

Serial 0014.

SECRET

Subject: War Diary for the month of May 1944.

1305 Changed course to right to 270°T. 1307 Ceased firing. Expended 51 rounds. Area well covered. 1311 Commenced firing on Town of ITRI at coordinates 60812-98897. 1316 Established communications with Cub. 1317 Changed course to right to 080°T. 1317 Lost communication with Fizzing. Ceased firing having expended 11 rounds; results not observed. 1333 Changed course to right to 270°T. Received report that Cub plane would be delayed. 1357 Commenced firing on dump at coordinates 609-007. Two rounds expended as target was inactive and Cub requested fire on a very active target nearby. 1402 Commenced firing at DP battery near coordinates 609-007 which was firing into our lines. 1403 Changed course to left to 080°T. 1431 Changed course to right to 270°T. Ceased firing having expended 73 rounds; target neutralized. 1436 Cub requested fire at coordinates 608-919 where 6 medium guns were firing into our lines. 1438 Commenced firing at coordinates 608919. 1451 Ceased firing having expended 58 rounds; one gun reported hit, all targets neutralized. Cub had to leave area, visibility reported as poor. 1458 Changed course to 180°T, changed speed to 15 knots. 1510 Left firing area. 1616 Released U.S.S. KENDRICK for patrol duty off GAETA. Proceeded with U.S.S. LAUB as escort to anchorage off POZZUOLI. 1823 Anchored off POZZUOLI. 2249 Received word that large group of hostile aircraft were 65 miles off headed toward NAPLES. 2252 "Red" NAPLES. Sounded General Quarters. Commenced making preparations for getting underway. 2328 "White" NAPLES. Secured from General Quarters.

18 May

(a) BAY OF NAPLES still reported to be unsafe and closed to shipping. Remained in anchorage at POZZUOLI. At 2217 "Yellow" NAPLES; "White" NAPLES at 2220.

19 May

(a) NAPLES BAY was opened for shipping and at 0752 this vessel anchored in regularly assigned berth off FORT DELL'OVO.

(b) Held fire drill.

(c) At 1801 went on short notice for bombardment of GAETA in accordance with orders of CTF 86.

20 May

(a) At 2050 in accordance with orders of local shore authorities commenced preparations against limpet attack. 2235 underway and anchored in GULF OF POZZUOLI as a precautionary measure against limpets. At 2355 secured from material