

Msg. No. 567  
S.S. No. 709-559

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

WAR DIARY

U.S.S. BELLATRIX.

72 ✓

From: 1 February, 1943

To: 28 February, 1943

o-o

DESIGNATION: Cargo Vessel, Attack.  
COMPOSITION: Transport Division Four.  
NEXT HIGHER ECHELON: Amphibious Force, Pacific Fleet.

46917

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February 1, 1943 Underway singly enroute ESPIRITU SANTO ISLAND, NEW HEBRIDES, to SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA, on base course 043(T), standard speed 14 knots (74 r.p.m.). Ship is fully darkened and in Readiness Condition III, and including the 5" gun manned by naval passengers.

G.C.T.	L.C.T.	
1327	0456	Commenced zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #8.
1421	0550	Set Readiness Condition I (Special).
1502	0631	Secured from Readiness Condition I (Special), set Condition III. Lighted ship.
1514	0643	Sunrise.
1631	0800	<u>Ship's position</u> : Lat. 23-10-00 N., Long. 128-49-00 W.
1644	0813	Changed base course to 048(T).
1731	0900	Set all ship's clocks ahead 16 minutes to conform to plus 8 hr. 15 min. zone time.
2015	1200	<u>Ship's position</u> : Lat. 23-32-30 N., Long. 128-05-30 W. Distance made good since 1200, January 31, 1943, 291.5 miles.
2122	1307	Changed base course to 046(T).
2132	1317	Changed standard speed to 13.6 knots (72 r.p.m.).
Feb. 2 0030	1615	Sighted ship hull down on the horizon bearing 356(T), distance about 12 miles.
0105	1650	Ship sighted at 1615 passed abeam to port, distance about 9 miles, on opposite course. Neither ship challenged, but ship's appearance identified her as a Liberty Ship.
0158	1743	Sighted ship bearing 010(T), distance about 11 miles, on opposite course.
0207	1752	Exchanged challenges and calls with the USS LACKAWANNA.
0214	1759	Sunset.
0220	1805	LACKAWANNA passed abeam to port, on opposite course, distance about 7 miles.
0229	1814	Darkened ship.

February 1, 1943 (Continued). Underway singly enroute ESPIRITU SANTO ISLAND, NEW HEBRIDES, to SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA.

G.C.T. L.C.T.

0318	1903	Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course, 046(T).
0335	1920	Changed standard speed to 13.2 knots (70 r.p.m.).
0341	1926	Changed standard speed to 13.4 knots (71 r.p.m.).
0415	2000	<u>Ship's position</u> : Lat. 24-42-00 N., Long. 126-40-00 W.
0540	2125	Changed base course to 045(T).

February 2, 1943

1249	0434	Moonrise.
1300	0445	Commenced zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #2.
1405	0550	Set Condition I (Special).
1449	0634	Secured from Condition I (Special), set Condition III. Lighted ship.
1503	0648	Sunrise.
1615	0800	<u>Ship's position</u> : Lat. 26-25-00 N., Long. 124-40-00 W.
1713	0858	Manned all 3" guns and 5" gun for target practice.
1715	0900	Set all ship's clocks ahead 5 minutes to conform to plus 8 hr. 10 min. zone time.
1742	0932	Stopped engines to put over target.
1750	0940	Target hoisted over the side; ahead standard speed. Began maneuvering on various courses for firing practice.
1808	0958	Commenced firing.
1829	1019	Ceased firing, completing target practice, having expended 24 rounds 3" 50 cal. BL and P target ammunition, and 7 rounds 5" 51 cal. BL and P target ammunition; maneuvering to pick up target.
1858	1048	Hoisted target aboard, ahead standard speed. Resumed zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #2, on base course 045(T).

February 2, 1943 (Continued) Enroute singly ESPIRITU SANTO ISLAND,  
G.C.T. L.C.T. NEW HEBRIDES, to SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA.

2010 1200 Ship's position: Lat. 26-43-00 N., Long. 124-17-00 W.  
Distance made good since 1200, Feb. 1, 1943, 283.7  
miles.

Feb. 3  
0038 1628 Changed standard speed to 13.6 knots (72 r.p.m.).

0155 1745 Sunset.

0210 1800 Darkened ship.

0256 1846 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 045(T).

0410 2000 Ship's position: Lat. 27-51-00 N., Long. 122-52-00 W.

February 3, 1943

1355 0545 Commenced zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #29.

1400 0550 Set Condition I (Special).

1440 0630 Secured from Condition I (Special), set Condition III.  
Lighted ship.

1449 0639 Sunrise.

1610 0800 Ship's position: Lat. 29-28-30 N., Long. 120-43-00 W.

1627 0817 Changed base course to 043(T).

1710 0900 Set all ship's clocks ahead 10 minutes to conform to  
plus 8 zero time.

2000 1200 Ship's position: Lat. 29-58-45 N., Long. 120-11-45 W.  
Distance made good since 1200, Feb. 2, 1943, 289.8  
miles.

2258 1458 Commenced working up speed, testing engines. Changed  
speed to 14.6 knots (78 r.p.m.).

2304 1504 Changed speed to 15.5 knots (85 r.p.m.).

2312 1512 Completed testing engines, resumed standard speed  
13.6 knots (72 r.p.m.).

0136 1736 Sunset.

0151 1751 Darkened ship.

February 3, 1943 (Continued). Enroute singly ESPIRITU SANTO ISLAND,  
NEW HEBRIDES, to SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA.

Feb. 4

G.C.T. L.C.T.

0302	1902	Changed base course to 038(T).
0400	2000	<u>Ship's position</u> : Lat. 30-50-00 N., Long. 118-59-15 W.
0800	2400	Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course.

February 4, 1943

0947	0147	White flare reported as sighted bearing two points on the port bow, but no ship could be seen.
0950	0150	Changed course 45° to the right to 083(T).
1001	0201	Resumed base course 038(T).
1012	0212	Changed course 45° to the left to 353(T).
1023	0223	Resumed base course 038(T).
1325	0525	Sighted SOUTH CORONADO ISLAND LIGHT bearing 049(T), distance about 20 miles.
1334	0534	Changed course 010(T).
1340	0540	SOUTH CORONADO ISLAND LIGHT broad on starboard bow, bearing 055(T).
1350	0550	Set Condition I (Special).
1356	0556	Commenced zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #8.
1400	0600	Changed standard speed to 15 knots (80 r.p.m.).
1409	0609	Sighted ship on northerly course bearing 100(T), distance about 15 miles.
1427	0627	Changed base course to 025(T).
1432	0632	Sighted POINT LOMA LIGHT bearing 052(T), distance 16 miles.
1440	0640	Secured from Condition I (Special), set Condition III. Secured the 5" 51 cal. gun. Lighted ship and changed base course to 019(T).
1444	0644	Sighted steamer bearing 343(T), on a nearly parallel course, distance about 8 miles

February 4, 1943 (Continued). Enroute singly ESPIRITU SANTO ISLAND,  
NEW HEBRIDES, to SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA.

G.C.T. L.C.T.

1444	0644	Sunrise.
1445	0645	Exchanged calls with USS SC645 on patrol.
1451	0651	Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 019(T).
1453	0653	Changed course to 095(T).
1457	0657	Changed speed to ahead 2/3.
1458	0658	Changed speed to ahead 1/3.
1459	0659	With bell buoy "A" abeam to port, changed course to 060(T), entering swept channel of SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA. On various courses at various speeds approaching SAN DIEGO HARBOR.
1502	0702	Exchanged calls with S/S MORMACRAND (U.S.), the ship sighted at 0644.
1538	0738	Passed USS CARMICK to port, standing out.
1545	0745	Exchanged calls with USS HARRIS, standing out.
1553	0753	With SAN DIEGO BUOY #1 abeam to port, entered SAN DIEGO dredged channel.
1556	0756	Passed POINT LOMA LIGHT abeam to port, distance 1500 yards.
1601	0801	Passed through anti-MTB net.
1606	0806	BALLAST POINT LIGHT abeam to port, distance 250 yards.
1610	0810	Passed through anti-submarine net and torpedo net.
1619	0819	Anchored in SAN DIEGO HARBOR in berth #206, in 8 fathoms of water with 30 fathoms of chain to the port anchor, on the following bearings: FRONT RANGE BEACON 232(T), Beacon #2 192 3/4(T), Beacon #3 335 1/2(T). Distance made good since 1200, Feb. 3, 1943, 211 miles.
1630	0830	Set all ship's clocks ahead 1 hour to conform to plus 7 zone time ( PACIFIC WAR TIME).
1631	0931	Secured from Condition III, set Condition IV. Secured degaussing gear.

February 4, 1943 (Continued)

G.C.T. L.C.T.

1700	1000	Pilot H.C.JOHNSON came aboard. Made all preparations for getting underway.
1708	1008	Underway on various courses at various speeds, proceeding to N.A.S. dock, with pilot at the conn. Standard speed 15 knots (80 r.p.m.).
1725	1025	Tug WENONAH came alongside, starboard bow.
1726	1026	Tug MARKEETA came alongside, starboard quarter.
1735	1035	Moored port side to NAVAL AIR STATION dock, NORTH ISLAND, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA, with six (6) manila hawsers (doubled).
1745	1045	Pilot left the ship.
1754	1054	Custom Inspector left the ship.
1755	1055	Secured main engines.
1815	1115	The Captain called on Commander Amphibious Force, Pacific Fleet, reporting the BELLATRIX for duty in the force.
1830	1130	Commenced unloading operations.
2000	1300	Captain left ship to report to Commander Transports, Amphibious Force, Pacific Fleet.

February 5, 1943 Moored to NAVAL AIR STATION dock, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA. Carrying out ship's routine and unloading operations.

1340	0640	Set Condition III.
1530	0830	Secured from Condition III, set Condition IV.
2200	1500	Completed unloading operations. Made all preparations for getting underway.
2205	1505	Pilot H. KROG came aboard.
2217	1517	Underway from N.A.S. dock, NORTH ISLAND, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA, on various courses at various speeds proceeding to the DESTROYER BASE. Tug MARKEETA came alongside starboard bow.

February 5, 1943 (Continued)

G.C.T. L.C.T.

2224 1524 Tug WENONAH came alongside port bow.  
2306 1606 Let go port anchor, working ship into dock.  
2310 1610 Moored starboard side to pier #3, U.S. DESTROYER BASE,  
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA, with six (6) manila hawsers  
and two (2) wire cables.  
2324 1624 Pilot left the ship.

February 6, 1943 Moored as before. No. 1 Diesel generator in use  
for auxiliary purposes; waste-heat boiler, oil-fired,  
for heating and galley use. Ship fully darkened and  
in Readiness Condition IV. SOPA is COMAMPHIBFORPAC.  
Carrying out ship's routine.

G.C.T. L.C.T.

1340 0640 Set Condition III.  
1530 0830 Secured from Condition III, set Condition IV.

February 7, 1943 Moored as before.

1340 0640 Set Condition III.  
1530 0830 Secured from Condition III, set Condition IV.

February 8, 1943

1340 0640 Set Condition III.  
1530 0830 Secured from Condition III, set Condition IV.  
1735 1035 USS FRANKLIN BELL underway and standing down stream.

February 9, 1943

1340 0640 Set Condition III.  
1530 0830 Secured from Condition III, set Condition IV.  
2215 1515 Commander Oliver H. RITCHIE, D-V(G), U.S.N.R., came  
aboard as the relief of the Commanding Officer, in  
accordance with BuPers order Pers-31-RLS of Jan. 27,  
1943.



February 10, 1943 At DESTROYER BASE, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA.

G.C.T. L.C.T.

1340 0640 Set Condition III.

