

USS BLUE (DD744)

MAY-20-SUN-45 REFUEL FROM
TANKER ABOUT 0700-OBTAIN
FRESH PROVISIONS- ALSO MAIL
TO DISTRIBUTE TO BATTLE WAGONS
AND CARRIERS- RECEIVE PAS-
SENGERS FROM CL ATLANTA
(just out of STATES) TO PASS
ON TO OTHER SHIPS- RECEIVE
MAIL FROM DD DEHAUEN AND
I RECEIVE ABOUT ELEVEN LETTERS.
RECEIVE FRESH PROVISIONS
& CANTEN GEAR FROM AF.
DID LITTLE WORK IN OFFICE
AS I HAD TO SEE THAT
FREIGHT WAS DISTRIBUTED
TO RESPECTIVE SHIPS AND SEE
THAT WE RECEIVED OUR GEAR.
A BUSY DAY- RECEIVE WORD
TODAY THAT WE ARE OFFICIALLY
CREDITED WITH SHOOTING
DOWN A FRANCIS (TWO EN-
GINED WAP BOMBER)- IN PUR-
SUING WE HEAD TOWARDS
OKINAWA- RUMORS FLYING
AROUND, WE WILL HIT LEYTE
THE NEXT TIME WE GO IN.

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SUPPOSED TO BE SOON AND
IT MIGHT MEAN FAIR
LIBERTY-

MAY-20-SUN-45 OPERATING IN
VICINITY OF OKINAWA- OUR
PLANS CARRY OUT STRIKES
AGAINST OKINAWA- WE ARE
ON PICKET DUTY WITH OTHER
GUNS- RETURN TO GROUP IN
EVENING-

MAY-21-MON-45- OPERATING
OFF OKINAWA- STILL SUP-
PORTING TROOPS IN OKINAWA
WITH OUR AIRCRAFT-

MAY-22-TUES-45- STILL IN
OKINAWA AREA- TOP OFF
FUEL- ON OUR WAY TO
REFUEL FROM TANKERS-

MAY-23-WED-45- REFUEL
FROM TANKER AT 0700-
HAVE FIRING RUNS IN
THE MORNING- ON OUR

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WAY TOWARDS OKINAWA TO
REJOIN OTHER GROUPS.

MAY-24-THURS-45- WE ARE
OUT ON PICKET DUTY 0700
WITH OTHER DESTROYERS-RELYAN
TO TASK GROUP IN EVENING.
WE SET AA DEFENSE (400 YOFF)
DURING PICKET DUTY. SECURE
AA DEFENSE AT 2000. GO TO
GG AT 2345. A NIP PLANE
IS SPLASHED

MAY-25-FRI-45- GO TO GG
AGAIN AT 0300. OUT ON
PICKET DUTY AGAIN AT
0700- GO TO GG AT 0730.
WITH TWO NIP PLANES BEING
SPLASHED- AA DEFENSE SET
AGAIN.

MAY-26-SAT-45- GO ON OUT ON
PICKET DUTY IN MORNING-
WEATHER IS CLOUDY AND
RAINY ALL DAY- COME BACK
TO GROUP AT 1600. ON OUR

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WAY TO REFUEL FROM TANKERS.

MAY-27-SUN-45- REFUEL
FROM TANKERS- RECEIVE
PROVISIONS & CANTEN GEAR
FROM AF-10- RECEIVE MAIL
TODAY- HOLD FIRING RUNS IN
AFTERNOON- ARE HEADED AWAY
FROM TANKERS IN EVENING
TOWARDS OKINAWA.

MAY-28-MON-45- GENERAL
ALARM IS SOUNDED AT
0300- GO ON PICKET DUTY
0530- AA DEFENSE SET-
COME IN FROM PICKET DUTY
AT 1800-

MAY-29-TUES-45- GO OUT
ON PICKET DUTY AGAIN-
COME IN EVENING-

MAY-30-WED-45- STAY WITH
TASK GROUP. TOP OFF FUEL
FROM U.S.S. ALABAMA-
HOLD BATTLE PROBLEM-

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ON OUR WAY TO REFUEL
FROM TANKERS. BEEN
WORKING ON PAY THE LAST
FEW DAYS.

MAY-31. THURS-45 REFUEL FROM
TANKER AT 0700 - PROVISION
FROM AF IN MORNING - ALSO
RECEIVE MAIL - PASS MAIL,
PERSONNEL AND BELLY TANKS
TO CL, DD & BB. PASS A LARGE
NUMBER OF BELLY TANKS
TO CARRIER BENNINGTON.

1 JUNE - FRI-45 - STILL SUPPORTING
INVASION OF OKINAWA. WITH
TASK GROUP TODAY - TOPPED OFF
FUEL FROM BB ALABAMA - HELD
PAYDAY TODAY.

2 - JUNE - SAT-45 - STILL SUPPORT-
ING INVASION OF OKINAWA.

3 - JUNE - SUN-45 - STILL SUPPORT-
ING INVASION OF OKINAWA -
ON OUR WAY TO REFUEL

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FROM TANKERS -

4 - JUNE - MON-45 - REFUEL
FROM TANKERS - RECEIVE
MAIL - ALSO INFORMED
OF ONCOMING TYPHOON.
WE TRY TO EVADE IT.
TYPHOON HITS US IN
EVENING.

