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**U. S. S. PHILADELPHIA**  
c/o Fleet Post Office  
New York, New York

10 October 1944.

S-E-C-R-E-T

From: The Commanding Officer.  
To : The Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet.  
Subject: War Diary for Month of September, 1944.

1.

(a) During the month of September the PHILADELPHIA operated as a part of Task Force EIGHTY-SIX in post-assault operations along the southern coast of France, basing normally in the Gulf of ST. TROPEZ.

(b) The operations consisted principally of lending support to the Allied Right flank in the vicinity of the Franco-Italian border. Regular plane patrol of the coast of Italy was carried on by SOC planes flying from the PHILADELPHIA and the U.S.S. BROOKLYN. The patrol covered an area from Cape DELLE MELE, Italy, west to the Gulf of ST. TROPEZ. Forty-one (41) flights were flown from the PHILADELPHIA during the month for the purpose of spotting for gunfire support ships, usually destroyers, off the enemy-held coast, and for reconnaissance. The flights proved of real value to the task force in uncovering movements of enemy ground forces and shipping, in assisting in the destruction of enemy human torpedoes, MAS boats and explo-

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