

USS BLUE (DD744)

AWAY - SLEPT IN DURING THE MORNING - SEEN MOVIE AT NIGHT.

MAR 8 - THURS - 45 - STILL AT ULITHI - SEEN MOVIE IN THE EVENING.

MAR - 9 - FRI - 45 - STILL ANCHORED IN SAME PLACE. HAD A CHANCE TO GO ASHORE BUT TURNED IT DOWN CAUSE TOO MANY WERE GOING. SEEN MOVIE AT NIGHT. GOT THE BOYS TO PAINT THE OFFICE TODAY.

MAR - 10 - SAT - 45 - STILL ANCHORED AT ULITHI - SEEN MOVIE AT NIGHT TWO FEATURES.

MAR - 11 - SUN - 45 - TOOK ON AMMUNITION AS WE SHOVED OFF TO THE NORTHERN ANCHORAGE ALONGSIDE OF NITRO - DURING MOVIE A JAP BOMBER FLEW OVER OUR FOCSLE AND MADE A HIT

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ON A NEW CV RANDOLPH - AFTER THE HIT ON CARRIER IT MADE A HIT ON THE BEACH - DAMAGE WAS SLIGHT ON CARRIER. SHIP WENT TO GO - SECURED FROM GO IN ABOUT 30 minutes & WENT BACK TO MOVIE - I WAS IN OFFICE TYPING UP EASTER U-MAIL CARDS WHEN GO SOUNDED.

MAR - 12 - MON - 45 - PULLED OUT OF NORTH ANCHORAGE AND WENT TO SOUTH ANCHORAGE WHERE WE ANCHORED - TOPPED OFF WITH PROVISIONS & CANTEEN GEAR - SEEN "THE PRINCESS & THE PIRATE" WITH BOB HOPE & VIRGINIA MAYO "SOLDIER FOR A FRIEND" WITH PAULETTE GODDARD AND SONNY TUFTS.

MAR - 13 - TUES - 45 - WENT UP TO NORTH ANCHORAGE TO REFUEL

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WED
MAR-14-~~THURS~~-45 - PULLED OUT OF
ULIENI WITH OUR CARRIER
GROUP AT 0830 - ON OUR
WAY OUT TO SEA - HAD
GUNNERY PRACTICE IN
AFTER NOON -

MAR-15 - THURS. 45 STARTED OUR
USUAL MORNING GO WHILE
OUT AT SEA AT 0500 -
GUNNERY PRACTICE PRACTI-
CALLY ALL MORNING - WENT
TO GO IN AFTERNOON FOR
MORE GUNNERY PRACTICE

MAR-16 - FRI - 45 - OUR BATTLESHIPS
& CRUISERS JOINED OUR
GROUP TODAY AS WE ONLY HAD
CARRIERS + DD'S WITH US -
REFUELED FROM TANKER
THIS MORNING - PICKED UP
FOUR DRONES (REMOTE CONTROL-
LED) AS THEY WERE SHOT DOWN
IN GUNNERY EXERCISES -
RECD. GUARD MAIL FROM
DESTROYER - PASSED PERSONAL

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MAIL TO DESTROYER BRUSH-

MAR-17 - SAT - 45 - REFUELED FROM
BATTLESHIP IN OUR GROUP -
ON OUR WAY TO MAKE
STRIKE AGAINST ISLAND
(PROVINCE IN NIP HOMELAND)
OF KYUSHU - JAP SUICIDE
DIVERS START ATTACKING
AT 2300 AS WE GO TO
GENERAL QUARTERS - ~~HAVE~~
~~THAT INTERVAL~~

MAR-18 - SUN - 45 - STILL AT
GENERAL QUARTERS ALL
NIGHT (PRACTICALLY) - OUR
GROUP SHOT DOWN A
NUMBER OF SUICIDE DIVERS
PICKING ON OUR CARRIERS
AT GO PRACTICALLY ALL
DAY AND NIGHT ON ALERT
OF DIVERS - GOT ABOUT
IN ALL TOTAL IN OUR GROUP.

MAR-19 - MON - 45 - STILL AT GEN-
ERAL QUARTERS AS WE

USS BLUE (DD744)

PICK OFF SOME MORE NIP
PLANES - THE WARP TOOK
A BOMB HIT IN OUR
GROUP ON ITS FLIGHTDECK
BUT STILL IS IN FIGHTING
CONDITION - FRANKLIN CV
IN OTHER GROUP WAS
ALSO HIT AND IN PRETTY
BAD SHAPE - SECURED FROM
GG AT 1615 - HARDLY HAD
A COUPLE HOURS SLEEP
THE LAST COUPLE OF DAYS.
FACE IS ALL CHAPPED FROM
COLD WEATHER - THE CHANGE
OF WEATHER CERTAINLY
MADE US FREEZE - OUR
PLANES MADE QUITE A
NUMBER OF STRIKES OVER
KYUSHU WITH GOOD RESULTS.
GOT SOME SHIPS IN THE
HARBOR - JAPS PUT OUT NEWS
OF THEM SMASHING OUR
FORCE - HA HA

RESULTS OF PAST TWO DAYS
ON KYUSHU BY 58.1 (our group)
SHOT DOWN 10 ENEMY

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AIRCRAFT BY GUNFIRE.
PLANES OF OUR GROUP
SHOT DOWN 88 single, 8 TWIN,
AND 4 QUADS, PLUS 26
PROBABLE.

