

(Continued)

 UNITED STATES SHIP U.S.S. PHILADELPHIA (CL41) Saturday 31 July, 1943.  
 (Day) (Date) (Month)

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

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

 OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
 (WAR DIARY)

8 to 12:

Continued:

*H.K. Lockwood*  
 H.K. LOCKWOOD  
 Lieut., U.S.N.R.

12 to 16:

As before. 1205 Changed course to 220°(T). 1245 Changed course to 270°(T). 1248 Commenced firing on target 483397. 1303 Changed course to 090°(T). 1331 Changed course to 270°(T). 1332 Battery which fired at ship during morning reported at position 568412, by plane. 1333 Ship attacked by 3 ME-109 dive bombers without warning. 1334 Commenced evasive maneuvers; opened fire, no hits noted. Bombs dropped approximately 30 yards off each quarter and 75 yards off port bow - no damage, enemy planes retired. 1337 No. 4 throttle reported frozen out of commission for approximately 6 minutes. 1404 Recovered 2 planes. 1410 Radar plot reported a large group of unidentified planes bearing 135°(T), range 8 miles, closing rapidly. Manned battle stations; set material condition "ABLE", commenced evasive maneuvers. 1411 Unidentified planes reported by Radar plot at 110°(T), 5 miles, closing rapidly. 1412 Sighted enemy planes 110°(T); opened fire with all A.A. batteries. 1413 Several bombs landed close to ship, one about 25 feet off starboard beam - no damage. 1421 Planes retired and were reported by Radar plot to be circling 6 to 8 miles from ship. 1422 Commenced steaming toward PALERMO to get fighter coverage. 1452 Radar plot reported group of planes closing at 075°(T), 9 miles. 1454 Friendly fighters sighted, bearing 075°(T), two rounds of 5 inch were fired at these planes before they were identified, and order to cease firing given. 1535 Secured from material condition "ABLE", set material condition "BAKER" plus. 1542 Secured from General Quarters, set condition II on A.A. battery and condition III on all other stations.

*R.L. Caton*  
 R.L. CATON  
 Lieut., U.S.N.R.

16 to 18:

As before. Steaming on various courses at various speeds proceeding through swept channel to anchorage. 1630 Stationed special sea details. 1628 Secured boilers #7 and #8. 1655 Anchored in Gulf of Palermo, SICILY in 17 fathoms of water with 60 fathoms of chain at the water's edge to the port anchor. Anchored on the following bearings: LEFT BREAKWATER 220°(T), RIGHT BREAKWATER 321.7°(T), TOWER 348.90°(T). Ships present: ComCruDiv EIGHT in U.S.S. PHILADELPHIA SOPA; U.S.S. SAVANNAH, U.S.S. EDISON, U.S.S. GLENNON, U.S.S. PLUNKETT, U.S.S. HERNDON, U.S.S. SHUBRICK, U.S.S. GLEAVES, U.S. Army Hospital Ship ACADIA, H.M.S. COLOMBO, and various other small craft and merchant ships. NOTE: The following ammunition was expended this date for shore fire support and repelling aircraft. 352 cartridges 6"/47 semifixed S.P.D.; 352 projectiles 6"/47 H.C.; 187 rounds 40MM L&F; 1529 rounds 20MM, 58 rounds 5"/25 A.A. L&F with MK32 fuze; 61 rounds 5"/25 A.A. L&F, S.P.D.; 14 rounds 5"/25 A.A. L&F, S.P.D.F.

*W.A. Fite*  
 W.A. FITE  
 Lieut. (jg), U.S.N.

18 to 20:

As before. 1904 <sup>Hoove</sup> Heaved in to 45 fathoms of chain on deck. 1914 Secured boilers #3 and #4. 1935 U.S.S. COWIE underway. 1920 Took on 53.4 tons of salt water ballast.

*E.W. Bryant*  
 E.W. BRYANT  
 Lieut., U.S.N.R.  
*C.G. Gesen*  
 C.G. GESEN,  
 Comdr., DEV-G, U.S.N.R.  
 Navigator.

Approved:

*Paul Hendren*  
 PAUL HENDREN  
 Captain, U.S. Navy,

Examined:

Commanding. Commanding Officer.

Navigator.