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Authority: E.O. 13526

By: NDC NARA Date: Dec 31, 2012

Refer to
File No.
APD 125/A12-1/(tjm)
Serial 030

U. S. S. WANTUCK

(APD 125)

c/o Fleet Post Office,
San Francisco, California,
1 September 1945.

NO 500
NO
REG. SHEET NO 201

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

From: Commanding Officer.
To : Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.
Subject: War Diary, submission of.

Reference: (a) Cominch ltr. FF1/A12-1/A16-3, Ser. 7152 of 29 Oct. 1943.

1. In accordance with reference (a), subject report is hereby made. All times used are Zone times.
2. On 1 August, this vessel was anchored in San Pedro Bay, Leyte, P.I. On 3 August, after fueling, USS WANTUCK got underway at 0658 in accordance with Com BatDivFOUR secret movement plan 1-45. Task Unit 95.7.1 was formed consisting of USS WEST VIRGINIA (BB 48), USS COLORADO (BB 45), USS PORTLAND (CA 33), USS SWANEE (CVE 27) as heavy units, with screen consisting of USS COMPTON (DD 705) Screen Commander, USS WANTUCK (APD 125), USS WANN (DE 412) and USS RUNELS (APD 85). This task unit was enroute to Okinawa, Ryukyus, Screen plan #54 from USF 10B being used.
3. Anchorage was made in Buckner Bay, Okinawa after fueling at 1919 on 6 August. The commanding officer immediately reported to Commander Task Group 95.5 for duty.
4. Upon receipt of orders from Commander Task Group 95.5, this ship departed Buckner Bay at 0630, 7 August for Hagushi Beaches, Western Okinawa, where the commanding officer reported for duty to Commander Task Unit 95.5.6. At 1435, 7 August, this vessel was underway enroute to Sector D-1 of Hagushi Beach anti-submarine screen in accordance with orders of Commander Task Unit 95.5.6.
5. At 0015, 8 August, this ship went to General Quarters because of enemy aircraft in the vicinity. At 0042 this ship secured from General Quarters, the area being then clear of enemy aircraft.
6. At 0730, 10 August, upon being relieved by the USS AM 242, this vessel proceeded to Buckner Bay to fuel and provision in accordance with orders from Commander Task Unit 95.5.6.
7. At 1531, 11 August, this vessel got underway from Buckner Bay for Hagushi Beach under orders from Commander Task Unit 95.5.6 and at 1850, anchored at Hagushi Beach.
8. Under orders of Commander Task Unit 95.5.6, this vessel got underway at 0735, 12 August to escort the USS LST 820 to Kerama Rhetto. At 1040, USS WANTUCK anchored with the USS LST 820 in Kerama Rhetto. At 2100, this vessel went to General Quarters during enemy air attack. At 2145, there being no more enemy planes in the area, this ship secured from General Quarters.
9. At 1531, 13 August, acting under orders from Commander Task Unit 95.5.6., this vessel was underway from Kerama Rhetto to Buckner Bay. Upon arrival, the commanding officer reported for duty, by despatch, to Commander Third Fleet. At 1951, all

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Subject: War Diary, submission of.

hands manned their battle stations during an air attack. At 2132, the area being clear of enemy aircraft, this vessel secured from General Quarters.

10. In accordance with dispatch orders from Commander Third Fleet, this vessel was underway at 1325, 14 August from Buckner Bay, reporting for duty to Commander Task Unit 95.5.39 who was Captain J. M. Kennaday, U.S. Navy, Commander Transport Division 105 in the USS SIMS (APD 50). Task Unit consisted of USS SIMS (APD 50), USS BARR (APD 39), USS PAVLIC (APD 70), USS RUNELS (APD 85), USS BASS (APD 124) and USS WANTUCK (APD 125). This task unit formed cruising position #1 in circular formation as indicated by table (5) of USF 10B, enroute to a point approximately 180 miles off Tokyo, Japan.

11. At 0910, 16 August, Task Unit 95.5.39 rendezvoused with Task Group 30.5 and after fueling took station in circular screen for Task Group 30.8, Task Unit 95.5.39 being changed to Task Unit 30.3.6.

12. At 1540, 17 August, Task Group 30.8 left formation. Task Unit 30.3.6, which included the USS WANTUCK joined screen for Task Unit 30.8.1.

13. At 1128, 18 August, Task Unit 30.3.6 formed screen plan #56 from USF 10B for USS OZARK (LSV 2) and USS SHADWELL (LSD 15) and upon rendezvous with Third Fleet Units and when ordered by Commander Task Group 30.8, took station seven miles southwest of USS DETROIT (CL 8) as Task Group 31.4.

