

U. S. S. PHILADELPHIA (CL41) Monday

Date August 16, 1943.

0 to 4:

As before. 0014 Changed course to 260°(T), changed speed to 25 knots. 0016 Changed speed to 31 knots. One unidentified plane bearing 070°(T), range 6 miles. Lost over land signals. 0025 Commenced reducing speed one knot every five (5) minutes to 25 knots. 0045 One unidentified plane bearing 050°(T), range 5 3/4 miles. Lost over land signals. 0112 Changed speed to 20 knots. 0118 One unidentified target bearing 247°(T), range 20,000 yards. Later identified as U.S.S. WAINWRIGHT when within 6 miles. 0120 One unidentified plane bearing 167°(T), range 6 1/2 miles. Lost over land signals. 0220 Changed course to 270°(T). 0245 One unidentified surface target bearing 240°(T), range 8 miles. Later identified as U.S.S. BENSON. 0300 Changed speed to 15 knots, commenced zig-zag plan #11, base course 270°(T). 0320 Changed course to 265°(T). 0350 Ceased zig-zagging, resumed base course 265°(T), speed 15 knots. 0355 Changed course to 260°(T).

W.A. Fite
W.A. FITE

Lieut.(jg), U.S.N.

4 to 8:

As before. 0400 Set condition III Air. 0406 Changed speed to 10 knots (100 RPM). 0415 Secured boilers #7 and #8. 0435 Changed speed to 5 knots (50 RPM). 0445 Changed course to 255°(T). 0446 Changed speed to 3 knots (30 RPM). 0530 Steaming on various courses at various speeds standing into anchorage in Gulf of Palermb. Ship went to General Quarters. 0556 Set material condition "BAKER" plus. 0557 Anchored in Gulf of Palermo, Palermo, SICILY in 20 fathoms of water with 60 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor on the following bearings: BREAK - WATER LIGHT 308°(T), ARCH 216°(T), SIGNAL TOWER 244°(T). 0600 Secured boilers #1,2,3,4. 0601 Secured from General Quarters; set condition III Air. 0620 U.S.S. BOISE anchored. 0622 U.S.S. GUYANDOT stood in. 0717 U.S.S. NIBLACK and U.S.S. NICHOLSON standing in.

E.W. Bryant
E.W. BRYANT

Lieut., U.S.N.R.

8 to 12:

As before. Position: Lat: 38°-07'-18" N, Long: 13°-23'-12" E. 0920 S.S. ARGON stood in. 1030 Tanker S.S. ARGON came alongside to port. 1046 U.S.S. TRIPPE and U.S.S. RHIND stood in. 1134 Commenced receiving fuel from fore and aft lines from S.S. ARGON.

R.L. Caton
R.L. CATON

Lieut., U.S.N.R.

12 to 16:

As before. Position: Lat: 38°-07'-18" N, Long: 13°-23'-12" E. 1340 U.S.S. ROWAN stood in. 1510 Completed fueling; received 175,140 gallons fuel oil at 60° F. 1540 S.S. ARGON clear of side.

H.K. Lockwood
H.K. LOCKWOOD

Lieut., U.S.N.R.

16 to 18:

As before. 1630 Convoy of LST's standing in. 1715 Convoy of LCI's standing out. 1733 Unidentified aircraft 080°(T) distance 35 miles, later identified as friendly. 1752 YMS 62 came alongside to port.

W.A. Fite
W.A. FITE

Lieut.(jg), U.S.N.

18 to 20:

As before. 1800 YMS 62 cast off..1825 U.S.S. KNIGHT underway, standing into inner harbor. 1829 LCT 219 standing out. 1830 H.M.S. COLOMBO underway, standing out. 1901 U.S.S. BRISTOL underway, standing into inner harbor. 1918 Lighted fires under boilers #3 and #4. 1923 Cut in boilers #3 and #4. 1932 Underway on various courses and at various speeds by verbal orders to stand into inner harbor.

Approved:

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

Examined:

C.G. Geesen
C.G. GESEN,
Comdr., DEV-G, U.S.N.R.
Navigator.

U. S. N., Navigator.