

10 October 1944.

S-E-C-R-E-T

Subject: War Diary for Month of September, 1944.

sive boats, and in spotting gunfire on enemy coastal batteries and installations. Enemy drifting mines were also frequently found and reported by the planes.

2. 1 and 2 September.

(a) The PHILADELPHIA was anchored in berth U-3 in the Gulf of ST. TROPEZ, France. Ships present included U.S.S. AUGUSTA, U.S.S. CATOCTIN, and various units of the U. S., British, and French Fleets; Commander Western Naval Task Force, Vice Admiral H. K. Hewitt, U. S. Navy, in U.S.S. CATOCTIN; Commander Task Force 86, Rear Admiral L. A. Davidson, U. S. Navy, in PHILADELPHIA.

3. 3 September.

(a) The ship got underway at 0345 because of dragging anchor in a fifty-seven (57) knot mistral breeze from northwest; stood to seaward, and at 0500, screened by the U.S.S. LUDLOW and U.S.S. H. P. JONES, toward Cape FERRAT, France to support the advance of the First Airborne Task Force which was at that time working east toward the French-Italian border from NICE. The ship arrived in the fire support area at 0740 and steamed on east and west courses at slow speeds between six and eight thousand (6-8000) yards off shore waiting for a call for fire support. Fire was opened at 1341 at maximum range and was given a correction of up one thousand (1000) yards. A total of sixteen (16)