

Contributed by Frank Gerhardt

9838

**U. S. S. RED OAK VICTORY (AK-235)**

% Fleet Post Office, San Francisco, California

AK-235  
Ser. No. 1-45.

10 January 1945.

From: Commanding Officer.  
To: Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet.  
Subject: War Diary - Month of December, 1944 - submission of.

1. On 5 December, 1944 this vessel was accepted from the U. S. Maritime Commission at 1400 and placed in commission by Commander, John Rylander, D-V(S) USNR, representing ComTWELVE. Lt.Comdr. John S. Sayers, D-M, USNR, assumed command.
2. The period from 5 December to 13 December was occupied by fitting out activity under instructions from ComTWELVE, including compensation of magnetic compass, RDF, degaussing and general drills.
3. 14 December, 1944, reported to CINCPAC and COTCPAC, got underway for San Pedro, California, for shakedown in obedience to COTCPAC Order No. 326-44, of 22 Nov. 1944. Conducted full power run enroute.
4. From 15 December to 22 December conducted Shakedown Operations in accordance with COTCPAC Operation Plan CTG 14.4, No. 27 of 16 December, 1944, including general drills, firing at towed sleeve and surface targets, and operations for tactical data.
5. On 23 December, 1944, reported to COMINCH and CINCPAC for duty and got underway for San Francisco, California, following final inspection by San Pedro Shakedown Group, in obedience to Commander San Pedro Shakedown Group dispatch 221656 of December 1944.
6. On 24 December, 1944, arrived at San Francisco, California and reported to ComWesSeaFron and to ComTWELVE for operational control.
7. On 24 December, 1944, anchored in anchorage #7, San Francisco Bay, until 30 December, 1944.
8. On 30 December, 1944, moved alongside Pier 48, "B", San Francisco, California, pursuant to verbal orders of ComTWELVE and began loading general cargo.

101554

*J. S. Sayers*  
J. S. Sayers,  
Commanding.

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U. S. S. RED OAK VICTORY (AK-235)  
% Fleet Post Office, San Francisco, California

Reg. No. None

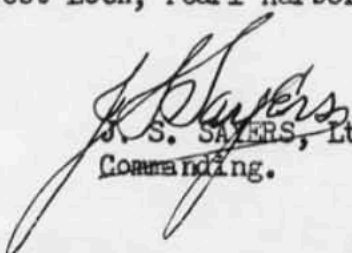
AK-235/A9-4  
Serial 07/45

6 Feb. 1945.

CONFIDENTIAL

From: Commanding Officer.  
To : Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet.  
Subj: War Diary, Month of January, 1945.

1. From 1 January to 9 January 1945, this ship was moored starboard side to Pier 48-B, San Francisco, California, loading general cargo, under operational of ComTWELVE. Time zone + 7 in effect.
2. At 0737, 9 January 1945, got underway in obedience to verbal orders of ComTWELVE for Naval Ammunition Depot, Port Chicago, California, arriving there at 1120. Loading of cargo ammunition commenced at 1535 and continued until 0315, 11 January 1945. A total of approximately 500 tons was loaded.
3. At 0820, 11 January 1945, this vessel got underway for Pearl Harbor, T. H., in obedience to ComWesSeaFron Movement Order # 23 C&R of 2200, 9 January 1945. The voyage was made singly and was uneventful.
4. On 16 January 1945, Time zone + 9½, at 1738 arrived at Pearl Harbor, T. H. and in obedience to Port Director, 14th Naval District orders, moored in berth C-3, alongside U.S.S. APA-62. Reported to ComServRonEIGHT for duty.
5. On 17 January 1945, at 1312, berth was shifted to K-3, Pearl Harbor, T. H. Unloading of general cargo and cargo ammunition commenced immediately and continued until 1705, 24 January 1945.
6. On 25 January 1945, underway at 1211, in obedience to Port Director, 14th Naval District dispatch# 250358, for berth W-2, Naval Ammunition Depot, West Loch, Pearl Harbor, T. H. Arrived at 1349.
7. From 25 January to 31 January 1945, loading cargo ammunition for fleet issue at Naval Ammunition Depot, West Loch, Pearl Harbor, T. H.

  
J. S. SAYERS, Lt. Comdr., USNR  
Commanding.

cc: CincPac.  
File.

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| Reg. I    | 3817 |
| R. S. No. |      |

**U. S. S. RED OAK VICTORY (AK-235)**  
% Fleet Post Office, San Francisco, California

AK-235/P12-1  
Serial 14/45

3 March 1945

CONFIDENTIAL

From: Commanding Officer  
To : Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet  
Subj: War Diary, Month of February 1945.

