

Contributed by Frank Gerhardt

AK227/A12-1(rh)

047

USS BOULDER VICTORY AK227
c/o Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California

Reg. No. None

R. S. No. _____

CONFIDENTIAL

20 November 1944

From: Commanding Officer.
To: Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, Navy Department,
Washington, D. C..

Subj: War Diary - forwarding of.

Encl: (A) War Diary for period covering 12 October 1944
to 31 October 1944, inclusive.

1. Enclosure (A) is forwarded herewith.

F. E. Church
F. E. CHURCH

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CincPac
File

95075

USS BOULDER VICTORY AK227
c/o Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California

CONFIDENTIAL

WAR DIARY for the period from 12 October 1944
to 31 October 1944, inclusive.

12 October 1944 (Zone H 1500)

This ship commissioned as a naval auxiliary, on a wartime loan, from Maritime Commission. Commissioning in effect at Richmond Shipyards, Richmond, California. Outfitted by Naval Supply Depot, Oakland, California.

19 October 1944

Moved to Naval Ammunition Depot, Port Chicago, California for loading of cargo, in compliance with COTCPAC despatch 151637 of October 1944.

30 October 1944

Cargo loading completed. Moved to Bay Explosive Area, Anchorage Thirteen (13), San Francisco, California. Delay in onward routing due to necessary engineering repairs.

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AK227/A12-1(rh)
Serial: 058

USS BOULDER VICTORY AK227
c/o Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California

Reg. No. 1365

R. S. No.

CONFIDENTIAL

6 December 1944

From: Commanding Officer.
To: Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, Navy Department,
Washington, 25, D. C..

Subj: War Diary - forwarding of.

Encl: (A) War Diary for period covering 1 November 1944
to 30 November 1944, inclusive.

1. Enclosure (A) is forwarded herewith.

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F. E. CHURCH

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97200

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WAR DIARY for the period from 1 November 1944
to 30 November 1944, inclusive.

U.S.S. BOULDER VICTORY (AK-227)

1 November 1944 (Zone - U)

Anchored in San Francisco, California Bay Explosive Area. Loaded with cargo of ammunition. Main steam line undergoing repair. Awaiting routing instructions by Commander, Subordinate Command, Service Force, Pacific Fleet.

2 November 1944 (Zone - U)

At 0745 underway. 0750 passing through harbor entrance control nets of San Francisco Bay, enroute to Ulithi via Eniwetok, Operating singly without surface or air escort pursuant to Commander, Subordinate Command, Service Force Movement Order, Serial 03262, of 31 October 1944. Course 233° True, using zigzag plan number six. Excessive rolling due to heavy swells causing cargo to break loose.

		<u>Latitude</u>	<u>Longitude</u>
Positions:	1200	37° 23' N	123° 30' W
	2000	36° 22' N	125° 24' W

3 November 1944 (Zone - V)

Positions:	0800	34° 18' N	128° 30' W
	1200	34° 41' N	129° 38' W
	2000	34° 14' N	131° 07' W

Proceeding on assigned course. Moderate sea causing excessive rolling and continued breaking loose of cargo. Emergency shoring of ammunition cargo in progress. This condition was aggravated by the necessary stowage of heavier types of ammunition low in the ship to take advantage of structural strength, which excessively heightened the meta-centric causing rapid and stiffened rolling.

4 November 1944 (Zone - V)

Positions:	0800	34° 32' N	133° 06' W
	1200	34° 28' N	133° 40' W
	2000	33° 56' N	135° 08' W

Deviation from assigned course and speed necessary due to continued difficulty experienced with cargo breaking loose. Emergency shoring of cargo continues.

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U.S.S. BOULDER VICTORY (AK-227)

5 November 1944 (Zone - V)

Positions:	0800	33° 11.5' N	138° 12.8' W
	1200	32° 55' N	139° 35' W
	2000	34° 42.2' N	141° 49.8' W

Assigned course and speed resumed. Calm sea allowed cargo shoring to be completed.

6 November 1944 (Zone - V)

Steaming as before. Condition III watch set throughout the ship.

Positions:	0800	31° 29' N	144° 43' W
	1200	30° 52' N	145° 39' W
	2000	29° 21' N	147° 38.4' W

7 November 1944 (Zone - W)

Steaming as before. Condition III watch set throughout the ship.

Positions:	0800	27° 06' N	149° 51' W
	1200	26° 24.3' N	151° 29' W
	2000	24° 55.5' N	152° 36.8' W

8 November 1944 (Zone - W)

Steaming as before. Condition III watch set throughout the ship.

Positions:	0800	23° 24.5' N	154° 21' W
	1200	22° 45.6' N	154° 45' W
	2000	22° 17' N	155° 46.3' W

9 November 1944 (Zone - W)

Steaming as before. Condition III watch set throughout the ship.

Positions:	0800	21° 03.3' N	157° 37.4' W
	1200	20° 25' N	158° 07' W
	2000	19° 24' N	159° 51' W

U.S.S. BOULDER VICTORY (AK-227)10 November 1944 (Zone - X)

Steaming as before. Condition III watch set throughout the ship.

Positions:	0800	18° 41' N	162° 50' W
	1200	18° 11' N	164° 31' W
	2000	17° 51' N	165° 58' W

11 November 1944 (Zone - X)

Steaming as before. Condition III watch set throughout the ship.

Positions:	0800	17° 09' N	169° 01' W
	1200	16° 55' N	170° 00' W
	2000	16° 00' N	171° 24' W

12 November 1944 (Zone - Y)

Steaming as before. Condition III watch set throughout the ship.

Positions:	0800	15° 17' N	175° 07' W
	1200	14° 46' N	176° 31' W
	2000	13° 58.7' N	178° 32' W

14 November 1944 (Zone - M)

Crossed international date line at 0230 this date. 0231 electric torpedo sounding device sounded a warning. Course immediately altered 45° to starboard for most favorable approach. No other evidence to indicate that a torpedo had been fired. 0234 resumed base course and continued zigzag.

Positions:	0800	12° 46' N	178° 25' E
	1200	12° 22' N	177° 28' E
	2000	11° 41' N	175° 46' E

15 November 1944 (Zone - M)

Positions:	0800	10° 42' N	172° 51' E
	1200	10° 07' N	171° 46' E
	2000	10° 03' N	170° 59' E

Reversed course at reduced speed at 1555 in order to negotiate entrance to Marshall Islands during day light.

