# USS Saginaw Bay CVE 82 – Ships Movement History

## January 1944

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Nov 1943 (Monday)</td>
<td>Keel Laid, Hull#1119</td>
<td>Kaiser Shipbuilding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Vancouver, Washington</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 January 1944</td>
<td>Ship launched</td>
<td>Kaiser Shipbuilding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Vancouver, Washington</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 March 1944 (Thursday)</td>
<td>Delivered to US Navy And Commissioned</td>
<td>Astoria, Oregon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Capt. Frank C. Sutton in Command</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 March - 15 April 1944</td>
<td>Shakedown Cruise</td>
<td>off of San Diego</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Squadron (Aircraft)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March - October 1944</td>
<td>VC-78 (16 FM and 12 TBM)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15 April 1944 (Wednesday)</td>
<td>Load pilots &amp; planes</td>
<td>Transport to Hawaii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Terminal Island (San Pedro CA)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 April 1944 (Friday)</td>
<td>Arrive Pearl Harbor</td>
<td>Exchange cargo for damaged planes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Late April 1944</td>
<td>Ship returns to Alameda CA</td>
<td>Off load damaged planes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May- early June</td>
<td>Pilot qualifications off San Diego</td>
<td>Squadron VC-78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 June 1944 (Sunday)</td>
<td>Pilot “Marks” crashed an FM-2</td>
<td>off Coast of San Diego</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Death at Sea – VC-78/VC-88</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 July 1944 (Wednesday)</td>
<td>Return to Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.</td>
<td>Ship Completes 2nd Ferry Mission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 July 1944 (Sunday)</td>
<td>Depart Pearl Harbor</td>
<td>Proceed to Eniwetok and Majuro atolls transporting aircraft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 August 1944 (Sunday)</td>
<td>Left San Diego (Naval Air Station North Island is the official birthplace of Naval Aviation</td>
<td>Deploy on CVE-82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 August (Wednesday)</td>
<td>Crossed Equator</td>
<td>172°-30 West</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
August 1944

joined the expeditionary force
forming in the Solomon Islands
As “Flagship” of the escort carrier
Task force

1 September 1944
(Friday)

Pilot “Nugent” crashes on
takeoff into the sea. He is OK.
at sea near Guadalcanal (Tulagi)

15 September 1944
(Friday)

Provide air cover for the amphibious
Landings at Peleliu and Anguar.
Invasion of the Palaus
Part of “Operation Forager”

20 September 1944
(Wednesday)

Plane 13 – Pilot “Lungford”
Crashed into the sea off Palau
Invasion of the Palaus
Part of “Operation Forager”

9 October 1944 (Monday)

Liberty
Pityilu Island, Admiralty’s

14 October 1944 (Saturday)

Left Pityilu Island
Steam to Seeadler Harbor, Manus

14 October 1944 (Saturday)

Steamed for Seeadler Harbor,
Manus, where Saginaw Bay
became flagship of a task
force “Taffy” which sailed on 14 October
to begin the liberation of the
Philippine Islands with landings
at Leyte.

20 October 1944 (Friday)

Arrived on station Leyte Gulf
Leyte Gulf invasion “A day” starts
At sea south and east of Philippines

24 October 1944 (Tuesday)

The Japanese Fleet closed, and
On 24 October 1944, she was
To transfer her aircraft to other
Carriers and proceed to Morotai
for replacements. Thus, she missed
The Battle for Leyte Gulf
On station awaiting invasion to start
24 October 1944 (Tuesday) 1 light aircraft carrier, 2 escort carriers, 2 destroyers, 1 destroyer escort sunk  

Battle of Leyte Gulf - Sibuyan Sea  
Battle of Leyte Gulf - Surigao Strait  
Battle of Leyte Gulf - Cape Engaño  
Battle of Leyte Gulf - Samar  

Leyte Gulf  

26-28 Oct 1944 (Saturday) loaded new planes and rejoined Her task unit on station and trained new pilots.  

28 October 1944 (Saturday) Pilot “Hyde” shot down a Japanese Plane (a “Tony”)  

The Kawasaki Ki-61 Hien, “flying swallow” was a Japanese World War II fighter aircraft used by the Imperial Japanese Army Air Force.  