1. 1 February, 1945 (Zone + 9½ time), operating under Commander Service Squadron Eight. From 1 February to 10 February, loading of cargo ammunition for fleet issue continued at Naval Ammunition Depot, West Loch, Pearl Harbor, T. H.

2. At 1200, 10 February 1945, underway for Eniwetok, Marshall Islands and onward routing to Ulithi Atoll, Caroline Islands, in accordance with ComServPac SECRET dispatch 091917 of February 1945. Fired 28 rounds 3"/50, 24 rounds 5"/38 and 1900 rounds 20 MM in practice.

3. The voyage from Pearl Harbor, T. H. to Eniwetok was made singly and was uneventful except as noted in paragraph 4. Daily positions were as follows:

2/10/45( Zone + 11 time)

2000 - 19-56 N., 159-48 W.

2/11/45

0800 - 19-49 N., 161-48 W.

1200 - 19-45 N., 162-46 W.

2000 - 19-35 N., 164-57 W. ( Zone + 11½ time ).

2/12/45

0800 - 19-01 N., 167-48 W.

1200 - 18-50 N., 168-52 W.

2000 - 18-31 N., 170-55 W. ( Zone + 12 time ).

2/13/45

0800 - 17-49 N., 174-04 W.

1200 - 18-50 N., 168-52 W.

2000 - 17-06 N., 177-14 W. ( Zone + 12½ time )

U. S. S. RED OAK VICTORY (AK-235)

2/15/45 ( Zone - 11½ time ).

0800 - 16-27 N., 179-36 E.  
1200 - 16-12 N., 178-25 E.  
20 2000 - 15-40 N., 176-15 E. ( Zone -11 time ).

2/16/45

0800 - 14-47 N., 173-12 E.  
1200 - 14-32 N., 172-14 E.  
2000 - 14-02 N., 170-20 E.

2/17/45

0800 - 13-06 N., 167-27 E.  
1200 - 12-49 N., 166-37 E.  
2000 - 12-12 N., 164-48 E.

4. Enroute to Eniwetok some shifting of cargo ammunition was experienced as a result of inadequate shoring. However, this situation was kept under control by the Ship's personnel who placed extra shoring as required. Fortunately no rough weather was encountered.

5. At 0917, 18 February 1945 ( Zone -12 time), this vessel entered Eniwetok Lagoon and anchored in anchorage A., berth P-10, where she remained, awaiting a convoy to Ulithi. Advantage was taken of this opportunity to improve the shoring of cargo ammunition in all holds.

6. At 1120, 23 February 1945, underway for Ulithi Atoll, in obedience to Port Director, Navy No. 3237 sailing orders of 22 February 1945. At 1520 this ship joined the convoy and took position 121, convoy Commodore being in USAT Yarmouth. Daily positions were as follows:

2/23/45

2000 - 17-21 N., 161-16 E.

2/24/45 ( Zone -11 time ).

0800 - 11-50 N., 158-53 E.  
1200 - 11-55 N., 158-09 E.  
2000 - 12-11 N., 156-44 E.

2/25/45 Cont'd on page 3.

U. S. S. RED OAK VICTORY (AK-235)

2/25/45 ( Zone -10½ Time).

0800 - 12-32 N., 154-24 E.  
1200 - 12-34 N., 153-38 E.  
2000 - 12-48 N., 152-07 E.

2/26/45

0800 - 13-06 N., 149-58 E.  
1200 - 12-50 N., 149-19 E.  
2000 - 12-19 N., 147-55 E.

2/27/45 ( Zone -10 time ).

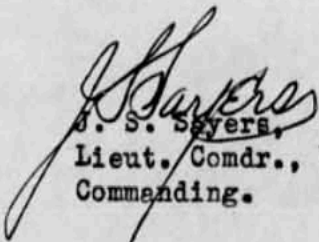
0800 - 11-28 N., 145-50 E.  
\* 1200 - 11-13 N., 145-11 E.  
2000 - 12-19 N., 147-55 E.

\* Note - At 1200, the Ulithi section was detached from the balance of the convoy and proceeded independently, convoy Commodore in USS APA-221.

2/28/45

0800 - 10-32 N., 141-13 E.  
1200 - 10-19 N., 140-30 E.

7. At 1545, 28 February 1945, arrived at Ulithi Atoll, Caroline Islands, and anchored in berth 229. No difficulty was experienced with the cargo ammunition enroute from Eniwetok.

