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Contributed by Frank Gerhardt



AK190/A12-1  
Serial No. 97

U. S. S. KENOSHA (AK-190)  
c/o FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

EXOS. 10 January 1946  
NAVY DEPARTMENT

From: The Commanding Officer.  
To : The Secretary of the Navy, (SECCT).  
Subject: U.S.S. KENOSHA (AK-190) - History of.  
Reference: (a) ALPAC Number 202 of 15 September 1945.  
(b) ALPAC Number 232 of 4 October 1945.  
Enclosure: (A) Ship's history covered from 7 September 1945  
to 10 January 1946.

1. In accordance with references (a) and (b) enclosure (A) is hereby forwarded.

cc: SecNav ✓  
ComServPac  
File



*S. Bernsen*  
Sandrap BERNSEN,  
Lt. Comdr., USNR.

ENCLOSURE (A)

U. S. S. KENOSHA (AK 190)

"SHIP'S HISTORY"

7 September 1945:

This vessel was placed in commission at Galveston, Texas after transit down the Mississippi River via the Great Lakes. The USS KENOSHA was built by Walter Butler Shipbuilders, Inc. at Superior, Wisconsin and launched on 25 August 1944. Officers aboard upon commissioning were:  
Lieut. Sandrup BERNSEN, Commanding Officer.  
Lieut. James W. CRAWFORD, Executive Officer.  
Lieut. Daniel G. GIBSON, Engineering Officer.  
Lieut. Jerome L. MORRISON, First Lieutenant.  
Lt.(jg) Lauchlin S. HUNTER, Gunnery Officer.  
Lt.(jg) Arthur A. ASCHAUER, Supply & Disbursing Officer.  
Ensign James A. McKENNA, Jr., Communications Officer.  
Ensign Richard F. ZIMMERMAN, Asst. First Lieutenant.

29 September 1945:

This vessel reported for shakedown operations at Galveston, Texas.

4 October 1945:

The USS KENOSHA completed its shakedown operations at Galveston, Texas and reported for post-shakedown yard availability.

17 October 1945:

This vessel departed from Galveston, Texas for Gulfport, Mississippi to commence loading cargo.

19 October 1945:

The USS KENOSHA arrived at the Naval Supply Depot, New Orleans Annex, Gulfport, Mississippi and commenced loading its cargo of beer, coca cola, empty box shooks, piping and miscellaneous refrigerated cargo consigned to the Naval Supply Depot, Guam, Marianas Islands.

28 October 1945:

This vessel left Gulfport, Mississippi for Christobal, Canal Zone, enroute to Guam, Marianas Islands.

ENCLOSURE (A)

U. S. S. KENOSHA (AK 190)

"SHIP'S HISTORY"

31 October 1945:

The USS KENOSHA arrived at Naval Supply Depot, New Orleans, Louisiana for repairs to stern bearing mechanical difficulties encountered at sea.

25 November 1945:

This vessel left New Orleans, Louisiana for Christobal, Canal Zone, enroute to Guam, Marianas Islands.

30 November 1945:

The USS KENOSHA arrived at Christobal, Canal Zone.

2 December 1945:

This ship left Christobal, Canal Zone and passed through the locks of the Panama Canal bound for Pearl Harbor, T.H. enroute to Guam, Marianas Islands.

20 December 1945:

The USS KENOSHA arrived at Pearl Harbor, T. H. where part of her refrigerated cargo was discharged.

27 December 1945:

This vessel left Pearl Harbor, T. H. for Guam with United States Marine Corps passengers and additional cargo of Marine Corps personal effects and gear.

2 January 1946:

The USS KENOSHA crossed the "International Date Line" enroute to Guam, Marianas Islands.

10 January 1946:

This vessel arrived at Guam, Marianas Islands to discharge passengers and cargo.

AK190/A12-1  
Serial No. 92

U. S. S. KENOSHA (AK-190)  
c/o FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

CONFIDENTIAL

1 January 1946

From: The Commanding Officer.  
To : The Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.  
Subject: War Diaries, submission of.  
Reference: (a) ALNAV 176.  
(b) Art. 712 and 874(6) U.S. Navy Regulations 1920.  
(c) CominCh and CNO Serial 01529 of 17 May 1943.  
(d) CominCh Serial 7152, 29 October 1943.  
Enclosure: (A) War Diaries for September, October, November  
and December 1945.