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U.S.S. BOULDER VICTORY (AK-227)

16 November 1944 (Zone - L)

Steaming as before. Condition III watch set throughout the ship.

Positions:	0800	09° 56' N	170° 16.5' E
	1200	09° 40.5' N	169° 16' E
	2000	09° 31' N	167° 06.5' E

17 November 1944 (Zone - L)

Positions:	0800	10° 24.7' N	164° 14' E
	1200	10° 54.5' N	163° 14' E
	2000	11° 22' N	162° 18' E

Arrived at Eniwetok, anchored as per H.E.C.P. directions. Reported to Commander, Forward Area for onward routing.

25 November 1944 (Zone - L)

At 0730 underway, pursuant to sailing orders of the Office of the Port Director, Navy 3237, as one unit of a thirteen ship convoy - Eniwetok - Ulithi - Kossol Roads #6. Convoy Commodore in USS MAUNA LOA, AE8; Vice Commodore in USS ARA, AK136. Other ships in convoy are: USS REGULUS, AK14, USS NITRO, AE2, USS GIANSAR, AK111, USS MOUNT BAKER, AE4, USS BOULDER VICTORY, AK227, SS CAPE SAN ANTONIO, SS ELMIRA VICTORY, SS CAPE POGE, SS THOMAS C. POWERS, SS WILLIAM S. DUANE, and SS DANIEL S. LAMONT. Convoy escort designated as task unit 96. 3. 20. Escort Commander in USS WYMAN, DE38. Other escort vessels: USS CONCISE, AM162, PC 572, and PC 587. Speed of advance of the convoy 10.5 knots. Destination of this ship - Ulithi.

Positions:	1200	11° 18' N	161° 47' E
	2000	11° 28' N	160° 21' E

26 November 1944 (Zone L)

Steaming as before. Condition III watch set throughout the ship.

Positions:	0800	11° 54' N	158° 14.6' E
	1200	12° 01' N	157° 16' E
	2000	12° 10' N	155° 50' E

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U.S.S. BOULDER VICTORY (AK-227)

27 November 1944 (Zone - K)

Steaming as before. Condition III watch set throughout the ship.

Positions:	0800	12° 33.5' N	153° 36.5' E
	1200	12° 37' N	152° 53' E
	2000	12° 49.1' N	151° 26.5' E

28 November 1944 (Zone - K)

Steaming as before. Condition III watch set throughout the ship.

Positions:	0800	12° 41' N	149° 15' E
	1200	12° 26' N	148° 31' E
	2000	11° 57.5' N	147° 08' E

29 November 1944 (Zone - K)

Steaming as before. Condition III watch set throughout the ship.

Positions:	0800	11° 16' N	145° 03' E
	1200	10° 59' N	144° 21' E
	2000	10° 27' N	142° 59.3' E

30 November 1944 (Zone - I)

Positions:	0800	10° 15.9' N	140° 53.3' E
	1200	10° 03.2' N	140° 03' E

At 1322 entered Ulithi harbor, in convoy column, anchoring individually. Reported arrival to Commander, Service Squadron, Ten, requesting instructions.

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ENCLOSURE "A"

AK227/A12-1(rh)
Serial:

USS BOULDER VICTORY AK227
c/o Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California

Reg. No. 783

S. No.

CONFIDENTIAL

4 January 1945

From: Commanding Officer.
To: Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, Navy Department,
Washington, 25, D. C.

Subj: War Diary - forwarding of.

Encl: (A) War Diary for period covering 1 December 1944
to 31 December 1944, inclusive.

1. Enclosure (A) is forwarded herewith.

F. E. Church
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100724

CONFIDENTIAL

WAR DIARY FOR THE PERIOD FROM 1 December 1944
TO 31 December 1944, INCLUSIVE

U.S.S. BOULDER VICTORY (AK-227)

1 December 1944 (Zone - I)

Anchored in Ulithi Harbor in accordance with orders of ComServRon Ten, awaiting further instructions.

4 December 1944 (Zone - I)

Anchored as before. Discharged cargo, as directed by Squadron A-10 Ammunition.

8 December 1944 (Zone - I)

Underway pursuant to orders of the Office of the Port Director, in convoy Ulithi - Palau 17, with ComServRon Ten orders to report to Commander, Seventh Fleet upon arrival in Kossol Passage. Convoy Commodore in USS BOULDER VICTORY (AK227). SS ELMIRA VICTORY other ship in convoy. Escort consisting of USS STANLY (DD478). Speed of advance of the convoy 17 knots. Zigzagging in accordance with zigzag plan 38, of zigzag diagrams for single ships and convoy 1940.

		<u>Latitude</u>	<u>Longitude</u>
Positions:	1200	09° 39' N	139° 16' E
	2000	07° 53' N	137° 59' E

9 December 1944 (Zone - I)

At 0350 sound contact reported by escort. Change of course 40° to starboard executed. 0410 resumed base course. 0510 sound contact reported by escort. 0515 course reversed followed by a series of emergency 45° turns from base course to starboard and port. 0532 emergency 45° turns from base course of 000° executed over a distance of five miles. 0555 resumed base course 272° T. No further indications of contact from escort. 1250 anchored in Kossol Passage, berth 72. Reported by despatch to ComSeventhFleet and ComServRon Seven, requesting instructions.

Positions: 0800 07° 58' N 138° 21' E

10 December 1944 (Zone - I)

Anchored in Kossol Passage, operating under orders of CTU 30.9.2, representing the Seventh Fleet. Ammo discharged under orders of CTU 30.9.2.

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U.S.S. BOULDER VICTORY (AK-227)

20 December 1944 (Zone - I)

At 0845 underway from berth 40, Kossol Passage, pursuant to orders of the Port Director, to form in convoy proceeding to Manus. Units of the convoy to be USS RENSHAW (DD499) OTC, USS PATTERSON (DD392), and USS BOULDER VICTORY (AK227). 0850 explosion on port side number three hold. Considerable smoke but no flames visible. Fire quarters set immediately. 0858 reported explosion to the Port Director. Assigned to berth 172. Number three hold flooded immediately following explosion, indicating large opening in the hull. Powder cases, shoring and debris floating at sea level in the hold. Explosion believed to be from mine. Every effort was made to pump hold, but no progress indicated. Proceeding to berth assigned, under own power. 1135 anchored in berth 172. 1515 diving operations commenced by representatives of CTU 30.9.2. Opening in hull found to be approximately 18 by 32 feet, indicating external explosion. Ship rendered unseaworthy and orders for departure cancelled by orders of the Port Director. 2386 tons of ammunition cargo in number three hold submerged. Complete extent of the damage undetermined. Cargo in all other holds apparently undamaged.