  
J. S. Sayers,  
Lieut. Comdr., USNR  
Commanding.

cc:  
CincPac  
File



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

R. S. No. \_\_\_\_\_

U. S. S. RED OAK VICTORY (AK-235)  
% Fleet Post Office, San Francisco, California

AK-235/PL2-1  
Serial 21-45

10 April 1945

CONFIDENTIAL

From: Commanding Officer.  
To: Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet.  
Subj: War Diary, Month of March 1945.

1. 1 March 1945 (Zone - 10 time), operating under Commander Service Squadron TEN. Anchored in berth 229, Southern anchorage, Ulithi Atoll, Caroline Islands. Draft forward 23' 00", aft 28' 00".

2. 3 March 1945, at 0719 Underway to go alongside USS MAUNA LOA(AE-8) in anchorage 2, Northern anchorage. In attempting to go alongside MAUNA LOA, life raft # 4 was sheared off against her starboard forward 3"/50 Cal. gun tub. Eventually, MAUNA LOA moved out of berth 2, this vessel anchored and she came alongside to starboard. Transferring of cargo ammunition to MAUNA LOA commenced at 1710 with the assistance of CB's and continued until 7 March.

3. 7 March - At 0824 berth was shifted to anchorage 173, Northern anchorage. Small amounts of cargo ammunition were transferred to various LCT's which came alongside during the day.

4. 8 March - Transferred additional small amounts of cargo ammunition to LCT's. Underway at 1704 to Southern anchorage, anchoring at 1906 in berth 366.

5. 9 March - At 0752 USS LST 24 came alongside to starboard and commenced receiving cargo ammunition. At 1310 USS LST 277 came alongside to port and commenced receiving cargo ammunition. Transferring to both ships continued on 10 March.

6. 11 March - Having completed transferring of cargo ammunition to the LST's, this vessel shifted berth at 1033 to berth 165, Northern anchorage. In the afternoon and evening, cargo ammunition was unloaded to the USS LCT 385. At 2015 an explosion occurred, bearing 105 T., followed almost immediately by a second explosion. The ship was immediately darkened and remained so until 2205, when cargo lights were turned on and unloading was resumed.

7. 12 March - Underway at 0721 to berth 7 where the vessel was moored to the port side, USS TENNESSEE to transfer cargo ammunition. During the day LCT's came alongside and were also serviced. Transferring to the USS TENNESSEE was completed and this vessel moved to berth 166 at 0654, 13 March.

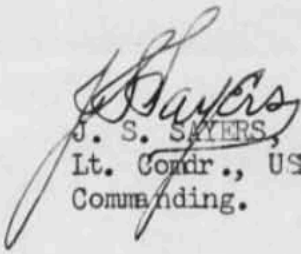
## U. S. S. RED OAK VICTORY (AK-235)

8. 14 March - At 0700 underway to moor alongside USS IDAHO in berth 40. Cargo ammunition was unloaded to the USS IDAHO, and the ship moved to anchorage 168 at 1606. While alongside the USS IDAHO damage was sustained to the starboard side as a result of pounding against the port side of the USS IDAHO. All decks on the upper level of the engine room were buckled between frames 78 and 95. The main frames 84 and 90 were badly buckled and the angle iron between frames 82 and 83 bent. The channel iron on frame 87 was buckled and the bracket between frames 88 and 89 supporting the deck plates was torn loose. The auxiliary circulating pump, casing and motor shaft support was cracked, and the pump knocked out of alignment, rendering it inoperative.
9. 15 March - At 0853 this ship went alongside the USS NEVADA to unload cargo ammunition, suffering slight damage to the starboard forward 20 MM splinter shield. At 1721, having completed the transfer to the USS NEVADA, we returned to berth 168.
10. 16-17 March - Small amounts of ammunition were transferred to LCM's, LCT's and the USS LOWRY(DD-770).
11. 18 March - At 1231 the ship went alongside USS TEXAS and transferred cargo ammunition to her, and received some 14" projectiles from the battleship. At 1802 we returned to berth 168. On 19 March we went alongside the USS TEXAS again to complete the operation, mooring at 0741 and returning to anchorage 168 at 1348.
12. 20 - 21 March - Remained in anchorage 168, transferring small amounts of cargo ammunition to LCM'S and LCT's and USS LEWIS(DE-535).
13. 22 March - At 1200 this ship was moored alongside the port side of the USS NEW YORK(BB-34) and transferred cargo ammunition to her, returning to anchorage 168 at 1735. While alongside USS NEW YORK additional damage was sustained to this ship. The two and one half inch(2½") valve on the suction side of the auxiliary condenser was cracked, necessitating temporarily securing # 1 generator until repaired. The flexible coupling on the discharge side of the auxiliary condenser showed signs of extreme stress, with a possibility of tearing loose from the flange. Damage previously noted between frames 78 and 95 was more prominent.
14. 23 - 31 March - Remained in berth 168 transferring small amounts of cargo ammunition to various LCM's and LCT's, also taking some small amounts aboard.

