 8 to 12 miles. Surface winds, generally westerly, 4 to 12 knots. Slight sea. No swell. Flying conditions average.

Air Operations: Maintained the following patrols: DCAP #1 (6VF), 0417-0906; SUBCAP #3, (4VBF), 0715-1209; DCAP #2, (8VBF), 0800-1209; DCAP #3, (8VF), 1107-1521; RAPCAP #3, (4VF), 1107-1521; DCAP #4, (8VBF), all launched 1346; (1VBF recovered 1521, 3VBF recovered 1710, 4VBF recovered 1801); SCRAMBLE DCAP (4VF), 1620-1821. DCAP #2 had vector on a NICK but failed to locate it; Nick later splashed at Watch Dog; RAPCAP #3 shot down 1 Judy 35 miles east of TOMCAT 1 at 7000 feet; Talleyhoed at 21,000 feet and chased 35 miles.

The following strikes and sweeps were launched and recovered:

STRIKE ABLE #1, (16VF), 0417-0906, was prevented by weather from reaching its targets, HYAKURIGAHARA, MITO or TAUKUBA, so hit targets of opportunity. A factory 10 miles northeast of MITO was burned and destroyed, 2 locomotives 5 miles northeast of MITO were blown up and 1 locomotive near ISHIOKA CITY destroyed. Two planes were strafed and damaged at ISHIOKA Airfield and 6 planes were strafed and damaged at ISHIOKA East Airfield. Inaccurate medium AA fire encountered at TSUKUBA and MITO; none at either ISHIOKA field.

Strike ABLE 1 also found 6 to 12 white barrage balloons, diameter about 4 feet, approximately 800 feet in clouds above revetment area near hangars at HYAKURIGAHARA.

STRIKE CHARLIE #2 (8VBF, 9VF, 14VB, 13VT), 0547-1035, against the TOKYO SHIBAURA ELECTRIC COMPANY PLANT NO 1, and the TOKYO area, was unsuccessful due to solid clouds from 5000 to 7000 feet. Fighters made hits at north end and west end of target, and some bombs fell west of target in KAWASAKI area. Bombers hit oil storage area on YOKOHAMA waterfront. VT #114 was downed by AA fire in SAGAMI WAN. Pilot (lt.(jg) L. M. Pasley) and aircrewman (J.B. McCarthy, ARM2c) were last seen in life raft in bay.

STRIKE BAKER #3, (8VBF), 0715-1209, made four runs on 20 planes at KATORI Airfield, damaging five planes. A run was also made on KIYAKAWA Airfield damaging one plane. On this sweep the plane (VB-P) piloted by Lt.(jg) C.R. Moxley, was hit by AA and crashed between KATORI Airfield and the sea, the pilot not surviving.



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STRIKE ABLE #4, (10VF), 0951-1424, bombed hangars and ramps at KITAURA and made three runs on HYAKURIGAHARA Airfield, strafing and rocketing nine planes. Barrage balloons observed west of hangar area.

STRIKE CHARLIE #5, (4VBF, 4VF), 1140-1704, made bombing drops and strafing runs at NAGANA burning 33 and damaging 35 planes. Six bombs were also dropped on roundhouse and railroad yard near NAGANA TOWN, leaving large fires.

STRIKE BAKER #6, (10VBF, 2VF, 2VF-P), 1346-1801, made seven runs on HYAKURIGAHARA Airfield burning 10 planes, and destroyed 2 locomotives and damaged 1 locomotive near ISHIOKA. Barrage balloons observed.

Takeoffs: 142 Landings: 138

Positions:	0800(I)	1200(I)	2000(I)
	35 25'N	35 27'N	34 40.5'N
	142 43'E	142 30'E	142 46.5'E

14 August 1945

Underway on various courses and at various speeds in company with Task Group 38.1 operating in an area approximately 300 miles southeast of TOKYO. OTC and guide in BENNINGTON. USS SOUTH DAKOTA left the formation at 0700. Alongside portside of USS CANEY (AO-95), 0728, receiving fuel oil and aviation gasoline and lubricating oil. Received mail and transferred personnel to and from various destroyers during the day. Regained station in cruising disposition 5-F at 0955. Sounded anti-aircraft defense for gunnery exercises at 1245. Took station in firing line at 1312 and commenced gunnery exercises at 1325, completing same at 1424. Conducted test firing of 5" special ammunition, 1453-1510.

