

CONFIDENTIAL

Contributed by Frank Gerhardt

U. S. S. CHATHAM (AK-169)

WAR DIARY

CONFIDENTIAL

22 - 28 February 1945

ZONE #5

Commissioned 1000, 22 February 1945 at BROWN SHIPBUILDING COMPANY, INC., Houston, Texas.

In training status under COTCLant, U. S. Atlantic Fleet.

1400, 22 February 1945, underway -- proceeded to Galveston, Texas, to load stores, provisions, and ammunition; conduct readiness for sea period prior to reporting for shakedown trials and ultimate orders to active service.

N. C. Harrison, Jr.

N. C. HARRISON, JR.

Lieutenant Commander, (D), USNR.
Commanding.

109841

CONFIDENTIAL

162
Reg. No. 3479
R. S. No.

133

Reg. No.	1639
R. S. No.	

U. S. S. CHATHAM (AK-169)

WAR DIARY

CONFIDENTIAL

Zone / 5

1 - 6 March 1945

Anchored in BOLIVAR ROADS, GALVESTON, TEXAS, in quarantine in compliance verbal orders of SENIOR MEDICAL OFFICER, U.S. NAVAL FRONTIER BASE, GALVESTON, after discovery of one case of spinal Meningitis aboard. Patient transferred to hospital. Entire ship's company undergoing preventative treatment.

7 - 9 March 1945

Undergoing three days independent operations prior to reporting for shakedown training. Completed stowage of commissioning equipment, took on provisions and supplies. Proceeded to sea for organizational purposes, drills, etc. Test fired all guns.

10 - 15 March 1945

0800, 10 March, reported for duty to CTU 23.8.2, COMMANDER GULF SHAKEDOWN UNIT, U.S. ATLANTIC FLEET. Continued training in accordance with pre-arranged schedule of COTCLant and CGSU until 1600, 15 March at which time ship proceeded to BROWN SHIPBUILDING CORP., HOUSTON, TEXAS, in compliance orders of CGSU.

16 - 19 March 1945

Post-shakedown availability period at BROWN SHIPBUILDING CORP., HOUSTON, TEXAS.

20 March 1945

Departed HOUSTON for GALVESTON, TEXAS, where remaining stores and provisions were taken aboard.

21 - 23 March 1945

0001, 21 March, reported for duty to CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS (DIRECTOR OF NAVAL TRANSPORTATIONS SERVICE). 1200, 21 March, underway for GULFPORT, MISSISSIPPI in accordance orders of PORT DIRECTOR, GALVESTON, TEXAS, Confidential Letter (Movement Order) R-60, to load cargo. Steaming singly without escort. Coastal piloting.

U. S. S. CHATHAM (AK-169)

WAR DIARY (continued).

CONFIDENTIAL

24 - 31 March 1945

Loading cargo at NSD(ABD), GULFPORT, MISSISSIPPI.

Y. C. Harrison, Jr.
C. HARRISON, JR.
Lieutenant Commander, USNR.
Commanding

214

Reg. No. 17268
R. S. No.

U. S. S. CHATHAM (AK-169)
 c/o Fleet Post Office
 San Francisco, California

WAR DIARY

CONFIDENTIAL

Zone / 5

0001, 21 March 1945, reported for duty to CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS, (DIRECTOR OF NAVAL TRANSPORTATION SERVICE).

1 April 1945

Loading cargo at NSD, GULFPORT, MISSISSIPPI.

2 - 7 April 1945

0901, 2 April 1945, underway independently, without escort, for CANAL ZONE, PANAMA, in accordance with Com8 Confidential Movement Order #5-45.

8 - 9 April 1945

Voyage repairs at CRISTOBAL, PANAMA, and transit of canal to BALBOA, PANAMA.

Reported to CINCPAC for duty (CHATHAM Confidential Dispatch 091455 of April 1945).

10 - 30 April 1945

1645, 10 April 1945, underway independently, without escort, for PEARL HARBOR, HAWAIIAN ISLANDS, in accordance with PORT DIRECTOR, BALBOA, Confidential Dispatch 091422 of April 1945.

Zone / 6 at 1900, 13 April 1945.

Zone / 7 at 1900, 16 April 1945.

Zone / 8 at 1900, 21 April 1945.

2049, 21 April 1945, rerouted to SOCORRO ISLAND in accordance with COMWESSEAFRON Confidential Dispatch 220406 of April 1945, to transfer acute appendicitis patient to plane and Doctor arriving from SAN DIEGO, CALIF.