1530 0830 Secured from Condition III, set Condition IV.

1540 0840 USS NEVILLE underway for drydock.

1740 1040 Commander, Transport Group, Amphibious Force, Pacific Fleet, returned the Captain's call and left ship at 1120.

2053 1353 Commenced fueling from oil barge alongside to port.

Feb. 11  
0030 1730 Completed fueling, having taken 219,896 gallons of diesel oil aboard.

February 11, 1943

1340 0640 Set Condition III.

1530 0830 Secured from Condition III, set Condition IV.

1700 1000 Relief Commanding Officer inspected the Engine Room spaces in company of the Engineer Officer.

1830 1130 Comdr. Oliver H. RITCHIE, D-V(G), U.S.N.R., reported for duty to Commander, Transport Group, Amphibious Force, Pacific Fleet, as relief of the Commanding Officer this vessel.

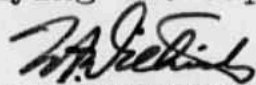
2000 1300  
to to Exercised at Battle Stations, Fire Quarters, Collision  
2057 1357 Quarters and mustered at Abandon Ship Stations in the presence of the relief commanding Officer.

February 12, 1943

1540 0640 Set Condition III.

1530 0830 Secured from Condition III, set Condition IV.

2015 1315 Inspection of lower deck spaces with the relief commanding officer accompanying the Captain.

  
W.F. DIETRICH,  
Captain, U.S.N.,  
Commanding.

CONFIDENTIAL

U.S. No. 39  
Page 9UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Saturday 13 February 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)ZONE DESCRIPTION plus 7OPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

"CONFIDENTIAL"

G.C.T. L.C.T. 07-11(GCT) 00-04(LCT)  
Moored starboard side to pier #3, Destroyer Base, San Diego,  
California. Ship fully darkened and in Condition IV.

*J.C. Campbell*  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Ensign, USNR

1340 0640 11-15(GCT) 04-08(LCT)  
Secured from Condition IV, set Condition III.

*R.F. Birmingham*  
R.F. BIRMINGHAM, Lieut., USNR

1530 0830 15-19(GCT) 08-12(LCT)  
1630 0930 Secured from Condition III, set Condition IV.  
Held quarters for muster, followed by the Captain's inspection  
of the crew and upper decks; the Captain was accompanied by  
the relief Commanding Officer.

1815 1115 With appropriate ceremony, Captain William F. DIETRICH, USN,  
was relieved of the command by Commander Oliver H. RITCHIE,  
USNR. Captain DIETRICH read his orders - Bureau of Naval Per-  
sonnel despatch 081333 (February, 1943), detaching him from  
command of this vessel. Commander RITCHIE read his orders  
from the Bureau of Naval Personnel - No. 9128, Pers-31-RLS  
83337 of January 27, 1943, directing him to assume command of  
this vessel.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut. (jg), USNR

2125 1425 19-23(GCT) 12-16(LCT)  
USS NEVILLE underway shifting berth.

*W.T. Lightner*  
W.T. LIGHTNER, Ensign, USNR

Feb. 14  
23-03(GCT) 16-20(LCT)  
No remarks.

*J.V. Aleta*  
J. V. ALETA, Lieut. (jg), USNR

Feb. 14  
03-07(GCT) 20-24(LCT)  
No remarks.

*M.F. Stiling*  
M.F. STILING, Lt.-Cdr., USNR

Approved:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*R.C. Dooley*  
R. C. DOOLEY,  
Lieut.-Comdr., U.S.N. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Sunday 14 February 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus 7

OPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

"CONFIDENTIAL"

G.C.T. L.C.T. 07-11(GCT) 00-04(LCT)  
Moored starboard side to pier #3, Destroyer Base, San Diego,  
California. Ship fully darkened and in Condition IV.

M. E. Wash  
M.E. WASH, Lieut. USNR

1340 0640 11-15(GCT) 04-08(LCT)  
Secured from Condition IV, set Condition III.

S. V. Montgomery  
S.V. MONTGOMERY, Lieut. USNR

1530 0830 15-19(GCT) 08-12(LCT)  
Secured from Condition III, set Condition IV.

J. V. Aleta  
J.V. ALETA, Lieut. (jg), USNR

19-23(GCT) 12-16(LCT)  
No remarks.

L. C. Martin  
L.C. MARTIN, Lieut. (jg), USNR

Feb. 15  
23-03(GCT) 16-20(LCT)  
No remarks.

H. Ferris  
H. FERRIS, Ensign, USN

No remarks.  
03-07(GCT) 20-24(LCT)

J. C. Campbell  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Ensign, USNR

Approved:

O. H. Ritchie  
O. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

H. C. Dooley  
H. C. DOOLEY,  
Lieut-Comdr., U.S.N. Investigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Monday 15 February 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)ZONE DESCRIPTION plus 7OPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

"CONFIDENTIAL"

G.C.T. I.C.T. 07-11(GCT) 00-04(LCT)  
Moored starboard side to pier #3, Destroyer Base, San Diego, California. Ship fully darkened and in Condition IV.

*R.F. Birmingham*  
R.F. BIRMINGHAM, Lieut. USNR

1340 0640 11-15(GCT) 04-08(LCT)  
Secured from Condition IV, set Condition III.  
1435 0735 USS CARMICK underway and standing out.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut. (jg), USNR

1510 0810 15-19(GCT) 08-12(LCT)  
USS MACKENZIE underway and standing out.  
1530 0830 Secured from Condition III, set Condition IV.  
1605 0905 USS WATERS underway and standing out.  
1740 1040 USS DEL3 moored port side of pier #2.

*J.E. Carlin*  
J.E. CARLIN, Lieut. (jg), USNR

19-23(GCT) 12-16(LCT)  
No remarks.

*M.F. Stilling*  
M.F. STILLING, Lt-Cdr., USNR

Feb. 16  
23-03(GCT) 16-20(LCT)  
No remarks.

*S.V. Montgomery*  
S.V. MONTGOMERY, Lieut. USNR

03-07(GCT) 20-24(LCT)  
No remarks.

*J.V. Aleta*  
J.V. ALETA, Lieut. (jg), USNR

Approved: *O.H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined: *R.C. Dogley*  
R. C. DOOLEY,  
Lieut-Comdr., U.S.N. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP

BELLATRIX

Tuesday

16

February

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus 7OPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

"CONFIDENTIAL"

G.C.T. L.C.T. 07-11(GCT) 00-04(LCT)  
Moored starboard side to pier #3, Destroyer Base, San Diego, California. Ship darkened except for necessary working lights, and in Condition IV.

*M.F. Stiling*  
M.F. STILING, Lt.-Cdr., USNR

1340 0640 11-15(GCT) 04-08(LCT)  
1440 0740 Secured from Condition IV, set Condition III.  
USS NEVILLE underway and standing out.

*S.V. Montgomery*  
S.V. MONTGOMERY, Lieut. CDR

1500 0800 15-19(GCT) 08-12(LCT)  
1513 0813 USS BARNETT underway and standing out.  
1530 0830 USS DEL3 underway and standing out.  
Secured from Condition III, set Condition IV.

*J.V. Aista*  
J.V. AISTA, Lieut. (jg), USNR

2030 1330 19-23(GCT) 12-16(LCT)  
USS WATERS moored port side to pier #3.

*H. Ferris*  
H. FERRIS, Ensign, USNR

Feb. 17  
23-03(GCT) 16-20(LCT)  
No remarks.

*J.C. Campbell*  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Ensign, USNR

Feb. 17  
03-07(GCT) 20-24(LCT)  
No remarks.

*R.F. Birmingham*  
R.F. BIRMINGHAM, Lieut. USNR

Approved:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*R. C. Dooley*  
R. C. DOOLEY,  
Lieut.-Comdr., U.S.N. Waingator.

UNITED STATES SHIP

BELLATRIX

Wednesday

17 February, 1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus 7

OPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

"CONFIDENTIAL"

G.C.T. L.C.T. 07-11(GCT) 00-04(LCT)  
Moored starboard side to pier #3, Destroyer Base, San Diego, California. Ship darkened except for necessary working lights, and in Condition IV.

F.P. RYAN  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut. (jg), USNR

1340 0640 11-15(GCT) 04-08(LCT)  
Secured from Condition IV, set Condition III.

J.E. CARLIN  
J.E. CARLIN, Lieut. (jg), USNR

1530 0830 15-19(GCT) 08-12(LCT)  
1645 0945 Secured from Condition III, set Condition IV.  
USS WATERS underway and standing out.

H. TERRIO  
H. TERRIO, Ensign, USN

19-23(GCT) 12-16(LCT)  
No remarks.

M.F. STILING  
M.F. STILING, Lt-Comdr., USNR

Feb. 18  
23-03(GCT) 16-20(LCT)  
No remarks.

S.V. MONTGOMERY  
S.V. MONTGOMERY, Lieut. USNR

03-07(GCT) 20-24(LCT)  
No remarks.

J.V. ALSTA  
J.V. ALSTA, Lieut. (jg), USNR

Approved:

O. H. Ritchie  
O. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

R. O. DOOLEY  
Lieut-Comdr., U.S.N.R. Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Thursday 18 February 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus 7

OPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

"CONFIDENTIAL"

G.C.T. L.C.T. 07-11(GCT) 00-04(LCT)  
Moored starboard side to pier #3, Destroyer Base, San Diego, California. Ship darkened except for necessary working lights, and in Condition IV.

*M. Vash*  
M.E. VASH, Lieut. USNR

1340 0640 11-15(GCT) 04-08(LCT)  
Secured from Condition IV, set Condition III.

*S. V. Montgomery*  
S.V. MONTGOMERY, Lieut. USNR

1530 0830 15-19(GCT) 08-12(LCT)  
Secured from Condition III, set Condition IV.

*J. V. Rieta*  
J.V. RIETA, Lieut. (jg), USNR

19-23(GCT) 12-16(LCT)  
No remarks.

*J. C. Campbell*  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Ensign, USNR

Feb. 19  
23-03(GCT) 16-20(LCT)  
No remarks.

*R. F. Birmingham*  
R.F. BIRMINGHAM, Lieut. USNR

Feb. 19  
03-07(GCT) 20-24(LCT)  
No remarks.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut. (jg), USNR

Approved:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*R. C. Dudley*  
R. C. DUDLEY,  
Lieut-Comdr., U.S.N., Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Friday 19 February 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus 7

OPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

"CONFIDENTIAL"

G.O.T. L.C.T. 07-11(GCT) 08-04(LCT)  
Moored starboard side to pier #3, Destroyer Base, San Diego, California. Ship fully darkened and in Condition IV.

*J. C. Carlin*  
J. C. CARLIN, Lieut. (jg), USNR

1340 0640 11-15(GCT) 04-08(LCT)  
Secured from Condition IV, set Condition III.

*H. Terris*  
H. TERRIS, Ensign, USN

1530 0830 15-19(GCT) 08-12(LCT)  
Secured from Condition III, set Condition IV.

*J. C. Campbell*  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Ensign, USNR

2205 1505 19-23(GCT) 12-16(LCT)  
Made preparations for getting underway.  
2240 1540 Cut in degaussing gear.

*R. Ford*  
R. FORD, CQM, P40, USNR

2305 1605 Feb. 20  
2324 1624 23-03(GCT) 16-20(LCT)  
Pilot Lt-Cdr. W.C. PROCKNOW came on board.  
Underway in accordance with Commander Task Force Three,  
Operation Order No. 2-43 (Serial 0024), February 19, 1943.

