

USS BLUE (DD744)

THING THEY GOT WAS A
NIP AIR TRANSPORT. WE
ARE IN VICINITY OF KYUSHU
SEARCHING FOR THE JAPS.
PLANES HIT SOME AIRFIELDS DURING
SEARCH.

MAR-29-THURS-45. STILL SEARCHING
FOR THE NIP FLEET. SEND
OUT PLANES IN SEARCH.
THE OTHER GROUPS RE-
JOIN OUR GROUP. OUR
PLANES STRIKE AT KYUSHU.
WE ARE OUT TO GET THEM
IF WE CAN LOCATE THE
JAPS.

MAR-30-FRI-45. GOOD FRIDAY.
REFUELED FROM TANKER.
REC'D MAIL TODAY & I GOT
SIX.

MAR-31-SAT-45. REFUELED FROM
CV HORNET. HAD SUBMARINE
CONTACTS THROUGHOUT DAY
AND DROPPED A NUMBER OF
DEPTH CHARGES NEAR OKINAWA
AND OUR AIRCRAFT MADE

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STRIKES. DAY BEFORE INVASION
OF OKINAWA.

APR-1-SUN-45. EASTER.
HAD CHURCH SERVICES AT
1000 - WAS IN MOUNT III
AT TIME SO I LISTENED
OVER THE PHONES. OKINAWA
INVADED TODAY & TASK
FORCE 58 IS STANDING
BY. WE ARE ABOUT 50 MILE
OF OKINAWA. REPORTS ARE
FAVORABLE - REFUEL TODAY.
PAYDAY TODAY.

APR-2-MON-45. STILL AROUND
OKINAWA WITH OUR PLANES
MAKING STRIKES OVER THE
ISLAND. RESCUED A PILOT.
WE SUNK A MINE ALSO
WHICH IS JUST COMMON
WITH US AS WE RAN SOME
PRIOR. OUR PLANES MADE HITS
ON CRUISER, AK, ~~etc.~~ - THEY
WERE LEFT BURNING.

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APR-3-TUES-45- STILL IN VICINITY OF OKINAWA. SHOT UP A MINE TODAY- OUR PLANES MAKE STRIKES AGAINST OKINAWA. JAP PLANE FLIES OVER OUR SHIP AND OUR 20'S OPEN UP ON HIM. WENT TO GQ A COUPLE OF TIMES TODAY.

APR-4-WED-45 STILL AROUND OKINAWA AS OUR PLANES MAKE STRIKES. REFUEL FROM TANKER (AO) - NO MAIL.

APR-5-THURS-45- TOP OFF WITH FUEL TODAY. REC'D PERSONNEL AND ALSO TRANSFERRED SOME TO OTHER SHIPS. REC'D SPARE PARTS FROM BB MASSACHUSETTES. STILL IN VICINITY OF OKINAWA AS WE MAKE STRIKES.

APR-6-FRI-45- ~~STILL~~ STILL IN VICINITY OF OKINAWA AND SUPPORTING THE INVASION WITH STRIKES - WAS AT GENERAL

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QUARTERS PRACTICALLY ALL MORNING AND AFTERNOON. OUR TASK SPLASHED A NUMBER OF PLANES. OUR GROUP SPLASHED FIVE SUICIDE DIVERS. SOME OF THE DIVERS WERE NEAR MISSES ON OUR SHIPS - AT ONE NIP PLANE WE WERE THE ONLY SHIP FIRING EXCEPT FOR A LITTLE FIRING FROM THE CARRIER CVL SAN JACINTO. THE BIG QUESTION IS WHO SPLASHED HIM IN THE DRINK. FROM MY GUN STATION I AM QUITE SURE WE SHOULD GET THE CREDIT. OUR GUN STATION (40MM) FIRED 44 ROUNDS AMMUNITION. SECURED FROM GQ AT 1645. ONE OF THE JAP PLANES GOT TWO NEAR BOMB HITS ON THE TARSIG IN OUR GROUP. NO DAMAGE TO TARSIG. DD AND A COUPLE

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PERSONNEL WOUNDED FROM SHRAPNEL. REPORTS COMING IN FROM OUR CARRIERS - OUR PLANES FROM THE ESSEX GOT 52 PLANES - TWO CARRIERS (THEIR PLANES) GOT A TOTAL OF 46 - SOME MORE REPORTS TO COME IN - ABOUT 400 NIP PLANES WERE KNOCKED OUT BY TASK FORCE 58.

APR. 7 - SAT - 45 - STILL AROUND OKINAWA AS WE LAUNCH STRIKES. OUR PLANES SPOT JAPANESE MAN'O WARS ABOUT 200 MILES AWAY - WE ARE HEADED TOWARDS THEM AND IN MEANTIME LAUNCH PLANES. OUR PLANES CATCH UP WITH NIP FLEET. RESULTS: SUNK 1 JAP BATTLESHIP (YAMATO) 2 CRUISERS, 3 DESTROYERS. DAMAGED TWO DESTROYERS + 3 UNDAMAGED DESTROYERS.

