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U. S. S. PHILADELPHIA

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

Subject: War Diary for the Month of September 1945.

3. 6 through 26 September.

(a) Pursuant to Commander in Chief, United States Atlantic Fleet's dispatch orders, 291436, of August 1945, the ship got underway at 0857, 6 September, enroute from Newport, Rhode Island to Southampton, England. The course was set from Newport direct to 40°00' N - 70°50' W, thence to 40°00' N - 34°00' W, thence to 49°30' N - 10°00' W and then to a point twenty miles south of Bishop's Rock and, following route "Easy", to Southampton, England; speed was set at 17 knots. The cruise to Southampton was made without incident but due to a heavy following sea and rather unfavorable weather conditions, the steaming was somewhat rough.

(b) On 11 September the commanding officer reported to Commander Naval Forces Europe for duty. At 1622, 14 September, the ship anchored at Spithead Anchorage, the Solent, England. While in this anchorage, the ship fueled from a tanker alongside during the night. The ship got underway at 0807, 15 September from Spithead Anchorage and proceeded to Southampton, England, mooring starboard side to pier 44 at 0959. During the morning and early afternoon of 15 September, Lord Mayor Dyas of Southampton, England and the Honorable W. H. Beck, U. S. Consul General from Southampton, made official calls on the commanding officer. On 16 September, Captain R. L. Boller, Commanding U.S.S. PHILADELPHIA, returned the official calls of the Lord Mayor of Southampton and Consul General Beck. On 17 September, the commanding officer proceeded to London, England, where he made an official call on Admiral H. K. Hewitt, U. S. Navy, Commander Naval Forces, European Waters.

(c) The ship remained moored to pier 44, Southampton, England until the morning of 18 September 1945. At 0933, 18 September, the U.S.S. EUROPA got underway and stood out, followed by the PHILADELPHIA at 1000. The ship passed Spithead Gate and took position in column 2000 yards astern of the EUROPA at 1232.

(d) The formation, consisting of the EUROPA leading and the PHILADELPHIA in position 2000 yards astern, proceeded to a position 180°, 20 miles from Bishop's Rock, thence to 40°30' N - 40°15' W, direct to 40°00' N and 69°00' W, and from there direct to Ambrose Light. On 24 September, at Ambrose Light, in accordance with dispatch orders from the Commander in Chief, United States Atlantic Fleet, the PHILADELPHIA left formation and proceeded to Newport, Rhode Island, reporting to Commander Fleet Operational Training Command, United States Atlantic Fleet and Commander Task Group 23.13. The return trip was without incident, but sea and weather conditions were again unfavorable.