27 December 1944 (Zone - I)

Commander W. A. MOORE, U.S.N. and party aboard to further inspect damage to ship resulting from explosion. Diving operations undertaken. Findings and recommendations as follows:

Damaged area is oval in shape, the hole being roughly fifteen (15) feet high by twenty (20) feet long. Area extends from frame 58 to frame 70 (35 feet) and from just above the first platform (lower 'tween deck) down to and around the turn of the bilge and in toward the centerline about ten (10) feet. Draft before explosion forward - 24' 3", aft - 27' 6". Draft after explosion forward - 33' 6", aft - 26' 0". Cargo in number three hold damaged by salt water and oil, floating to a depth of six (6) inches in the hold as a result of ruptured fuel oil lines and tanks. Recommendations are that the vessel remain at Kossol Passage as an ammunition issue ship until completely unloaded, then proceed to nearest port for drydocking. Water soaked ammunition to be removed as soon as possible, by divers or as the ship rises in the water due to unloading of other holds.

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U.S.S. BOULDER VICTORY (AK-227)

29 December 1944 (Zone - I)

Tug, USS ONTARIO (AT13), along port side pumping oil from number three hold in order that salvage operations may be undertaken.

31 December 1944 (Zone - I)

USS ONTARIO (AT13) secured from pumping operations after removing most of the oil from number three hold. Oil to a depth of approximately one (1) inch remains, it being impracticable to remove with facilities available.

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AK227/A12-1(rh)
Serial: 113

USS BOULDER VICTORY AK227
c/o Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California

Reg. No. 9628

R. S. No. _____

CONFIDENTIAL

10 February 1945

From: Commanding Officer.
To: Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, Navy Department,
Washington, 25, D. C.

Subj: War Diary - forwarding of.

Encl: (A) War Diary for period covering 1 January 1945
to 31 January 1945, inclusive.

1. Enclosure (A) is forwarded herewith.

F. E. Church
F. E. CHURCH

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106757

CONFIDENTIAL

WAR DIARY FOR THE PERIOD FROM 1 JANUARY 1945
TO 31 JANUARY 1945, INCLUSIVE

U.S.S. BOULDER VICTORY (AK-227)

1 January 1945 (Zone I)

Anchored in Kossol Passage, Palau Islands. Discharging cargo in accordance with C.T.U. 30.9.2 orders, local representative of ComServRon TEN. Making preparations to remove damaged cargo from number three hold, as a result of underwater explosion 20 December 1944.

9 January 1945 (Zone I)

At 0945 commenced discharging damaged cargo from number three hold in accordance with orders received from C.T.U. 30.9.2.

31 January 1945 (Zone I)

Continued discharge and transfer of cargo in accordance with orders C.T.U. 30.9.2. Damaged cargo being removed from number three hold.

Enclosure (A)

AK227/A12-1(rh)
Serial: 122

USS BOULDER VICTORY AK227
Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California

130
Reg. No. 10292

R. S. No.

CONFIDENTIAL

2 March 1945

From: Commanding Officer.
To: Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, Navy Department,
Washington, 25, D. C.

Subj: War Diary - forwarding of.

Encl: (A) War Diary for period covering 1 February 1945
to 28 February 1945, inclusive.

1. Enclosure (A) is forwarded herewith.

F. E. Church
F. E. CHURCH

CC:
CinCPac
File

109194

CONFIDENTIAL

WAR DIARY FOR PERIOD COVERING 1 FEBRUARY 1945
to 28 FEBRUARY 1945, inclusive

U.S.S. BOULDER VICTORY (AK-227)

1 February 1945 (Zone I)

Anchored in Kossol Passage, Palau Islands. Discharging cargo in accordance with CTU 30.9.2 orders. Damaged cargo being removed from number three hold.

8 February 1945 (Zone I)

At 1255 underway in accordance with orders of Port Director, Kossol Passage, Movement No. 10 - Kossol Passage - Manus. OTC in USS BOULDER VICTORY (AK-227), Escort, USS VIGILANCE (AM-324). SOA - 7 knots due to 18 x 35 hole in port side of number three hold, USS BOULDER VICTORY (AK-227).

		<u>Latitude</u>	<u>Longitude</u>
Positions:	2000	07°31.5' N	135°09' E

9 February 1945 (Zone I)

Steaming as before. War Condition III Watch set throughout the ship. 0307, explosion appeared near convoy on parallel course, distance approximately 15000 yards. General quarters set. Emergency turn 45° to starboard. Escort investigated and reported floating mine had been exploded. 0314, base course resumed. War Condition III Watch set.

Positions:	0800	05°07.5' N	136°16' E
	1200	06°23' N	136°37' E
	2000	05°51.7' N	136°26' E

10 February 1945 (Zone I)

Steaming as before. War Condition III Watch set.

Positions:	0800	05°07.5' N	138°44' E
	1200	04°41' N	139°04' E
	2000	04°00' N	139°53' E

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11 February 1945 (Zone I)

Steaming as before. War Condition III Watch set. 1041, report of doubtful submarine contact from escort. Emergency 450 turn to starboard. 1046, results of escort's search negative, base course resumed.

Positions:	0800	03°06.4' N	141°16' E
	1200	02°46' N	141°45' E
	2000	02°04.5' N	142°35' E

12 February 1945 (Zone I)

Steaming as before. War Condition III Watch set.

Positions:	0800	01°04' N	144°02' E
	1200	00°47' N	144°25' E
	2000	00°02' N	145°08' E

13 February 1945 (Zone I)

Steaming as before. War Condition III Watch set. At 1619, anchored in berth 504, Seeadler Harbor, Admiralty Islands. Reported arrival to ComServRon TEN local representative. Requesting further orders. Assigned to Commander Naval Base, Manus for unloading and repair.

Positions:	0800	01°00' S	146°32' E
	1200	01°44' S	146°53' E

14 February 1945 (Zone I)

Anchored, Seeadler Harbor, Admiralty Islands.

22 February 1945 (Zone K)

Anchored, Seeadler Harbor, discharging cargo to USS MURZIM (AK95). Removal of damaged cargo in progress.

28 February 1945 (Zone K)

At 0637, underway from berth 504 pursuant to orders of the Port Director to go alongside ammunition dock. 0730, moored port side to Mount Hood Dock, Admiralty Islands. 1000, commenced discharging cargo to NAD, Manus.