Air Operations: Launched and recovered MESSAGE DROP (2VF-N), 0435-1308; launched flyable duds (2VF), 1214; landed replacements, (2VF, 2VT), 1308; (3VBF, 1VF-N, 1VB), 1534. One MESSAGE DROP, VF-N #75, made a hard landing on SAN JACINTO, wrinkling fuselage. Plane declared non-flyable dud and jettisoned.

Takeoffs: 4 Landings: 10

Ammunition Expended in Practice Firing:

5"/38 Cal. 6 rds; 40mm 149 rds; 20mm 356 rds  
24 rounds expended in 5"/38 Cal. special ammunition test firing

Positions:	0800(I)	1200(I)	2000(I)
	32 03'N	32 10'N	32 50'N
	144 15'E	144 34'E	144 55'E

15 August 1945

Underway on various courses and at various speeds in company with Task



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Group 38.1 operating in an area approximately 150 miles southeast of TOKYO, launching and recovering strikes against airfields in the MITO Area. OTC and guide in BENNINGTON; cruising disposition 5-R. Set Air Defense Condition I, material condition ZEBRA, at 0345. JOHN RODGERS alongside for transfer of personnel, 0736. Received AlNav #194-45, stating that the Japanese had officially accepted our peace terms at 0840. Strikes against the Empire of Japan were cancelled. Launching of Combat Air Patrols were continued as scheduled. Bogey reported over Task Group 38.4 at 1123. CAP shot down JUDY. Set Air Defense Condition I, set condition ZEBRA. Bogey reported bearing 315T, 75 miles distant, at 1209. Bogey faded. DULUTH passed a mine 1000 yards on port beam, marking position with smoke bomb. 1228. Set Air Defense Condition I Easy, 1232. At 1301, Admiral W. Halsey, Commander THIRD Fleet, broadcast Japanese surrender, and congratulated members of THIRD Fleet and their Allies. Set Air Defense Condition I at 1315, a bogey being reported bearing 275T, distant 50 miles. Bogey splashed by CAP. Set Air Defense Condition I EASY, 1331. At 1730 BENNINGTON broke flag of ComCarDiv 3 (Rear Admiral T.L. Sprague).

Weather: Broken to overcast skies, ceiling 3000 feet, becoming unlimited at times. Visibility 12 miles. Surface winds easterly, 6 to 14 knots. Slight sea. Easterly swell, slight. Flying conditions average.

Air Operations: Maintained the following patrols; DCAP #1, (4VBF, 4VF), 0427-0901; DCAP #2, (4VBF, 4VF), 0758-1204; SPECIAL MISSION, (1VT), 1130-1634; DCAP #4, (12VF), 1243-1634; DCAP #5, (12VBF,) 1457-1820; landed LEXINGTON planes (2VBF) at 1634; launched LEXINGTON plane (1VBF) at 1757.

The following strikes and sweeps were launched and recovered:

STRIKE ABLE #1, (12VBF, 1VF, 1VF-P), 0427-0901; went to HYAKURIGAHARA and made 1 bombing and 4 strafing runs on northeast revetments, burning 5 planes and damaging 10 others. A freight train hid in tunnel was also strafed. This strike was recalled at 0645.

STRIKE CHARLIE #2 (8VBF, 8VF, 13VB, 11VT), 0532-0901, had the TOKYO SHIBAURA ELECTRIC PLANT NO 1 as its target, but the strike was recalled before reaching its target because of Japanese surrender.

The launch of STRIKE BAKER #3 was cancelled.