0517, 25 April 1945. Patient transferred to plane off SOCORRO ISLAND. Resumed original routing to PEARL HARBOR, HAWAIIAN ISLANDS

W. C. Harrison, Jr.
 W. C. HARRISON, JR.

U. S. S. CHATHAM (AK-169)

POSITIONS UNDERWAY

Zone / 5

2 April 1945

2000

29-02.7N
88-26.5W

3 April 1945

2000

25-31.5N
86-32.5W

4 April 1945

2000

21-54N
85-13W

5 April 1945

2000

18-50N
82-53W

6 April 1945

2000

15-47N
80-51W

7 April 1945

2000

13-37.5N
80-21W

8 April 1945

8 - 9 April 1945
10 April 1945

11 April 1945

0800
27-24.5N
87.38W

1200
26-47N
87-21W

0800
23-38.5N
85-59.0W

1200
23-02N
85-44W

0800
20-34N
84-11W

1200
19-52.5N
83-39W

0800
17-21N
81-52W

1200
16-52.5N
81-23W

0800
13-48N
80-23W

1200
13-04N
80-25W

PANAMA CANAL ZONE
Piloting - Gulf of Panama

1200

7-01N
81-22W

2000

7-00N
82-36W

U. S. S. CHATHAM (AK-169)

POSITIONS UNDERWAY

Zone / 5			12 April 1945
<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>	
6-38N	6-44N	7-06N	
84-33.5W	85-12W	86-25W	
			13 April 1945
<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>	
7-57N	8-04N	8-27N	
88-02W	88-40W	90-04.5W	
Zone / 6			14 April 1945
<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>	
9-06N	9-19N	9-44.5N	
92-12W	92-53W	94-15W	
			15 April 1945
<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>	
10-23N	10-38N	10-55N	
96-21W	97-04W	98-20W	
			16 April 1945
<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>	
11-27N	11-43N	12-13N	
99-54W	100-31.5W	101-50W	
			17 April 1945
<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>	
12-50N	13-06N	13-32N	
103-53W	104-34W	106-03W	
Zone / 7			18 April 1945
<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>	
14-03N	14-12N	14-32N	
108-04W	108-35W	109-51W	
			19 April 1945
<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>	
15-12N	15-21N	15-44N	
112-06W	112-46W	114-06W	

U. S. S. CHATHAM (AK-169)

POSITIONS UNDERWAY

Zone / 7

20 April 1945

0800
16-07N
116-13.5W

1200
16-19N
116-55W

2000
16-38N
118-24W

21 April 1945

0800
17-10N
120-33W

1200
17-21N
121-03W

2000
17-45N
122-35.5W

2049, Rerouted to SOCORRO ISLAND for transfer of acute appendicitis patient to plane from SAN DIEGO.

Zone / 8

22 April 1945

0800
17-56N
120-53W

1200
17-58N
120-06W

2000
18-02N
118-47W

23 April 1945

0800
18-13N
116-42W

1200
18-20N
115-59W

2000
18-29N
114-40W

24 April 1945

0800
18-36.5N
112-36.5W

1200
18-35N
111-55W

Off SOCORRO ISLAND awaiting arrival of plane at 0500, 25 April 1945

25 April 1945

1200
18-38N
111-58W

2000
18-30N
113-07W

0517 Patient transferred to plane. Resumed original routing to PEARL HARBOR, HAWAIIAN ISLANDS.

26 April 1945

0800
18-33N
115-36W

1200
18-34N
116-20W

2000
18-33N
117-49W

4

U. S. S. CHATHAM (AK-169)

POSITIONS UNDERWAY

Zone / 8

27 April 1945

0800
18-33N
120-02W

1200
18-36.5N
120-4.6W

2000
18-38N
122-11W

28 April 1945

0800
18-41N
124-10W

1200
18-42N
124-52W

2000
18-46N
126-25W

29 April 1945

0800
18-58N
128-38W

1200
18-59.5N
129-17W

2000
19-09.5N
130-54.5W

30 April 1945

0800
19-31N
133-06W

1200
19-31N
133-40W

2000
19-44N
135-04W

149
Reg. No. 3553

R. S. No.

U. S. S. CHATHAM (AK-169)
c/o Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California

WAR DIARY
MAY

CONFIDENTIAL

Zone / 8

Reported to CINCPAC for duty (CHATHAM Conf. Dispatch #091455 of April 1945).

1-5 May 1945

Steaming independently, without escort BALBOA, CANAL ZONE, to PEARL HARBOR, T. H., in accordance with Port Director Conf. Dispatch 091422 of April 1945, as routed. Speed of advance 9.5 knots. Full load cargo aboard from GULFPORT, MISSISSIPPI.

Zone / 9 at 1900, 1 May 1945.
Zone / 9½ at 1900, 5 May 1945.

Zone / 9½

6 May 1945

1027 Moored Berth X-3, PEARL HARBOR, OAHU. Assigned to duty under COMMANDER SERVICE SQUADRON EIGHT; Commodore A. H. GRAY, USN, as one of the Fleet Freight Service vessels.

7 May 1945

1058 Underway for HONOLULU, OAHU, arriving Pier 31A at 1330.

8-11 May 1945

Cargo unloading and loading operations.

12-23 May 1945

1631, 12 May 1945, underway independently, without escort, for ENIWETOK, MARSHALL ISLANDS, in accordance with COMHAWSEAFRON Con. Ltr., serial 0562 of 11 May 1945, as routed. Speed of advance 9.5 knots.

Zone / 10 at 1900, 13 May 1945.
Zone / 11 at 1900, 15 May 1945.
Zone / 12 at 1900, 18 May 1945.

0000, Changed date and time Zone to 20 May 1945, Zone - 12, upon Westward crossing of International Date Line.

125653

U. S. S. CHATHAM (AK-169)
c/o Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California

WAR DIARY
MAY

Zone - 12

23 May 1945

1530 Held 20MM AA practice, expending 960 rounds.

24 May 1945

0851 Anchored in anchorage A, Berth L-5, ENIWETOK, MARSHALL ISLANDS.

25-28 May 1945

0743, 25 May 1945, underway independently, without escort, for SAIPAN ISLAND, MARIANAS, in accordance with Port Director, ENIWETOK Conf. Ltr. dated 24 May 1945, as routed. Speed of advance 9.5 knots.