U. S. S. RED OAK VICTORY (AK-235)

14. Cont'd.

On 27 March, USS LST 999 came alongside and took cargo ammunition also. The draft at the end of the month was 16' 03" forward, 23' 00" aft.

  
J. S. SAYERS,  
Lt. Comdr., USNR,  
Commanding.

cc: CincPac  
File.



U. S. S. RED OAK VICTORY (AK-235)  
c/o Fleet Post Office, San Francisco, California

|           |             |
|-----------|-------------|
| Reg. No.  | <i>None</i> |
| R. S. No. |             |

AK-235/P12-1  
Serial 38

6 May 1945.

CONFIDENTIAL

From: Commanding Officer.  
To: Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.  
Subject: War Diary - Month of April - submission of.

1. 1 April 1945 (zone - 10 time), operating under Commander Service Squadron Ten. Anchored in berth 168, Northern Anchorage, Ulithi Atoll, Caroline Islands. Draft forward, 16' 03", aft 23' 00". From 1 April to 10 April small amounts of cargo ammunition were transferred to and from various LCM's and LCT's which came alongside.

2. 11 April 1945. At 0748 this vessel moored alongside the U. S. S. MAUNA LOA (AE-8) in berth 546, and commenced transferring cargo ammunition to and from the U. S. S. MAUNA LOA.

3. 14 April 1945. At 1208, having completed the exchange of cargo ammunition, this vessel moved from alongside the U. S. S. MAUNA LOA and anchored in berth 171.

4. From 14 April to 22 April small amounts of cargo ammunition were transferred to and from various LCT's which came alongside.

5. 22 April 1945. At 1455 the S. S. CHARLES J. FINGER moored along our starboard side and commenced transferring cargo ammunition into our # 3 hold. This operation continued until 24 April.

6. 25 April 1945. At 0620 the S. S. CHARLES J. FINGER got underway from alongside and shortly afterward the S. S. WALTER WILLIAMS made a Chinese landing on our starboard side. Loading of cargo ammunition from the S. S. WALTER WILLIAMS commenced at 1350 and was still going on at the end of the month. Draft on 30 April was 17' 00" forward, 25' 00" aft.

*J. S. Sayers*  
J. S. SAYERS,  
Lt. Comdr., USNR  
COMMANDING.

cc: CincPac  
File.

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U. S. S. RED OAK VICTORY (AK-235)  
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JNF/bh

AK-235/A12-1

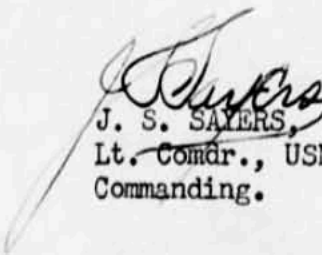
Serial C-3

2 July 1945.

CONFIDENTIAL

From: Commanding Officer.  
To : Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.  
Subject: War Diary, Month of June - Submission of.

1. 1 June to 30 June 1945 (Zone - 9 time), operating under Commander Service Squadron Ten. Anchored in various berths, San Pedro Bay, Leyte Gulf, Philippine Islands. Transferred cargo ammunition to and from various ships and small craft.

  
J. S. SAYERS,  
Lt. Comdr., USNR  
Commanding.

cc: CincPac.  
File  
ComServRon8.

129820

U. S. S. RED OAK VICTORY (AK-235)  
c/o Fleet Post Office, San Francisco, California

AK-235/A12-1

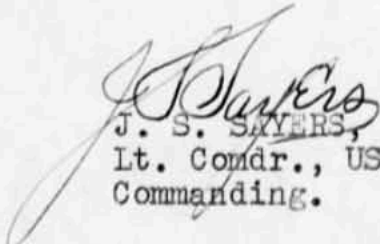
Serial C-4

3 August 1945.

CONFIDENTIAL

From: Commanding Officer.  
To : Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.  
Subject: War Diary - Month of July - Submission of.