14. From time of rendezvous with Third Fleet units, this vessel operated in area off the coast of Japan in vicinity of Point Drink, fueling and provisioning as necessary. From 20 August to 26 August, the USS WANTUCK went alongside 21 ships and transferred 245 men, 28 officers and guard mail. During the transfer of personnel, the USS WANTUCK did not use a tow line; aerial transfers were made with whips forward and aft. In spite of frequent heavy seas, no casualties occurred either to personnel or equipment during these transfers. This vessel retained on board for transportation, two bomb disposal units and one communication unit consisting of 115 men and 17 officers.

15. When directed by Commander Task Group 31, Task Force 31.4 proceeded from area Badger toward Japan and at 1734, 27 August, the USS WANTUCK anchored in Sagami Wan, Japan.

16. In accordance with Commander Task Group 31.4 Operation Plan 1-45, the USS WANTUCK got underway from Sagami Wan, Japan at 0300, 30 August and proceeded to transport area Baker off Yokosuka Naval Base, Japan, and at 0940, dispatched four boats to Green Beach with bomb disposal and communications units. The commanding officer of this vessel then reported to Commander Task Group 30.6.

17. Upon receipt of orders from Commander Task Group 30.6, this vessel, at 1913, 30 August, transported Commodore A.T. Moen, (MC), U.S. Navy, and War Correspondant Norman Page from the USS IOWA, at anchor off Yokosuka, Japan, to the USS BENEVOLANCE, at anchor in North Tokyo Bay, for a conference concerning repatriots. At 2105, the USS WANTUCK returned Commodore Moen, War Correspondant Norman Page, Commander Harold E. Stassen, USNR, and party, to the USS IOWA.

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U.S.S. WANTUCK (APD 125)
c/o FPO, San Francisco.

1 September 1945.

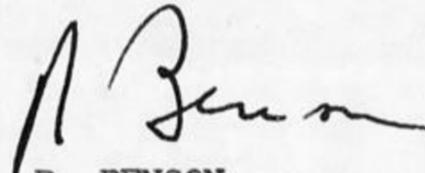
C O N F I D E N T I A L

Subject: War Diary, Submission of.

This vessel then returned to Upper Tokyo Bay and at 2340 went alongside the USS BENEVOLENCE and took aboard 200 repatriots.

18. At 1342, 31 August, this ship anchored at Yokahama, Japan, at which time the 200 released prisoners were transferred to the USS MONITOR.

19. There were no other items of special interest to report.


R. BENSON.

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Refer to
File No.
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Serial 031

U. S. S. WANTUCK

(APD 125)

c/o Fleet Post Office,
San Francisco, California.,
1 October 1945.

REG. NO 539
R. S. NO
REG. SHEET NO 174

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

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

Subject: War Diary, submission of.

Reference: (A) Cominch ltr. FF1/A12-1/S16-3, Ser. 7152 of 29 Oct. 1943.

1. In accordance with reference (a), subject report is hereby made. All times used are Zone times.

2. On 1 September this vessel was anchored in Tokyo Bay, Japan.

3. On 2 September this vessel got underway at 0647 to transport Commodore Simpson, USN and Rear Admiral I. C. SOWELL, USN., to the U.S.S. MISSOURI (BB63) for the surrender ceremony. At 1408 this vessel again got underway to return Commodore Simpson to the U.S.S. SAN JUAN (CL54). 1605 This vessel anchored in vicinity of U.S.S. SAN JUAN in Tokyo Bay.

4. On 3 September this vessel after transporting fifteen officers and men to Kesarayer, Japan in Tokyo Bay proceeded to fueling assignment and at 1842 upon completion of fueling proceeded out of Tokyo Bay enroute to Hamanatsu, Japan in accordance with orders from CTG 30.6.

5. At 0700 4 September this vessel anchored off Hamanatsu and participated in the evacuation of prisoners of war from the Hamanatsu and Nagoya areas.

6. Upon receipt of orders from CTG 30.6 at 0005 5 September this vessel proceeding from anchorage off Hamanatsu Japan at Tokyo Bay Japan with U.S.S. REEVES (APD52), U.S.S. RUNELS (APD85). This ship carrying 126 released allied prisoners of war. At 1423 moored starboard side to U.S.S. REEVES (APD 52) at Customs Pier, Yokohama, Japan for discharge of the released POW's. At 1930 after fueling and provisioning this vessel was underway proceeding out of Tokyo Bay enroute to anchorage off Hamanatsu, Japan for further duty in connection with release of POW's. At 0604 6 September this vessel anchored off Hamanatsu, Japan.