Takeoffs: 96 Landings: 97

Positions:	0800(I)	1200(I)	2000(I)
	34 16.5'N	34 15'N	33 01'N
	142 00'E	142 39'E	143 52'E

16 August 1945

Underway on various courses and at various speeds in company with Task Group 38.1 operating in an area approximately 200 miles southeast of



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HONSHU, Japan. OTC and guide in BENNINGTON. Fueled HARRISON, MANSFIELD, and MOORE. At 1139 lost steering control, commenced swinging to right, shifted steering control to steering aft. At 1140, all engines stopped. At 1143, steering aft assumed steering control. At 1146, ComBatDiv 8, in USS ALABAMA (BB-60) assumed tactical command. At 1151, bridge assumed steering control, and at 1153, commenced maneuvering to regain station. ComCarDiv 3 in BENNINGTON re-assumed tactical command at 1159. At 1250 set Air Defense Condition I for gunnery exercises. Gunnery exercises began at 1327 and completed at 1400. KNAPP came alongside at 1606 for transfer of mail.

Air Operations: Launched and recovered TOW, (3VT), 1230-1553.

Takeoffs: 3 Landings: 3

Ammunition Expended in Practice Firing:

40mm - 1072 rds. 20mm - 5873 rds.

Positions:	0800(I)	1200(I)	2000(I)
	32 28.5'N	32 21'N	32 19'N
	142 23.5'E	142 49'E	144 40'E

17 August 1945

Underway on various courses and at various speeds in company with Task Group 38.1 in an area approximately 300 miles southeast of HONSHU, Japan, maneuvering in unison with Task Force during Photographic exercises. OTC and guide in BENNINGTON. Fueled USS DE HAVEN and MANSFIELD. Conducted anti-aircraft gunnery exercises 1345-1440. At 1800, MANSFIELD came alongside to deliver mail.

Air Operations: Launched and recovered TOW (3VT), 1318-1629.

Takeoffs: 3 Landings: 3

Ammunition Expended in Practice Firing:

40mm - 1931 rds. 20mm - 4527 rds.

Positions:	0800(I)	1200(I)	2000(I)
	32 45'N	32 15'N	33 08'N
	143 49'E	144 11.5'E	144 12'E

18 August 1945

Underway on various courses and at various speeds in company with Task Group 38.1, operating in an area approximately 260 miles, southeast of TOKYO, for refueling; OTC and guide in BENNINGTON. At 0627, commenced



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receiving aviation gasoline and fuel oil from USS PAMANSET (AO-85). Received and transferred mail, personnel and freight from various destroyers during the day. At 1015, set Air Defense Condition I for gunnery exercises which began at 1025 and were completed at 1158.

Air Operations: Launched and recovered DCAP #1, (12VF), 0420-0914; MESSAGE DROP, (2VF), 0420-0914; launched LEXINGTON plane (1VBF), 0824; landed REPLACEMENT (1VBF), 1011; RAPCAP #4, (12VF), 1332-1813; ASP #4, (4VT), 1332-1813.

Takeoffs: 31 Landings: 31

Ammunition Expended in Practice Firing:

5"/38 Cal. - 24 rds. 40mm - 509 rds. 20mm - 2440 rds.

Positions:	0800(I)	1200(I)	2000(I)
	32 55'N	31 32'N	31 05.5'N
	143 53'E	144 16.3'E	144 15'E

19 August 1945

Underway on various courses and at various speeds in company with Task Group 38.1 operating in an area approximately 260 miles southeast of TOKYO. OTC and guide in BENNINGTON. Received and transferred mail and passengers from various destroyers during the day. At 1004 alongside USS GARRARD (APA-84) and at 1015, commenced transfer of Marine Detachment, to report as directed by secret despatch for temporary duty. At 1207, USS SAN JUAN (CL-54) came alongside to receive small arms and grenades.

Air Operations: NONE.

Positions:	0800(I)	1200(I)	2000(I)
	31 36'N	31 07'N	30 40.5'N
	143 25'E	143 37.5'E	143 54'E

20 August 1945

Underway on various courses and at various speeds in company with Task Group 38.1, operating approximately 300 miles southeast of TOKYO. OTC and guide in BENNINGTON. At 1019, alongside USS BENEVOLENCE (AH-13), and at 1027 commenced transfer of 5 patients. Received 2 dental patients from MOORE at 1034. Received and transferred mail, personnel, and freight to and from various destroyers during the day. At 1620, USS TUCSON (CL-98), joined the formation.