1. From 1 July 1945 to 31 July 1945 At San Pedro Bay, Leyte Gulf, Philippine Islands (time zone - 9).
2. Operating under ComServDiv101, transferred small amounts of cargo ammunition to various ships and small craft.

  
J. S. SAYERS,  
Lt. Comdr., USNR  
Commanding.

cc: CincPac  
ComServRon8  
File

135096

REG. NO

R. S. NO

REG. SHEET NO/00

U. S. S. RED OAK VICTORY (AK-235)

c/o Fleet Post Office, San Francisco, California

AK-235/A12-1

Serial C-6

3 Sept. 1945.

CONFIDENTIAL

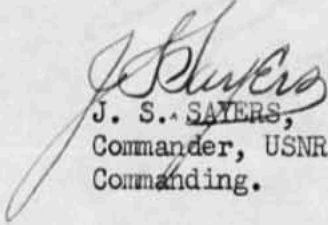
From: Commanding Officer.  
To: Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.  
Subject: War Diary - Month of August - Submission of.

1. From 1 August 1945 to 11 August 1945 at San Pedro Bay, Leyte Gulf, Philippine Islands (time zone - 9).

2. On 12 August 1945, pursuant to ComServDiv-101 visual dispatch 111334 of August 1945, proceeded to a point in Leyte Gulf outside the harbor area and jettisoned 1980 smoke pots, 560 smoke floats and 872 100# fragmentation bombs carried as cargo.

3. From 13 August 1945 to 31 August 1945 at San Pedro Bay, Leyte Gulf, Philippine Islands (time zone - 9).

4. Operating under ComServDiv-101, transferred small amounts of cargo ammunition to various ships and small craft.

  
J. S. SAYERS,  
Commander, USNR  
Commanding.

cc: CincPac  
ComServRon8  
File

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U. S. S. RED OAK VICTORY (AK-235)

c/o Fleet Post Office, San Francisco, California

AK-235/A12-1

VIA AIR MAIL

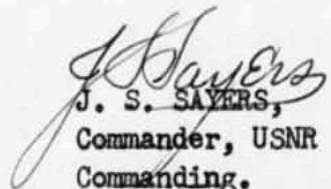
Serial C-7

27 Oct. 1945.

CONFIDENTIAL

From: Commanding Officer.  
To: Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.  
Subject: War Diary Month of September - Submission of.

1. From 1 September 1945 to 30 September 1945 at San Pedro Bay, Leyte Gulf, Philippine Islands (time zone - 9).
2. Operating under ComServRonTen Ammo Section, transferred small amounts of cargo ammunition to various ships and small craft.

  
J. S. SAYERS,  
Commander, USNR  
Commanding.

cc: CincPac  
ComServPac  
File



U. S. S. RED OAK VICTORY (AK-235)

c/o Fleet Post Office, San Francisco, California

AK-235/A12-1

Serial C-8

3 Nov. 1945.

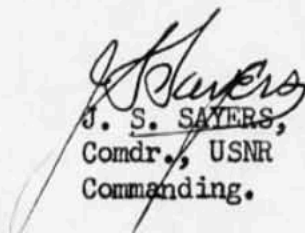
CONFIDENTIAL

From: Commanding Officer.  
To: Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.  
Subject: War Diary - Month of October 1945 - Submission of.

1. 1 October 1945 (time zone - 9), operating under ComServRonTen, Ammo Section, anchored in berth 502, San Pedro Bay, Leyte Gulf, Philippine Islands. From 1 October to 28 October transferred small amounts of cargo ammunition to various ships and small craft.

2. 29 October 1945, underway at 0708, in accordance with ComServRonTen dispatch 251256 of October to report to the Port Director, Eniwetok Atoll, Marshall Islands. Daily positions are listed below:

|         |      |             |              |
|---------|------|-------------|--------------|
| 29 Oct. | 1200 | 10-31 N.    | 125-35 E.    |
|         | 2000 | 10-39 N.    | 127-38 E.    |
| 30 Oct. | 0800 | 10-41 N.    | 130-23-15 E. |
|         | 1200 | 10-41-30 N. | 131-01 E.    |
|         | 2000 | 10-50-02 N. | 133-01 E.    |
| 31 Oct. | 0800 | 11-05 N.    | 135-46 E.    |
|         | 1200 | 11-06-03 N. | 136-37 E.    |
|         | 2000 | 11-16-05 N. | 138-33-09 E. |

  
J. S. SAYERS,  
Comdr., USNR  
Commanding.

cc: CincPac  
ComServPac  
File

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