Zone - 11 at 1900, 26 May 1945.

Zone - 10 at 1900, 28 May 1945.

29 May 1945

0955 Arrived off SAIPAN ISLAND HARBOR, MARIANAS.

1110 Rerouted to TINIAN HARBOR, TINIAN ISLAND, MARIANAS, in accordance with visual dispatch orders of Port Director, SAIPAN.

1549 Anchored in TINIAN HARBOR, TINIAN ISLAND, MARIANAS.

30-31 May 1945

1200, 30 May 1945, unloaded TINIAN cargo; awaiting orders to GUAM.

N. C. HARRISON, JR.

U. S. S. CHATHAM (AK-169)
c/o Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California
POSITIONS UNDERWAY

Zone \neq 8

1 May 1945

0800
20-02N
137-07W

1200
20-07N
137-52W

2000
20-23N
139-33W

Zone \neq 9

2 May 1945

0800
20-36N
141-26W

1200
20-40N
142-09W

2000
20-40N
143-37W

3 May 1945

0800
20-55N
145-30W

1200
20-58N
146-16W

2000
21-07N
147-41W

4 May 1945

0800
21-15N
149-47W

1200
21-17N
150-30W

2000
21-20N
151-59W

5 May 1945

0800
21-21N
153-48W

1200
21-23N
154-34W

2000
21-22N
156-04W

Zone \neq 9.5

PEARL HARBOR -- HONOLULU, OAHU

6-12 May 1945

12 May 1945

2000
20-47N
157-59W

13 May 1945

0800
19-33N
159-10W

1200
19-18N
159-50W

2000
18-54N
161-10W

Zone \neq 10

14 May 1945

0800
18-16N
163-23W

1200
18-20N
163-51W

2000
17-55N
165-09W

U. S. S. CHATHAM (AK-169)

POSITIONS UNDERWAY

Zone / 10		15 May 1945
<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
17-19N	17-11N	16-43N
167-04W	167-44W	169-02W

Zone / 11		16 May 1945
<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
15-56N	15-45N	15-28N
170-54W	171-34W	172-54W

		17 May 1945
<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
15-07N	14-52N	14-21N
174-39W	175-20W	176-38N

		18 May 1945
<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
13-41N	13-25N	12-55N
178-18W	178-58W	179-40E

Zone / 12		20 May 1945
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0000, changed date and time zone to 20 May 1945, Zone - 12 upon westward crossing of International Date Line.

<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
12-09N	11-57N	11-30N
177-46E	177-02E	175-43E

		21 May 1945
<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
10-44N	10-32N	10-12N
173-51W	173-08E	171-50E

		22 May 1945
<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
9-50N	9-40N	10-02N
169-52E	169-07E	167-42E

		23 May 1945
<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
10-30N	10-38N	10-56N
165-44E	165-04E	163-58E

U. S. S. CHATHAM (AK-169)

POSITIONS UNDERWAY

Zone - 12	ENIWETOK, MARSHALL ISLANDS		24 May 1945
			25 May 1945
		<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
		11-16N	11-40N
		162-01E	160-32E
Zone - 11			26 May 1945
		<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
<u>0800</u>		12-16N	12-30N
12-11N		157-42E	156-12E
158-25E			27 May 1945
		<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
<u>0800</u>		13-03N	13-15N
12-56N		153-24E	151-59E
154-06E			28 May 1945
		<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
<u>0800</u>		13-53N	14-17N
13-41N		149-29E	147-51E
150-10E			29-31 May 1945
Zone - 10	TINIAN ISLAND, MARIANAS		

U. S. S. CHATHAM (AK-169)
c/o Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California

WAR DIARY
JUNE

CONFIDENTIAL

Assigned to Fleet Freight Service (5/6/45), SERVICE SQUADRON EIGHT;
Commodore A. H. GRAY, USN.

Zone -10

1-19 June 1945

Anchored in TINIAN HARBOR, TINIAN ISLAND, MARIANAS.

20 June 1945

1740 Underway independently, without escort, for APRA HARBOR, GUAM,
MARIANAS, in accordance with PORT DIRECTOR, TINIAN, Confidential Ltr., ser-
ial 0180 of 20 June 1945, as routed. Speed of advance 9.5 knots.

21 June 1945

0845 Anchored in Berth 501, APRA HARBOR, GUAM, MARIANAS.

22 June 1945

0911 Moored to Dock "T", APRA HARBOR, GUAM, MARIANAS.
0915 Commenced cargo unloading operations.

27 June 1945

2135 Completed cargo discharging operations; all cargo unloaded.

28-30 June 1945

0643 28 June 1945, underway independently, without escort, for SAN
FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA, in accordance with PORT DIRECTOR, Confidential Ltr.,
serial PDG1493 of 27 June 1945, as routed. Speed of advance 9.0 knots.

Zone -11 at 0000, 30 June 1945.