Enclosure (A)

AK227/A12-1(rh)
Serial: 142

USS BOULDER VICTORY AK227
Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California

152
11294

Reg. No.	
R. S. No.	

CONFIDENTIAL

4 April 1945

From: Commanding Officer.
To: Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, Navy Department,
Washington, 25, D. C.

Subj: War Diary - forwarding of.

Encl: (A) War Diary for period covering 1 March 1945 to
31 March 1945, inclusive.

1. Enclosure (a) is forwarded herewith.

F. E. Church
F. E. CHURCH

CC:
CincPac
File

114401

CONFIDENTIAL

WAR DIARY FOR PERIOD COVERING 1 MARCH 1945 TO
31 MARCH 1945, INCLUSIVE

U.S.S. BOULDER VICTORY (AK-227)

1 March 1945 (Zone K)

Anchored in Seeadler Harbor, Admiralty Islands discharging cargo in accordance with orders of the Commander Naval Base, Navy 3205. Damaged cargo being removed from number three hold.

18 March 1945 (Zone K)

Completed discharge of cargo. Damaged cargo being removed from number three hold.

31 March 1945 (Zone K)

Anchored in Seeadler Harbor, Admiralty Islands. Damaged cargo being removed from number three hold.

Enclosure (A)

AK227/A12-1(rh)
Serial: C-

168

USS BOULDER VICTORY AK227
Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California

141
28
Reg. No.

R. S. No.

CONFIDENTIAL

3 May 1945

From: Commanding Officer.
To: Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet.
Subj: War Diary - forwarding of.
Encl: (A) War Diary for period covering 1 April 1945 to
30 April 1945, inclusive.
1. Enclosure (A) is forwarded herewith.

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CC:
CinCPac.
File.

119504

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CONFIDENTIAL

WAR DIARY FOR PERIOD COVERING 1 APRIL 1945 TO
30 APRIL 1945, INCLUSIVE

U.S.S. BOULDER VICTORY (AK-227)

1 April 1945 (Zone K)

Anchored in Seeadler Harbor, Admiralty Islands. Damaged cargo being removed from number three hold in accordance with orders of the Commander Naval Base, Navy 3205.

30 April 1945 (Zone K)

Anchored in Seeadler Harbor, Admiralty Islands. Damaged cargo being removed from number three hold.

Enclosure (A)

AK227/A12-1(rh)
Serial: C-
204

USS BOULDER VICTORY AK227
c/o Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California

Reg. No.	131 53
R. S. No.	

CONFIDENTIAL

3 JUN 1945

From: Commanding Officer.
To: Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.
Subj: War Diary - forwarding of.
Ref: (a) Cominch ltr. FF1/A12-1/A16-3, Serial 7152 of
29 October 1943.
Encl: (A) War Diary for period covering 1 May 1945 to
31 May 1945, inclusive.
1. Enclosure (A) is forwarded herewith in accordance
with reference (a).

F. E. Church
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CC:
Cincpac.

125236

U.S.S. BOULDER VICTORY (AK-227)

1 May 1945 (Zone K)

Anchored in SEEADLER HARBOR, ADMIRALTY ISLANDS. Damaged cargo being removed from number three hold.

7 May 1945 (Zone K)

Dry docked in the U.S.S ABSD-2, SEEADLER HARBOR, ADMIRALTY ISLANDS, for removal of remaining damaged cargo and for temporary repairs. The removal of damaged cargo was completed on 11 May 1945 and temporary repairs were completed on 28 May 1945. The vessel remains dry docked this date, 31 May 1945.

AK227/A12-1(rh)
Serial: C- 229

USS BOULDER VICTORY AK227
c/o Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California

REG. NO 81
R. S. NO
REG. SHEET NO 99

CONFIDENTIAL

5 JUL 1945

From: Commanding Officer.
To: Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.

Subj: War Diary - forwarding of.

Ref: (a) Cominch ltr. FF1/A12-1/A16-3, Serial 7152 of
29 October 1943.

Encl: (A) War Diary for period covering 1 June 1945 to
30 June 1945, inclusive.

1. Enclosure (A) is forwarded herewith in accordance
with reference (a).

F. E. Church
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CC:
Cincpac.
ComServRon 8

128901

CONFIDENTIAL

U.S.S. BOULDER VICTORY (AK-227)

1 June 1945 (Zone K)

Dry docked in the U.S.S. ABSD-2, SEEADLER HARBOR, ADMIRALTY ISLANDS. Temporary repairs have been completed.

9 June 1945 (Zone K)

Out of dry dock, anchored in SEEADLER HARBOR, ADMIRALTY ISLANDS.

13 June 1945 (Zone K)

At 1223 underway from SEEADLER HARBOR, ADMIRALTY ISLANDS, in accordance with ComServ 7th Flt. dispatch 050107, June, to report to ComServPac, PEARL HARBOR. Modified war condition III watch set throughout the ship.

		<u>Latitude</u>	<u>Longitude</u>
Position:	2000	00°59' S	148°35' E

14 June 1945 (Zone K)

Underway with modified war condition III watch set throughout the ship.

Positions:	0800	00°06' S	151°08' E
	1200	00°05.5' N	152°05' E
	2000	00°31' N	153°52' E

15 June 1945 (Zone K)

Underway with modified war condition III watch set throughout the ship.

Positions:	0800	00°59.5' N	156°46.5' E
	1200	1°17.3' N	157°32' E
	2000	1°45' N	159°27' E

16 June 1945 (Zone L)

Underway with modified war condition III watch set throughout the ship.

Positions:	0800	2°25.2' N	162°13' E
	1200	2°42.3' N	163°25.9' E
	2000	3°08.9' N	165°21' E

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U.S.S. BOULDER VICTORY (AK-227)

17 June 1945 (Zone L)

Underway with modified war condition III watch throughout the ship.

		<u>Latitude</u>	<u>Longitude</u>
Positions:	0800	3°55' N	168°17.2' E
	1200	4°09' N	169°24.5' E
	2000	4°34' N	171°27' E

18 June 1945 (Zone L)

Underway with modified war condition III watch set throughout the ship.

Positions:	0800	5°10' N	174°20' E
	1200	5°41.8' N	175°01.5' E
	2000	6°50' N	177°12.8' E

1610, periscope wake reported. Went to General Quarters. Zigzagging 45° to port and starboard on base course 110°. 1625, secured from General Quarters, returning to normal steaming routine.

18 June 1945 (Zone M)

Underway with modified war condition III watch set throughout the ship.