At Samar  

28 October 1944 (Saturday) Pilot “Morley” shot down a Japanese Plane (a “Tony”)  

The Kawasaki Ki-61 Hien, “flying swallow” was a Japanese World War II fighter aircraft used by the Imperial Japanese Army Air Force.  

At Samar  

28 October 1944 (Saturday) Later that day, Commander Hyde, the skipper, was killed in a crash in the sea, he had 350 hours flying time and 8 years’ service  

off Leyte at sea  

28 October (Saturday) Retired from the Battle of Leyte Gulf to Seeadler Harbor Manus Island  

heading to Dry dock for repair, Manus  

3 November 1944 (Friday) Japanese Attack – while CVE 82 was at anchor in Seeadler Harbor  

The Admiralty’s  

10 November 1944 (Friday) Saginaw Bay was anchored in Seeadler Harbor when the ammunition ship Mount Hood (AE-29) was literally blown to pieces by an internal explosion. Saginaw Bay suffered minor damage to her exterior from the force of the blast and helped to care for men of various ships in the fleet base area who had been struck by debris from the disintegrated ship.  

waiting for dry dock
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20 November 1944</td>
<td>Japanese Attack – while CVE 82 was at anchor in Seeadler Harbor</td>
<td>The Admiralty’s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Monday)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 November 1944</td>
<td>departed “Admiralty” in route to Palau</td>
<td>The Admiralty’s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Monday)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 November 1944</td>
<td>Trip to Palau for a 2 hour layover</td>
<td>Palau</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Thursday)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 December 1944</td>
<td>Return to Seeadler Harbor waiting to enter floating dry-dock for repairs</td>
<td>Seeadler Harbor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Sunday)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 December 1944</td>
<td>Entered dry-dock for repairs</td>
<td>Seeadler Harbor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Monday)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 December 1944</td>
<td>Left dry-dock</td>
<td>Seeadler Harbor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Thursday)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 December 1944</td>
<td>traveled south and east in a large circle in order to participate in training for amphibious landing support missions in preparation for operations in Lingayen Gulf</td>
<td>“Bismarck Sea” area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Thursday)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 December 1944</td>
<td>concluded training mission and returned to “Admiralty”</td>
<td>arrived back at Seeadler Harbor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Thursday)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 December 1944</td>
<td><strong>Christmas Day</strong></td>
<td>Seeadler Harbor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Monday)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 December 1944</td>
<td>Liberty on Pityulu</td>
<td>Pityulu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Tuesday)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**January 1945**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Squadron (Aircraft)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January - March</td>
<td>VC-78 (20 FM and 12 TBM)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2 January 1945 (Tuesday)  
Departed Manus heading for Lingayen Gulf  
At Sea

9 January 1945 (Tuesday)  
“A day” at Lingayen Gulf  
(Attack)  
Lingayen Gulf

10 January 1945 (Wednesday)  
Attacked by 2 Japanese planes who “laid eggs”  
Dropped bombs that apparently missed  
Lingayen Gulf

2 January thru 21 January 1945  
**Saginaw Bay the actual invasion at Lingayen Gulf**

12 January 1945 (Friday)  
Pilots “Weide” VC-78 and “Miller” VC-78 shot down a The **Nakajima Ki-43 Hayabusa**, "Peregrine Falcon") was a single-engine land-based tactical fighter used by the **Imperial Japanese Army Air Force** in World War II. The Army designation was **“Army Type 1 Fighter”**; the Allied reporting name was "**Oscar**", but it was often called the "Army Zero" by American pilots for its side-view resemblance to the **Mitsubishi A6M Zero** that was flown by the Japanese Navy.

14 January 1945 (Sunday)  
“Tin fish” just missed the Saginaw Bay – Torpedo attack  
No damage  
Lingayen Gulf
16 January 1945 (Tuesday)  
Photo of Saginaw Bay in rough seas  
South China Seas

23 January 1945 (Tuesday)  
Remained until 10 February 1945 (Saturday)  
Participated in rehearsal of the Iwo Jima assault;  
covered the invasion force en route, provided support to the landings.