Air Operations: NONE.

Positions:	0800(I)	1200(I)	2000(I)
	31 38.5'N	31 06'N	30 37.5'N
	143 33'E	143 38'E	143 59'E



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21 August 1945

Underway on various courses and at various speeds in company with Task Force 38.1, operating approximately 300 miles southeast of TOKYO. OTC and guide in BENNINGTON. Received and transferred mail and personnel from several destroyers during the day. At 1020 alongside the USS FIRE-DRAKE (AE-14), to receive ammunition. Completed receiving ammunition at 1422.

Air Operations: Launched and recovered DCAP #4, (14VBF), 1448-1805.

Takeoffs: 16 Landings: 16

Summary of Ammunition taken aboard:

- 24 - 2000 lb GP bombs
- 45 - 1000 lb GP bombs
- 226 - 500 lb GP bombs
- 27 - 260 lb Fragmentation bombs
- 792 - Aircraft rocket bodies
- 48 - Aircraft rocket motors
- 279 - M-T50-E1 fuzes
- 350 - M-101 fuzes
- 200 - Detonators

Positions:

0800(I)	1200(I)	2000(I)
31 33'N	31 05'N	30 36'N
143 26'E	142 57'E	141 33'E

22 August 1945

Underway on various courses and at various speeds in company with Task Group 38.1, operating approximately 300 miles southeast of TOKYO, participating in mass Photographic flights over all Task Groups in formation. OTC and guide in BENNINGTON; received and transferred mail, personnel, and gear from various destroyers during the day.

Air Operations: Launched and recovered Air Group PHOTO FLIGHT, (30VBF, 36VF, 12VB, 15VT), 1132-1623.

Takeoffs: 93 Landings: 93

Positions:	0800(I)	1200(I)	2000(I)
	30 58'N	31 23'N	32 09'N
	142 01'E	142 28'E	142 51.5'E



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

23 August 1945

Underway on various courses and at various speeds in company with Task Group 38.1, operating approximately 250 miles southeast of TOKYO. OTC and guide in BENNINGTON. At 0812 alongside portside of USS PRESIDIO (APA-88), and commenced receiving mail, personnel and freight. At 1530, ComTaskFlot 6, in USS SAN JUAN (CL-54), left formation. PRESIDIO cleared formation at 1726; received and transferred mail, personnel and material to and from various destroyers during the day.

Air Operations: NONE

Positions:	0800(I)	1200(I)	2000(I)
	33 16'N	33 33'N	33 07'N
	143 29'E	143 45'E	144 28'E

24 August 1945

Underway on various courses and at various speeds in company with Task Group 38.1, operating approximately 200 miles off the east coast of HONSHU, Japan. OTC and guide in BENNINGTON; fueled DE HAVEN and MURRAY. At 1520, Captain Michael H. Kernodle, USN, reported aboard for temporary duty. At 1721 a submarine was reported on the horizon bearing 015T. At 1727 the submarine was identified as friendly. At 1729, USS MOORE (DD - 727) exploded a mine on the port quarter, distance 2500 yards. Another submarine was sighted on the horizon at 1744, bearing 110T, and identified as friendly. At 1842, USS SWENSON (DD-729) reported a mine bearing 030T, distance 7500 yards. At 1858, SWENSON lost sight of the mine. Received and transferred mail and personnel to and from various destroyers during the day.

Air Operations: Launched and recovered MESSAGE DROP (2VF), 0600-0822; DCAP #3, (8VF), 1120-1522; landed SAN JACINTO plane (1VT) carrying Captain Kernodle; launched SAN JACINTO plane (1VT) 1745.