N. C. Harrison, Jr.
N. C. HARRISON, JR.
Lieut. Comdr., USNR.
Commanding.

U. S. S. CHATHAM (AK-169)
c/o Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California

POSITIONS UNDERWAY

Zone -10		28 June 1945
<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
	13-08N	13-07N
	144-55E	146-16E
Zone -10		29 June 1945
<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
12-57N	12-50N	12-35N
148-26E	149-09E	150-36E
Zone -11		30 June 1945
<u>0800</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>2000</u>
12-22N	12-17N	12-08N
152-30E	153-13E	154-44E

U. S. S. CHATHAM (AK-169)
c/o Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California

WAR DIARY
JULY

CONFIDENTIAL

Assigned to Fleet Freight Service (5/6/45), SERVICE SQUADRON EIGHT; Commodore A. H. GRAY, USN.

Zone -11

1-17 July 1945

Steaming independently, without escort, enroute GUAM, MARIANAS, (departed 0643, 28 June 1945) to SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA, in accordance with PORT DIRECTOR CONF. LTR. serial PDG1493 of 27 June 1945, as routed. Speed of advance 9.0 knots.

Zone -12 at 0000, 4 July.

2400, 6 July 1945 Changed date and time zone to 6 July, Zone #12, upon Eastward crossing of International Date Line.

Zone #11 at 0000; 8 July.
Zone #10 at 0000; 11 July.
Zone #9 at 0000; 13 July.
Zone #8 at 0000; 16 July.
Zone #7 at 0000; 18 July.

18 July 1945

1635 Moored at Pier #60, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA, for voyage repairs and availability period.

29 July 1945

0825 Availability work completed; moved out to Anchorage #12, SAN FRANCISCO HARBOR.

30 July 1945

0800 Underway for test run on degaussing range TREASURE ISLAND, and compass calibration.

1136 Proceeding to NAD, MARE ISLAND, CALIFORNIA, to load defective ammunition for disposal at sea.

U. S. S. CHATHAM (AK-169)
c/o Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California

WAR DIARY
JULY

31 July 1945

Loading Ammunition.

N. C. Harrison, Jr.
N. C. HARRISON, JR.
Lieut. Comdr., USNR
Commanding.

U. S. S. CHATHAM (AK-169)
c/o Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California

POSITIONS UNDERWAY

Zone -11

1 July 1945

0800
11-53N
156-53E

1200
11-48N
157-37E

2000
11-40N
159-09E

2 July 1945

0800
11-19N
161-17E

1200
11-11N
162-02E

2000
12-11N
163-09E

3 July 1945

0800
13-32N
164-58E

1200
14-00N
165-31E

2000
14-56N
166-33E

Zone -12

4 July 1945

0800
16-10N
168-06E

1200
16-34N
168-42E

2000
17-17N
169-45E

5 July 1945

0800
18-24N
171-19E

1200
18-51N
171-58E

2000
19-39N
173-07E

6 July 1945

0800
20-50N
114-59E

1200
21-17N
175-34E

2000
22-14N
176-43E

Zone #12

6 July 1945

0800
23-31N
178-33E

1200
23-57N
179-10E

2000
24-49N
179-18W

7 July 1945

0800

1200

2000

U. S. S. CHATHAM (AK-169)
c/o Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California

WAR DIARY
JULY

7 July 1945

0800
26-03N
177-38W

1200
26-25N
176-49W

2000
27-04N
175-18W

Zone #11

8 July 1945

0800
27-51N
173-08W

1200
28-13N
172-20W

2000
28-49N
170-46W

9 July 1945

0800
29-50N
168-24W

1200
30-16N
167-36W

2000
30-57N
166-02W

10 July 1945

0800
31-51N
163-31W

1200
32-12N
162-38W

2000
32-44N
160-51W

Zone #10

11 July 1945

0800
33-31N
158-24W

1200
33-48N
157-30W

2000
34-19N
155-43W

12 July 1945

0800
35-01N
153-01W

1200
35-13N
152-06W

2000
35-28N
150-23W

Zone #9

13 July 1945

0800
36-05N
148-01W

1200
36-16N
147-11W

2000
36-41N
145-23W

14 July 1945

0800

1200

2000

U. S. S. CHATHAM (AK-169)
c/o Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California

WAR DIARY
JULY

14 July 1945

0800
37-07N
142-44W

1200
37-16N
141-51W

2000
37-28N
140-02W

15 July 1945

0800
37-46N
137-19W

1200
37-47N
136-22W

2000
38-02N
134-34W

Zone /8

16 July 1945

0800
38-05N
132-21W

1200
37-55N
131-33W

2000
37-58N
130-03W

17 July 1945

0800
38-04N
129-39W

1200
38-04N
126-48W

2000
38-09N
124-59W

CONFIDENTIAL

U. S. S. CHATHAM (AK-169)
c/o Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California.

From: The Commanding Officer.
To: The Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet.
Subject: WAR DIARY - August 1945; submission of.

Assigned to Fleet Freight Service (5/6/45), SERVICE SQUADRON EIGHT; Commodore A. H. GRAY, USN.

Zone #7 1 August

Moored at NAD, MARE ISLAND, CALIFORNIA. Loading defective ammunition for disposal at sea.
0812 Underway for disposal area.

2 August
1535 Overboard discharge of ammunition in disposal area completed; proceeded to Anchorage in SAN FRANCISCO harbor; Anchorage #12.