7. At 0916 9 September this vessel underway from anchorage off Hamanatsu in company with the U.S.S. BARR (APD39) enroute to Yokahama Japan. This vessel carrying ninety-five released prisoners of war. At 1834 9 September moored port side to pier "A" Northdock Yokahama Japan and discharged ninety five POW's to the U.S.S. MONITOR (LSV5).

8. At 1700 10 September after fueling this vessel under with U.S.S. SAN JUAN and U.S.S. BARR for Sendai, Japan.

9. 1303 11 September anchored in Shipgama Wan off Sendai, Japan for further duty in connection with release of prisoners of war.

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Serial 031

U.S.S. WANTUCK (APD 125)
c/o FPO., San Francisco.

1 October 1945.

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

Subject: War Diary, submission of.

10. 1733 14 September this vessel on orders from CTG 30.6 underway from Shio-gama Wan anchorage in company with CTG 30.6 in U.S.S. SAN JUAN, U.S.S. WARRAMUNGA U.S.S. RUNELS, U.S.S. GOSSELIN, U.S.S. WEAVER, U.S.S. WATERMAN, and U.S.S. RESCUE enroute to Kamaishi, Japan.

11. At 0602 15 September anchored off Kamaishi, Japan with TG 30.6 for further duty in release of POW's from the Kamaishi area.

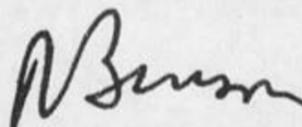
12. At 0647 16 September underway from Kamaishi Japan with one hundred fifty POW's as passengers. In company with U.S.S. BARR and U.S.S. RUNELS, this vessel acting as guide and OTC enroute to Tokyo Bay, Japan.

13. At 0734 17 September anchored in berth "B-24" off Yokohama, Japan and discharged one hundred fifty POW's. At 1602 after fueling this vessel underway proceeding into Yokosuka transporting Commander Harold E. STASSEN, USNR., and party to the U.S.S. SOUTH DAKOTA. At 1737 after discharging passengers anchored off Yokosuka outer breakwater in berth "24."

14. At 0905 this vessel underway to shift berth. 0942 moored to Buoy "A" Yokosuka Japan.

15. On 30 September this vessel was moored to Buoy "A" in Yokosuka Japan.

16. There were no other items of special interest to report.


R. BENSON.

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

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File No.
APD 125A12-1/(vjs)
Serial 032.

COMMANDER IN CHIEF
U. S. SEWANTUCK
RECEIVED
(APD 125)

c/o Fleet Post Office,
San Francisco, California.,
1 November 1945.

1945 NOV 20 15 11

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

Subj: War Diary, submission of.

Reference: (a) CominCh ltr. FF1/A12-1/S16-3, Ser.7152 of 29Oct. 1943.

1. In accordance with reference (a), subject report is hereby made. All times used are Zone times.

2. On 1 October this vessel was moored to Buoy "A" in Yokosuka, Japan and at 1745 after fueling was underway out of Tokyo Bay enroute to Apra Harbor, Guam for availability for starboard propeller and shaft in accordance with orders from CTF 53.

3. At 1507 5 Oct. this vessel moored starboard side to USS BLAKELEY (DE-140) in berth 307 Apra Harbor, Guam.

4. At 0830, 8 October two tugs took this vessel to floating drydock ABSD #3. At 1145 the keel was resting on blocks receiving following services from the dock: Fresh and salt water, and electricity.

5. At 0911 Saturday 13 October this vessel underway under power of two tugs from ABSD#3 enroute to Industrial Area. At 0956 this vessel moored starboard side to dock "O" at Industrial Area inner harbor, Guam, Marianas with boiler #2 in use for auxilliary purposes.

6. At 0709 Wednesday 17 October this vessel was underway from dock "O" Industrial Area to outer harbor and at 0745 moored to buoy 305 Apra Harbor, Guam. At 1530 eighty-eight (88) officers and six (6) enlisted men reported aboard under the direction of Port Director for transportation from Guam to Yokosuka, Japan.

7. At 1320, 18 October, after refueling, this vessel was underway from Guam Marianas enroute to Yokosuka, Japan in accordance with orders from CTF 53.

8. At 1158, 22 October this vessel anchored in berth E58 in Tokyo Bay off Yokosuka, Japan.

9. At 1000, 24 October this vessel was underway from anchorage E58 in Tokyo Bay to buoy Y-2 inner harbor Yokosuka, Japan.

10. At 1430, 30 October after fueling this vessel was underway from Yokosuka Japan, enroute to Guam, Marianas under orders from Commander Fifth Fleet for duty with U.S. Strategic Bomb Survey.

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R. Benson
R. BENSON.