Positions:	0800	07°48' N	179°14' E
	1200	08°17' N	179°41.1' W
	2000	09°03' N	178°30' W

19 June 1945 (Zone Y)

Underway with modified war condition III watch set throughout the ship.

Positions:	0800	10°14.5' N	175°48' W
	1200	10°48.5' N	174°50' W
	2000	11°32' N	173°08.8' W

20 June 1945 (Zone Y)

Underway with modified war condition III watch set throughout the ship.

Positions:	0800	12°36.9' N	170°18.3' W
	1200	13°00.5' N	169°41' W
	2000	13°41.5' N	167°47' W

Enclosure (A)

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U.S.S. BOULDER VICTORY (AK-227)

21 June 1945 (Zone X)

Underway with modified war condition III watch set throughout the ship.

		<u>Latitude</u>	<u>Longitude</u>
Positions:	0800	14°51' N	164°59' W
	1200	15°34' N	164°04' W
	2000	16°50' N	162°25.5' W

22 June 1945 (Zone X)

Underway with modified war condition III watch set throughout the ship.

Positions:	0800	18°35' N	159°54' W
	1200	18°57' N	159°25' W
	2000	19°40' N	158°20' W

23 June 1945 (Zone X)

Underway with modified war condition III watch set throughout the ship. 0840, moored in Pearl Harbor, Oahu. Reported by visual dispatch 231950 to ComServPac.

24 June 1945 (Zone W)

Moored in Pearl Harbor, Oahu. 1759 - Underway for San Francisco in accordance with ComHawSeaFron orders, serial 0825, 24 June 1945. Modified war condition III watch set throughout the ship.

25 June 1945 (Zone W)

Underway with modified war condition III watch set throughout the ship.

Positions:	0800	23°16' N	156°09.8' W
	1200	23°58.5' N	155°04.5' W
	2400	25°21' N	153°25.3' W

26 June 1945 (Zone W)

Underway with modified war condition III watch set throughout the ship.

Positions:	0800	26°57' N	150°43.5' W
	1200	27°31' N	149°54' W
	2000	28°50' N	147°46.5' W

Enclosure (A)

CONFIDENTIAL

U.S.S. BOULDER VICTORY (AK-227)

27 June 1945 (Zone W)

Underway with modified war condition III watch set throughout the ship.

Positions:		<u>Latitude</u>	<u>Longitude</u>
	0800	30°09' N	144°55' W
	1200	30°40.2' N	143°47.2' W
	2000	31°31' N	141°33.5' W

28 June 1945 (Zone V)

Underway with modified war condition III watch set throughout the ship.

Positions:	0800	33°05' N	138°36' W
	1200	33°34' N	137°12.5' W
	2000	34°35' N	134°45.5' W

29 June 1945 (Zone V)

Underway with modified war condition III watch set throughout the ship.

Positions:	0800	35°48' N	131°17' W
	1200	36°06' N	130°21.2' W
	2000	34°51' N	127°59' W

30 June 1945 (Zone U)

Underway with modified war condition III watch set throughout the ship.

1648, anchored in San Francisco Harbor, California. Reported to assistant Industrial Manager for scheduled availability.

Enclosure (A)

AK227/A12-1(rh)
Serial: C- 259

USS BOULDER VICTORY AK227
c/o Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California

REG. NO 95
R. S. NO
REG. SHEET NO 90

CONFIDENTIAL

3 AUG 1945

From: Commanding Officer.
To: Commander-in-Chief, United States Fleet.
Subj: War Diary - forwarding of.
Ref: (a) Cominch ltr. FFL/A12-1/A16-3, Serial 7152 of
29 October 1943.
Encl: (A) War Diary for period covering 1 July 1945 to
31 July 1945, inclusive.

1. Enclosure (A) is forwarded herewith in accordance
with reference (a).

H. T. Crusier III
H. T. CRUSER, III,
Acting.

CC:
Cincpac.
ComServRon 8

134680

CONFIDENTIAL

U.S.S. BOULDER VICTORY (AK-227)

1 July 1945 (Zone U)

Anchored in San Francisco Harbor, California, awaiting scheduled availability through Assistant Industrial Manager, San Francisco, California.

4 July 1945 (Zone U)

Docked at United Engineering Co., Ltd., Alameda, California, for repairs and alterations.

24 July 1945 (Zone U)

Dry docked in dock #1, United Engineering Co., Ltd., Alameda, California, undergoing battle damage repairs and alterations.

Enclosure (A)

AK227/A12-1(rh)
Serial: C- 309

USS BOULDER VICTORY AK227
c/o Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California

REG. NO
R. S. NO

115

T NO 83

7 SEP 1945

From: Commanding Officer.
To: Commander-in-Chief, United States Fleet.
Subj: War Diary - forwarding of.
Ref: (a) Cominch ltr. FF1/A12-1/A16-3, Serial 7152 of
29 October 1943.
Encl: (A) War Diary for period covering 1 August 1945 to
31 August 1945, inclusive.

1. Enclosure (A) is forwarded herewith in accordance
with reference (a).

F. E. Church
F. E. CHURCH

SEP 20 15 50 03

CC:
CincPac.
ComServPac

138795

U.S.S. BOULDER VICTORY (AK-227)

1 August 1945 (Zone U)

Dry docked in dock #1, United Engineering Co., Ltd., Alameda, California, undergoing battle damage repairs and alterations.

4 August 1945 (Zone U)

Docked at United Engineering Co., Ltd., Alameda, California, undergoing repairs and alterations.

23 August 1945 (Zone U)

Anchored in San Francisco Harbor, California, completing repairs and alterations. Ship's degaussing checked and ship depermed.

24 August 1945, compass calibrated and full power run outside of the San Francisco Bay. Returned to anchorage.

28 August 1945 (Zone U)

Docked at Navy Supply, Oakland, California, completing repairs and alterations.

Enclosure (A)

AK227/A12-1(mh)
Serial: C-334

USS BOULDER VICTORY AK227
c/o Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California

REG. NO. 136
R. S. NO.
REG. SHEET NO. 70

CONFIDENTIAL

4 OCT 1945

From: Commanding Officer.
To: Commander-in-Chief, United States Fleet.
Subj: War Diary - forwarding of.
Ref: (a) Cominch ltr. FF1/A12-1/A16-3, Serial 7152 of
29 October 1943.
Encl: (A) War Diary for period covering 1 September 1945 to
30 September 1945, inclusive.
1. Enclosure (A) is forwarded herewith in accordance
with reference (a).