3-6 August
1910, 3 August; shifted to Pier #54, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.

7 August
0700, Commenced loading operations; general cargo.

11-12 August
1430, 11 August; completed cargo loading operations.

13 August
0742 Shifted to ammunition loading Anchorage #13, SAN FRANCISCO harbor to load ammunition cargo; completed loading at 1440.

1754 Underway, independently, without escort, for PEARL HARBOR, OAHU, T. H., in accordance with COMWESSEAFRON movement order #637 C&R of 13 August 1945, on courses as routed. Speed of Advance 9.5 knots.

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c/o Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California.

Subject: WAR DIARY - August 1945; submission of.

14-20 August

Steaming as above.

Zone #8 at 1800, 14 August.
Zone #9 at 1800, 16 August.
#9½ at 1800, 20 August.

21 August

1142 Arrived off PEARL HARBOR, OAHU, T. H.; awaiting entry at 1630.

1754 Moored Berth K-8, PEARL HARBOR, OAHU, T. H.

22-27 August

1930, 22 August; commenced cargo discharging operations.
1430, 23 August; completed cargo discharging operations.
1915, 25 August; commenced cargo loading operations.
0135, 27 August; completed cargo loading operations.

1655, 27 August; underway independently, without escort, for ENIWETOK, MARSHALL ISLANDS, in accordance with COMHAWSEAFRON conf. ltr. serial 01337 of 26 August 1945, on courses as routed. Speed of advance 10.0 knots.

27-31 August

Steaming as above.

Zone #10 at 1800, 28 August.
Zone #11 at 1800, 30 August.

J. C. Harrison, Jr.
J. C. HARRISON Jr.
Lieut., Comdr., USNR

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CinCPac (1)
~~ComServPac (1)~~
File (3)
ComServPac (1)

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U. S. S. CHATHAM (AK-169)
c/o Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California.

POSITIONS UNDERWAY

Zone #8

14 August

0800
36-24N
124-37W

1200
36-05N
125-16W

2000
35-24N
127-22W

15 August

0800
34-31N
129-58W

1200
34-10N
130-41W

2000
33-45N
132-31W

Zone #9

16 August

0800
32-44N
134-59W

1200
32-26N
135-45W

2000
31-39N
137-35W

17 August

0800
34-31N
129-58W

1200
34-10N
130-41W

2000
33-45N
132-31W

18 August

0800
28-31N
144-34W

1200
28-06N
145-79W

2000
27-30N
146-36W

19 August

0800
26-23N
148-53W

1200
26-01N
149-36W

2000
25-15N
151-05W

#9½

20 August

0800
24-09N
153-15W

1200
23-45N
153-52W

2000
22-58N
155-20W

21 August

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c/o Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California.

POSITIONS UNDERWAY

21 August

0800
21-42N
157-25W

27 August

2000
20-53N
157-53W

Zone #10

28 August

0800
19-33N
159-20W

1200
19-13N
160-02W

2000
18-49N
161-38W

29 August

0800
18-14N
163-50W

1200
18-01N
164-33W

2000
17-28N
165-51W

Zone #11

30 August

0800
16-46N
168-02W

1200
16-28N
168-45W

2000
15-57N
178-25W

31 August

0800
15-10N
172-38W

1200
14-57N
173-23W

2000
14-27N
174-55W

Page 4.

This WAR DIARY consists of four (4) pages.

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U. S. S. CHATHAM (AK-169)
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San Francisco, California.

From: The Commanding Officer.
To: The Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet.
Subject: WAR DIARY - September 1945; submission of.

Assigned to Fleet Freight Service (5/6/45),

Zone #11 1 - 5 September

Steaming independently, without escort, enroute PEARL HARBOR, OAHU, T. H., (departed PEARL HARBOR 1655, 27 August 1945), to ENIWETOK, MARSHALL ISLANDS, in accordance with ComHawSeaFren conf. ltr. serial 01337 of 26 August 1945, on courses as routed. Speed of advance 10.0 knots.

Zone #12 at 1800, 2 September.

Zone -12 at 2400, 2 September. Changed date to 4 September 1945, upon Westward crossing of International Date Line.

6 September

1904 Anchored in ENIWETOK, MARSHALL ISLANDS.

7 - 17 September

Cargo Discharging Operations.

18 September

1639 Underway independently, without escort, for OKINAWA, NANSEI SHOTO GROUP, in accordance with port director ENIWETOK routing instructions of 17 September 1945; speed of advance 10.5 knots.

19 - 25 September

Steaming as above.

Zone -11 at 1800, 19 September.

Zone -10 at 1800, 22 September.

Zone - 9 at 1800, 25 September.

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Subject: WAR DIARY - September 1945; submission of.

26 September

1505 Anchored in BUCKNER BAY, OKINAWA, NANSEI SHOTO GROUP.

27 September

1400 Commenced cargo discharging operations.

28 - 30 September

1100 Secured cargo discharging operations.

1620, 28 September; Underway in accordance with orders of S.O.P.A., this date; retiring from BUCKNER BAY to sea in formation; steaming on evasive courses opposed to movements of typhoon reported approaching this area. Speed 7.0 knots.

J. C. Harrison, Jr.
D. C. HARRISON, JR.
Lieut., Comdr., USNR

Copy to:

CominCh (2)
CinCPac (1)
ComServPac (1)
File (2)

Page 2.