Designation: (3.10) Transport Group

Composition: (3.10.1) Transport Unit

BARNETT  
NEVILLE  
BELLATRIX  
ALCYONE  
BETELGEUSE

(3.10.2) Screening Unit

CARMICK  
MACKENZIE  
McLANAHAN

Next Higher Echelon: Commander Task Force Three.

2336 1636 Pilot left ship.  
2338 1638 Proceeded down channel, various courses and speeds.  
Feb. 20  
0015 1715 BARNETT underway from dock.  
0018 1718 ALCYONE underway from dock.  
0020 1720 Formed column in following order: BARNETT, ALCYONE, BELLATRIX,  
NEVILLE, BETELGEUSE; distance 1000 yards; standard speed  
12 knots; stood out on various courses and speeds.  
0059 1759 Passed through anti-torpedo net.  
0103 1803 BALLAST POINT LIGHT abeam to starboard, distance 200 yards.

Approved:

*O. N. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*R. C. Dooley*  
R. C. DOOLEY,  
Lieut-Comdr., U. S. Navy



UNITED STATES SHIP

BELLATRIX

Friday

19

February

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus 7OPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

"CONFIDENTIAL"

G.C.T. L.C.T.

0107 1807 Passed through anti-motor torpedo boat boom defense area.  
 0108 1808 Ahead standard speed 12 knots (64 r.p.m.).  
 0110 1810 General Quarters.  
 0113 1813 POINT LOMA LIGHT abeam to starboard, distance 1200 yards.  
 0130 1830 Darkened ship.  
 0135 1835 Sunset.  
 0158 1858 With bell buoy "A" (swept channel entrance) abeam to port,  
 distance 75 yards, took departure and set course 238(T).  
 0205 1905 Changed base course to 217(T).  
 0210 1910 Changed standard speed to 14 knots (75 r.p.m.). Took  
 cruising formation as follows:

Section TwoNEVILLE  
BETHELGEUSESection OneBARNETT - O.T.C. and guide  
ALCYONE  
BELLATRIX

Standard distance 600 yards, standard interval 1200 yards.  
 CARMICK, MACKENZIE and McLANAHAN joined and took position  
 as anti-submarine screen.

0239 1939 Secured from General Quarters, set Condition III.

  
 M.F. STILLING, Lt-Cdr., USNR

Feb. 20

03-07(GCT) 20-24(LCT)

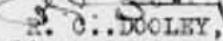
0315 2015 Secured degaussing gear.  
 0700 2400 Commenced zig-zag Plan #1.

  
 F.P. RYAN, Lieut. (jg), USNR

Approved:

  
 O. H. RITCHIE,  
 Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

  
 R. C. DOOLEY,  
 Lieut-Comdr., U.S.N. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Saturday 20 February 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus 7 OPERATIONAL REMARKS

"CONFIDENTIAL"

G.C.T. I.C.T. 07-11(GCT) 00-04(LCT)  
Underway as before on base course 217(T); standard speed 14 knots (75 r.p.m.). Ship fully darkened, in Condition III.  
0955 0255 Ceased zig-zagging, resumed base course 217(T).  
1004 0304 Changed base course to 160(T).  
1010 0310 Commenced zig-zag Plan #1.

*J.V. Aleta*  
J.V. ALETA, Lieut. (jg), USNR

11-15(GCT) 04-08(LCT)  
1325 0625 Set Condition I (Special).  
1429 0729 Sunrise.  
1433 0733 Secured from Condition I (Special), set Condition III.  
1500 0800 Ship's position: Lat. 30-13-30 N., Long. 118-10-00 W.

*J.E. Carlin*  
J.E. CARLIN, Lieut. (jg), USNR

15-19(GCT) 08-12(LCT)  
1505 0805 Ceased zig-zagging, resumed base course 160(T).  
1515 0815 Commenced zig-zag Plan #6.  
1522 0822 Changed standard speed to 14.5 knots (77.5 r.p.m.).  
1526 0826 Sighted GUADALUPE ISLAND bearing 180(T), distance approximately 65 miles.  
1900 1200 Ship's position: Lat. 29-21-00 N., Long. 117-52-00 W.  
Distance made good since departure 219.5 miles.

*M.F. Stiling*  
M.F. STILING, Lt.-Cdr., USNR

19-23(GCT) 12-16(LCT)  
1905 1205 Changed base course to 157(T), and continued zig-zag Plan #6.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut. (jg), USNR

Feb. 21  
23-03(GCT) 16-20(LCT)  
0138 1838 Darkened ship.  
0143 1843 Sunset. General Quarters.  
0243 1943 Secured from General Quarters, set Condition III.  
0300 2000 Ship's position: Lat. 27-49-00 N., Long. 117-16-00 W.

*J.V. Aleta*  
J.V. ALETA, Lieut. (jg), USNR

03-07(GCT) 20-24(LCT)  
0555 2255 Ceased zig-zagging, resumed base course 157(T).  
0600 2300 Changed base course to 141(T).  
0610 2310 Commenced zig-zag Plan #6.

*J.E. Carlin*  
J.E. CARLIN, Lieut. (jg), USNR

Approved:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*J.A. Dooley*  
J. A. DOOLEY,  
Lieut.-Comdr., U.S.N. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Sunday 21 February 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus 7OPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

"CONFIDENTIAL"

G.C.T. L.C.T. 07-11(GCT) 00-04(LCT)  
Underway on base course 141(T). Ship fully darkened and in Condition III.  
0800 0100 Set all ship's clocks ahead 30 minutes (zone plus six one-half).

*M.F. Stiling*  
M.F. STILING, Lt-Cdr., USNR

1030-1430(GCT) 04-08(LCT)  
1037 0407 Ceased zig-zagging, resumed base course 141(T).  
1315 0645 Commenced zig-zag Plan #6.  
1320 0650 Set Condition I (Special).  
1413 0743 Sunrise. Secured from Condition I (Special), set Condition III.  
1430 0800 Ship's position: Lat. 25-32-00 N., Long. 115-35-00 W.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut. (jg), USNR

1430-1830(GCT) 08-12(LCT)  
1458 0828 Ceased zig-zagging, resumed base course 141(T).  
1619 0949 Destroyer signalled supersonics indicate contact bearing 330(T).  
1620 0950 General Quarters.  
1622 0952 Made emergency turn 30° to port to course 111(T).  
1624 0954 Resumed base course 141(T).  
1629 0959 Secured from General Quarters, set Condition III.  
1830 1200 Ship's position: Lat. 24-28-30 N., Long. 114-46-30 W.  
Distance made good since 1200, Feb. 20, 1943, 326 miles.

*J.V. Aleta*  
J.V. ALETA, Lieut. (jg), USNR

1830-2230(GCT) 12-16(LCT)  
No remarks.

*J.E. Carlin*  
J.E. CARLIN, Lieut. (jg), USNR

Feb. 22  
2230-0230(GCT) 16-20(LCT)  
0033 1803 Changed base course to 127(T).  
0134 1904 Darkened ship.  
0139 1909 Sunset. General Quarters.  
0225 1955 Ceased zig-zagging, resumed base course 127(T).  
0230 2000 Ship's position: Lat. 23-18-00 N., Long. 113-18-00 W.

*M.F. Stiling*  
M.F. STILING, Lt-Cdr., USNR

Feb. 22  
0230-0630(GCT) 20-24(LCT)  
0236 2006 Secured from General Quarters, set Condition III.  
0300 2030 Commenced zig-zag Plan #6.  
0304 2034 Moonrise.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut. (jg), USNR

Approved:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*R. C. Dudley*  
R. C. DUDLEY,  
Lieut-Comdr., U.S.N.R. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP

BELLATRIX

Monday

22

February

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus six One-halfOPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

"CONFIDENTIAL"

G.C.T. L.C.T. 0630-1030(GCT) 00-04(LCT)

Underway on base course 127(T), zig-zagging on Plan #6; standard speed 14.5 knots (77.5 r.p.m.). Ship fully darkened and in Condition III.

0749 0119 Made emergency turn 45° to starboard to course 202(T).  
 0750 0120 Contact reported by CARMICK, bearing 050(T).  
 0806 0136 Resumed base course 127(T); CARMICK reported contact probably false.  
 0811 0141 Resumed zig-zag Plan #6.

*J. V. Aista*  
 J. V. AISTA, Lieut. (jg), USNR

1255 0625 1030-1430(GCT) 04-08(LCT)

Set Condition I (Special).

1352 0722 Secured from Condition I(Special), set Condition III.  
 1430 0800 Ship's position: Lat. 21-40-30 N., Long. 110-56-30 W.

*J. E. Carlin*  
 J. E. CARLIN, Lieut. (jg), USNR

1830 1200 1430-1830(GCT) 08-12(LCT)

Ship's position: Lat. 21-09-00 N., Long. 110-10-00 W.  
 Distance made good since 1200, Feb. 21, 1943, 337.8 miles.

*M. F. Stilling*  
 M. F. STILLING, Lt-Cdr., USNR

1830-2230(GCT) 12-16(LCT)

No remarks.

*F. P. Ryan*  
 F. P. RYAN, Lieut. (jg), USNR

Feb. 23

0113 1843 2230-0230(GCT) 16-20(LCT)

Darkened ship.

0118 1848 Sunset. General Quarters.  
 0200 1930 Ceased zig-zagging, resumed base course 127(T).  
 0218 1948 Secured from General Quarters, set Condition III..  
 0230 2000 Ship's position: Lat. 20-04-00 N., Long. 108-46-00 W.

*J. V. Aista*  
 J. V. AISTA, Lieut. (jg), USNR

Feb. 23

0400 2130 0230-0630(GCT) 20-24(LCT)

Commenced zig-zag Plan #6.

*J. E. Carlin*  
 J. E. CARLIN, Lieut. (jg), USNR

Approved:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
 O. H. RITCHIE,  
 Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*R. G. Dooley*  
 R. G. DOOLEY,  
 Lieut-Comdr., U.S.N.R. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP

BELLATRIX

Tuesday

23

February

19 43

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus six one-halfOPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

"CONFIDENTIAL"

G.C.T. L.C.T. 0630-1030(GCT) 00-04(LCT)  
Underway on base course 127(T), on zig-zag Plan #6;  
standard speed 14.5 knots (77.5 r.p.m.).  
*M.F. Stirling*  
M.F. STIRLING, Lt-Cdr., USNR

1030-1430(GCT) 04-08(LCT)  
1230 0600 Set Condition I (Special).  
1328 0658 Sunrise. Secured from Condition I (Special), set Condition  
III.  
1450 0800 Ship's position: Lat. 18-25-00 N., Long. 106-29-00 W.  
*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut. (jg), USNR

1430-1830(GCT) 08-12(LCT)  
1519 0849 Ahead 2/3 speed.  
1525 0855 Ahead standard.  
1526 0856 Commenced test firing 20 mm., and .50 cal. machine guns.  
1555 0925 Completed test firing, having expended 50 rounds 20 mm.  
ammunition and 100 rounds .50 cal. ammunition.  
1607 0937 Ceased zig-zagging, resumed base course 127(T).  
1644 1014 BARNETT turned to port and sheered out of formation,  
because of steering casualty.  
1647 1017 Ahead 2/3 speed.  
1703 1033 Ahead standard.  
1715 1045 BARNETT resumed formation.  
1830 1200 Ship's position: Lat. 17-51-00 N., long. 105-37-00 W.  
Distance made good since 1200, Feb. 22, 1943, 326.4 miles.  
*J.V. Aiepa*  
J.V. AIEPA, Lieut. (jg), USNR

1830-2230(GCT) 12-16(LCT)  
No remarks.  
*J.W. Carlin*  
J.W. CARLIN, Lieut. (jg), USNR

Feb. 24  
2230-0230(GCT) 16-20(LCT)  
2243 1613 ALCYONE broke five flag at fore-truck and sheered out of  
formation to port.  
2246 1616 Ahead 2/3 speed.  
2330 1700 Ahead 1/3 speed. ALCYONE rejoined formation,  
2332 1702 Ahead 2/3 speed.  
2335 1705 Ahead standard.  
0030 1800 Commenced zig-zag Plan #11.  
0058 1828 Darkened ship.  
0103 1833 Sunset. General Quarters.  
0125 1855 Ceased zig-zagging, resumed base course 127(T).  
0130 1900 Changed base course to 116(T).  
0140 1910 Commenced zig-zag Plan #11.  
0155 1925 Secured from General Quarters, set Condition III.  
0200 1930 Ceased zig-zagging, resumed base course 127(T).  
0230 2000 Ship's position: Lat. 16-48-30 N., Long. 104-07-00 W.  
*M.F. Stirling*  
M.F. STIRLING, Lt-Cdr., USNR

Approved:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*R. U. Dooley*  
R. U. DOOLEY,  
Lieut-Comdr., U.S.N.R. Investigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Tuesday 23 February 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus six one-half OPERATIONAL REMARKS

"CONFIDENTIAL"

G.C.T. L.C.T. Feb. 24  
0230-0630(GCT) 20-24(LCT)  
0410 2140 Moonrise.  
0430 2200 Commenced zig-zag Plan #11.