F. E. Church
F. E. CHURCH

140800

CC:
CincPac.
ComServPac.

CONFIDENTIAL

U.S.S. BOULDER VICTORY (AK-227)

1 September 1945 (Zone U)

Underway from San Francisco, California, for San Diego, California, in accordance with Commander Western Sea Frontier Movement Order Number 361-45, of 31 August 1945, to undergo a ten (10) day refresher training period.

Position: 200 37°22' N 123°07' E

2 September 1945 (Zone U)

Steaming as before. Modified war condition III watch set throughout the ship.

Positions: 0800 35°03' N 122°06' W
1200 34°18.4' N 121°32.8' W
2000 33°06' N 120°17' W

3 September 1945 (Zone U)

Arrived in San Diego, California. Reported to ComUnderwayTraUnit. Arrival Inspection conducted by Training Unit.

4 September 1945 (Zone U)

Anchored in San Diego Harbor, California. Undergoing repairs on Number 1 main feed pump.

10 September 1945 (Zone U)

Steaming in the vicinity of San Diego, California, on various training exercises, as ordered by ComUnderwayTraUnit.

14 September 1945 (Zone U)

Anchored in San Diego Harbor, California.

15 September 1945 (Zone U)

Underway for San Francisco, California, in accordance with ComELEVEN Movement Order Number 322-45, of 15 September 1945.

Positions: 1200 32°36' N 117°36' W
2000 33°18' N 119°45' W

Enclosure (A)

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U.S.S. BOULDER VICTORY (AK-227)

16 September 1945 (Zone U)

Anchored in San Francisco Harbor, California. Reported to the Port Director of ComTWELVE for loading.

18 September 1945 (Zone U)

Moored to pier #5, United Engineering Company, Ltd., Alameda, California, completing repairs and alterations not finished during the last availability period.

21 September 1945 (Zone U)

Moored to Pier #5, Encinal Terminal, Alameda, California, receiving cargo.

30 September 1945 (Zone U)

Moored to Pier #5, Encinal Terminal, Alameda, California, receiving cargo.

Enclosure (A)

AK227/A12-1(hh)
Serial: C- 363

USS BOULDER VICTORY AK227
c/o Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California

REG NO 150
NOV 1945
NO 78

CONFIDENTIAL

5 NOV 1945

From: Commanding Officer.
To: Commander-in-Chief, United States Fleet.
Subj: War Diary - forwarding of.
Ref: (a) Cominch ltr. FF1/A12-1/A16-3, Serial 7152 of
29 October 1943.
Encl: (A) War Diary for period covering 1 October 1945 to
31 October 1945, inclusive.

1. Enclosure (A) is forwarded herewith in accordance with
reference (a).

F. E. Church
F. E. CHURCH

CC:
CincPac.
ComServPac.

147988

CONFIDENTIAL

U.S.S. BOULDER VICTORY (AK-227)

1 October 1945 (Zone U)

Moored Encinal Terminal, Alameda, California.

2 October 1945 (Zone U)

Underway for Port Hueneme, California, in accordance with Commander Western Sea Frontier movement order number 815-C&R.

3 October 1945 (Zone U)

Moored Port Hueneme, California Naval Supply Depot. Receiving general cargo for transportation.

10 October 1945 (Zone U)

Underway for Eniwetok, Marshall Islands in accordance with Commander Western Sea Frontier movement order number 815-C&R.

11 October 1945 (Zone U)

Steaming with modified condition III watch set throughout the ship.

		<u>Latitude</u>		<u>Longitude</u>	
Positions:	0800	33°05'	N	122°28'	W
	1200	33°09'	N	123°46'	W
	2000	33°19.5'	N	126°07.5'	W

12 October 1945 (Zone U)

Steaming with modified condition III watch set throughout the ship.

Positions:	0800	33°31'	N	129°41'	W
	1200	33°27.7'	N	130°48.7'	W
	2000	33°29'	N	132°59'	W

13 October 1945 (Zone V)

Steaming with modified condition III watch set throughout the ship.

Positions:	0800	33°29'	N	136°38.5'	W
	1200	33°25'	N	137°49'	W
	2000	33°19'	N	140°06'	W

Enclosure (A)

CONFIDENTIAL

U.S.S. BOULDER VICTORY (AK-227)

14 October 1945 (Zone V)

Steaming with modified condition III watch set throughout the ship.

Positions:		<u>Latitude</u>		<u>Longitude</u>	
	0800	33°05'	N	143°25'	W
	1200	33°01'	N	144°32'	W
	2000	32°46'	N	147°04'	W

15 October 1945 (Zone W)

Steaming with modified condition III watch set throughout the ship.

Positions:	0800	32°26.5'	N	150°32'	W
	1200	33°12.6'	N	151°43.8'	W
	2000	31°56'	N	153°55'	W

16 October 1945 (Zone W)

Steaming with modified condition III watch set throughout the ship.

Positions:	0800	31°21'	N	157°26'	W
	1200	31°04'	N	158°33.5'	W
	2000	30°29'	N	161°04.8'	W

17 October 1945 (Zone X)

Steaming with modified condition III watch set throughout the ship.

Positions:	0800	29°43.5'	N	164°30'	W
	1200	39°25.2'	N	165°40.5'	W
	2000	28°46'	N	168°03.5'	W

18 October 1945 (Zone X)

Steaming with modified condition III watch set throughout the ship.

Positions:	0800	27°43'	N	171°24.3'	W
	1200	27°18'	N	172°50'	W
	2000	26°32.5'	N	175°06'	W

19 - 20 October 1945 (Zone Y)

Steaming with modified condition III watch set throughout the ship.

Positions:	0800	24°45.5'	N	177°32'	W
	1200	24°12.2'	N	178°56'	W
	2000	23°09'	N	179°17'	E

Crossed the International Date Line this date.
Enclosure (A)

CONFIDENTIAL

U.S.S. BOULDER VICTORY (AK-227)

21 October 1945 (Zone M)

Steaming with modified condition III watch set throughout the ship.

		<u>Latitude</u>		<u>Longitude</u>	
Positions:	0800	21°33'	N	176°35.3'	E
	1200	20°59.2'	N	175°43'	E
	2000	19°55'	N	174°12'	E

22 October 1945 (Zone M)

Steaming with modified condition III watch set throughout the ship.

Positions:	0800	18°24'	N	171°50'	E
	1200	17°42'	N	170°52'	E
	2000	16°26'	N	169°12'	E

23 October 1945 (Zone L)

Steaming with modified condition III watch set throughout the ship.