Takeoffs: 11 Landings: 11

Positions:	0800(I)	1200(I)	2000(I)
	35 39'N	36 42'N	37 42'N
	143 56'E	144 05'E	143 40'E

25 August 1945

Underway on various courses and at various speeds in company with Task Group 38.1, operating approximately 100 miles east of the east coast of northern HONSHU, Japan, conducting search patrol flights. OTC and guide in BENNINGTON. At 1103, plane crashed into water bearing 260T, distance 2500 yards. At 1406 SAN JACINTO sighted mine close a board to port, and at 1421, JOHN RODGERS exploded the mine. Received and transferred mail, personnel and material to and from various destroyers during the day.

Air Operations: 0415 launch cancelled because of bad weather. Launched and recovered WEATHER RECCO (2VF-N), 0501-0908; PATROL A (8VBF, 4VF), 0646-1147; (recovered one VF of PATROL A at 0719 (emergency); PATROL B, (4VBF, 8VF), 0646-1147; RAPCAP #1, (4VF), 0646-1147; landed one VBF of



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of HANCOCK (emergency) at 0719; PATROL C (8VBF, 4VF), 1101-1544; recovered one VBF of PATROL C at 1147; PATROL D (4VBF, 8VF), 1101-1544; launched HANCOCK plane (1VBF) at 1450.

The purpose of the search patrol flights was to locate prisoner-of-war camps so that later flights might drop food and medicine to the prisoners and reconnoiter airfields. The first two patrols went to the HAKODATE area, but failed to locate any POW camps. The flights reported that the Japanese were lining up planes at the airfields observed, and no AA fire was encountered. The third patrol encountered bad weather in its assigned area, and located no camps. The final patrol of the day located a camp near a coal mine at KAMIYAMA. The camp contained approximately 300 men who waved wildly at the flight. This same flight also reconnoitered airfields at AOMORI and NOSHIRO. At both fields, planes were being lined up in orderly rows. No enemy aircraft were airborne.

Takeoffs: 55 Landings: 55

Positions:	0800(I)	1200(I)	2000(I)
	39 24'N	38 47'N	38 44'N
	143 53'E	143 30'E	143 54'E

26 August 1945

Underway on various courses and at various speeds in company with Task Group 38.1 operating approximately 100 miles south of the southeastern tip of HOKKAIDO, Japan, conducting search patrols in efforts to locate and drop supplies to POW camps. OTC and guide in BENNINGTON. Fueled USS MOALE (DD-693). At 1449, sighted human body bearing 195T, distance 2000 yards. Investigation by MOORE disclosed body to be Japanese. Received and transferred mail and personnel to and from various destroyers during the day.

Air Operations: Launched and recovered PATROLS A (4VBF, 4VF, 4VT), B (4VBF, 4VF, 4VT), RAPCAP #1(4VBF), 0431-0918; landed 1 VBF from PATROL B at 1743; launched and recovered PATROLS C(4VBF, 3VF, 1VF-P, 4VT), D(4VBF, 5VF, 1VF-P, 2VT), 0731-1210; recovered 1VBF from PATROL C at 0918.

The first two patrols went to the HAKODATE area, where four POW camps had been reported, but low ceilings prevented observation of either, camps or airfields. A large Jap transport was observed and reported. The two later patrols, flying together, dropped food, medicine and reading matter to the POW camps located the previous day near KAMIYAMA, and located another camp, having approximately 150 prisoners, south of AOMORI in northern HONSHU. Package drops were made at this camp also. Reconnaissance of AOMORI airfield was made but no unusual activity observed.

Takeoffs: 52 Landings: 52



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Positions:	0800(I)	1200(I)	2000(I)
	40 37.5'N	40 08.5'N	40 21'N
	143 45'E	143 27'E	143 57'E