~~F.P. RYAN~~, Lieut. (jg), USNR

Approved:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
C. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*R. C. Dooley*  
R. C. DOOLEY  
Lieut-Comdr, U.S.N.R.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Wednesday 24 February 1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus six one-half OPERATIONAL REMARKS

"CONFIDENTIAL"

G.C.T. L.C.T. 0630-1030(GCT) 00-04(LCT)  
Underway on base course 116(T); standard speed 14.5 knots (77.5 r.p.m.); ~~on~~ zig-zag Plan #11.  
0730 0100 Set clocks ahead 30 minutes (zone plus six).

*J.V. Aleta*  
J.V. Aleta, Lieut. (Jg), USNR

1000-1400(GCT) 04-08(LCT)  
1007 0407 Ceased zig-zagging, resumed base course 116(T).  
1211 0611 Set Condition I (Special).  
1306 0706 Secured from Condition I (Special), set Condition III.  
1400 0800 Ship's position: Lat. 15-37-00 N., Long. 101-33-30 W.

*J.E. Carlin*  
J.E. CARLIN, Lieut. (Jg), USNR

1400-1800(GCT) 08-12(LCT)  
1800 1200 Ship's position: Lat. 15-09-00 N., Long. 100-35-00 W.  
Distance made good since 1200, Feb. 23, 1943, 328 miles.

*M.F. Stirling*  
M.F. STIRLING, Lt-Cdr., USNR

1800-2200(GCT) 12-16(LCT)  
No remarks.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut. (Jg), USNR

Feb. 25  
2200-0200(GCT) 16-20(LCT)  
0000 1800 Commenced zig-zag Plan #11.  
0039 1839 Darkened ship.  
0044 1844 Sunset. General Quarters.  
0130 1930 Ceased zig-zagging, resumed base course 116(T).  
0144 1944 Secured from General Quarters, set Condition III.  
0200 2000 Ship's position: Lat. 14-15-00 N., Long. 98-40-00 W.

*J.V. Aleta*  
J.V. Aleta, Lieut. (Jg), USNR

0200-0600(GCT) 20-24(LCT)  
0505 2305 Made emergency turn 45° to port to course 071(T).  
0507 2307 Resumed base course 116(T).  
0512 2312 Commenced zig-zag Plan #12.

*J.E. Carlin*  
J.E. CARLIN, Lieut. (Jg), USNR

Approved:

*C.H. Ritchie*  
C. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*R.O. Dooley*  
R. O. DOOLEY,  
Lieut-Comdr., U.S.N.R. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP

BELLATRIX

Thursday

25

February

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus six

OPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

"CONFIDENTIAL"

G.C.T. L.C.T. 06-10(GCT) 00-04(LCT)  
Underway as before on base course 116(T); on zig-zag Plan #11. Standard speed 14.5 knots (77.5 r.p.m.). Ship fully darkened and in Condition III.

*M.F. Stilling*  
M.F. STILLING, Lt-Cdr., USNR

1141 0541 10-14(GCT) 04-08(LCT)  
Ceased zig-zagging, resumed base course 116(T). Visibility reduced by fog to 75 yards.  
1150 0550 Set Condition I (Special).  
1247 0647 Sunrise. Secured from Condition I (Special), set Condition III.  
1250 0650 Took up position on ALCYONE's towing spar.  
1400 0800 Ship's position: Lat. 13-01-30 N., Long. 95-58-00 W.

*F.F. Ryan*  
F.F. RYAN, Lieut. (jg), USNR

1450 0850 14-18(GCT) 08-12(LCT)  
Changed standard speed to 14 knots (75 r.p.m.).  
1800 1200 Ship's position: Lat. 12-35-00 N., Long. 95-13-00 W.  
Distance made good since 1200, Feb. 24, 1943, 348.6 miles.

*J.V. Aleta*  
J.V. ALETA, Lieut. (jg), USNR

2040 1440 18-22(GCT) 12-16(LCT)  
Sighted a B-24 bomber bearing 150(T); plane circled formation and disappeared bearing 094(T).  
2143 1543 ALCYONE broke down, sheered to port and dropped astern; MACKENZIE fell astern as escort to ALCYONE; ahead 2/3 speed.  
2152 1552 ALCYONE resumed position in formation.

*J.J. Carlin*  
J.J. CARLIN, Lieut. (jg), USNR

Feb. 26  
2212 1612 22-02(GCT) 16-20(LCT)  
Resumed standard speed.  
2330 1730 Commenced zig-zag Plan #30.  
0016 1816 Darkened ship.  
0021 1821 Sunset. General Quarters.  
0121 1921 Secured from General Quarters, set Condition III.  
0200 2000 Ship's position: Lat. 11-50-00 N., Long. 93-29-00 W.

*M.F. Stilling*  
M.F. STILLING, Lt-Cdr., USNR

Feb. 26  
0301 2101 02-06(GCT) 20-24(LCT)  
McLANAHAN reported radar contact with friendly plane bearing 134(T), distance 9000 yards.  
0506 2306 Moonrise.  
0515 2315 Commenced zig-zag Plan #11.

*F.F. Ryan*  
F.F. RYAN, Lieut. (jg), USNR

Approved:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*R. C. Dooley*  
R. C. DOOLEY,  
Lieut-Comdr., U.S.N.R. (Inspector)

34



UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Friday 26 February 1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus sixOPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

"CONFIDENTIAL"

G.C.T. I.C.T. 06-10(GCT) 00-04(LCT)  
Underway as before on base course 116(T). Standard speed 14 knots (75 r.p.m.). Ship fully darkened and in Condition III.

0700 0100 Set clocks ahead 30 minutes (Zone plus five one-half).  
*J.V. Areta*  
J.V. AETA, Lieut. (jg), USNR

0930-1330(GCT) 04-08(LCT)  
Set Condition I (Special).  
1125 0555 Sunrise. Secured from Condition I (Special), set Condition III.  
1225 0655  
1330 0800 Ship's position: Lat. 10-47-00 N. Long. 91-09-00 W.  
*J. E. Carlin*  
J. E. CARLIN, Lieut. (jg), USNR

1330-1730(GCT) 08-12(LCT)  
1345 0815 McLANAHAN reported radar contact strange aircraft bearing 210(T).  
1353 0823 McLANAHAN reported contact false.  
1402 0832 McLANAHAN reported radar contact strange aircraft bearing 228(T), distance 37 miles.  
1415 0845 Sighted Liberator (B-24) bomber bearing 031(T); plane passed astern of formation from port to starboard bearing 188(T).  
1423 0853 McLANAHAN fired several rounds to clear guns.  
1500 0930 Cut in degussing gear for testing.  
1730 1200 Ship's position: Lat. 10-30-00 N., Long. 90-20-00 W. Distance made good since 1200, Feb. 25, 1943, 299.2 miles.  
*M. F. Stilling*  
M. F. STILLING, Lt.-Cdr., USNR

1730-2130(GCT) 12-16(LCT)  
2031 1501 Changed standard speed to 13 knots (69 r.p.m.).  
*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut. (jg), USNR

Feb. 27  
2130-0130(GCT) 16-20(LCT)  
2130 1600 Commenced zig-zag Plan #12.  
2301 1831 Darkened ship.  
2306 1836 Sunset. General Quarters.  
0050 1920 Ceased zig-zagging, resumed base course 116(T).  
0106 1936 Secured from General Quarters, set Condition III.  
0130 2000 Ship's position: Lat. 09-49-00 N., Long. 89-01-00 W.  
*J.V. Areta*  
J.V. AETA, Lieut. (jg), USNR

0130-0530(GCT) 20-24(LCT)  
0209 2039 Changed standard speed to 14 knots (75 r.p.m.).  
*J. E. Carlin*  
J. E. CARLIN, Lieut. (jg), USNR

Approved:

*C. H. Ritchie*  
C. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*R. E. Dooley*  
R. E. DOOLEY,  
Lieut.-Comdr., U.S.N. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP

BELLATRIX

Saturday

27

February

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus five one-half OPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

"CONFIDENTIAL"

G.C.T. L.C.T. 0530-0930(GCT) 00-04(LCT)  
Underway as before on base course 116(T). Standard speed 14 knots (75 r.p.m.). Ship fully darkened and in Condition III.

0540 0010 Moonrise.  
0600 0030 Commenced zig-zag Plan #12.  
0630 0100 Set clocks ahead 30 minutes (Zone plus five).

*M.F. Stilling*  
M.F. STILLING, Lt-Cdr., USNR

09-13(GCT) 04-08(LCT)  
1105 0605 Set Condition I (Special).  
1202 0702 Sunrise. Secured from Condition I (Special), set Condition III.  
1300 0800 Ship's position: Lat. 08-37-00 N., Long. 86-48-00 W.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut-(jg), USNR

13-17(GCT) 08-12(LCT)  
1406 0906 Changed base course to 120(T).  
1700 1200 Ship's position: Lat. 08-13-00 N., Long. 86-01-00 W.  
Distance made good since 1200, Feb. 26, 1943, 289.8 miles.

*J.V. Aleta*  
J.V. ALETA, Lieut. (jg), USNR

17-21(GCT) 12-16(LCT)  
1708 1208 GARMICK reported radar contact with plane bearing 000(T), distance 8 miles.  
1713 1213 GARMICK reported contact lost.  
1903 1403 Ceased zig-zagging, resumed base course 120(T).  
1905 1405 NEVILLE assumed guide. BARNETT left formation to hold AA gunnery practice.  
1954 1454 BARNETT resumed position.  
2010 1510 Guide shifted back to BARNETT.  
2040 1540 Changed standard speed to 13 knots (70 r.p.m.).

*J.E. Carlin*  
J.E. CARLIN, Lieut. (jg), USNR

Feb. 28  
21-01(GCT) 16-20(LCT)  
2100 1600 Commenced zig-zag Plan #12.  
2255 1755 Ceased zig-zagging, resumed base course 120(T).  
2303 1803 Changed base course to 103(T).  
2310 1810 Commenced zig-zag Plan #12.  
2345 1845 Darkened ship.  
2350 1850 Sunset. General Quarters.  
0035 1935 Ceased zig-zagging, resumed base course 103(T).  
0045 1945 Secured from General Quarters, set Condition III.  
0100 2000 Ship's position: Lat. 7-37-00 N., Long. 84-21-00 W.