Positions:	0800	14°35'	N	166°45'	E
	1200	14°06'	N	165°55'	E
	2000	12°58'	N	164°27'	E

24 October 1945 (Zone L)

Anchored Eniwetok, Marshall Islands. Discharged mail cargo. Underway for Buckner Bay, Okinawa in accordance with Port Director, Eniwetok movement order.

Position:	2000	11°56'	N	166°46.8'	E
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25 October 1945 (Zone L)

Steaming with modified condition III watch set throughout the ship.

Positions:	0800	13°42.5'	N	158°59'	E
	1200	14°19'	N	158°08.5'	E
	2000	15°34.3'	N	156°23.2'	E

26 October 1945 (Zone K)

Steaming with modified condition III watch set throughout the ship.

Positions:	0800	17°27'	N	153°23'	E
	1200	17°59.5'	N	152°25'	E
	2000	19°02'	N	150°39'	E

Enclosure (A)

U.S.S. BOULDER VICTORY (AK-227)

27 October 1945 (Zone X)

Steaming with modified condition III watch set throughout the ship.

		<u>Latitude</u>		<u>Longitude</u>	
Positions:	0800	20°44.2'	N	147°44'	E
	1200	21°16'	N	146°46'	E
	2000	22°17.5'	N	144°48'	E

28 October 1945 (Zone K)

Steaming with modified condition III watch set throughout the ship.

Positions:	0800	23°30.5'	N	141°29.5'	E
	1200	23°52.9'	N	140°21'	E
	2000	24°24'	N	137°52.3'	E

29 October 1945 (Zone I)

Steaming with modified condition III watch set throughout the ship.

Positions:	0800	24°39'	N	134°24.5'	E
	1200	24°34.5'	N	133°33'	E
	2000	24°48'	N	131°22'	E

30 October 1945 (Zone K)

Anchored Buckner Bay, Okinawa. Reported to the Port Director for discharge of cargo.

31 October 1945 (Zone K)

Anchored Buckner Bay, Okinawa.

AK227/A12-1(hh)

Serial: C- 387

USS BOULDER VICTORY AK227
c/o Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California

10 DEC 1945

From: Commanding Officer.
 To: Commander-in-Chief, United States Fleet.
 Subj: War Diary - forwarding of.
 Ref: (a) Cominch ltr. FF1/A12-1/A16-3, Serial 7152 of
 29 October 1943.
 Encl: (A) War Diary for period covering 1 November 1945 to
 30 November 1945, inclusive.

1. Enclosure (A) is forwarded herewith in accordance with reference (a).

F. E. Church
F. E. CHURCH

RECEIVED S-C FILES
 Room 2055
 ROUTE TO: 03
 18 DEC 1945
 File No. (SC) A12-1/AK227
 Doc. No. _____
 Copy No. 1 of 1
 Reg. No. 165

CC: CincPac
ComServPac.

152095

U.S.S. BOULDER VICTORY (AK-227)

1 November 1945 (Zone I)

Anchored in Buckner Bay, Okinawa, awaiting discharge of cargo.

4 November 1945 (Zone I)

Commenced discharge of cargo.

8 November 1945 (Zone I)

Discontinued discharge of cargo.

10 November 1945 (Zone I)

Underway in accordance with orders of the Port Director Navy No. 3256, dated 9 November 1945 for Port Hueneme, California. A modified condition III watch set throughout the ship.

		<u>Latitude</u>	<u>Longitude</u>
Position:	2000	26°20' N	129°06.2' E

11 November 1945 (Zone I)

Underway with modified condition III watch set throughout the ship.

Positions:	0800	27°06.5' N	132°13.5' E
	1200	27°23' N	133°18.3' E
	2000	27°57.3' N	135°35' E

12 November 1945 (Zone I)

Underway with modified condition III watch set throughout the ship.

Positions:	0800	28°42' N	138°54' E
	1200	28°54' N	140°01' E
	2000	29°11' N	141°54' E

13 November 1945 (Zone K)

Underway with modified condition III^I watch set throughout the ship.

Positions:	0800	29°41' N	145°12.2' E
	1200	29°53' N	146°17.5' E
	2000	30°19' N	148°32.5' E

Enclosure (A)

U.S.S. BOULDER VICTORY (AK-227)

14 November 1945 (Zone K)

Underway with modified condition III watch set throughout the ship.

		<u>Latitude</u>	<u>Longitude</u>
Positions:	0800	30°51' N	151°44.5' E
	1200	30°52.4' N	152°52.5' E
	2000	30°59.8' N	154°49' E

15 November 1945 (Zone K)

Underway with modified condition III watch set throughout the ship.

Positions:	0800	31°59.8' N	157°48' E
	1200	32°18' N	158°32' E
	2000	33°08.9' N	160°34' E

16 November 1945 (Zone L)

Underway with modified condition III watch set throughout the ship.

Positions:	0800	34°15.5' N	163°38' E
	1200	34°33.5' N	164°50' E
	2000	35°23' N	167°03' E

17 November 1945 (Zone L-M)

Positions:	0800	36°31' N	170°38' E
	1200	36°52' N	171°51.3' E
	2000	37°21.7' N	173°55' E

17 November 1945 (Zone L-M)

Positions:	0800	38°16.2' N	177°39' E
	1200	38°29.1' N	178°05' E

Crossed the International Date Line this date.

18 November 1945 (Zone M)

Underway with modified condition III watch set throughout the ship.

Positions:	0800	39°33' N	174°35.8' E
	1200	39°39.6' N	173°37' W
	2000	39°58' N	170°57' E

Enclosure (A)

U.S.S. BOULDER VICTORY (AK-227)

19 November 1945 (Zone X)

Underway with modified condition III watch set throughout the ship.

		<u>Latitude</u>	<u>Longitude</u>
Positions:	0800	40°18.7' N	166°53.5' W
	1200	40°32.3' N	165°14.2' W
	2000	40°35' N	162°27.5' W

20 November 1945 (Zone X)

Positions:	0800	40°35.3' N	158°12' W
	1200	40°25.7' N	157°24' W
	2000	40°21.5' N	154°22' W

Underway with modified condition III watch set throughout the ship.

21 November 1945 (Zone W)

Underway with modified condition III watch set throughout the ship.

Positions:	0800	40°22' N	150°13' W
	1200	40°12.7' N	148°51' W
	2000	39°54' N	146°03' W

22 November 1945 (Zone W)

Underway with modified condition III watch set throughout the ship.

