

Serial 0014.

**SECRET**

Subject: War Diary for the month of May 1944.

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after enginerooms flooded. It was decided to go ahead with shore bombardment missions with KENDRICK screening. Changed speed to 10 knots, changed course to 035°T.

(b) Damage control parties shored bulkhead 12 from the main deck to the third deck and bulkhead 15 in A-501-A. A continuous watch was posted to examine bulkhead 15 from the first platform to the second deck and bulkhead 12 from the third deck to the main deck. Shifted fuel oil aft from the following fuel oil tanks: A-602-F, A-603-F, A-901-F, A-611-F, A-612-F, and A-613-F. Removed all stores from A-202-A, A-203-1A, A-203-2A, and A-204-A. Removed 2 20 mm guns and ready service boxes from frame 4 main deck. This decreased draft forward approximately 16 inches. 0615 Received Ensign Rogers, USNR (NGL0) from Motor Launch in accordance with prearranged plans. 0726 Commenced firing on target "H" a concentration area at coordinates 787348; Cub plane reported that visibility was very poor and Captain ordered 40 rounds unobserved fire. Stood by in firing area awaiting call from shore fire control party. No requests made due to poor visibility. 0951 Maneuvered in channel MA awaiting arrival of BROOKLYN to transfer flag personnel. 1150 Transferred Ensign Rogers (NGL0) via Motor Launch to BROOKLYN. Seas found to be too heavy to transfer other flag personnel. BROOKLYN was ordered to proceed to fire support area and PHILADELPHIA to return to POZZUOLI to effect transfer of flag personnel. 1222 PHILADELPHIA in company with U.S.S. KENDRICK and U.S.S. MC LANAHAN as screen departed from ANZIO area enroute to POZZUOLI. 2123 Moored to H.M.S. BARHOLM in the Gulf of POZZUOLI to effect transfer of flag personnel and to further investigate damage.

24 May

(a) While moored to H.M.S. BARHOLM in the GULF OF POZZUOLI, conducted examination of damage sustained as a result of collision with U.S.S. LAUB. Transferred flag of Commander Cruiser Division EIGHT to U.S.S. BROOKLYN. Darkness prevented a complete examination with diver.

(b) 0225 underway in company with U.S.S. MACKENZIE and U.S.S. ORDRONAUX as screen enroute to MALTA for further examination of damage and repairs in accordance with CTF 86 despatch-orders. 0338 Took departure from swept channel. Steamed at 14 knots on various courses zigzagging in accordance with diagram #11 (BR-248). An uneventful passage was made; seas calm, sky generally overcast, winds moderate except during latter part of afternoon when they rose to 20 knots and rain squalls set in.