*M.F. Stilling*  
M.F. STILLING, Lt-Cdr., USNR

0100-0500(GCT) 20-24(LCT)  
No remarks.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut. (jg), USNR

Approved:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*R.U. Dooley*  
R.U. DOOLEY,  
Lieut-Comdr., U.S.N.R. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Sunday 28 February 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)ZONE DESCRIPTION plus fiveOPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

"CONFIDENTIAL"

G.C.T. L.C.T. 05-09(GCT) 00-04(LCT)  
Underway as before on base course 103(T). Standard speed 13 knots (70 r.p.m.). Ship fully darkened and in Condition III.

0630 0130 Commenced zig-zag Plan #12.

*J.V. Aleta*  
J.V. ALETA, Lieut. (jg), USNR

09-13(GCT) 04-08(LCT)  
Set Condition I (Special).  
1045 0545 CARMICK reported radar contact on surface vessel bearing  
1100 0600 047(T), distance 30 miles.  
1115 0615 Sighted JICARITA ISLAND bearing 033(T), distance 25 miles.  
1116 0616 CARMICK reported contact previously reported to be light-house.  
1141 0641 Sunrise. Secured from Condition I (Special), set Condition III.  
1206 0706 Ceased zig-zagging, resumed base course 103(T).  
1207 0707 Changed standard speed to 12 knots (59 r.p.m.).  
1212 0712 Changed base course to 087(T).  
1221 0721 Commenced zig-zag Plan #17.  
1300 0800 Ship's position: Lat. 06-50-00 N., Long. 81-44-00 W.

*J. E. Carlin*  
J.E. CARLIN, Lieut. (jg), USNR

13-17(GCT) 08-12(LCT)  
1400 0900 Secured starboard main engine.  
1510 1010 POINT MARIATO sighted bearing 055(T), distance 40 miles.  
1700 1200 Ship's position: Lat. 06-47-00 N., Long. 81-10-00 W.  
Distance made good since 1200, Feb. 27, 1943, 310.4 miles.

*M.F. Stilling*  
M.F. STILLING, Lt-Cdr., USNR

17-21(GCT) 12-16(LCT)  
1812 1312 Changed base course to 080(T).

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut. (jg), USNR

March 1  
21-01(GCT) 16-20(LCT)  
2227 1827 Darkened ship. General Quarters.  
0030 1930 Ceased zig-zagging, resumed base course 080(T), and changed standard speed to 9 knots (49 r.p.m.).  
0032 1932 Secured from General Quarters, set Condition III.  
0045 1945 Changed base course to 025(T).  
0100 2000 Ship's position: Lat. 06-56-00 N., Long. 80-02-00 W.

*J.V. Aleta*  
J.V. ALETA, Lieut. (jg), USNR

01-05(GCT) 20-24(LCT)  
0100 2000 Cut in degaussing gear.  
0227 2127 Sighted CAPE MALA LIGHT bearing 001(T), distance 24 miles.

*J. E. Carlin*  
J.E. CARLIN, Lieut. (jg), USNR

Approved:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*R. C. Dooley*  
R. C. DOOLEY,  
Lieut-Comdr., U.S.N.R. Navigator.

*Fr*

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Monday 1 March 1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus five

OPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

"CONFIDENTIAL"

DESIGNATION: (3.10) Transport Group

COMPOSITION: (3.10.1) Transport Unit

BARNETT  
NEVILLE  
BELLATRIX  
ALCYONE  
BETELGEUSE

(3.10.2) Screening Unit

CARMICK  
MACKENZIE  
McLANAHAN

NEXT HIGHER ECHELON: Commander Task Force Three

MAJOR FORCE TO WHICH ATTACHED: U.S. Pacific Fleet.

00-04(LOT) Underway on base course 025(T), in accordance with Commander Task Force Three, Operation Order No. 2-43 (Serial 0024), February 19, 1943. Cruising formation as follows:

Section Two

NEVILLE  
BETELGEUSE

Section One

BARNETT - O.T.C. and guide  
ALCYONE  
BELLATRIX

Standard speed 9 knots (49 r.p.m.). Ship fully darkened, in Condition III.

G.C.T. L.C.T.

0535	0035	CAPE MALA LIGHT abeam to port bearing 295(T), distance 14 miles.
0600	0100	Changed standard speed to 11 knots (58 r.p.m.).
0603	0103	Changed base course to 022(T).
0709	0209	Moonrise.

*M. F. Stilling*  
M.F. STILLING, Lt-Comdr, USNR

04-08

1035	0535	Set Condition I (Special).
1122	0622	Sighted BONA ISLAND bearing 337(T), distance 26 miles.
1125	0625	Changed base course to 000(T).
1131	0631	Sunrise. Secured from Condition I (Special), set Condition III.
1138	0638	Changed course to 315(T).
1155	0655	Changed course to 000(T).
1200	0700	Formed column as follows: BARNETT (OTC and guide), ALCYONE, BELLATRIX, NEVILLE and BETELGEUSE.
1211	0711	Changed standard speed to 12 knots (64 r.p.m.).
1254	0754	Passed #1 swept channel buoy abeam to port, distant 50 yards.
1255	0755	BONA ISLAND LIGHT abeam to port, distant 5.5 miles.
1300	0800	<u>Ship's position:</u> Lat. 08-34-30 N., Long. 79-30-00 W.

*F. F. Ryan*  
F.F. RYAN, Lieut. (jg), USNR

Approved:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
47935 O. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*A. O. Dooley*  
A. O. DOOLEY,  
Lieut-Comdr., U.S.N.R. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Monday 1 March 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus five

REMARKS

08-12  
 G.C.T. L.C.T. 1313 0813 Passed #2 swept channel buoy abeam to port, distance 50 yards.  
 1322 0822 Standard distance increased to 1000 yards.  
 1334 0834 Passed #3 swept channel buoy abeam to starboard, distance 50 yards.  
 1406 0906 Passed TABOGUILLA ISLAND LIGHT abeam to port, distance 4 1/2 miles.  
 1407 0907 Changed course to 336(T).  
 1410 0910 Passed #4 swept channel buoy abeam to port, distance 40 yards. On various courses standing up channel to pilot station, Captain at the conn, Navigator on the bridge.  
 1431 0931 Stopped.  
 1436 0936 Pilot E. SIMMS came aboard.  
 1444 0944 Resumed standard speed, pilot took the conn.  
 1457 0957 Passed channel buoy abeam to starboard, distance 75 yards. Standing into BALBOA harbor on various courses at various speeds conforming to channel.  
 1515 1015 Passed through degaussing range on course 322(T).  
 1522 1022 Passed through anti-torpedo net.  
 1642 1142 Moored port side to dock, western entrance of MIRAFLORES LOCKS, PANAMA CANAL.  
 1642 1142 Secured degaussing gear.

*R. C. Dooley*  
 R. C. DOOLEY, Lt-Comdr., USNR

12-16  
 1759 1259 Underway.  
 1808 1308 Entered first chamber MIRAFLORES LOCK.  
 1831 1331 Entered second chamber.  
 1858 1358 Passed out of MIRAFLORES LOCKS, various courses and speeds proceeding through MIRAFLORES LAKE.  
 1923 1423 Entered first chamber PEDRO MIGUEL LOCK.  
 1955 1455 Passed out of PEDRO MIGUEL LOCK, proceeding through the PANAMA CANAL at various speeds on various courses.

*R. C. Dooley*  
 R. C. DOOLEY, Lt-Comdr., USNR

16-20  
 2140 1640 Out in degaussing gear. Passing over SAN PABLO REACH degaussing range.  
 2243 1743 Anchored in East anchorage of GATUN LAKE in 15 fathoms of water with 30 fathoms of chain to the port anchor, on the following bearings: buoy #2 320 1/4(T), buoy #4 263 1/4(T), buoy #8 201(T), buoy #9 190 1/4(T).  
 2345 1845 Darkened ship.  
 March 2  
 0012 1912 Underway from anchorage, various courses and speeds proceeding towards GATUN LOCKS.  
 0035 1935 Moored port side to the dock, southern entrance of GATUN LOCKS.

*R. C. Dooley*  
 R. C. DOOLEY, Lt-Comdr., USNR

20-24  
 0141 2041 Cast off all lines, commenced transit of GATUN LOCKS.  
 0151 2051 Entered first chamber GATUN LOCKS.  
 0207 2107 Entered second chamber.

Approved:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
 O. H. RITCHIE,  
 Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*R. C. Dooley*  
 R. C. DOOLEY,  
 Lieut-Comdr., U. S. N. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Monday 1 March, 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus five

REMARKS

G.C.T.	L.C.T.	20-24(Continued)
0229	2129	Entered third chamber.
0244	2144	Passed out of GATUN LOCKS, various courses and speeds conforming to channel.
0316	2216	Tug TAVERNILLA came alongside to port to assist pilot.
0332	2232	Moored starboard side to western side of pier #8, CRISTOBAL HARBOR, CANAL ZONE, with six manila lines. Pilot and tug left the ship.
0352	2252	Secured degaussing gear.

*R. C. Dooley*  
R. C. DOOLEY, Lt-Comdr., USNR

Approved:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
 O. H. RITCHIE,  
 Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*R. C. Dooley*  
 R. C. DOOLEY,  
 Lieut-Comdr., U.S.N.R. Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Tuesday 2 March 1943ZONE DESCRIPTION plus five OPERATIONAL REMARKS

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04 Moored as before. No. 3 generator in use for auxiliary purposes. Ship fully darkened and in Condition IV. Receiving fresh water from the dock.

0630 0130 Finished taking fresh water, having received 10,000 gallons.

S.V. Montgomery  
S.V. MONTGOMERY, Lieut., USNR

04-08  
No remarks.

M.E. Wash  
M.E. WASH, Lieut., USNR

1330 0830 Made preparations for getting underway. Draft of ship 15' 4" forward; 23' 10" aft.

1340 0840 Pilot A.W. SIMONINGTON came on board. Cut in degaussing gear.

1345 0845 Tug TAVERNILLA came alongside to assist pilot.

1351 0851 Underway to shift berth, with pilot at the conn, Captain and Navigator on the bridge; standard speed 15 knots (80 r.p.m.). Various courses and speeds proceeding towards anchorage.

1400 0900 Tug left.

1409 0909 Anchored in berth M-55, merchant anchorage, in 6 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to the port anchor on the following bearings: TORO POINT BEACON 310(T), BREAKWATER LIGHT 004(T), STACK COLON 061(T).

1546 1046 NEVILLE got underway from dock and anchored in bay.

J.V. Aleta  
J.V. ALETA, Lieut. (jg), USNR

1930 1430 MCKENZIE stood in and anchored.

2030 1530 ALCYONE got underway from dock and anchored in bay.

R. U. Dooley  
R. U. DOOLEY, Lt-Cdr., USNR

2220 1720 ANTEAUS stood in and moored to the east side of pier #8.

2348 1848 Darkened ship.

R.F. Birmingham  
R.F. BIRMINGHAM, Lieut., USNR

20-24  
No remarks.

J.E. Carlin  
J.E. CARLIN, Lieut. (jg), USNR

Approved: O. H. Ritchie  
O. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined: R. U. Dooley  
R. U. DOOLEY,  
Lieut-Comdr. p. s. N. B. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Wednesday 3 March 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus five OPERATIONAL REMARKS

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
0600 0100 Set clocks ahead one hour (zone plus 4).  
*H. Terric*  
H. TERRIC, Ensign, USN

04-08  
No remarks.  
*R.C. Dooley*  
R.C. DOOLEY, Lt-Jdr., USNR

1246 0846 08-12 ARCTURUS got underway from the dock and anchored in bay.  
1325 0925 RELIEF stood in and anchored.  
*R.F. Birmingham*  
R.F. BIRMINGHAM, Lieut., USNR

1810 1410 12-16 Pilot J.S. MUNDEN came on board.  
1815 1415 Made preparations for getting underway.  
1820 1420 Cut in degaussing gear.  
1836 1436 Underway in accordance with Commander Panama Sea Frontier despatch orders, No. 021859, March, 1943.