27 August 1945

Underway on various courses and at various speeds in company with Task Group 38.1, operating in an area approximately 150 miles due east of SENDAI, HONSHU, Japan. OTC and guide in BENNINGTON. At 0518, USS CALIENTE, (AO-53) bearing 270T, distance 3000 yards, reported man overboard. USS MADDOX rescued man. At 0524 assumed fueling station alongside portside of USS CHICOPEE (AO-34), and commenced receiving fuel oil, aviation gasoline and lubricating oil in drums at 0542. At 0638 MANSFIELD bearing 170T distance 2000 yards, reported mine along her starboard side. At 0654 passed previously reported mine abeam to port, distance 700 yards. At 0745 Captain Michael H. Kernodle, USN, was detached this ship and transferred to USS CHICOPEE, temporary duty having been completed. At 0836, completed receiving fuel and at 0846, cast off from USS CHICOPEE. At 1105 received report of one Japanese submarine, flying black flag, bearing 300T, distance 95 miles from Task Group 38.1, on course 000T, speed 12 knots. At 1108, received report of additional Japanese submarine, flying black flag, bearing 225T, distance 19 miles from Task Group, on course 320T, speed 10 knots. Received and transferred mail, personnel and material from various destroyers during the day.

Air Operations: Launched and recovered PATROL A, (3VBF,3VF,1VF-P,4VT), 0431-0945; PATROL B, (4VBF,3VF,1VF-P,4VT), 0431-0945; DCAP #1, (4VF), 0431-0945; (VBF #25 from PATROL A barrier-crashed at 0945; no injuries); launched and recovered SPECIAL MISSION (2VF,2VT), 1024-1813; SUB PATROL, (4VF,4VT), 1209-1920; (Recovered 2VF and 2VT from SUB PATROL at 1813); launched and recovered PATROL E (4VBF,4VF,1VF-P,4VT), 1301-1813; PATROL F (4VBF,3VF,1VF-P), 4VT), 1301-1813; DCAP #3, (4VBF,4VF), 1301-1813; (VF #55 while taxiing out of gear ran into parked VT #114. Tail of #114 chewed up. No injuries to personnel). The first patrol flight searched the HAKODATE area thoroughly without locating any POW camps. Package drops were made on the POW camp near SCHICHNUMOR YAMA. Several airfields were reconnoitered and on each the Japanese were lining up the planes in orderly rows; one case placing spare engines in front of the planes. The second patrol made package drops at KAMIYAMA and searched the FURUMAKI area without results. The two afternoon flights joined forces and made additional package drops at KAMIYAMA. These patrols also located a new POW camp, containing approximately 200-250 prisoners, near HANAWA TOWN, HONSHU, Japan, and made some package drops there. The Submarine Escort flight split up into two parts and assisted destroyers in turning the two Japanese submarines sighted in the morning on a southerly course and then flew CAP over the subs for several hours.

Takeoffs: 73 Landings: 73

Positions:	0800(I)	1200(I)	2000(I)
	38 15'N	37 31'N	36 25'N
	145 17'E	145 25'E	145 22'E



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28 August 1945

Underway on various courses and at various speeds in company with Task Group 38.1 operating in an area approximately 200 miles southeast of SENDAI, HONSHU, Japan. Guide in HANCOCK. OTC in BENNINGTON. At 0445, BRUSH reported mine bearing 280T, distance 6000 yards, and at 0458 BRUSH sank mine astern of formation. At 0546 assumed station alongside USS VIRGO, (AKA-20), and at 0607 commenced receiving provisions from VIRGO. Completed receiving provisions at 1006 and at 1011 cast off the VIRGO. (We received 22 tons of dry provisions, 24 tons of fresh provisions, and 2 tons of clothing and small stores). Received and transferred mail, personnel and material to and from various destroyers during the day. At 1815 BENNINGTON assumed guide.

Air Operations: Launched and recovered PATROL E (4VF,4VT), PATROL F (4VBF, 4VT) and DCAP #3 (4VBF,4VF), 1300-1744.

The POW search in the afternoon confirmed the locations of POW camps at HANAWA and OYACHI; located a new camp at KAMIYAMA, and determined that no camp was located at NAKA mine. 29 packages of food, medicine and reading matter were dropped at KAMIYAMA.