1. In accordance with reference (a), (b), (c), and  
(d) enclosure (A) is hereby forwarded.

**RECEIVED SC FILES**

Room 2055

ROUTE TO: 03


15 FEB 1946

File No. (SC) A12-1/AK190

Doc. No. \_\_\_\_\_

Copy No. 1 of 2

Reg. No. \_\_\_\_\_

  
Sandrup BERNSEN,  
Lt. Comdr., USNR.

cc: CominCh (2) ✓  
ComServPac (1)  
File (1)

155906

WAR DIARY - U.S.S. KENOSHA (AK-190)

September 1945

7 September 1945: (Plus 5 zone time)

At 1600 the U.S.S. KENOSHA (AK-190) was placed into commission at Pier 37, Galveston, Texas by Lt. Comdr. H. ALSERBLOAM, USNR, representative of Commandant EIGHTH Naval District, Lieut. Sandrup BERNSEN, USNR, assumed command and hoisted the colors and commissioning pennant. At 1800 this ship was shifted to Pier 5 where we loaded 83,000 gallons of diesel oil during the night.

8 September 1945:

At 0930 we stood out to sea to swing ship and calibrate compasses, direction finder and fathometer, returning to Pier 12, Galveston, Texas shortly after noon remaining there until 26 September 1945 awaiting arrival of personnel.

26 September 1945:

At 1300 we moved out to anchorage in Bolivar Roads, Galveston, Texas.

27 September 1945:

In the morning we got underway for independent duty in accordance with COMEIGHT dispatch 261739 of September 1945. During the day various drills were held and we returned to Bolivar Roads anchorage at 1500, 28 September 1945.

28 September 1945:

Shortly after noon we shifted to the docks at Pier 20.

29 September 1945:

At noon we shifted back to the Bolivar Roads anchorage.

30 September 1945:

At 0800 we stood out to sea to hold power runs, returning to our anchorage at Bolivar Roads late in the afternoon at 2400 clocks were retarded one (1) hour to read plus 5 zone time.

WAR DIARY - U.S.S. KENOSHA (AK-190)

October 1945

1 October 1945: (Plus 6 zone time)

The U.S.S. KENOSHA (AK-190) attached to Naval Transportation Service is anchored in Bolivar Roads, Galveston, Texas with forty five (45) fathoms of chain on the port anchor.

2 October 1945:

Early in the morning we stood out to sea once more but due to fuel oil injection failure we had to return to Galveston anchoring in Bolivar Roads at 1400.

3 October 1945:

We stood out to sea at 0900 to run the measured mile speed tests returning to anchorage at 1600.

4 October 1945:

At 1400 we shifted berths to the dock at Pier 42 where we remained until 12 October 1945.

12 October 1945:

At 1100 we shifted to Pier 20 where we remained until 17 October awaiting personnel.

17 October 1945:

At dawn we were underway in accordance with sailing directions issued by Port Director, Galveston, Texas dated 15 October 1945 enroute to Gulfport, Mississippi.

Position: 1200 2905N 9405W  
2000 2847N 9220W

18 October 1945:

Underway as before Gulfport was reached at 2100 and we anchored outside to await daybreak.

Position: 1200 2843N 8918W

19 October 1945:

At daybreak we got underway and entered channel to Gulfport mooring at Naval Supply Depot by 0930 where we commenced loading miscellaneous Navy cargo of beer, coca cola cases, syrup, pipe and fresh provisions completing loading operation by 27 October with 2,900 tons loaded.

WAR DIARY - U.S.S. KENOSHA (AK-190)

October 1945 (cont'd)

28 October 1945: (Plus 6 zone time)

Having completed loading we got underway at 0800 and stood out to sea. At 0930 we adjusted compasses, pilot left the ship at 1130 and we set course for the Panama Canal with ultimate destination Port Apra, Guam, Marianas Islands.  
Position: 2000 2844N 8811W

29 October 1945:

Underway as before. At 2000 the packing in the stern tube bushing came out causing serious leaking, necessitating return to port for repairs so we changed course and headed for Galveston, Texas at 2/3's speed.