23 January 1945 (Tuesday)  
Remained until 10 February 1945 (Saturday)  
Participated in rehearsal of the Iwo Jima assault;  
covered the invasion force en route, provided support to the landings.

10 February 1945 (Saturday)  
Left Ulithi with VC-88  
At sea

11 February 1945 (Sunday)  
Passed by Guam  
At sea

12 February 1945 (Monday)  
Arrived Saipan  
At Saipan

16 February 1945 (Friday)  
Departed Saipan  
At sea

19 February 1945 (Monday)  
D-day on Iwo Jima  
Part of ‘Operation Detachment’  
Provided support to the landings on 19 February  
Supported operations on that bitterly contested island until 11 March 1945 (Sunday)

21 February 1945 (Wednesday)  
CVE-95 USS Bismarck Sea was sunk by two kamikazes  
On station and in battle

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Squadron (Aircraft)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March - May 1945</td>
<td>VC-88 (20 FM and 12 TBM)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11 March 1945 (Sunday)  
steamed to Ulithi  
At sea

14 March 1945 (Wednesday)  
Arrived Ulithi to prepare for the pre-invasion of Okinawa  
Arrive Ulithi
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15 March 1945</td>
<td>Captain Robert Goldthwaite takes command</td>
<td>Ulithi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 March 1945</td>
<td>Departed Ulithi for Okinawa</td>
<td>At sea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 March 1945</td>
<td>Arrived Okinawa</td>
<td>On Station – Kerama Islands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 March 1945</td>
<td>Saginaw Bay participated in the pre-invasion strikes against Okinawa which began on 25 March 1945, and continued her support through the invasion on 1 April 1945 and then supported American forces ashore until she was ordered to the United States On 29 April 1945 (Sunday).</td>
<td>On Station- Kerama Islands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 April 1945</td>
<td>D Day –the invasion was named “Operation Iceberg”</td>
<td>Okinawa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 April 1945</td>
<td>D-day at Kerama Retto. Pilot &quot;Mance&quot; VC-88 was killed</td>
<td>Kerama Retto Harbor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 April 1945</td>
<td>Antiaircraft guns of Saginaw Bay Downed a Japanese plane</td>
<td>Kerama Retto Harbor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Type unknown</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 April 1945</td>
<td>Pilot “Simms” (VC-88) got two Planes. 1- ‘Betty’ a land based twin engine bomber (Mitsubishi G4M Type 1) and 1- ‘Frances’ Navy bomber (Yokosuka P1Y Ginga)</td>
<td>On Station – Kerama Islands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 April 1945</td>
<td>Pilot “Fortner” (VC-88) got one Plane. 1- ‘Dinah’ The Mitsubishi Ki-46 a land based twin engine high altitude, long range reconnaissance aircraft. Its Army Shiki designation was Type 100 Command Reconnaissance; the Allied nickname was &quot;Dinah&quot;.</td>
<td>On Station – Kerama Islands</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2 April 1945 (Monday) Pilot “Harris” (VC-88) got one Plane. 1-'Nick' The Kawasaki Ki-45 Toryu, "Dragon Slayer") was a two-seat, twin-engine fighter used by the Imperial Japanese Army in World War II. The army gave it the designation "Type 2 Two-Seat Fighter"; the Allied reporting name was "Nick".

6 April 1945 (Friday) Pilot “Simms” (VC-88) got two “Vals”. The Aichi D3A, (Allied reporting name "Val") was a World War II carrier-borne dive bomber of the Imperial Japanese Navy (IJN). It participated in almost all actions, including the attack on Pearl Harbor. The Aichi D3A was the first Japanese aircraft to bomb American targets in World War II. During the course of the Second World War, the Val dive bomber sank more Allied warships than any other Axis aircraft, despite being considered somewhat obsolete when the war started.

