DECLASSIFIED
Authority: E.O. 13526
By: NDC NARA Date: Dec 31, 2012

REG. NO 838
R.S. NO 11 070
REG. SHEET NO 19

APD51/A16-3
Serial: 063

U.S.S. HOPPING (APD 51)
c/o Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, Calif.

CONFIDENTIAL

15 October 1945.

From: Commanding Officer.
To : Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet.
Via : (1) CTU 56.5.2 Rear Admiral R. S. RIGGS, USN, ComCruDiv12.
(2) CTF 56 Vice Admiral J. B. OLDENDORF, USN, ComBatRonONE.
(3) Admiral R. A. SPRUANCE, ComFIFTHFleet.
(4) Fleet Admiral C. W. NIMITZ, USN, CinCPac and CinCPoa.

Subject: General Action Report 9 September - 26 September 1945.

Reference: (a) Pac Flt. Conf. ltr. 1CL-45.

Enclosure: (A) General Action Report 9 September - 26 September 1945.

1. Enclosure (A) is submitted herewith in compliance with reference (a).

W. J. MC NULTY.

Distribution:-
1 - Cominch (direct).
3 - CinCPac (direct).
1 - ComTransDiv105 (Administrative).
1 - Com FIFTH Fleet.(direct).

145071

CONFIDENTIAL
ENCLOSURE (A)

Part I - Brief Summary.

The USS HOPPING (APD 51) assisted in the evacuation of RAMP's from Wakayama, Japan during the period between 9 September through 26 September 1945.

Part II - Preliminaries.

The HOPPING was part of TU 56.5.2. CTU 56.5.2 was Rear Admiral R. S. RIGGS, USN, ComCruDiv 12 in the USS MONTPELIER (CL 57). CTF 56 Vice Admiral OLDENDORF was in over all command of the operation.

Part III - Chronological Account.

1. USS HOPPING departed Buckner Bay, Okinawa for Wakanoura Wan, Honshu, Japan, at 1648(I) 9 September 1945 in accordance with ComBatRonONE Op-Plans 6-45, 7-45, 8-45, and CTF 56 dispatch 070625 of 7 September 1945. This ship proceeded independently, four hours after TU 56.5.2, having been detained in order to pick up six U.S. Navy Medical Officers.

2. Contact with TU 56.5.2 was made early in the morning of 10 September, and USS HOPPING assumed screening station at 1046(I), in open circular screen of this force, as ordered by screen commander ComCortDiv 86 in USS MC GINTY (DE 365).

3. Several floating horned mines were spotted by screening ships and destroyed during 10 - 11 September. None were observed by this ship.

4. On the morning of 11 September 1945, visual contact was made by our force with the Wakayama Sweep Group TG 52.6 operating under Captain TOWNSEND, ComMineRon 3 in USS GWIN (DM 33). TU 56.5.2 proceeded up Kii Suido in the swept channel, cleared and buoyed by the Sweep Group.

5. Late in the afternoon of 11 September, ships of the Evacuation Unit reached the Wakanoura Wan Baker Anchorage (CAC-15). U.S.S. HOPPING anchored in berth B-17 at 1823(I).

6. During 12, 13, and 14 September, ships of the Evacuation Unit, under Admiral R. S. RIGGS, established shore facilities in order to administer the task of caring for the RAMP's. A Sanitation Unit was set up in the Mampa Ro Hotel, immediately west of the Dejima public dock, a visual communication station and temporary radio stations were set up on the beach. All preparations and administrative organizations were set up by the personnel of TU 56.5.2. A Port Director was established in USS TANEY (CGC-37).

7. On 15 September, one hundred and thirty nine RAMP's were embarked on USS HOPPING. These consisted of two U.S. Marine Corps Warrant Officers and seventy two enlisted personnel; four U.S. Navy Officers and sixty one enlisted personnel.

11 070

2

8. At 1600(I), 15 September, U.S.S. HOPPING departed Wakanoura Wan for Guam in company with USS FRENCH (DE 367), in accordance with ComCruDiv 12 dispatch 150602 of 15 September 1945. This force was designated as TU 56.5.42, CTU 56.5.42 Commanding Officer USS FRENCH (DE 367).

9. During passage to Guam, rough seas and winds as high as twenty five knots were encountered on 17 September, as the ships passed within two hundred miles of a typhoon on a north westerly course. No personnel casualties or material damage was sustained.

10. TU 56.5.42 arrived Guam in the early afternoon of 19 September. U.S.S. HOPPING docked in inner Apra Harbor at 1331(I), whereupon the one hundred thirty nine RAMP's were debarked and transferred to U.S. Navy Base Hospital Number 18.

11. Having fueled and provisioned, TU 56.5.42 departed Guam for Wakayama, Honshu, Japan at 1800(K) 21 September, in accordance with CTF 51 dispatch 201246 of 20 September 1945.

12. TU 56.5.42 arrived Wakanoura Wan anchorage at 1320(I) and was thereupon dissolved, USS HOPPING reported to Commodore J. T. BOTTOM, jr, USN, ComTaskFlotONE, in USS COWELL (DD 547) for duty.

13. On 28 September 1945, USS HOPPING reported for duty, by dispatch, to the Commander, Third Amphibious Force, Vice Admiral T. S. WILKINSON, USN, in accordance with CTF 51 visual dispatch of 28 September 1945.

Part IV - Ordnance.

No firing.

Part V - Damage.

No damage.

Part VI - Special comments and information.

This is the second time that the USS HOPPING has been used as an APD since her conversion 1 December 1944.

Part VII - Performance of Personnel.

Performance of personnel was good. Everyone wanted to See Japan and to get away from Okinawa, so spirits were high. The RAMP's taken aboard were even happier, since they were leaving Japan after a 45 month stay.

Part VIII - Lessons, conclusions, and recommendations.

The USS FRENCH (DE 367) was assigned to the HOPPING as an escort to Guam. As the HOPPING has been doing escort work for the whole war, this was believed unnecessary.