Takeoffs: 24 Landings: 24

Positions:	0800(I)	1200(I)	2000(I)
	37 53'N	37 09'N	36 49'N
	145 12'E	144 43'E	144 07.5'E

29 August 1945

Underway on various courses and at various speeds in company with Task Group 38.1 operating in an area approximately 125 miles east of OSHIMA, Japan. OTC and guide in BENNINGTON. Fueled MURRAY. At 1610, MOORE came alongside port quarter to transfer ambulatory patient for treatment. Transferred photographic material to MADDOX and official mail to BLUE. Maintained patrols over Task Force 31 in TOKYO BAY, one patrol over ATSUGI airfield, one CAP over USS FLINT off NII JIMA, one patrol off SAGAMI WAN and TOKYO BAY and one observer flight over TOKYO BAY; escorted plane carrying Admiral Nimitz and members of his staff from a point outside TOKYO BAY (AOGI ISLAND) to his ship at anchor in TOKYO BAY.

Air Operations: Launched and recovered ATSUGI CAP #1 (4VBF,4VF), 0430-0910; A/F POW #1 (4VBF, 3VF, 1VF-P, 4VT), 0430-0910; BJ CAP #2 (4VBF, 4VF) 0645-1118; (recovered 1 VBF from BJ CAP #2 at 0910); FLINT CAP #2



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(4VF), 0645-1118; CHANNEL PATROL #2 (4VF), 0645-1118; OBSERVERS #2 (2VT), 0645-0910; DCAP #2 (4VBF, 4VF-N), 0845-1346; (recovered 1 VBF from DCAP #2 at 1118); RAPCAP #2 (4VBF), 0845-1346; BJ CAP #3 (4VBF, 4VF), 0845-1136; A/F POW #3 (2VBF, 1VF, 1VF-P, 4VT), 0845-1346; ESCORT (4VBF, 4VF), 1100-1546; BJ CAP #4 (4VBF, 2VF, 2VF-P), 1100-1546; A/F POW #4 (2VBF, 2VF-P, 4VT), 1100-1546; ATSUGI CAP #5, (8VF), 1317-1741; A/F POW #5, (4VBF-3VF, 1VF-P, 2VT), 1317-1741.

The morning POW flights confirmed the locations of two POW camps near HITACHI, and two camps near ASHIO. They also searched for several reported camps with negative results. One of the afternoon flights made package drops of food on one camp near SHIOYA SAKI, and located a second camp in the same area. Another afternoon flight searched the area near MATSUMOTO, but failed to locate a camp reported to be near that location. A new camp was located north of EIMEI and many packages of food and an American flag were dropped to the prisoners. Food was also dropped at one of the camps near HITACHI, and the SHIMODATE area was searched with negative results.

Takeoffs: 108      Landings: 108

Positions:	0800(I)	1200(I)	2000(I)
	35 34'N	35 16'N	35 14'N
	142 21'E	142 00'E	141 48'E

30 August 1945

Underway on various courses and at various speeds in company with Task Group 38.1, operating in an area approximately 80 miles east of TOKYO. OTC and guide in BENNINGTON. Cruising disposition 5-R. Fueled TAUSSIG and MURRAY. At 0700, USS HAWKINS (DD-873), came alongside starboard side to transfer freight. HAWKINS cast off at 0807. Completed 60-day surveillance test of 5#/38 caliber powder; tests satisfactory. At 1104, F6F #42 made a water landing on takeoff. The pilot, Lt. Comdr. T.T. Blount, USN, escaped from the wreckage, and the TAUSSIG recovered the pilot at 1120. At 1418, JOHN ROGERS came alongside port quarter to receive mail and at 1430 the USS ASTORIA (CL-90), came alongside starboard side to receive personnel. At 1435, pursuant to ALNAV #196-45, ninety-four men were transferred to ASTORIA for further transfer to the nearest U.S. Receiving Ship or Station in the continental United States for discharge or release to inactive duty. Pursuant to ALNAV #209-45, six men were transferred to ASTORIA for further transfer to the nearest continental receiving ship or station in the U.S. for re-enlistment leave and reassignment. Eight men were also transferred to ASTORIA on BuMed Form G, for further transfer to the U.S. for discharge. At 1755, JOHN ROGERS came alongside port quarter to transfer official mail and material. At 1801, MASSACHUSETTS (BB-59), the ASTORIA (CL-90), MASSACHUSETTS (BB-59), and the LEXINGTON (CV-16), were detached from Task Group 38.1 to proceed to duty as assigned.



