

USS BLUE (DD744)

OUR CANTEN BEER WE
REC'D FROM THEM. SEEN
MOVIE AT NIGHT (LEFT
DURING SHOW)

FEB-5-45
10-45. PULLED OUT OF ULICH
AND ARE ON OUR WAY TO
HIT JAP PROPER WITH OUR
MIGHTY TASK FORCE. ON OUR
WAY TO HIT TOKYO WITH
OUR PLANES FROM THE
CARRIER FORCE.

FEB-11-45
SUN. STILL ON OUR WAY
AND CONDUCT GUNNERY
PRACTICE IN MEANTIME.
ALMOST SHOT DOWN ONE
OF OUR OWN PLANES
WITH GUN 44 (40 MM) - PLANE
WAS BEHIND SLEEVE AND
WAS NOT SEEN.

FEB-12
MON-45 - HAD GUNNERY PRACTICE.
142000 - REFUELED FROM BB
MASSACHUSETTS AT 1000 -
SMOOTH SAILING.

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FEB-13-45. STILL ON OUR WAY
TUES. TO JAPAN - GETTING
COLDER.

FEB-14-45
WEDS. STILL ON OUR WAY TO
JAPAN - SENT MAIL TO
CV BENNINGTON - MESSENGER
MAIL - REFUELLED AT 1800.

FEB-15-45
THURS. STILL ON OUR WAY TO
JAPAN. REFUELLED FROM
CV BENNINGTON AT 0700.
ABOUT 400 miles FROM
TOKYO AT 1300 - GETTING
COLDER + RECD FOUL WEATHER
GEAR.

FEB-16-45
FRI - LAUNCHED OUR FIRST
STRIKE ON TOKYO AT
0600. MADE THREE STRIKES
TODAY WITH MOSTLY FIGHTER
PLANES. 1st RAID 800 PLANES.
PICKED THREE MEMBERS OF
A BOMBER CREW WHO FELL
IN WATER AFTER TAKING
OFF CARRIER. PICKED UP
FIGHTER PILOT RETURNING
FROM TOKYO. WAS FORCED
DOWN NEARBY. WE ARE

USS BLUE (DD744)

ABOUT 70 MILES FROM TOKYO -
THREE JAP PLANES WERE
SHOT DOWN OVER OUR GROUP.
OUR SHIPS KNOCKED OFF
A FEW SAMPAHS & PICKED
UP SURVIVORS. ONE OF OUR
PLANES WAS ALSO KNOCKED
DOWN MISTAKEN FOR A
JAP.

FEB-17-45 -

SAT. DELIVERED GUARD
MAIL TO CARRIERS - RECD
RADIO PARTS FROM ONE -
OUR PLANES MAKE BIG
RAID ON TOKYO - FOUR
WAVES WENT OVER WITH
LITTLE LOSS. PICKED UP FOUR
PILOTS & CREW MEMBERS
WEATHER COLD. HIT AIRCRAFT
PLANTS. LEFT TOKYO VICINITY
IN EVENING & HEADED SOUTH.

FEB-18-45. SUN. OUR GROUP KNOCKED
OFF FIVE SUBCHASERS EARLY
IN MORNING. WHEN WE

USS BLUE (DD744)

WENT TO OUR ROUTINE
GO IN MORNING ONE
OF OUR SHIPS WAS FIRING
ON SUBCHASER. THROUGHOUT
MORNING WE PASSED &
RECD MAIL TO SHIPS IN
OUR GROUP - ALSO PASSED
SPARE PARTS. OUR PLANES
BOMBED VOLCANOE IN AFTER
NOON. REFUELED FROM ^{CV} HORNET
& VINCENNES-CL.

FEB-19-45 MON. D-DAY. INVASION
OF TWO SIMA BY OUR FORCES.
THREE OF OUR GROUPS SUP-
PORTED THE INVASION. TWO
STAYED OUT & REFUELED
& HAD TARGET PRACTICE.
OUR PLANES MADE STRIKES
AGAINST TWO SIMA. WE
REFUELED TODAY FROM
CARRIER RECD MAIL &
I RECD FOUR LETTERS. WE
KNOCKED DOWN TWO &
POSSIBLY THREE SCREEVES
IN GUNNERY PRACTICE -
MARINES LANDED ON TWO SIMA.

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WE ARE ASSIGNED TO PICKET
Duty outside of SCREEN.

FEB-20-45. TUES - STILL DOING
PICKET DUTY - IN THE
VICINITY OF IWO LIMA
IN THE VOLCANOES. WROTE A
POLISH LETTER FOR MY FRIEND
BACHOLTZ FROM INDIANA -
RECD A SUB CONTACT
IN EVENING BUT LOST IT
AFTER A SEARCH. STILL
HAVE OUR ROUTINE GG'S:

FEB-21-45. WED - REJOINED OUR GROUP
IN THE MORNING - REFUELED
FROM BENNINGTON. DURING
REFUELING A PLANE MADE
A FORCED LANDING ON THE
CARRIER & WENT UP IN FLAMES.
WAS PUT OUT RAPIDLY. LEFT
OUR GROUP ABOUT 1400 &
HEADED TO IWO LIMA (INVADED
FOR TWO DAYS WITH A BLOODY
BATTLE) A ISLAND IN VOLCANOES.
BATTLESHIPS, CRUISERS, DESTROYERS