DESIGNATION: Task Force 39.

COMPOSITION: BARNETT, NEVILLE, THOMAS JEFFERSON, WILLIAM P. BIDDLE, JOSEPH T. DICKMAN, ARCTURUS, OBERON, BELLATRIX, BETELGEUSE, ALOYONE and ANTEAUS; escorted by MACKENZIE, McLANAHAN and CARMICK.

NEXT HIGHER ECHELON: Commander Panama Sea Frontier.

MAJOR FORCE TO WHICH ATTACHED: U.S. ATLANTIC FLEET.

1915 1515 Captain took the conn, pilot left the ship; proceeded on various courses at various speeds conforming to channel.  
1918 1518 Increased speed to 15.5 knots (83 r.p.m.).  
1920 1520 Passed through breakwater.  
1925 1525 General Quarters.  
1934 1534 Secured from General Quarters, set Condition III. With 8 3/4 mile buoy abeam to port, distance 400 yards, took departure and set course 000(T). Standard speed 14 knots (75 r.p.m.).

*R.C. Dooley*  
R.C. DOOLEY, Lt-Cdr., USNR

2012 1612 16-20 Took cruising disposition #2 as follows:

<u>Section 1</u>	<u>Section 2</u>	<u>Section 3</u>	<u>Section 4</u>
ALOYONE DICKMAN	NEVILLE ARCTURUS BELLATRIX	BARNETT BETELGEUSE OBERON	JEFFERSON BIDDLE ANTEAUS

Standard distance 600 yards; standard interval 1000 yards. CARMICK, MACKENZIE and McLANAHAN joined and took position as anti-submarine screen.

Approved: *O. H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined: *R.C. Dooley*  
R.C. DOOLEY,  
Lieut-Comdr., U.S.N.R. Navigator.



UNITED STATES SHIP

BELLATRIX

Wednesday

3

March

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus fourOPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

S.C.T. L.C.T. 16-20 (Continued)  
 2021 1621 Changed speed to 5 knots (25 r.p.m.).  
 2109 1709 Changed speed to 14 knots (75 r.p.m.).  
 2113 1713 Changed course to 032(T).  
 2230 1830 Commenced zig-zag Plan #12.  
 2328 1928 Sunset. General Quarters.  
 2400 2000 Ship's position: Lat. 10-22-00 N., Long. 79-33-00 W.

*J. E. Carlin*  
J. E. CARLIN, Lieut. (jg), USNR

March 3 20-24  
 0010 2010 Secured from General Quarters, set Condition III.  
 0115 2115 Ceased zig-zagging, resumed base course 032(T).

*M. F. Stiling*  
M. F. STILING, Lt.-Jr., USNR

Approved:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
 O. H. RITCHIE,  
 Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*H. C. Dooley*  
 H. C. DOOLEY,  
 Lieut.-Comdr., U. S. N. R. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP

BELLATRIX

Thursday

4

March

19 43

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus fourOPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04 Underway as before on base course 032(T). Standard speed 14 knots (75 r.p.m.). Ship fully darkened and in Condition III.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut. (jg), USNR

04-08  
0956 0556 Moonrise.  
1030 0630 Commenced zig-zag Plan #12. Set Condition I (Special).  
1127 0727 Secured from Condition I (Special), set Condition III.  
Lighted ship.  
1200 0800 Ship's position: Lat. 12-42-00 N., Long. 78-06-00 W.

*J.V. Aista*  
J.V. AISTA, Lieut. (jg), USNR

08-12  
1410 1010 CARMICK reported radar contact on aircraft bearing 257(T), distance 13 miles.  
1500 1100 Sighted one FBY plane bearing 043(T), distance 7 miles.  
1600 1200 Ship's position: Lat. 13-27-00 N., Long. 77-39-00 W.  
Distance made good since departure 260.5 miles.

*J.E. Cardin*  
J.E. CARDIN, Lieut. (jg), USNR

12-16  
1618 1218 Changed course to 047(T).  
1624 1224 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 032(T).  
1626 1226 Sighted one FBY plane bearing 342(T), distance 7 miles.  
1632 1231 Commenced zig-zag Plan #12.

*M.F. Stilling*  
M.F. STILLING, Lt-Cdr, USNR

16-20  
2100 1710 Sighted friendly cruiser and destroyer bearing 050(T), distance 8 miles.  
2311 1911 Darkened ship.  
2316 1916 Sunset.  
2318 1918 On signal from OTC, CARMICK fell astern to transfer appendicitis patient to this ship.  
2320 1920 Convoy changed speed to 9 knots.  
2321 1921 Stopped; falling astern of convoy. Lowered boat to receive patient from CARMICK.  
2325 1925 Convoy ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 032(T).  
2326 1926 Convoy commenced zig-zag Plan #12.  
2346 1946 Boat returned with patient.  
2347 1947 Ahead full speed 15.5 knots (84 r.p.m.), on course 045(T), to rejoin convoy with CARMICK as escort.  
2358 1958 Set Condition I.  
2400 2000 Ship's position: Lat. 14-53-00 N., Long. 76-54-00 W.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut. (jg), USNR

March 5 20-24  
0005 2005 Changed course to 036(T).  
0014 2014 Secured from Condition I, set Condition III.  
0021 2021 Changed speed to 10 knots (54 r.p.m.), resumed position in convoy.  
0032 2032 Changed speed to 14 knots (75 r.p.m.).

Approved:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*R.S. Dooley*  
R.S. DOOLEY,  
Lieut-Comdr., U.S.N.R. (Wingate)

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Friday 5 March 1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus four

OPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04 Underway as before, base course 032(T). Standard speed 14 knots (75 r.p.m.). Ship fully darkened and in Condition III.

*J.E. Carlin*  
J.E. CARLIN, Lieut. (jg), USNR

04-08  
1020 0620 Set Condition I (Special). Commenced zig-zag Plan #12.  
1110 0710 Sunrise. Secured from Condition I (Special), set Condition III. Lighted ship.  
1200 0800 Ship's position: Lat. 17-08-00 N., Long. 75-26-30 W.

*M.F. Stiling*  
M.F. STILING, Lt.-Comdr., USNR

08-12  
1205 0805 Escort reported radar contact with aircraft bearing 289(T), distance 13 miles.  
1207 0807 Sighted one Catalina FBY plane bearing 290(T), distance 8 miles.  
1556 1155 Ceased zig-zagging, resumed base course 032(T).  
1600 1200 Ship's position: Lat. 17-52-00 N., Long. 74-58-00 W. Distance made good since 1200, March 4, 1943, 306.5 miles.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut. (jg), USNR

12-16  
1600 1200 Changed base course to 020(T).  
1610 1210 Commenced zig-zag Plan #12.  
1620 1220 Escort reported supersonic contact with submarine bearing 260(T).  
1626 1226 Supersonic contact reported with submarine bearing 075(T).  
1633 1233 General Quarters. McLANAHAN made attack with depth charges.  
1640 1240 Sighted one FBY plane bearing 350(T), distance 4 miles.  
1654 1254 Sighted NAVASSA ISLAND bearing 342(T), distance 20 miles.  
1747 1347 Secured from General Quarters, set Condition III.  
1747 1347 Sighted HISPANIOLA ISLAND bearing 060(T), distance 30 miles.  
1812 1412 Ceased zig-zagging, resumed base course 020(T); changed base course to 010(T).  
1824 1424 Commenced zig-zag Plan #39.  
1910 1510 Sighted sailing vessel on horizon bearing 013(T), distance 14 miles.  
1917 1517 Sighted DYSON on horizon bearing 029(T), distance 11 miles.  
1933 1533 Ceased zig-zagging, resumed base course 010(T).  
1934 1534 Changed base course to 040(T).  
1938 1538 DYSON joined convoy.

*J.V. Alsta*  
J.V. ALSTA, Lieut. (jg), USNR

16-20  
2002 1602 Commenced zig-zag Plan #39.  
2014 1614 McLANAHAN reported radar contact on plane bearing 028(T), distance 28 miles; identified as friendly (FBY).  
2130 1730 Two patrol planes sighted bearing 045(T), distance 7 miles.  
2256 1856 Darkened ship.  
2301 1901 Sunset. General Quarters.  
2345 1945 Sighted two white flares bearing 343(T), distance 7 miles.  
2350 1950 Ceased zig-zagging, resumed base course 040(T).

Approved: *O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined: *R.C. Debley*  
R.C. DEBLEY,  
Lieut.-Comdr., U.S.N.R.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Friday 5 March 1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus four OPERATIONAL REMARKS

G.C.T. L.C.T. 16-20 (Continued)  
2400 2000 Changed course to 047(T).  
Secured from General Quarters, set Condition III.  
Ship's position: Lat. 19-27-00 N., Long. 74-06-00 W.

*J. J. Carlin*  
J. J. CARLIN, Lieut. (jg), USNR

March 6 20-24  
0213 2213 Sighted CAPE ST. NICHOLS MOLE LIGHT bearing 074(T),  
distance 19 miles.  
0320 2320 Cape ST. NICHOLS MOLE LIGHT abeam to starboard, distance  
8.2 miles.

*M. F. Stilling*  
M. F. STILLING, Lt-3dr., USNR

Approved:

*O. N. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*R. C. Douley*  
R. C. DOULEY,  
Lieut-Comdr U.S.N.R.

9

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Saturday 6 March 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION <u>plus four</u>		OPERATIONAL REMARKS
G.C.T. I.C.T.		00-04 Underway as before, base course 047(T). Standard speed 14 knots (75 r.p.m.). Ship fully darkened and in Condition III.
		<i>F.P. Ryan</i> F.P. RYAN, Lieut. (jg), USNR
		04-08
1010	0610	Set Condition I (Special).
1015	0615	Commenced zig-zag Plan #11.
1059	0659	Sunrise. Secured from Condition I (Special), set Condition III. Lighted ship.
1110	0710	Changed base course to 000(T).
1125	0725	Sighted WEST CAICOS ISLAND bearing 055(T), distance 14 miles.
1145	0745	Cut in degaussing gear.
1200	0800	Ship's position: Lat. 21-35-00 N., Long. 72-41-00 W.
		<i>J.V. Albita</i> J.V. ALBITA, Lieut. (jg), USNR
		08-12
1200	0800	ALCYONE broke down and sheered out of formation to port, with McLANAHAN standing by as escort.
1205	0805	Changed standard speed to 9 knots (49 r.p.m.).
1211	0811	Radar contact on aircraft reported by CARMICK, bearing 025(T), distance 13 miles.
1235	0835	Secured degaussing gear.
1302	0902	Changed base course to 027(T).
1322	0922	Sighted one Catalina patrol bomber bearing 020(T), distance 9 miles.
1324	0924	Commenced zig-zag Plan #11.
1541	1141	Changed standard speed to 14 knots (75 r.p.m.).
1543	1143	ALCYONE resumed position in formation.
1550	1150	McLANAHAN resumed position in escort screen.
1558	1158	Ceased zig-zagging, resumed base course 027(T).
1600	1200	Ship's position: Lat. 22-18-00 N., Long. 72-27-00 W. Distance made good since 1200, March 5, 1943, 313.3 miles.
		<i>J.E. Carlin</i> J.E. CARLIN, Lieut. (jg), USNR
		12-16
1601	1201	Changed base course to 353(T).
1630	1230	Commenced zig-zag Plan #11.
		<i>M.F. Spilling</i> M.F. SPILLING, Lt-Cdr., USNR
		16-20
2023	1623	CARMICK reported radar contact on aircraft bearing 350(T), distance 33 miles.
2041	1641	Sighted one Catalina FBV patrol bomber bearing 150(T), distance 4 miles.
2202	1802	Ceased zig-zagging, resumed base course 353(T).
2203	1803	Changed base course to 325(T).
2230	1830	Commenced zig-zag Plan #11.
2252	1852	Darkened ship.
2256	1856	Sunset. General Quarters.
2258	1858	Changed standard speed to 13 knots (69 r.p.m.).
2244	1944	Secured from General Quarters, set Condition III.
2245	1945	Ceased zig-zagging, resumed base course 325(T).
2400	2000	Ship's position: Lat. 23-58-00 N., Long. 72-54-00 W.
		<i>F.P. Ryan</i> F.P. RYAN, Lieut. (jg), USNR

Approved:

Examined:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

*R.C. Dooley*  
R. C. DOOLEY,  
Lieut.-Comdr., U.S.N. Navigator.

