

(Continued)

UNITED STATES SHIP U.S.S. PHILADELPHIA (CL41) Saturday 10 July, 1943.  
 (Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description \_\_\_\_\_

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

12 to 16:

observed resulting in the crashing of our plane. Plane fell 100 yards off shore and sank immediately. 1327 Enemy planes (believed to be ME109's) which shot down SOC (8-CS-1) piloted by Lieut. Comdr. R.D. Stephenson, were observed attacking SOC (8-CS-4) piloted by Lieut. (jg) Paul E. Coughlin. 1330 Opened fire with 5" A.A. battery on two enemy planes and succeeded in driving them away from plane flown by Lieut. (jg) Coughlin. 1335 Resumed patrol of transport area on various courses and speeds. 1354 Recovered plane 8-CS-4. NOTE: Lieutenant (jg) Paul E. Coughlin, AV-N, USNR, pilot of plane 8-CS-4, reported that he had dropped two (2) 100 lb. bombs, which failed to explode, on enemy forces which were working on a military position identified as this vessel's prearranged target No. 24. He also reported that as a result of these bombing attacks and together with repeated machine attacks from his plane, he was able to bring out into the open over one hundred (100) enemy troops. These troops offered no resistance and did not fire a shot at his plane. They were forced to head toward the beach in the general vicinity of Point della Camarina where Allied troops were stationed. After having turned over this group to our own forces, Lieut. (jg) Coughlin returned to the general vicinity of target No. 24 and commenced strafing the hedges with machine gun fire and managed to bring out into the open approximately thirty (30) stragglers. As this group reached the top of the hill, Lieut. (jg) Coughlin's plane was attacked by two ME-109's, who were closing on his tail. The SOC was immediately put into a steep dive headed toward this vessel. This vessel's heavy and excellent 5-inch firing apparently saved Lieut. (jg) Coughlin's plane from certain loss as the ME-109's were forced to turn away from the attack. After the ME-109's disappeared, Lieut. (jg) Coughlin went back to find the prisoners gone but a few shots and strafing of the buildings and general vicinity soon rounded most of them up again. Half of the group reached the beach and the wounded were being carried and helped by the others who were well within firing range of our troops when Lieut. (jg) Coughlin was ordered to return to the ship. Lieut. (jg) Coughlin estimated that the total number of prisoners rounded up amounted to one hundred and fifty (150). 1539 Observed bombs dropped by high altitude bombers bearing 000°(T), about four (4) miles.

*G. T. Rickett*  
G. T. RICKETT  
Lieut., U.S.N.R.

16 to 18:

As before.

*H. K. Lockwood*  
H. K. LOCKWOOD  
Lieut., U.S.N.R.

18 to 20:

As before.

*R. L. Caton*  
R. L. CATON  
Lieut., U.S.N.R.

20 to 24:

Steaming as before. 2024 Exercised at routine General Quarters; set Material Condition "ABLE". 2134 Secured from General Quarters, set Condition of readiness "II" on the anti-aircraft batteries, and Condition "III" for the rest of the ship. Set Material Condition "ABLE (modified)". The following ammunition

Approved: *P. J. Hendeen*

P. J. HENDEEN

Examined: *C. G. Geesen*

C. G. GEESSEN