6 April 1945 (Friday) Pilot “Fortner” (VC-88) got one Plane. 1-“Zeke” The Mitsubishi A6M Zero was a long-range fighter aircraft and operated by the Imperial Japanese Navy from 1940 to 1945. The A6M was designated as the Mitsubishi Navy Type 0 Carrier Fighter, and also designated as the Mitsubishi A6M Rei-sen and Mitsubishi Navy 12-shi Carrier Fighter. The A6M was usually referred to by its pilots as the "Reisen" (zero fighter), "0" being the last digit of the Imperial year 2600 (1940) when it entered service with the Imperial Navy. The official Allied reporting name was "Zeke", although the use of the name "Zero" was later commonly adopted by the Allies as well.
7 April 1945 (Saturday) Pilot “Hitt” (VC-88) got one Plane. 1-“Val” The Aichi D3A, 
(Allied reporting name "Val") was a World War II carrier-borne dive bomber 
of the Imperial Japanese Navy (IJN).

12 April 1945 (Thursday) Pilots “Peck’ and “Triplett” (VC-88) got 3 planes  
1-“Sara” unable to identify  
1-“Betty” a land based twin engine bomber (Mitsubishi G4M Type 1) 
1-“Nick” The Kawasaki Ki-45 Toryu, "Dragon Slayer") was a two-seat, twin-engine fighter used by the Imperial Japanese Army in World War II. The army gave it the designation "Type 2 Two-Seat Fighter"; the Allied reporting name was "Nick".

20 April 1945 (Friday) Back at Kerama Retto Harbor Kerama Retto

28 April 1945 (Saturday) Departed port - Kerama Kerama Retto

29 April 1945 (Sunday) Ordered to return to the United States and Steamed to Guam Set Sail for home

3-4-5 May 1945 (Thursday-Saturday) Stopped at Guam Guam

10 May 1945 (Thursday) Crossed International Dateline En route to Hawaii At Sea

14-15 May 1945 (Monday-Tuesday) At Pearl Harbor Hawaii

22 May 1945 (Tuesday) Arrived San Francisco for repairs San Francisco California
August 1945  Departed San Diego CA  Returned to Guam transporting aircraft  
Ferrying Aircraft

20 August 1945 (Monday)  Arrived in San Diego CA  San Diego California

End of August 1945  Back in the Hawaiian Islands  At Sea training exercises
And engaged in training operations
Until she reported for Operation  "Magic Carpet" duty, the return
Of combat veterans from the Pacific.

14 September 1945 (Friday)  Departed Hawaii and called at  "Operation Magic Carpet"
Guian Roadstead, Samar,  "Operation Magic Carpet"
and San Pedro Bay, Leyte, in the  Voyages to Buckner Bay, Okinawa
Philippines to embark veterans for return to San Francisco.
and back to San Francisco, CA.

January 1946

1 February 1946  Departed San Francisco for the  "Operation Magic Carpet"
Eastern seaboard

23 February 1946  Entered the Boston Naval Shipyards  "Operation Magic Carpet"
For inactivation

19 June 1946  Saginaw Bay CVE-82 was  "Operation Magic Carpet"
decommissioned and was assigned  "Operation Magic Carpet"
to the Boston Group of the U.S.
Atlantic Reserve Fleet.
1955

12 June 1955 Saginaw Bay was reclassified CVEH-82 but was never converted.

1959

1 March 1959 Saginaw Bay was struck from the Navy list

27 November 1959 Sold to Louis Simons and scrapped at Rotterdam, the Netherlands in April 1960

Note:

In July 1944 Henderson was promoted to Rear Admiral and took command of Carrier Division 28 with his flag in the escort carrier Saginaw Bay (CVE-82). Here he directed his ships and squadrons in vigorous aerial offensives against heavily defended enemy bases. Between September 1944 and early 1945 he successively participated in the Invasion of Palau, Battle of Leyte Gulf, and Invasion of Lingayen Gulf, planning and executing full air coverage of approaching and retiring convoys under extremely hazardous conditions, despite repeated attacks by hostile aircraft. At Leyte Gulf his forces departed the area at 1645 on October 24 and thus did not participate in the Battle off Samar.

In February 1945 he took command of Carrier Division 25 with his flag in Saginaw Bay for the Invasion of Iwo Jima.