

ADDITIONAL SHEET

U.S.S. PHILADELPHIA (CL41) Monday

Date Sept. 13, 1943.

0 to 4:

As before. Operating out of Salerno Bay, ITALY in company with U.S.S. BOISE, U.S.S. PLUNKETT, and U.S.S. MAYO. 0030 Sighted convoy of LST's bearing 200°(T), range 6000 yards. 0050 Ceased zig-zagging. 0100 Changed course to 335°(T). 0105 Commenced zig-zag plan #11, base course 335°(T), speed 15 knots. 0230 Again sighted convoy bearing 355°(T), range 6000 yards. NOTE: Numerous Radar contacts made on friendly planes.

W.A. FITE
W.A. FITE

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

4 to 8:

As before. 0445 JL lookout reported A.A. fire bearing 345°(R). This may have been rockets or signal lights as a minute later a large explosion was seen and the Hospital Ship "NEWFOUNDLAND" (British) was seen to be burning. At this time it was not known which ship had been burning, or manner of attack. Vessel was about 17 miles away. Later learned name and that ship had been bombed. 0530 Sounded regular General Quarters. 0603 Adjusted base course to 030°(T). 0614 Observed what appeared to be red rockets in vicinity of a fire on the horizon bearing 280°(T), distance 17 miles. Screening destroyer U.S.S. PLUNKETT sent to join U.S.S. MAYO for investigation. 0620 Secured from material condition "ABLE" set "BAKER" plus. 0625 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course. 0627 Changed course to 060°(T). 0636 Secured from General Quarters; set condition II on the A.A. battery and lookout stations, condition III on all other stations. 0640 Commenced maneuvering on various courses and speeds to enter swept area leading to operation area off Salerno, ITALY. 0702 Commenced maneuvering on various courses and speeds so as to remain in Fire Support area of operation area. 0745 Fired upon what appeared to be a floating mine with automatic rifle, object later identified as a floating smoke pot.

B.A. Head
B.S. HEAD

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

8 to 12:

As before. 0800 Position: Lat: 40°-24'-00" N, Long: 14°-56'-00" E. 0800 Changed speed to 15 knots. 0801 Changed course to 095°(T). 0803 Stopped both engines; steering various courses to close U.S.S. BISCAYNE. 0835 Changed speed to 5 knots, changed course to 230°(T). 0838 Changed speed to 10 knots. 0840 Steering various courses and speeds. 1010 Six unidentified planes 170 (T), 32 miles approaching from southeast; "YELLOW" alert set in area. 1013 Radar plot reported group of planes at 330°(T). Saw 2 C-47s over landing field. 1015 Aircraft identified, condition "WHITE" set in area. 1026 Both engines stopped; prepared to receive LST 335 alongside port. 1031 Condition "YELLOW" set in area; unidentified aircraft bearing 215°(T), 35 miles. 1036 Unidentified aircraft approaching from Northwest; "RED" alert set in area; sounded General Quarters; set material condition "ABLE". 1038 Unidentified aircraft bearing 330°(T), 11 miles. 1042 Four unidentified aircraft to the East, 24 miles. 1043 One enemy aircraft bearing 230°(R). 1049 Bomb splash about 5,000 yards off port quarter, very close to transports. Opened fire to starboard with 5", 40MM and 20MM on 4 planes believed to be FW-190s which had come in from the sun and over the land. Ahead 20 knots, steering on various courses and at various speeds in evasive maneuvers. Numerous bursts were noted to go off very near to the planes which were maneuvering radically. Only one bomb was seen to be dropped. 1053 Unidentified aircraft to the northwest, 5 miles. 1054 Changed speed to 10 knots; maneuvering back to the center of the Fire Support Area. 1055 Radar plot reported unidentified aircraft 000°(T), 5 miles. 1058 Control sees 4 planes bearing 220°(R); 25 right rudder. 1100 Bomb landed ashore bearing 190°(R); 3 AA bursts were fired at planes from ashore. 1102 Unidentified planes to the east, 5 miles. 1125 Two unidentified planes bearing southward, 35 miles. 1127 Condition "WHITE" set in area, secured from material condition "ABLE" set "BAKER" plus. 1129 Radar plot reported unidentified planes 190°(T), 14 miles with friendly signals in front and back of unidentified planes. 1132 Changed speed to 15 knots; changed course to 350°(T). 1133 Two unidentified aircraft reported to southward, 12 miles

Approved:

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

Examined:

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

U. S. N., Navigator.