10

UNITED STATES SHIP

BELLATRIX

Saturday 6 March 1943

19 43

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus four

OPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

G.C.T. L.C.T. 20-24  
No remarks.

*J.V. Aleta*  
J.V. Aleta, Lieut. (jg), USNR

Approved:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*R.C. Dooley*  
R.C. DOOLEY,  
Lieut-Comdr., U.S.N. Woolfstar.

//

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Sunday 7 March 1943  
(Date) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus four

OPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04 Underway as before, base course 325(T). Standard speed 13 knots (69 r.p.m.). Ship fully darkened and in Condition III.

*J. L. Carlin*  
J. L. CARLIN, Lieut. (jg), USNR

1011 0611 04-08 Set Condition I (Special).  
1020 0620 Commenced zig-zag Plan #11.  
1109 0709 Sunrise. Secured from Condition I (Special), set Condition III. Lighted ship.  
1200 0800 Ship's position: Lat. 26-14-00 N., Long. 74-30-00 W.

*M. F. Stilling*  
M. F. STILLING, Lt-Cdr., USNR

1303 0903 08-12 Changed standard speed to 14 knots (75 r.p.m.).  
1556 1156 Ceased zig-zagging, resumed base course 325(T).  
1600 1200 Commenced zig-zag Plan #38.  
Ship's position: Lat. 27-00-00 N., Long. 75-03-00 W.  
Distance made good since 1200, March 6, 1943, 321 miles.

*F. F. Ryan*  
F. F. RYAN, Lieut. (jg), USNR

12-16  
No remarks.

*J. V. Aista*  
J. V. AISTA, Lieut. (jg), USNR

2345 1945 16-20 Ceased zig-zagging, resumed base course 325(T).  
2400 2000 Changed base course to 323(T).  
Ship's position: Lat. 28-30-00 N., Long. 76-09-30 W.

*J. L. Carlin*  
J. L. CARLIN, Lieut. (jg), USNR

20-24  
No remarks.

*M. F. Stilling*  
M. F. STILLING, Lt-Cdr., USNR

Approved:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*R. C. Dooley*  
R. C. DOOLEY,  
Lieut-Comdr., U. S. N. Destroyer.

12

UNITED STATES SHIP		BELLATRIX	Monday	5	March	1943
ZONE DESCRIPTION <u>plus four</u>		OPERATIONAL REMARKS				
"CONFIDENTIAL"						
G.C.T. I.C.T.	00-04	Underway on base course 323(T). Standard speed 14 knots (75 r.p.m.). Ship fully darkened and in Condition III.				
<i>F.P. Ryan</i> F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR.						
<u>04-08</u>						
1030	0630	Commenced zig-zag Plan #38.				
1031	0631	Set Condition I (Special).				
1122	0722	Sunrise. Secured from Condition I (Special), set Condition III. Lighted ship.				
1200	0800	Ship's position: Lat. 30-50-00 N., Long. 78-21-00 W.				
<i>J.V. Aiefa</i> J.V. AIEFA, Lieut., USNR						
<u>08-12</u>						
1220	0820	Sighted one Catalina (PB) patrol bomber bearing 320(T), distance 14 miles.				
1249	0849	Changed base course to 325(T).				
1430	1030	Cut in degaussing gear.				
1447	1047	Ceased zig-zagging, resumed base course 325(T).				
1455	1055	Changed convoy speed to 10 knots (53 r.p.m.).				
1500	1100	ARCTURUS and BETELGEUSE exchanged positions in formation.				
1505	1105	BETELGEUSE and DICKEYMAN exchanged positions in formation.				
1516	1116	This ship took position eastern of BETELGEUSE in Section I of formation, becoming #13.				
1529	1129	Changed standard speed to 13 knots, commenced zig-zag Plan #38.				
1600	1200	Ship's position: Lat. 31-31-00 N., Long. 78-51-00 W. Distance made good since 1200, March 7, 1943, 319 miles.				
<i>J.E. Carlin</i> J.E. CARLIN, Lieut., USNR						
<u>12-16</u>						
1800	1400	Changed base course to 330(T).				
1819	1419	Changed base course to 333(T).				
<i>M.F. Stirling</i> M.F. STILING, Lt.-Com., USNR						
<u>16-20</u>						
2037	1637	Sighted one Lockheed-Hudson (PBO) patrol bomber bearing 020(T), distance 4 miles.				
2120	1720	Ceased zig-zagging, resumed base course 333(T).				
2130	1730	Section I, Composed of ALCYONE (guide and O.T.C.), BETELGEUSE and BELLATRIX was detached from Task Force #39 and directed to proceed to NAVY YARD, CHARLESTON, S.C.				
2135	1735	Changed standard speed to 14.5 knots (77 r.p.m.).				
2152	1752	Sighted wreck buoy "C-1" bearing 315(T), distance 3 miles.				
2204	1804	Ahead 2/3 speed.				
2205	1805	Sighted swept channel entrance buoy "2-AC" bearing 025(T), distance 2 miles.				
2206	1806	Changed course to 045(T).				
2211	1811	Changed speed to 14.5 knots (77 r.p.m.).				
2216	1816	With buoy "2-AC" abeam to starboard, distance 500 yards, changed course to 299(T), entering swept channel.				
2226	1826	Buoy "2-BC" abeam to starboard, distance 100 yards.				
Approved:		Examined:				
<i>O. H. Ritchie</i> O. H. RITCHIE, Commander, U.S.N.R.		<i>M. C. Dooley</i> M. C. DOOLEY, Lieut.-Comdr., U.S.N. (Buoytender)				



UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Monday 8 March 1953  
(Day) (Date) (Month)ZONE DESCRIPTION plus fourOPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

"CONFIDENTIAL"

G.C.T.	L.C.T.	16-20 (Continued)
2243	1843	Formation dissolved by O.T.C., and ships directed to proceed at discretion. Proceeded into CHARLESTON on various courses and speeds conforming to channel.
2321	1921	Secured degaussing gear.
2322	1922	Entering CHARLESTON HARBOR.
2357	1957	Cut in degaussing gear.
2358	1958	Darkened ship.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR

March 9	20-24	
0106	2106	Anchored in COOPER RIVER, NAVY YARD, CHARLESTON, S.C., in 6 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to the port anchor.
0122	2122	Tugs alongside starboard quarter and starboard bow.
0123	2123	Pilot E.H. JOHNSON reported aboard.
0129	2129	Underway with pilot at the conn, Captain, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge.
0154	2154	Moored port side to Pier #314, NAVY YARD, CHARLESTON, S.C., with six manila lines and one wire hawser. No. 3 diesel generator in use for auxiliary purposes. Ship fully darkened except for light at brow, and in Condition III.
0202	2202	Pilot and tugs left the ship.
0206	2206	Secured from Condition III, set Condition IV.
0207	2207	Secured degaussing gear.
0215	2215	Secured gyro compass.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR

Approved:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
C. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*R. J. Docley*  
R. J. DOCLEY,  
Lieut.-Comdr., U.S.N. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP

BELLATRIX

Tuesday

9

March

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus four

OPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

"CONFIDENTIAL"

00-04 G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04 Moored port side to Pier #317-A, NAVY YARD, CHARLES-  
TON, S.C. Receiving water and telephone service from the  
dock.

W. F. Lightner  
W. F. LIGHTNER, Ensign, USNR

1000 0600 04-08  
1137 0737 Dredge lines secured to starboard beam.  
Sunrise.

H. Terric  
H. TERRIC, Ensign, USN.

08-12  
No remarks.

R. C. Doolley  
R. C. DOOLEY, Lt-Cdr., USNR

12-16  
No remarks.

Roy Ford  
ROY FORD, CQM, PAC, USNR

2000 1600 16-18  
Secured engineering plant, commenced receiving steam and  
power from the Yard.

M. F. Stirling  
M. F. STIRLING, Lt-Cdr., USNR

2323 1923 18-20  
2333 1933 Sunset.  
Darkened ship locally.

M. S. Vash  
M. S. VASH, Lieut., USNR

20-24  
No remarks.

S. V. Montgomery  
S. V. MONTGOMERY, Lieut., USNR

Approved:

O. H. Ritchie  
O. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

R. C. Doolley  
R. C. DOOLEY,  
Lieut-Comdr., U. S. N. Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL

Page 42

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Wednesday 10 March 1943ZONE DESCRIPTION plus fourOPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

"CONFIDENTIAL"

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04 Moored port side to Pier #317-A, Navy Yard, Charleston,  
S.C. Receiving steam, power and water from the Yard.J.V. AETA  
J.V. AETA, Lieut., USNR1137 0737 04-08  
Sunrise.J.C. Campbell  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Ensign, USNR08-12  
No remarks.Roy Ford  
ROY FORD, CQ, P43, USNR12-16  
No remarks.J.C. Campbell  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Ensign, USNR2323 1923 16-20  
2333 1933 Sunset.  
Darkened ship locally.W.T. Lightner  
W.T. LIGHTNER, Ensign, USNR20-24  
No remarks.H. Terris  
H. TERRIS, Ensign, USNR

Approved:

O. H. Ritchie  
O. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

R. C. Dudley  
R. C. DUDLEY,  
Lieut-Comdr., U.S.N.R. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Thursday 11 March 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus four

OPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

"CONFIDENTIAL"

G.S.T. L.C.T. 00-04 Moored port side to Pier #317-A, Navy Yard, Charleston, S.C. Receiving steam, power, water and telephone service from the Yard.

*R.C. Dooley*  
R.C. DOOLEY, Lt-Cdr., USNR

1136 0736 04-08 Sunrise.

*W.T. Lightner*  
W.T. LIGHTNER, Ensign, USNR

08-12 No remarks.

*H. Terric*  
H. TERRIC, Ensign, USNR

12-16 No remarks.

*M.F. Stilling*  
M.F. STILLING, Lt-Cdr., USNR

16-18 No remarks.

*M.E. Vash*  
M.E. VASH, Lieut., USNR

2324 1924 18-20 Sunset.  
2334 1934 Darkened ship locally.

*S.V. Montgomery*  
S.V. MONTGOMERY, Lieut., USNR

20-24 No remarks.

*J.V. Aista*  
J.V. AISTA, Lieut., USNR

Approved:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*R.C. Dooley*  
R. C. DOOLEY,  
Lieut-Comdr., U. S. N. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Friday 12 March 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus four

OPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

"CONFIDENTIAL"

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04 Moored port side to Pier #317-A, Navy Yard, Charleston, S.C. Receiving steam, power, water and telephone service from the Yard.