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Air Operations: Launched and recovered: ATSUGI CAP #1(7VBF), A/F POW #1 (4VBF,4VF,2VF-P,4VT), 0431-0918; FLINT CAP #2 (4VBF), OBSERVERS (2VT), CHANNEL PATROL #2 (4VBF), BJ CAP #2 (8VF), 0645-1121; DCAP #2 (6VBF,2VF), RAPCAP #2 (4VF), BJ CAP #3 (8VF), A/F POW #3 (3VF,1VF-P,4VT), FORCE SHOW (13VB), 0845-1402; (recovered VF #77 of RAPCAP #2 at 1121); ESCORT (4VF,4VBF), BJ CAP #4 (8VBF), A/F POW #4, (1VF-P,1VF,1VBF,4VT), 1100-1559; (VF #42 ESCORT, made water landing at 1559, pilot recovered; VBF #29 made emergency landing at 1402 ); ATSUGI CAP #5 (7VBF,1VF), A/F POW #5 (7VF, 1VF-P, 4VT), SPECIAL MESSAGE DROP (1VT), 1318-1749; (VBF #5, from ATSUGI CAP #5, made water landing, pilot rescued).

Nineteen bombers flew over the TOKYO area in a show of force, and eight fighter planes escorted a plane containing the staff of Admiral Nimitz from AOGI ISLAND to the Admiral's ship in TOKYO BAY. One message drop was made near USS MISSOURI(BB-63); four POW flights were flown. The first confirmed location of camps at IWAKE and TAIRA SOUTH, both in northern HONSHU, and made drops at the latter camp. Two afternoon flights failed to accomplish their missions due to the weather. The last POW flight of the day made drops at the camp north of YUGAWA, located on 29 August. An American flag, dropped to this camp previously, was flying over the camp. A large area to the north and east of this camp was searched with negative results.

Takeoffs:	124	Landings:	122
Positions:	0800(I)	1200(I)	2000(I)
	35 33'N	35 58.5'N	36 42'N
	142 20'E	142 48'E	143 23'E

31 August 1945

Underway on various courses and at various speeds in company with Task Group 38.1, operating in an area approximately 225 miles east of SENDAI, Japan, for fueling and provision of ship. OTC and guide in BENNINGTON. Cruising disposition 5-R. At 0530 alongside portside of USS CHICOPEE (AO-34), and commenced receiving aviation gasoline and fuel oil at 0542. At 0646 BRUSH came alongside port quarter to transfer one pilot, equipment and officer messenger mail. Cleared portside of CHICOPEE at 0814. At 0932, alongside port side of USS VIRGO (AKA-20) and commenced receiving provisions at 0936. At 1250, BRUSH came alongside port quarter to receive personnel. Completed receiving provisions at 1430, having received 60 tons of dry provisions and 11 tons of small stores. Various destroyers came alongside during the day to transfer and receive mail, material and personnel.

Air Operations: Launched and recovered DCAP #1 (8VBF), 0552-0841.

Takeoffs:	8	Landings:	8
Positions:	0800(I)	1200(I)	2000(I)
	38 30'N	38 09'N	37 48.5'N
	144 43'E	144 09'E	143 39'E



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ORDNANCE EXPENDITURES - (1-31 AUGUST 1945) - All Purposes.

I. AVIATION

2000# G.P. Bombs	24
1000# G.P. Bombs	56
500# G.P. Bombs	432
250# G.P. Bombs	36
3.25" A.R. (5.0" Heads)	150
H.V.A.R.	870
Cal. .50 Ammo	274,340
Cal. .30 Ammo	12,000
20mm M.G. Ammo	7,295

II. SHIP'S GUNNERY

5"/38 Cal	335
40mm	8,428
20mm	20,644

*B. L. Braun*  
B. L. BRAUN.