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POSITIONS UNDERWAY

Zone #11		1 September
0800 13-41N 177-05W	1200 13-25N 177-46W	2000 12-50N 179-12W
Zone #12		2 September
0800 11-59N 178-39E	1200 11-42N 177-57E	2000 10-59N 176-16E
Zone -12		4 September
0800 10-17N 173-58E	1200 10-15N 173-09E	2000 10-05N 171-33E
		5 September
0800 09-39N 169-12E	1200 09-56N 168-23E	2000 10-15N 166-43E
		6 September
0800 10-56N 164-21E	1200 11-02N 163-24E	
Zone -11		19 September
0800 12-55N 160-14E	1200 13-20N 159-35E	2000 14-17N 158-04E
		20 September
0800 15-38N 156-01E	1200 15-59N 155-20E	2000 16-44N 153-56E

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POSITIONS UNDERWAY

21 September

0800
18-01N
151-53E

1200
18-26N
151-11E

2400
19-18N
149-50E

Zone -10

22 September

0800
20-23N
147-43E

1200
20-47N
147-57E

2400
21-39N
145-30E

23 September

0800
22-44N
143-11E

1200
23-01N
142-22E

2400
23-29N
140-46E

24 September

0800
24-10N
138-26E

1200
24-13N
137-38E

2400
24-22N
135-58E

Zone -9

25 September

0800
24-33N
133-35E

1200
24-24N
132-48E

2400
24-39N
131-03E

26 September

0800
25-30N
128-31E

29 September

0800
25-48N
126-28E

1200
25-45N
126-04E

2400
25-41N
125-28E

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POSITIONS UNDERWAY

30 September

0800
26-31N
124-51E

1200
26-33N
125-13E

2000
26-22N
126-06E

Page 5.

This WAR DIARY consists of 5 pages.

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21 NOV 1945

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File No. (incl) A12-1/AK 169

Doc. No. 191587

Copy No. 1 of 2

Reg. No. 18840

From: The Commanding Officer.
 To: The Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet.

Subject: WAR DIARY - October 1945; submission of.

Assigned to Fleet Freight Service (5/6/45).

Zone -9

1 October

Steaming in convoy under SERVICE DIVISION 104, aboard the U.S.S. HAMUL (AD-12)(OTC); retiring from BUCKNER BAY, OKINAWA, NANSEI SHOTO GROUP to sea, steaming evasive courses to avoid movements of typhoon reported approaching this area. Speed 7.0 knots.

1435 Anchored in BUCKNER BAY, OKINAWA, NANSEI SHOTO GROUP.
 1800 Cargo discharging operations. 2-6 October

7 October

1345 Ceased discharging cargo.

1456 Underway in accordance with orders of S.O.P.A., this date; retiring from BUCKNER BAY, OKINAWA, to sea in formation; steaming on evasive courses to avoid movements of typhoon reported approaching this area. Speed 7.0 knots.

7-10 October

1305 Steaming as above.

11 October

1308 Anchored in BUCKNER BAY, OKINAWA, NANSEI SHOTO GROUP.

12-21 October

1030 Continued discharging cargo.

22 October

1605 Completed cargo operations.

149710

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Subject: WAR DIARY - October 1945; submission of.

22 October 1945

1749 Underway independently, without escort, for GUAM, MARIANAS, in accordance with port director OKINAWA, routing instructions of 19 October; speed of advance 10.5 knots.

Zone -11 at 2400, 24 October.

23-26 October 1945

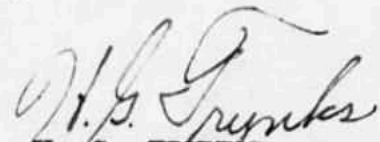
Steaming as above.

27 October 1945

1620 Anchored in AGANA BAY, GUAM, MARIANAS.

28-31 October 1945

Anchored in AGANA BAY, GUAM, MARIANAS.


H. G. TRYNKS
Lt. Comdr, USNR.

cc:
CNO (2)
CinCPac (1)
ComServPac (1)
File (2)

Page 2.

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POSITIONS UNDERWAY

Zone -9

7 October

2000
26-00N
128-29E

8 October

0800
25-55N
129-49E

1200
25-58N
129-42E

2000
25-30N
130-04E

9 October

0800
25-12N
130-27E

1200
25-38N
130-24E

2000
25-23N
130-21E

10 October

0800
25-21N
129-41E

1200
25-35N
129-21E

2000
26-03N
129-00E

22 October

2000
25-57N
128-08E

23 October

0800
24-07N
129-13E

1200
23-30N
129-44E

2000
22-38N
130-59E

Zone -10

24 October

0800
21-27N
132-18E

1200
20-43N
133-06E

2000
19-52N
134-24E

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POSITIONS UNDERWAY

25 October

0800
18-47N
136-12E

1200
18-24N
136-43E

2000
17-37N
137-53E

Zone -10

26 October

0800
16-38N
139-41E

1200
16-10N
140-23E

2000
15-14N
141-43E

27 October

0800
14-04N
143-34E

1200
13-38N
144-14E

Page 4.

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Room 2055

ROUTE TO: 03

17 JAN 1946

File No. (SC) A12-1/AK169

Doc. No. _____

Copy No. 1 of 1

Reg. No. 9538

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U. S. S. CHATHAM (AK-169)
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San Francisco, California.