5 - JUNE - TUES-45 TYPHOON
GETS ROUGH AT ABOUT
1300. THE BOYS GET PLENTY
OF SCARED AS WE ARE
THROWN ALL OVER - OUR
STEERING GEAR CRAPS
OUT ON US - IT IS ALSO
FLOODED WITH WATER -
A BUCKET BRIGADE STARTS
AFT WITH THE LIVING
COMPARTMENT FLOODED -
STEERING BY HAND BACK
AFT AS ALL PERSONNEL
TAKE TURN TURNING -
THE PITTSBURGH LOSES
HER BOW - OTHER SHIPS

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ARE DAMAGED. CARRIERS
LOSE PLANES & ALSO HAVE
FLIGHT DECKS RIPPED
UP. WE ALSO LOSE PLenty
OF MEN. STARTS TO
SETTLE DOWN AT 0930.
OUR GROUP REJOINS ITSELF
IN FORMATION. A TUG
COMES OUT TO TOW PIERCE-
BURGH BOW. WE FOLLOW
TUG TO GUAM AT RATE
OF 4 TO 6 KNOTS.

6 JUNE - WED - 45 - STILL ON OUR
WAY TO GUAM WITH A
SLOW PACE. PIERCEBURGH
AND OTHER DAMAGED SHIPS
ARE AHEAD OF US HEADING
FOR GUAM. I'M TAKEN OFF
BATTLE STATION WATCH -

7 - JUNE - THUR - 45 - STILL ON OUR
WAY TO GUAM AT THE RATE
OF ABOUT THREE KNOTS. WE
ARE DOING ABOUT TWELVE
KNOTS. ANCHORING -

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8 - JUNE - FRI - 45 - STILL ON OUR
WAY TO GUAM. WE RECEIVE
ORDERS THAT WE WILL BE
RELIEVED BY ANOTHER CAN
AND PROCEED TO LEYTE -
ANOTHER TUG IS ALSO COMING
OUT.

9 - JUNE - SAT - 45 - STILL ON OUR
WAY TO GUAM AT A SLOW
PACE - BOW IS SAID TO BE SINKING -

10 - JUNE - SUN - 45 - STILL ON
OUR WAY TO GUAM AT A
SLOW PACE - OUR STEERING
GEAR WAS PUT BACK TO WORK
YESTERDAY. CASUALTY WATCH
IS SECURED. SUPPOSED TO
RECEIVE RELIEF TO ~~DAY~~ ^{DAY} -
RELIEVED AT NOON AND ARE
ON OUR WAY TO LEYTE.

11 - JUNE - MON - 45 - STILL ON OUR
WAY TO LEYTE -

12 - JUNE - TUES - 45 - ARRIVE AT

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LEYCE AT 0800 - REFUEL FROM
TANKER 0900 - PULL ALONG-
SIDE OF DIXIE (TENDER) AT
1130 - SEE MOVIE IN EVENING-
NO MAIL TODAY-

13 - JUNE - WED - 45 - STILL ALONGSIDE
LIBERTY TODAY BUT I DIDNT GO-
SEEN MOVIES IN EVENING-

14 - JUNE - THURS - 45 - STILL ALONG
SIDE OF DIXIE - WENT ON LIBERTY
TO LEYCE AT 1230 - PLAYED
SOFTBALL AND WON 14 TO 10 -
HAD SIX CANS OF BEER - CAME
BACK FROM LIBERTY 1700 -
SEEN MOVIE AT NIGHT

15 - JUNE - FRI - 45 - STILL ALONG
SIDE OF DIXIE - SEEN MOVIE IN
EVENING-

WENT TO CHURCH 0630
16 - JUNE - SAT - 45 - STILL ALONGSIDE
OF DIXIE - LIBERTY AT 1230
THE SHIP'S TEAM PLAYS THE
MOORE DD AND WE WIN 8 TO 5 -
HAD TWO FOR THREE - HAD ABOUT

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FIVE CANS OF BEER - PLAYED SS-
CAME BACK AT 1700 - DOUBLE
FEATURE TONIGHT BETWEEN
BLUE & MOORE - I SEEN ONE
MOVIE CAUSE I DID SEE
OTHER BEFORE-

17 - JUNE - SUN - 45 - STILL ALONG-
SIDE OF DIXIE - SEEN MOVIES
IN EVENING-

18 - JUNE - MON - 45 - PULL AWAY
FROM DIXIE AND ANCHOR OUT -
RAIDED LIBERTY TODAY BUT COULDN'T
GET A BEAT - SEEN MOVIE IN
EVENING-

19 - JUNE - TUES - 45 - STILL ANCHORED
OUT - WENT ON LIBERTY TODAY -
PLAYED BALL AND HAD THREE
FOR THREE - HAD ABOUT SEVEN
CANS OF BEER - LEFTY CAME
ABOARD AT 2000 AND STAYED
UNTIL 2100 - FIRST TIME I SEEN
HIM IN ABOUT THREE YEARS -
WHAT A SURPRISE!