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IN AFTER NOON JAP SUICIDE DIVERS ARE OUT TO GET THE FORCE - OUR GROUP SPLASHED TWO OF THEM RIGHT OFF OUR BOW - WE SPLASHED A TWIN ENGINE (OF THE TWO SPLASHED) AS HE CAME TOWARDS - WE GOT HIM OFF OUR BOW AS HE DROPPED HIS BOMB WITH A NEAR MISS - WHAT A CLOSE SHOT! PHEW - THE OTHER JAP WAS SPLASHED AS HE WAS HEADED FOR US BY THE MOORE DD - THANKS TO THEM - WE ALSO HAMMERED AWAY WITH OUR GUNS AT HIM - WE WERE AT GO THE BIGGEST PART OF DAY -

APR. 8 - SUN - 45 - REFUEL FROM TANKER. RECEIVE MAIL TODAY - PASSED PERSONNEL & MAIL ALL DAY -

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APR-9-MON-45-WE ARE NOW
IN AREA OF OKINAWA AND
LAUNCH STRIKES- TOP OFF
FUEL FROM BATTLESHIP-

APR-10-TUES-45- STILL AROUND
VICINITY OF OKINAWA-TOPPED
OFF FUEL FROM BB-

APR-11-WED-45 REFUELED
FROM TANKER- REC'D MAIL
FOR CREW- ALSO REC'D PILOTS,
DEPTH CHARGES (FOR US) AND
OVER A 100 AUXILIARY GAS
TANKS TO TRANSFER TO
CARRIERS- TRANSFERRED
SOME TODAY-

APR-12-THUR-45- AT ABOUT
0100 FOUR PLANES WERE
SPLASHED OVER THE GROUPS.
MADE STRIKES AGAINST
OKINAWA- WENT TO GQ MOST
OF THE DAY- WE SHOT DOWN
THREE OF OUR GROUP- WE
GOT ONE IN YOUR SUPPORT

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SIDE- OUR GUN SEEMED
TO GET IT WITH FOUR
HUNDRED ROUNDS- THE TASK
ACCOUNTED FOR A COUPLE 100 PLANES.
APR-13-FRI-45- STILL IN OKINAWA
AREA- TOPPED OFF WITH
FUEL- WENT TO GENERAL
QUARTERS A FEW TIMES-

APR-14-SAT-45- STILL SUPPORTING
OKINAWA- WENT TO GQ A
FEW TIMES AGAIN AS
PLANES WERE SPLASHED OVER
THE GROUPS- WAPS DROPPED
FLARES AT NIGHT TO LIGHT
US UP- ONE NIP FLEW OVER
THE SHIP BUT WE LOST HIM
IN THE DARKNESS- OUR
SHIP WAS THE LINK BE-
WEEN TWO GROUPS- WE
FIRED OUR GUNS AT THE
NIPS BUT NO LUCK- SOME
OF THE OTHER SHIPS SPLASHED
THE NIP PLANES- DURING
THE DAY A SUICIDE NIP
HIT THE DD ZIGSBEE AND

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INJURED A HUNDRED MEN -
THEY KNOCKED DOWN FOUR
PLANES BESIDES - WE SECURED
FROM GQ AT 2130 - WE ALSO
TOPPED OFF FUEL TODAY - WE
WERE INFORMED ROOSEVELT DIED -
APR. 15 - SUN - 45 STILL AROUND
OKINAWA - OUR PLANES MAKE
STRIKES ON KYUSHU (JAP
MAINLAND) - AT GQ PRACTICALLY
ALL DAY AS JAP PLANES
ARE OVER US - NIP PLANES
DROPPED FLARES TO LIGHT
US UP IN EVENING - NUMBER
OF NIPS WERE SPLASHED
THROUGH DAY

APR. 16 - MON - 45 - STILL IN OKINAWA
AREA SUPPORTING INVASION -
REC'D WORD THAT NUMBER
OF OUR SHIPS IN ^{SEVENTH} ~~FIFTH~~ FLT
WERE SUNK OR DAMAGED
AROUND OKINAWA BY NIP
SUICIDE DIVERS - OUR PLANES
STRIKE AT KYUSHU - AT GQ
THROUGHOUT DAY AND NIGHT

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UNTIL FOLLOWING MORNING
NIPS LIGHT US UP AT
NIGHT WITH FLARES - A
NUMBER OF NIPS WERE
SPLASHED OVER THE GROUPS -
DD TAUSIGG SPLASHED FIVE
TODAY - SUICIDE DIVERS
DAMAGED A DESTROYER AND
CL INTREPID - A FRIEND
JOHNNY GALLICK GM3/C IS
ABOARD INTREPID ACCORDING
TO HIS LAST ADDRESS I
REC'D - THE SHIPS DID SOME
HEAVY FIRING AT NIGHT
AS WE FIRED PLENTY AND
IT LOOKED LIKE HELL - ONE
OF OUR BOYS WAS HIT BY
SHRAPNEL AND REC'D A
DEEP GASH IN NECK - IF HE
DIDNT HAVE ON HIS KAPOK,
DOC SAID HE WOULD OF
BEEN KILLED - WHAT A NIGHT
PHEW - SOME FELLOWS ON THE
ZOMM WERE HURT SLIGHTLY
BY CONCUSSION OF 5" rounds
ON OUR WAY TO REFUEL -