From: The Commanding Officer.
To: The Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet.
Subject: WAR DIARY - November 1945; Submission of.

ASSIGNED TO COMMANDER SERVICE FORCE, U.S. PACIFIC FLEET, (10/2/45).
(ComServPac restricted ltr. Serial 1152-40 of 10/2/45). Redistribution of stock
and moving of fleet freight among depots in forward areas. Initial sailings from
GUAM, MARIANAS.

Zone -10 1 November

Anchored in AGANA BAY, GUAM, MARIANAS ISLANDS.

2-4 November

Anchored as above.

5 November

Proceeded to APRA HARBOR for cargo operations.

5-14 November

Cargo discharging operations.

15 November

0135 Completed cargo discharging operations.
0200 Cargo loading operations commenced.

16-21 November

Cargo loading operations.

22 November

0520 Completed cargo loading operations.

1319 Underway independently, without escort, for SEEADLER HARBOR, MANUS
ISLAND, ADMIRALTY GROUP, in accordance with Port Director GUAM, conf. routing
instructions of 22 November; speed of advance 10 knots.

23-26 November

Steaming as above.

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154776

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U. S. S. CHATHAM (AK-169)

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San Francisco, California.

Subject: WAR DIARY - November 1945; submission of.

27 November

Anchored in SEEADLER HARBOR, MANUS ISLANDS, ADMIRALTY GROUP.

28 November

1035 Moored to NEBU DOCK, MANUS ISLAND, ADMIRALTY GROUP.

1240 Commenced cargo discharging operations.

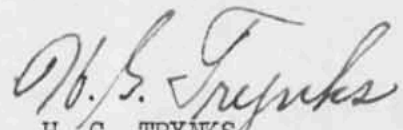
1800 Completed discharging operations

29 November

0625 Commenced cargo loading operations.

30 November

Cargo loading operations.


H. G. TRYNKs
Lt. Comdr., USNR

cc:

CNO (2)
CinCPac (1)
ComServPac (1)
File (2)

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POSITIONS UNDERWAY

Zone -10

22 November

2000
12-50N
143-54E

23 November

0800
11-01N
143-23E

1200
10-13N
143-25E

2000
08-47N
143-14E

24 November

0800
06-28N
143-23E

1200
05-44N
143-24E

2000
04-20N
143-34E

25 November

0800
03-01N
144-36E

1200
02-28N
144-59E

2000
01-53N
145-12E

26 November

0800
00-44N
146-11E

1200
00-01N
146-32E

2000
00-24S
146-37E

Page 3.

This WAR DIARY consists of three (3) pages.

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RECEIVED 30 1112
O 3 ROOM 21955
14 JAN 1946
A 12-1/AK-169
21973

From: The Commanding Officer.
To : The Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet.
Subject: WAR DIARY - December 1945; Submission of.

ASSIGNED TO COMMANDER SERVICE FORCE, U.S. PACIFIC FLEET, (10/2/45).
(ComServPac restricted ltr. Serial 1152-40 of 10/2/45). Redistribution of stock
and moving of Fleet Freight among depots in forward areas. Initial sailings from
GUAM, MARIANAS.

Zone -10 1 December
Moored to NEBU DOCK, MANUS ISLAND, ADMIRALTY GROUP. Cargo loading operations.
3 December
1600 Completed cargo loading operations.
2-4 December
Moored as above.
5 December
1110 Underway independently, without escort, for SAMAR, PHILIPPINE ISLANDS,
in accordance with ComServPac dispatch 040211 of December 1945; speed
of advance 10 knots.
8 December
1800 Retarded clocks one (1) hour to conform with Zone -9.
6-10 December
Steaming as above.
11 December
Anchored in GUIUAN ROADSTEAD, SAMAR, PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.
12 December
1745 Commenced cargo discharging operations.

153593

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Subject: WAR DIARY - December 1945; Submission of

13 December

1715 Completed cargo discharging operations.

14 December

0810 Commenced cargo loading operations.

15 December

0950 Completed cargo loading operations.

12-16 December

Anchored as above.

17 December

1305 Underway independently, without escort, for BUCKNER BAY, OKINAWA, NANSEI SHOTO GROUP, in accordance with Port Director SAMAR, routing instructions #137 of 17 December 1945; speed of advance 10 knots.

18-21 December

Steaming as above.

22 December

Anchored in BUCKNER BAY, OKINAWA, NANSEI SHOTO GROUP.

27 December

0810 Commenced cargo loading operations.

1355 Completed cargo loading operations.

23-28 December

Anchored as above.

Page 2.

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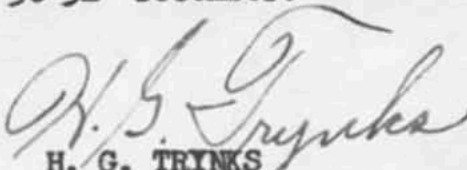
Subject: WAR DIARY - December 1945; Submission of.

29 December

1415 Underway independently, without escort, for SAIPAN, MARIANAS ISLANDS,
in accordance with Port Director Navy #3256, routing instructions; speed of advance
10 knots.

30-31 December.

Steaming as above.


