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U. S. S. PHILADELPHIA
c/o Fleet Post Office,
New York, New York.

10-Ts.

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

6 August 1945.

From: The Commanding Officer.
To: The Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.
Via: The Commander Task Force SIXTY-EIGHT.

Subject: War Diary for the month of July 1945.

1. (a) During the month of July 1945, this vessel remained under the command of the Commander in Chief, U. S. Atlantic Fleet, operating from 2 through 31 July on detached duty as a part of Task Force SIXTY-EIGHT under the command of Rear Admiral Allan R. McCann, U. S. Navy. This ship was moored to pier No. 7, Naval Operating Base, Norfolk, Virginia, from 1 July to 1300, 3 July, at which time, in accordance with verbal orders of Commander Task Force 68, the ship got underway and proceeded through the swept channel to International waters off Chesapeake Bay where exercises were carried out with the U.S.S. AUGUSTA until the evening of 5 July. The ship returned and anchored in berth No. 22, Hampton Roads, Virginia, on 6 July and remained anchored until the morning of 7 July.

(b) Task Force SIXTY-EIGHT was composed of two ships, the U.S.S. AUGUSTA, designated TG68.1 and U.S.S. PHILADELPHIA, TG68.2. The task force was organized for the purpose of transporting the President of the United States and Presidential party from Hampton Roads, Virginia, to Antwerp, Belgium, and returning the Presidential party to the United States as directed. The Presidential party was embarked in the U.S.S. AUGUSTA. Officer in Tactical Command, Rear Admiral McCann, in the PHILADELPHIA.

(c) The crossing was made from Hampton Roads, Virginia, via the English Channel to Antwerp, Belgium, in eight days; departing on the morning of 7 July and docking at Antwerp, 1000, 15 July. This vessel remained moored in berth No. 24, Antwerp, Belgium, until the morning of 27 July, at which time the task force got underway in accordance with orders of CTF 68, for Plymouth, England, via the English Channel, arriving in Plymouth Sound on the following morning. The PHILADELPHIA remained moored to buoy "G", Plymouth, England, from 28 July throughout the remainder of the month.

2. 1 through 6 July 1945.

(a) The PHILADELPHIA was moored port side to south side of pier No. 7, berth No. 72, N.O.B., Hampton Roads, Virginia. Ships present included U.S.S. NOURMAHAL (SOPA), U.S.S. LAKE CHAMPLAIN, U.S.S. AUGUSTA, U.S.S. CINCINNATI, U.S.S. MARBLEHEAD, and various other units of the U.S. Fleet and district craft.

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