Positions: 2653N 8757W  
2610N 8715W  
2453N 8626W

30 October 1945:

Underway as before. At 1150 we received orders via radio (Port Director, NOLA. dispatch 301407 of October 1945) to proceed New Orleans, La. instead of Galveston, course was changed accordingly.

Positions: 2525N 8755W  
2547N 8825W  
2707N 8844W

WAR DIARY - U.S.S. KENOSHA (AK-190)

November 1945

1 November 1945: (Plus 6 zone time)

U.S.S. KENOSHA (AK-190) attached to Naval Transportation Service is moored to dock at Naval Supply Depot, New Orleans, La. awaiting entry into dry dock to repack stern tube bushing. We remained berthed here until 13 November unloading 1,900 tons of our cargo from #1, 2, and 3 holds.

13 November 1945:

We got underway early in the morning steaming down river to Todd Johnson Dry Dock Co. entering Dry Dock #5 at 1055. We were docked by 1145. The stern tube bushing was repacked and no other damage was discovered so we undocked at 1640 and tied up alongside the S.S. GEORGE D. DIXON at Todd Johnson Dry Dock Co.

14 November 1945:

We were underway at 1000 for trial river runs to check packing in stern tube bushing and finding all leadage checked we returned to dock at Naval Supply Depot by 1600 where our cargo was reloaded by 20 November 1945.

20 November 1945:

At 1600 we shifted to quarantine anchorage in the Mississippi River.

21 November 1945:

At 0900 we shifted to the Standard Oil Co. fuel docks at Chalmette, La. where 76,481 gallons of diesel oil was loaded by 1600 and we shifted back to Naval Supply Depot where we remained until 23 November 1945.

23 November 1945:

At 0800 we were underway down river again to calibrate radio direction finder. This was completed shortly after noon and we returned to NSD.

24 November 1945:

Moored as before.



WAR DIARY - U.S.S. KENOSHA (AK-190)

November 1945 (cont'd)

25 November 1945:

At 0800 we were underway in accordance with original orders enroute Panama Canal with Guam ultimate destination. We reached the river mouth in the afternoon passing the entrance buoy at 1617 and setting base course of 155° true, speed 11.5 knots.

26 November 1945:

Underway as before.  
Positions: 2617N 8745W  
          2519N 8725W  
          2414N 8641W

27 November 1945:

Underway as before. At 1200 we passed Cape San Antonia light, Cuba, abeam to port.  
Positions: 2218N 8519W  
          2149N 8501W  
          2055N 8335W

28 November 1945:

Underway as before:  
Positions: 1932N 8152W  
          1841N 8120W  
          1711N 8116W

29 November 1945:

Underway as before: At 0000 advanced clocks one (1) hour to read plus 5 zone time.  
Positions: 1508N 8042W  
          1436N 8040W  
          1308N 8018W

30 November 1945:

Underway as before. Panama was sighted at 1415 and we passed the breakwater at 1630 anchoring temporarily inside until 1900 where we shifted to Pier 1-C, Coco Solo, Canal Zone.  
Position: 0800 1054N 8011W

WAR DIARY - U.S.S. KENOSHA (AK-190)

December 1945

1 December 1945: (Plus 5 zone time)

U.S.S. KENOSHA (AK-190) attached to Naval Transportation Service and Commander Service Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet is berthed at berth one (1) Charlie, Coco Solo, Canal Zone loading fresh water and diesel oil.

2 December 1945:

At 0730 we were underway to begin transit of Panama Canal. The Pacific was reached at 1730 and we set course for Pearl Harbor, T.H. in accordance with our routing instructions from ComPanSeaFron. Speed of advance 11.0 knots.

