

Zone description \_\_\_\_\_

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	38°-09'-46" N	38°-15'-30" N	38°-07'-41" N
Long.	14°-26'-21" E	14°-34'-45" E	13°-22'-58" E

**OPERATIONAL REMARKS**  
(WAR DIARY)

0 to 4:

Zig-zagging as before on base course 000°(T), at standard speed 15 knots. 0055 Ceased zig-zagging; resumed base course 000°(T). 0100 Changed course to 238°(T). 0105 Commenced zig-zagging on base course 238°(T). 0225 Ceased zig-zagging; resumed base course 238°(T). 0230 Changed course to 129°(T), proceeding with U.S.S. COWIE and U.S.S. HERNDON to fire support area off Cape Stefano, SICILY. 0235 Commenced zig-zagging on base course 129°(T).

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4 to 8:

As before. 0508 General Quarters; set material condition "ABLE". 0535 Adjusted base course to 110°(T). 0555 Secured from material condition "ABLE", set material condition "BAKER" plus. 0604 Secured from General Quarters on all stations except main battery; set condition II on A.A. battery and condition III on all other stations. 0610 Ceased zig-zagging; resumed base course 110°(T). 0615 Changed course to 180°(T). 0620 Changed course to 090°(T). 0644 Changed course to 270°(T), changed speed to 10 knots. 0650 Launched plane 8-CS-5, pilot Lieut. (jg) Austin, passenger Gibson ARM2/c. 0651 Launched plane 8-CS-3, pilot Lieut. (jg) Lawry, passenger Ryan ARM3/c. 0738 Changed course to 090°(T). 0739 Plane 8-CS-3 reported being fired on by A.A. batteries on shore. 0745 Commenced firing main battery at target 467-385. 0746 Ceased firing. 0758 Commenced firing on target 467-385.

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8 to 12:

As before. 0818 Commenced firing on target 405-373. 0830 Completed taking on 68.3 tons of salt water ballast. 0835 Commenced firing on two enemy tanks. 0844 Changed course to 270°(T), ceased firing. 0855 Shell splash from enemy battery landed approximately 200 yards, bearing 070°Relative, second splash landed about 50 yards from ship on same bearing. Changed speed to 20 knots, commenced maneuvering radically. 0857 Emergency full speed ahead. Splash 100 yards off starboard beam; splash close aboard port side in the vicinity of 5" gun #4, causing minor damage topside due to shrapnel. 0856 Two near misses on the port side. 0857 Changed course to 000°(T). 0858 Changed course to 030°(T), gun flashes reported on beach bearing 155°(T). 0859 Changed course to 000°(T). 0901 Straddled by 2 gun salvo landing 50 yards to starboard and 100 yards to port. 0900 Changed course to 345°(T). 0903 Two gun salvo landed 100 yards astern. 0904 two gun salvo landed off starboard quarter. 0905 Gunfire on beach reported bearing 182°(T). 0904 Changed course to 000 (T). 0905 Changed course to 315 (T). 0910 Changed course 045°(T); Changed speed to 15 knots. 0929 Changed course to 220°(T). 0934 Recovered plane 8-CS-5, plane damaged by shrapnel and machine gun fire. 0942 Set condition I on A.A. battery. 0945 Recovered plane 8-CS-3. 1000 Haze setting in over shore-line. 1003 Launched plane 8-CS-4, pilot Lieut. (jg) Fierstein, passenger Tavernier-ARM3/c, launched plane 8-CS-3, pilot Lieut. (jg) Coughlin, passenger Shaeffer ARM2/c. 1011 Changed speed to 10 knots, changed course to 270°(T). 1030 Commenced firing on target 411-373. 1046 Ceased firing. 1041 Changed course to 260°(T). 1045 Changed course to 090°(T). 1106 Changed course to 045°(T). 1054 Commenced firing on target 485-398. 1116 Ceased firing. 1128 Changed course to 060°(T). 1134 Commenced firing on target 562-415. 1147 Changed course to 040°(T). 1154 Plane reported that people in town at coordinates 375-375 were waving white flags.

Approved: *Paul Hendren*

PAUL HENDREN  
Captain, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

Examined: *C.G. Geesen*

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Comdr., DEV-G, U.S.N.R.  
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Navigator.