



FILE NUMBER:

336250

HOLD FOR RELEASE  
UNTIL 10 A.M. (EWT)  
AUGUST 18, 1945

BATTERED USS SANGAMON SHAKES OFF  
KANIKAZE HIT

(NUMBER ONE OF FIVE-PICTURE SERIES)

A star witness to the rugged construction of Navy escort carriers, and the indomitable courage of those who man them, the USS SANGAMON survived the harrowing effects of a hit by a Jap Kamikaze plane off Kerama Retto in the Ryukyus on May 4, 1945, and is now undergoing repairs. This series of unforgettable photographs depict action during the attack in which the ship was hit, and portrays the extensive damage suffered by the carrier.

The SANGAMON is being repaired at Portsmouth, Va.

1. ATTACK THAT MISSED--Tracer bullets etch streaks amidst the battle smoke as gunners aboard the SANGAMON stick by their posts to riddle this oncoming Jap plane--seemingly a certainty to smash into the ship. However, it missed by a hair's breadth and crashed into the Pacific near the flattop. Not long after another suicide plane succeeded in crashing on the flight deck of the SANGAMON, inflicting widespread damage and killing 35 men.

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FILE NUMBER: 700,580

HOLD FOR RELEASE  
UNTIL 10 A.M. (EWT)  
AUGUST 18, 1945

USS SANGAMON SHAKES OFF KAMIKAZE HIT

(NUMBER TWO OF FIVE-PICTURE SERIES)

A star witness to the sturdy construction of Navy warships, and the indomitable courage of those who man them, the Navy escort carrier USS SANGAMON is now back at Portsmouth, Va., after shaking off the harrowing effect of a Jap Kamikaze hit in the Ryukyus on May 4, 1945. This dramatic series of photographs depicts battle action during the melee in which the ship was hit, and portrays the extent of the damage suffered by the carrier.

2. HOT BREATH OF DISASTER--Knocked down by anti-aircraft fire just as it seemed a dead certainty to crash into its target, the escort carrier USS SANGAMON, this Jap plane plummets down past the catwalk on the starboard quarter of the ship. Shortly after this narrow escape from disaster, the SANGAMON reeled from the shock of a successful Kamikaze attack, the suicide plane exploding in the center of its flight deck.

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18 Aug. 1945  
FILE NUMBER: 700581

HOLD FOR RELEASE  
UNTIL 10 A.M. (EWT)  
AUGUST 18, 1945

USS SANGAMON SHAKES OFF KAMIKAZE HIT

(NUMBER THREE OF FIVE-PICTURE SERIES)

A star witness to the sturdy construction of Navy warships, and the indomitable courage of those who man them, the escort carrier USS SANGAMON is now undergoing repairs at Portsmouth, Va., after surviving the harrowing effects of a Jap Kamikaze attack in the Ryukyus on May 4, 1945. This dramatic series of photographs depicts scenes during the action in which the ship was hit and portrays the extent of the damage.

3. CHAOS ON A CARRIER--This view looking forward on the carrier USS SANGAMON indicates the tremendous amount of damage inflicted by the Jap Kamikaze plane which smashed into the carrier on May 4, 1945. In the foreground is the twisted debris which once was the aft flight deck elevator. In the right center is the gutted skeleton of a plane, while along the charred and littered length of the flight deck the remains of other planes can be seen.

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*Handwritten notes in red ink:*  
700581  
18 Aug 1945  
USS SANGAMON



FILE NUMBER: 336257

HOLD FOR RELEASE  
UNTIL 10 A.M. (EWT)  
AUGUST 18, 1945

USS SANGAMON SHAKES OFF KAMIKAZE HIT

(NUMBER FOUR OF FIVE-PICTURE SERIES)

A star witness to the sturdy construction of Navy warships, and the indomitable courage of those who man them, the escort carrier USS SANGAMON is now undergoing repairs at Portsmouth, Va., after surviving the harrowing effects of a Jap Kamikaze hit in the Ryukyus on May 4, 1945. This dramatic series of photographs depicts scenes during the action in which the ship was hit, and portrays the extent of the damage suffered.

4. NIGHTMARE BY DAY—Officers and crewmen of the USS SANGAMON survey the havoc wreaked by a Jap Kamikaze plane which smashed into the flight deck of their ship. Gaping holes, charred wreckage and water-soaked and heat-twisted installations greet their eyes on the 'morning after' the disaster. The fires set by the explosion raged for hours.

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HOLD FOR RELEASE  
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AUGUST 18, 1945

USS SANGAMON SHAKES OFF KAMIKAZE HIT

(NUMBER FIVE OF FIVE-PICTURE SERIES)

A star witness to the sturdy construction of Navy warships, and the indomitable courage of those who man them, the escort carrier USS SANGAMON is now undergoing repairs at Portsmouth, Va., after surviving the harrowing effects of a Jap Kamikaze hit in the Ryukyus on May 4, 1945. This dramatic series of photographs depicts scenes during the action in which the ship was hit, and portrays the extent of the damage suffered.

5. AFTERMATH OF INFERNO—Lighted by rays of sunlight pouring through the opening in the 'overhead', this chaotic scene is the hangar deck of the USS SANGAMON the morning after the ship suffered a hit by a Kamikaze plane. The jumbled, fire-blackened and water-soaked wreckage bears testimony to the fury of the flames which raged for hours after the suicide plane struck. Despite the havoc, the gallant ship weathered the 12,000 miles back to Portsmouth, Va., for repairs.

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