3 December 1945:

Underway as before.  
Positions: 0705N 8047W  
            0702N 8120W  
            0815N 8436W

4 December 1945:

Underway as before.  
Positions: 0813N 8454W  
            0828N 8535W  
            0858N 8657W

5 December 1945:

Underway as before.  
Positions: 0936N 8859W  
            0948N 8993W  
            1021N 9129W

6 December 1945:

Underway as before. At 0800 we retarded clocks one (1) hour to plus 6 zone time.  
Positions: 1057N 9326W  
            1124N 9416W  
            1203N 9544W

7 December 1945:

Underway as before: (Plus 6 zone time)  
Positions: 1235N 9750W  
            1246N 9840W  
            1251N 9951W

WAR DIARY - U.S.S. KENOSHA (AK-190)

December 1945 (cont'd)

8 December 1945: (Plus 6 zone time)

Underway as before.

Positions: 1349N 10204W  
1401N 10250W  
1425N 10415W

9 December 1945:

Underway as before. At 1900 clocks were retarded one (1) hour to read plus 7 zone time.

Positions: 1503N 10629W  
1518N 10715W  
1543N 10858W

10 December 1945: (Plus 7 zone time)

Underway as before.

Positions: 1615N 11112W  
1626N 11157W  
1637N 11329W

11 December 1945:

Underway as before.

Positions: 1742N 11546W  
1728N 11636W  
1746N 11808W

12 December 1945:

Underway as before. At 0800 retarded clocks to read plus 8 zone time.

Positions: 1812N 12033W  
1826N 12124W  
1842N 12300W

13 December 1945: (Plus 8 zone time)

Underway as before.

Positions: 1905N 12516W  
1915N 12615W  
1926N 12756W

14 December 1945:

Underway as before.

Positions: 1947N 13023W  
1956N 13115W  
2002N 13300W

WAR DIARY - U.S.S. KENOSHA (AK-190)

December 1945 (cont'd)

15 December 1945:

Underway as before. At 1900 clocks were retarded one (1) hour to read plus 9 zone time.

Positions: 2024N 13527W  
2034N 13603W  
2043N 13747W

16 December 1945:

Underway as before.

Positions: 2057N 14013W  
2104N 14059W  
2103N 14229W

17 December 1945:

Underway as before.

Positions: 2109N 14439W  
2111N 14520W  
2113N 14647W

18 December 1945:

Underway as before. At 1900 clocks were retarded one (1) hour to read plus 10 zone time.

Positions: 2120N 14858W  
2119N 14946W  
2121N 15124W

19 December 1945: (Plus 10 zone time)

Underway as before. At 0900 Moana Kea on Hawaii was sighted.

Positions: 2117N 15338W  
2117N 15423W  
2118N 15551W

20 December 1945:

Underway as before. At 0600 Diamond Head was passed abeam and we entered Pearl Harbor at 0740. Clocks were retarded 1/2 hour to read plus 10.5 zone time. We moored alongside U.S.S. CASTOR (AKS-1) at berth Charlie three (3) by 0830.

21 December 1945:

At 0630 we shifted to berth Mike three (3) where the fruit and other reefer cargo in upper #4 hold was unloaded. We remained berthed here until 27 December 1945.

WAR DIARY - U.S.S. KENOSHA (AK-190)

December 1945 (cont'd)

27 December 1945: (Plus 10.5 zone time)

At 0700 we were underway from Pearl Harbor passing the entrance buoys at 0745 and setting a great circle course for Port Apra, Guam, Marianas Islands.  
Position: 2000 2105N 16006W

28 December 1945:

Underway as before.  
Positions: 2103N 16218W  
2106N 16300W  
2111N 16430W

29 December 1945:

Underway as before. At 1900 we retarded clocks one half (1/2) hour to read plus 11 zone time.  
Positions: 2106N 16645W  
2103N 16730W  
2100N 16859W

30 December 1945: (Plus 11 zone time)

Underway as before.  
Positions: 2052N 17111W  
2050N 17159W  
2046N 17332W

31 December 1945:

Underway as before. At 1000 clocks were retarded one (1) hour to read plus 12 zone time.  
Positions: 2041N 17555W  
2036N 17644W  
2032N 17813W