

18 September 1944.

S-E-C-R-E-T

Subject: War Diary for Month of August, 1944.

(b) The PHILADELPHIA, screened by U.S.S. ELLYSON and U.S.S. RODMAN (ComDesRon 10 in ELLYSON), got underway at 1120 from PALERMO, Sicily for TARANTO, Italy via the Straits of MESSINA in accordance with COM NOB PALERMO's 032245B.

(c) During the day various drills were held, including both general and departmental drills and two planes were launched for gunnery and communication practices.

(d) Position: 0800 Lat. $38^{\circ}08'$ N, Long. $13^{\circ}28'$ E.
2000 Lat. $37^{\circ}49'30''$ N, Long. $15^{\circ}45'00''$ E.

5. 5 August.

(a) The PHILADELPHIA, screened by the ELLYSON and RODMAN, was steaming on various courses generally north by east, speed sixteen knots, following the southeast coastline of Italy, enroute from PALERMO, Sicily to TARANTO, Italy. At 0530 course was changed to 320° (T) heading toward the Gulf of TARANTO. The ship entered TARANTO Harbor at 1023 and moored to buoys fore and aft in berth 6-A-T at 1135.

(b) The Commanding Officer left this ship and reported to Commander Task Group 85.12 (ComBatDiv-5) in U.S.S. TEXAS (F). Other ships present included U.S.S. NEVADA, U.S.S. ARKANSAS and many other units of U.S., British, French and Italian Fleets.

(c) The remainder of the day was spent moored in the berth described.