Positions:	0800	39°20' N	141°59' W
	1200	38°56' N	140°40.8' W
	2000	38°33' N	138°20' W

23 November 1945 (Zone V)

Underway with modified condition III watch set throughout the ship.

Positions:	0800	37°48' N	134°23' W
	1200	37°23' N	133°15' W
	2000	36°57' N	130°38' W

24 November 1945 (Zone V)

Underway with modified condition III watch set throughout the ship.

Positions:	0800	35°58.5' N	126°57' W
	1200	35°37' N	125°41.5' W
	2000	34°55.5' N	123°15' W

Enclosure (A)

U.S.S. BOULDER VICTORY (AK-227)

25 November 1945 (Zone U)

Made arrival in Los Angeles, California, Harbor, reporting arrival for discharge of cargo, by dispatch of Commandant Eleventh Naval District.

Position:	0800	<u>Latitude</u>	<u>Longitude</u>
		33°47' N	119°54' W

27 November 1945 (Zone U)

Underway for Port Hueneme, California, pursuant to orders of the Port Director, San Pedro, California.

28 November 1945 (Zone U)

Commenced discharge of cargo to A.B.S.D., Port Hueneme, California.

30 November 1945 (Zone U)

Moored to dock #2, Port Hueneme, California. Discharging cargo to A.B.S.D. of Port Hueneme, California.

OCT 6 - 1945 AM

AK227/ AL2-1(em)
Serial: 332

USS BOULDER VICTORY AK227
c/o Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California



oor

SO10 6 49

29 SEP 1945

RECEIVED
Navy Department
Secy's Office

From: Commanding Officer.
To: Secretary of the Navy.

Subj: Ship's History.

Ref: (a) ALPac 202.

Encl: (A) Ship's History.

All encls. rec'd
EXOS Mail Room

1. The enclosed History News Release of the BOULDER VICTORY is forwarded in compliance with reference (a).

2. The BOULDER VICTORY was commissioned October 12, 1944, at Richmond, California.

3. The ship, after extensive repairs and alterations, is again available to haul cargo to the forward area occupational forces.



F. E. Church
F. E. CHURCH

CC:
CinCPac, Pearl
ComServPac, Pearl

156241

PRINT

OCT 6 1945

"THE LUCKY BOULDER"

No Objections to publication
For Naval Security Reasons
OFFICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION, U. S. NAVY
Security Review Section

The BOULDER VICTORY (AK-227), newly commissioned Naval cargo ship, diverted from Maritime Commission duty to temporary Naval Auxiliary duty, made her first voyage from San Francisco, California, on 2 November 1944. The BOULDER was the first of her kind to be put into commission for the express purpose of carrying all types of ammunition directly to our fleet in the forward areas.

On this, her first trip, she was loaded to the gunwales with almost every type of explosive that the fleet might have use for.

Out of "Frisco", the "BV", as she is called by her men, encountered rough weather. Many prayers were said then, for the rolling of the ship caused some of the lethal cargo to break loose, thereby resulting in a sort of free for all between the three and five inch shells as they rolled around and crashed together. This very awkward situation had to be remedied at once, so the crew immediately got busy, and after some forty-eight (48) hours of intermittent work, the cargo was once again secured, and the voyage continued on to Kossol Passage in the Palau Islands.

It was here, on the gray dawn of 20 December 1944, that an "incident" occurred, which will live in the memories of her crew for the rest of their lives. The ship was just getting underway, with the Captain, Lieutenant Commander F. E. CHURCH at the conn. Suddenly there was a terrific explosion, and the ship seemed to be lifted from the water, and slammed against an invisible stone wall. All hands froze in their tracks, waiting for that second explosion, which seemed so inevitable, and which would have literally blown the ship into a billion pieces. Seconds passed, long seconds which seemed like hours, but the deafening roar, and blinding flash which would have meant oblivion, never came. By some grace of God, the explosive (either a mine or most likely a midget submarine torpedo) which the ship had struck had only set off a few individual shells.

Fire fighting equipment was immediately broken out, and all hands turned to, to put out the fire in number 3 hold, from which smoke was pouring. However, another miracle had taken place, for the flooding sea water had brought the fire under control.

After the Excitement had died down, a survey of the damage was taken by Alfred V. BELVIN, MM2c, who had built a home-made diving apparatus. BELVIN discovered a hole in the side of the ship "big enough to drive a truck through."

Some of the men who think they are more than lucky to come out alive are: Chief Gunner Paul R. LANDRE; GAY, Frank "C", GMlc; YEAGER, Elmer E., GMlc; and KELLERHALS, Frank L., Slc, who were in the hold at the time of the explosion. All three men escaped without a scratch. Other "lucky" men were POLLARD, Jessie L., Slc, and MONTALVO, Irino, Slc, who were thrown overboard by the force of the explosion. Both men were rescued safely.

Enclosure (A)

Despite the damage wrought, eighty percent of the cargo was saved by the crew, who worked long and hard to recover the ammunition, and transfer it to other units of the fleet.

This ammunition eventually found its way to the Iwo Jima and Okinawa operations.

The two months period from 20 December 1944 to 13 February 1945 was spent at anchor in Kossol Passage, cleaning up the oil and debris resulting from the explosion, and transferring undamaged ammunition to other units of the Pacific Fleet.

On 13 February 1945, the "Boulder" put out to sea from Kossol Passage on a 1000 mile journey, in a damaged condition, still loaded with three fourths of the original cargo. Moving at slow speed, in order to eliminate further damage, the Admiralty Islands were finally reached. Here again much time was spent at anchor while the undamaged cargo was removed.

At long last, the ship was placed in a floating drydock and temporary repairs undertaken. Here the actual extent of the damage was determined, which turned out to be an opening blown into the port side of number 3 hold, approximately 18 by 35 feet wide. The inner portions of the hold were also broken and twisted by the force of the explosion. Two projectiles had exploded and gone through the starboard skin of the ship, leaving holes 16 inches in diameter as evidence to the fact.

After temporary repairs, the "Boulder" sailed for San Francisco, arriving 30 June 1945. Here major repairs and alterations were undertaken at United Engineering Company, Alameda, California.

The BOULDER VICTORY is now repaired and back in operation, to take its place in the fleet in support of the occupation of Japan.

The crew of the "BV" figure that they can lay claim to the title of "The Luckiest Crew in Uncle Sam's Navy".

Enclosure (A)