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WERE SHELLING THE BEACH.
WE WERE ABOUT TEN MILES
OFF THE BEACH - SHIP WENT
INTO GG AND WE MANNED
OUR BATTLE STATIONS. HAD
SOME PLANES OVER US -
ABOUT FOUR WERE SHOT
DOWN AROUND US. OVER
FIVE HUNDRED SHIPS WERE
SITTING IN BAY. EXPLOSIONS
COULD BE SEEN AS THEY
LIGHTED THE SKY. A ACTIVE
VOLCANOE COULD BE SEEN
FROM OUR SHIP - WE AND
L.C. MOORE - DD LEFT ABOUT
2130 TOWARDS OUR GROUP.
THEY PICKED UP PILOTS -
FIFTEEN PLANES SHOT DOWN IN OUR
VICINITY DURING DAY.

FEB-22-45. THURS - STILL OUTSIDE OF
IWO LIMA AND CONDUCT AIR
RAIDS.

FEB-23-45. FRI - ON OUR WAY TO
BOMB TOKIO WITH OUR CARRIER
FORCE - AT 1900 WE ARE SIX
HUNDRED MILES FROM TOKIO.

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REFUELED FROM TANKER TODAY.
SEA IS GETTING ROUGH - SHIFTED
OUR WATCH FROM MOUNT
I to II - TOUGH TIME EATING,
SLEEPING & WALKING - STARTED
to FIGURE PAY TODAY AND
IT WAS QUITE ROUGH.

FEB-24-1945-FRI. STILL ON WAY to
TOKIO - REFUELED FROM CARRIER,
THIS MORNING AT 1000 - SEA
IS ROUGH AS YOU CAN'T
WALK TOP SIDES - DID SOME
MINOR DAMAGES to SHIP -
HAD HELLUVA TIME FIGURING
OUT PAY IN OFFICE, SLIDING
AROUND.

FEB-25-1945-SUN. MADE ^{AIR} STRIKES
OVER TOKYO, YOKOHAMA, etc. -
LOW CEILING WAS HANDICAP
to OUR FLYERS. WEATHER
WAS BAD & SEA ROUGH - ONE
OF OUR SHIPS SUNK SMALL NIP CRAFT.

FEB-26-1945-MON. SUPPOSED to MAKE
STRIKES OVER KOBE BUT WERE

USS BLUE (DD744)

CANCELLED DUE to BAD
WEATHER - SEA IS SOMEWHAT
CALMER.

FEB-27-TUES-1945. REFUELED FROM
TANKER. REC'D MAIL - WEATHER
IS FINE - PASSED MAIL TO
CARRIERS - OUR PLANES
HIT CHICH. JIMA.

FEB-28-WED-1945. TOPPED OFF
WITH FUEL FROM BB
INDIANA - ON OUR WAY
to BOMB OKINAWA.

MAR-1-

~~FEB-29~~ THURS-1945 - OUR PLANES
HIT ^{at} DAWN THE ISLE OF
OKINAWA - OUR SQUADRON
GETS ORDERS FOR SHORE
BOMBARDMENT ON OKINAWA
REFUELED (TOPPED OFF) TODAY -
ALSO HELD PAY DAY - REFUEL
ED FROM CARRIER HORNET.
~~WERE~~ LEFT OUR GROUP
ABOUT 2100 AND ARE ON
OUR WAY to DO SHORE

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BOMBARDMENT ON OKIN ^{DAIIC} ~~DAIIC~~
JIMA WITH A TOTAL OF EIGHT
DESTROYERS AND THREE
CRUISERS. WENT TO GENERAL
QUARTERS ABOUT 2340 AS
WE ARE NEAR ~~OKINAWA~~
OKINO DAIIC JIMA.

MAR-2-FRI-1945. STILL AT GO
AS WE CLOSE IN ON OKINO
DAIIC JIMA WHICH IS SOUTH
OF JAPAN AND EAST OF
FORMOSA. SHORE BOMBARD-
MENT COMMENCES AT 0100
AND CLOSES AT 0200 WITH
CONSISTANT HITTING. WE
MADE THREE RUNS AND
FIRED OVER 300 rounds
of 5" - LEFT THE ISLAND
IN FLAMES AT 0215 AS
WE MADE HITS ON BARRACKS
AND RADIO STATION. REJOINED
OUR GROUP AT 0700. NO
SLEEP ALL NIGHT.

MAR-3-SAT-45. REFUELLED FROM
TANKER. ON OUR WAY TO

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ULICHI. HAD FIRING RUNS
TODAY

MAR-4-SUN-45. STILL HEADED
TOWARDS ULICHI. HAD AA
PRACTICE AT 0800. PULLED
INTO ULICHI AND ANCHORED
AT 1430.

MAR-5-MON-45. ANCHORED AT
ULICHI. SEEN MOVIE AT
NIGHT.

MAR-6-TUES-45. STILL AT ULICHI.
WENT ASHORE ON A BEER
PARTY AND WAS RATIONED
FIVE CANS BECKWEISER. THREW
THE BASEBALL AROUND WITH
MEHLFELDER. SEEN MOVIE
AT NIGHT.

MAR-7-WED-45. STILL AT ULICHI.
TOOK PROVISIONS & CANNEN
GEAR ABOARD AT 0130. STAYED
UP UNTIL 0730 TO SEE
EVERYTHING GET SQUARED