H. G. TRYNKS
Lt. Comdr., USNR.

cc:

CNO (2)
CinCPac (1)
ComServPac (1)
File (2)

Page 3.

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POSITIONS UNDERWAY

Zone -10

5 December

0800

1200

2000
00-53S
146-15E

6 December

0800
00-11N
144-38E

1200
00-35N
144-01E

2000
01-13N
142-52E

7 December

0800
01-58N
140-45E

1200
02-23N
140-08E

2000
03-02N
138-07E

8 December

0800
04-19N
137-08E

1200
04-37N
136-28E

2000
05-27N
135-22E

Zone -9

9 December

0800
06-23N
133-19E

1200
06-47N
132-42E

2000
07-23N
131-28E

10 December

0800
08-25N
129-24E

1200
08-57N
128-46E

2000
09-44N
127-21E

17 December 2000
11-08N
126-07E

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POSITIONS UNDERWAY

18 December

0800
12-53N
126-18E

1200
13-44N
126-26E

2000
15-04N
126-43E

19 December

0800
16-11N
126-51E

1200
16-32N
126-55E

2000
17-04N
127-03E

20 December

0800
18-38N
126-52E

1200
19-11N
127-07E

2000
20-19N
127-18E

21 December

0800
22-09N
127-23E

1200
22-49N
127-30E

2000
24-08N
127-51E

29 December

0800

1200

2000
25-43N
126-45E

30 December

0800
24-38N
130-35E

1200
24-03N
131-01E

2000
13-20N
132-09E

31 December

0800
22-24N
134-10E

1200
21-38N
134-30E

2000
20-58N
135-51E

U. S. S. CHATHAM (AK-169)
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San Francisco, California.

AK169/A12
Serial 137

26 September 1945

CONFIDENTIAL

~~From:~~ The Commanding Officer.
To: The Secretary of the Navy, Navy Department,
Washington, 25, D.C.
Subject: Factual History of U.S.S. CHATHAM (AK169) from
Commissioning to date; submission of.
Reference: (a) ALPAC 202.
Enclosure: (A) Subject Factual History.

1. In accordance with reference (a), the subject
factual history of this vessel, is submitted herewith, as en-
closure (A).

J. C. Harrison, Jr.
J. C. HARRISON, JR

RECEIVED 3-6 FILE
Pub. Info. 2055
then 23 (16) 18 OCT 1945
18 OCT 1945
18562



156479

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U. S. S. CHATHAM (AK-169)
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The U.S.S. CHATHAM (AK169) was commissioned in the Yard of the Brown Shipbuilding Co., Inc., Houston, Texas, on 22 February 1945, and proceeded to Galveston, Texas for shakedown. While in Galveston, a case of spinal meningitis was discovered aboard, and the ship was placed under quarantine in BOLIVAR ROADS, GALVESTON, TEXAS; delaying shakedown operations for a period of seven (7) days.

After shakedown was completed, 15 March 1945, the CHATHAM underwent three (3) days post-shakedown availability before departing for GULFPORT, MISSISSIPPI, where she loaded her first cargo; departing on 2 April 1945, for PEARL HARBOR, OAHU, HAWAIIAN ISLANDS via the PANAMA CANAL.

Eleven (11) days out of Panama, a case of acute appendicitis aboard necessitated radioing for assistance, as a result she was ordered, on 21 April, to proceed to SOCORRO ISLAND, off the coast of MEXICO, to meet a U.S. Coast Guard Plane from SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA, carrying a doctor. On 25 April at SOCORRO ISLAND the patient was transferred, after which the CHATHAM resumed her original routing to PEARL HARBOR, arriving on 6 May 1945.

There she was ordered to the port of HONOLULU, where discharging and loading operations were carried out. The Ship also underwent an inspection by ComServRon8, to whom she was reporting for duty in the Fleet Freight Service.

From HONOLULU, the CHATHAM on 12 May proceeded to ENIWETOK, MARSHALL ISLANDS, arriving on 25 May, where further orders were received to proceed, the following morning, to SAIPAN, MARIANAS. On arrival in SAIPAN on 29 May, she was immediately sent to TINIAN, to discharge approximately twenty (20) tons of cargo and await further orders. There she lay at anchor three (3) weeks before orders were received, on 20 June, to proceed to GUAM.

On 20 June she took her departure for GUAM, arriving 21 June, and there discharged her entire remaining cargo. At the conclusion of cargo operations on 28 June, the CHATHAM was ordered to proceed to SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA, arriving on 18 July.

At SAN FRANCISCO, she received a period of availability, which lasted until 29 July; on 30 July she proceeded to MARE ISLAND and loaded approximately 500 tons of defective ammunition for disposal at sea and return to SAN FRANCISCO.

(Enclosure (A))
page 1.

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On 7 August commenced loading operations of Fleet Freight; completed on 13 August 1945. On 13 August the CHATHAM was ordered to PEARL HARBOR arriving on 21 August, where scheduled loading and unloading were carried out. She departed from PEARL HARBOR on 27 August and proceeded to ENIWETOK, MARSHALL ISLANDS, arriving on 6 September, where scheduled cargo was discharged.

On 18 September orders were received to proceed to OKINAWA, where she anchored in BUCKNER BAY on 26 September 1945.

(Enclosure (A))
Page 2.