DESTROYED 85 MISCELLANEOUS
AIRCRAFT ON GROUND.

DROPPED 240 TONS OF BOMBS
& FIRED 820 ROCKETS WITH
FOLLOWING DAMAGE: 1 LARGE
AK SUNK, 1 LARGE AK &
1 SUBMARINE PROBABLY
SUNK.

PROBABLY DAMAGED 2 BB,
2 CV or CVL, 1 CA, 2 DD,
1 DE, 1 LARGE AK, 4 MEDIUM
AK AND 6 SMALL AK;
MOST OF WHICH WERE
IN KURE HARBOR.

FOLLOWING ALSO DESTROYED
OR DAMAGED: 22 YANAGERS,
13 BUILDINGS, AND THREE
RAILROAD LOCOMOTIVES. WE
LOST 35 AIRCRAFT AND
34 AIR PERSONNEL.

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MAR-20-TUES-45. STILL ABOUT
60 TO 80 MILES FROM KYUSHU.
THE PITTSBURGH IS TOWING
THE FRANKLIN CV SOUTH.
STILL AT GO MOST OF
THE DAY - SOME ATTACKING
NIP PLANES ARE KNOCKED
OFF BY TASK FORCE GUN
FIRE. HITS ARE SCORED ON
THE ENTERPRISE CV AND
DD HALSBY-POWELL BUT ARE
STILL Afloat - TOPPED OFF
THIS MORNING WITH FUEL
FROM BENNINGTON CV.

MAR-21-WED-45. ARE HEADED AWAY
FROM KYUSHU. STILL WITH
OUR GENERAL QUARTERS WITH
THE ENEMY AIRCRAFT IN
VICINITY - ITS SOMEWHAT
WARMER ON MY GUN 44 (40
millimeter) BATTLE STATION.
SOME MORE NIP PLANES WERE
SPLASHED BY GUN FIRE AND
OUR FIGHTER PLANES - HAVEN'T
HAD MUCH SLEEP DURING

USS BLUE (DD744)

THE PAST FOUR DAYS WHICH
HAS MY EYES SORE FROM
NOT GETTING ENOUGH SLEEP.
JAP PLANES CAME OUT TO
GET US SO WE SENT UP
HELLCATS & CORSAIRS TO
MEET THEM. SCORE 36 NIP
BETTY'S (BOMBERS) AND SEVEN
OTHER PLANES KNOCKED OFF
BY 58.1 (OUR GROUP) - WE
LOST ONE FIGHTER.

MAR-22-THURS-45. REFUELED FROM
TANKER - NO MAIL. HEADED
SOUTH FROM KYUSHU - HAVE
GO NOW & THEN.

MAR-23-FRI-45 STILL HEADED
SOUTH AND ARE NOT FAR
FROM OKINAWA ISLAND - C

MAR-24-SAT-45 MAKE STRIKES
AGAINST OKINAWA - WORKING
ON PAYDAY CAUSE OF
PAYING OFF NEARBY - PLANES
FROM OUR GROUP SPOT

USS BLUE (DD744)

a JAP CONVOY. THEY SINK
TWO LARGE AK (NAVAL CARGO)
THREE ESCORTS AND TWO
NEW DD'S (Destroyers) - WE
LOST 3 TORPEDO BOMBERS.
OUR BATTLESHIPS & DD'S BOMBARD OKINAWA

MAR-25-SUN-45- STILL ABOUT
FORDY MILES FROM OKINAWA.
REFUEL FROM BB NEW JERSEY.

MAR-26-MON-45- REFUEL FROM
TANKER. REC'D PERSONAL
MAIL - REC'D THREE LETTERS.
ALSO REC'D FRUITS, VEGETABLES
AND CANTEEN GEAR FROM
AK - ALSO REC'D CANTEEN
GEAR TO FORWARD TO SAN
JACINTO (CVL) - TRANSFERRED
GEAR TO SAN JACINTO.
WHAT A JOB AS THE SEA
WAS A LITTLE ROUGH.

MAR-27-TUE-45 HAD OUR ROUTINE
GENERAL QUARTERS. ALSO WENT
TO GO A HOUR LATER (0700) -
JAP DIVER BOMBERS WERE

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DIVING OVER OUR GROUP -
ONE DIVED ON A CARRIER,
PULLED OUT AND FLEW
OVER OUR SHIP - WE FIRED
AT HIM & MISSED BUT HE
WAS KNOCKED OFF BY
A DD SWENSON - ONE OF
THE ^{TORPEDO} DIVER BOMBERS PUT
A FISH INTO THE MURRAY
DD, SO THEY SHOT HIM
DOWN - STILL AFLOAT AND
THEY ARE DOING IS KNOWS
A NEAR BOMB MISS FOULLED
UP DD BAUSH - WE TOOK
ITS PLACE ON PICKET DUTY.

MAR-28-WED-45 JAPANESE FLEET
IS SPOTTED NORTH OF US -
WE (OUR GROUP 58.1) ARE
HEADED NORTH AFTER THE
JAPS. OUR TORPEDO BOMBERS
BOMBERS & FIGHTERS (230)
ARE SENT OUT TO GET THE
JAP FLEET - OUR PLANES
RETURNED WITH NOTHING
IN SIGHT - THE ONLY