UNITED STATES SHIP U.S.S. PHILADELPHIA (CL41) Tuesday 1943.

Zone description

Position 0800	1200	2000
Lat. 38 - 07'-42" N	38°-07'-42" N	380-101-30# 17
Long. 130- 23'-05" E	13°-23'-05" F	1/0 021 20# 7

OPERATIONAL REMARKS (WAR DIARY)

0 to 4:

As before. Anchored in Palermo Bay, SICILY. 0005 Sighted small boat about 1200 yards from ship, bearing 190 (T). Boat apparently drifting, patrol boat passed it fairly close aboard. 0212 Patrol boat took empty boat in tow, empty boat had drifted close to ship. 0214 Threw a 14 pound depth charge over forward. 0241 Threw a 14 pound depth charge over aft. 0305 Hoisted out #2 M.W.B. for use as pickett patrol around ship. Boat started patrolling around ship. 0320 Set special sea details. 0325 Heaved in to 30 fathoms of chain on deck. 0334 "YELLOW" alert by Radar guard ship. 0335 Started to heave in to short stay. 0337 Underway, Captain at the Conn, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge. NOTE: SC Radar contacts throughout watch on friendly and unidentified planes. Most of the unidentified planes lost over land signals and none approached closer than seven (7) miles.

4 to 8:

As before. 0405 Condition White from Radar guard ship, ship lying to; ship's head 080 (T). 0503 Changed speed to 3 knots, changed sourse to 250 (T), approaching anchorage. 0530 General Quarters. 0605 Secured from General Quarters; set condition of readiness III Air, 0606 Anchored Palermo Bay in 18 fathoms of water with 60 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor on the following bearings: BREAKWATER LIGHT 311 (T), ARCH 209 (T), SIGNAL TOWER 346.6 (T). 0609 Secured boilers #1, #2, #3 and #4.

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

8 to 12:

As before. 0927 Hoisted out plane 8-CS-5, pilot Lieut.(jg), Fierstein, passenger Gawron AerMlc. 0933 Hoisted out plane 8-CS-4, pilot Lieut.(jg) Coughlin passenger Fricke AOlc. 0935 Hoisted out plane 8-CS-3, pilot Lieut. Mishanec, passenger Gardner AMM1c. 1020 SC 977 came alongside to port. 1055 SC 977 cast off. 1102 Recovered plane #3. 1115 SC 693 came alongside to port, recovered plane 8-CS-5. 1118 Recovered plane 8-CS-4, British Hospital Ship OXFORDSHIRE stood in and anchored. 1145 SC-963 cast off.

Lieut., U.S.N.R.

12 to 16:

As before. 1310 Hoisted out plane 8-CS-5, pilot Lieut. (jg) Lawry, passenger Steen AMM3c. Hoisted out plane 8-CS-4, pilot Lieut.(jg), Austin, passemger Moore AMM3c. 1419 Commenced test firing of 20MM machine guns. 1438 Recovered plane 8-CS-5. 1440 Recovered plane 8-CS-4. 1445 Received lighter with provisions along-side starboard quarter. 1505 Cast off provision lighter. 1510 Completed test firing of 20MM machine guns having expended 38 rounds Lot. 13H and 34 rounds Lot. 1199. 1536 U.S.S. ROWAN standing in. 1540 U.S.S. BOISE firing light weapons at towed sleeve.

R.L. CATON

Approved:

Captain, U.S. Navy,

Commanding.

Examined:

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

Navigator.

Commanding Officer.

Navigator.