*J. C. Campbell*  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Ensign, USNR

1135 0735 04-08 Sunrise.

*Roy Ford*  
ROY FORD, CQM, P4C, USNR

1200 0800 08-12 BELLATRIX assumed Military and Medical Guard.

*M. E. Vash*  
M. E. VASH, Lieut., USNR

1715 1315 12-16 Installed air-raid warning telephone.

*W. T. Lightner*  
W. T. LIGHTNER, Ensign, USNR

2325 1925 16-20 Sunset.  
2335 1935 Darkened ship locally.  
2345 1945 BELLATRIX assumed SOPA.

*H. Terrio*  
H. TERRIO, Ensign, USN

20-24  
No remarks.

*R. C. Doolley*  
R. C. DOOLEY, Lt-Cdr., USNR

Approved: *O. H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined: *R. C. Doolley*  
R. C. DOOLEY,  
Lieut-Comdr., U.S.N.R. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP

BELLATRIX

Saturday

13

March

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus four

OPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

"CONFIDENTIAL"

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04 Moored port side to Pier #317-A, Navy Yard, Charleston, S.C. Receiving steam, power, water and telephone service from the Yard.

*W. T. Lightner*  
W.T. LIGHTNER, Ensign, USNR

1134 0734 04-08  
Sunrise.

*H. Terrico*  
H. TERRICO, Ensign, USNR

08-12  
No remarks.

*R. C. Dooley*  
R.C. DOOLEY, Lt-Comdr., USNR

12-16  
No remarks.

*S. V. Montgomery*  
S.V. MONTGOMERY, Lieut., USNR

2326 1926 16-20  
2336 1936 Sunset.  
Darkened ship locally.

*J. V. Aiepa*  
J.V. AIEPA, Lieut., USNR

20-24  
No remarks.

*J. C. Campbell*  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Ensign, USNR

Approved:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*R. C. Dooley*  
R. C. DOOLEY,  
Lieut-Comdr., U. S. N. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Sunday 14 March 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus fourOPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

"CONFIDENTIAL"

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04 Moored port side to Pier #317-A, Navy Yard, Charleston, S.C. Receiving steam, power, water and telephone service from the Yard.

Roy Ford  
ROY FORD, CQM, YAC, USNR

1132 0732 04-08  
Sunrise.

M.E. Vash  
M.E. VASH, Lieut., USNR

08-12  
No remarks.

S.V. Montgomery  
S.V. MONTGOMERY, Lieut., USNR

12-16  
No remarks.

H. Terrio  
H. TERRIO, Ensign, USN

2327 1927 16-20  
Sunset.  
2337 1937 Darkened ship locally.

H.W. Jett  
H.W. JETT, Coast., USNR

20-24  
No remarks.

W.T. Lightner  
W.T. LIGHTNER, Ensign, USNR

Approved:

O. H. Ritchie  
O. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

R. C. Douley  
R. C. DOULEY,  
Lieut-Comdr., U. S. N. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP

BELLATRIX

Monday

15 March

1953

(Day)

(Date)

(Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus four

OPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04 Moored port side to Pier #317-A, Navy Yard, Charleston, S.C. Receiving steam, power, water and telephone service from the Yard.

H. TARDIO, Ensign, USN.

1133 0733 04-08  
Sunrise.

H. J. Jett  
H. J. JETT, USN

08-12  
No remarks.

W. T. Bickel  
W. T. BICKEL, Ensign, USN

12-16  
No remarks.

J. V. Aick  
J. V. AICK, Lieut., USN

2327 1927 16-20  
Sunset.  
2337 1937 Darkened ship locally.

J. C. Campbell  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Ensign, USN

20-24  
No remarks.

Roy Ford  
ROY FORD, CQM, P4C, USN

Approved:

Examined:

C. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

H. C. Dogley  
H. C. DOGLEY,  
Lieut-Comdr., U. S. N. Navigator.



UNITED STATES SHIP

BELLATRIX

Tuesday  
(Day)

16  
(Date)

March  
(Month)

19 43

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus four

OPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04 Moored port side to Pier #317-A, Navy Yard, Charleston, S.C. Receiving steam, power, water and telephone service from the Yard.

M. S. Vash  
M. S. VASH, Lieut., USNR

1132 0732 04-08 Sunrise.

S. V. Montgomery  
S. V. MONTGOMERY, Lieut. USNR

08-12 No remarks.

J. V. Aleta  
J. V. ALETA, Lieut. USNR

12-16 No remarks.

H. S. Pitt  
H. S. PITT, Comdr., USN

2328 1928 16-20 Sunset.  
2338 1938 Darkened ship locally.

W. T. Lightner  
W. T. LIGHTNER, Ensign, USNR

20-24 No remarks.

H. Terrico  
H. TERRICO, Ensign, USN

Approved:

Examined:

O. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

W. S. Dudley  
Lieut-Comdr., U.S.N. Navigator.

28

UNITED STATES SHIP

BELLATRIX

Wednesday

17 March

1943

(Day)

(Date)

(Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus fourOPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04 Moored port side to Pier #317-A, Navy Yard, Charleston, S.C. Receiving steam, power, water and telephone service from the Yard.

H. D. Jett  
H. D. JETT, Coast., USN

1128 0728 04-08  
Sunrise.

W. T. Lightner  
W. T. LIGHTNER, Ensign, USNR

1200 0800 08-12  
1245 0845 Commenced piling concrete ballast into #3 hold.  
Commenced discharging ammunition from after magazine to Ammunition Depot lighter.

H. TERRIO, Ensign, USN

13-16  
No remarks.

J. C. Campbell  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Ensign, USNR

2300 1900 16-20  
2329 1929 Completed discharging ammunition from after magazine.  
Sunset.  
2339 1939 Darkened ship locally.

Roy Ford  
ROY FORD, Cpl., FAC, USNR

20-24  
No remarks.

H. B. Vash  
H. B. VASH, Lieut. USNR

Approved:

Examined:

C. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

H. C. Dugley  
H. C. DUGLEY,  
Lieut.-Comdr., U. S. N. Investigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Thursday 18 March 1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION		OPERATIONAL REMARKS	
plus four			
G.C.T. L.C.T.	00-04	Moored port side to Pier #317-A, Navy Yard, Charleston, S.C. Receiving steam, power, water and telephone service from the Yard.	<u>S.V. MONTGOMERY, Lieut., USNR</u>
1127	0727	04-08 Sunrise.	<u>J.V. ALTA, Lieut., USNR</u>
		08-12 No remarks.	<u>J.C. CAMPBELL, Ensign, USNR</u>
		12-16 No remarks.	<u>ROY FORD, Capt., F4C, USNR</u>
2330	1930	16-20 Sunset.	
2340	1940	Darkened ship locally.	<u>H. TERRIC, Ensign, USN</u>
		20-24 No remarks.	<u>R.C. DOOLEY, Lt-Comdr., USNR</u>

Approved:

C. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

R.C. DOOLEY,  
Lieut-Comdr.,  
U.S. Navy

UNITED STATES SHIP BELATRIX Friday 19 March 1942ZONE DESCRIPTION plus fourOPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

9.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04 Moored port side to Pier #317-A, Navy Yard, Charleston, S.C. Receiving steam, power, water and telephone service from the Yard.

0425 0025 Commenced filling #2 deep tank with fuel oil from #1 and #2 fuel oil tanks. Draft before filling 8' 6" forward; 23' 10" aft.

W. T. Lightner  
W.T. LIGHTNER, Ensign, USNR

1000 0600 04-08 Completed transfer of fuel oil from #1 and #2 fuel oil tanks to #2 deep tank. Ship's draft 7' 8" forward; 24' 4" aft.  
1126 0726 Sunrise.

H. Terric (K8)  
H.TERRIC, Ensign, USN

1255 0855 08-12 USS CLEMSON stood out.  
1530 1130 Ship's draft: forward 7' 11"; aft 24' 5".

R. C. Doolley  
R.C. DOOLEY, Lt-Cdr., USNR

12-16  
No remarks.

W. T. Lightner  
W.T. LIGHTNER, Ensign, USNR

2025 1625 16-20 USS CLEMSON stood in.

M. E. Vash  
M.E. VASH, Lieut. USNR.

20-24  
No remarks.

S. V. Montgomery  
S.V. MONTGOMERY, Lieut., USNR

Approved:

O. H. Ritchie  
O. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

R. C. Doolley  
R. C. DOOLEY,  
Lieut-Comdr., U. S. Navy Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP

BELLATRIX

Saturday

20

March

1943

(Day)

(Date)

(Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus fourOPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04 Heered port side to Pier #317-A, Navy Yard, Charleston, S.C. Receiving steam, power, water and telephone service from the Yard.

J.V. RITA  
J.V. RITA, Lieut. USNR

1125 0725 04-08  
Sunrise.

J.C. CAMPBELL  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Ensign, USNR

08-12  
No remarks.

M.E. VASH  
M.E. VASH, Lieut. USNR

12-16  
No remarks.

H. T. ERIC (RS)  
H. T. ERIC, Ensign, USNR

2332 1932 16-20  
Sunset.  
2342 1942 Darkened ship locally.

R.C. DOOLEY  
R.C. DOOLEY, Lt-Comdr., USNR

March 31 20-24  
No remarks.

R.F. BIRMINGHAM  
R.F. BIRMINGHAM, Lieut. USNR

Approved:

O.H. Ritchie  
O. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

R.C. DOOLEY  
R.C. DOOLEY,  
Lieut-Comdr., U. S. N. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELL-TRIX Sunday 21 March 1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus four OPERATIONAL REMARKS

G.S.T. L.C.T. 00-04 Moored port side to Pier #317-A, Navy Yard, Charleston, S.C. Receiving steam, power, water and telephone service from the Yard.

F.P. Ryan  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut. USNR

1123 0723 04-08 Sunrise.. Lighted ship.

J. S. Carlin  
J.S. CARLIN, Lieut. USNR

08-12  
No remarks.

W. T. Lightner  
W.T. LIGHTNER, Ensign, USNR

12-16  
No remarks.

M. S. Vash  
M.S. VASH, Lieut. USNR

2333 1933 16-20 Sunset.  
2343 1943 Darkened ship locally.

J. V. Aipta  
J.V. AIPTA, Lieut. USNR

March 22 20-24  
No remarks.

J. C. Campbell  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Ensign, USNR

Approved:

O. H. Ritchie  
O. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, USNR.

Examined:

R. C. Dooley  
R. C. DOOLEY,  
Lieut-Comdr., U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES SHIP

BELLATRIX

Monday

22

March

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus four

OPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

"CONFIDENTIAL"

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04 Moored port side to Pier #317-A, Navy Yard, Charleston, S.C. Receiving steam, power, water and telephone service from the Yard.

*M.F. Stirling*  
M.F. STIRLING, Lt-Cdr., USNR

1122 0722 04-08 Sunrise. Lighted ship.

*M.E. Vash*  
M.E. VASH, Lieut., USNR

08-12  
No remarks.

*J.C. Campbell*  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Ensign, USNR

1845 1445 12-16 USS BELL and USS LYSON shifting berths to dry-dock.

*R.C. Dooley*  
R.C. DOOLEY, Lt-Cdr., USNR

2050 1650 16-20 USS THREAT standing in.  
2332 1932 Sunset.  
2342 1942 Darkened ship locally.

*R.F. Birmingham*  
R.F. BIRMINGHAM, Lieut., USNR

March 23 20-24  
No remarks.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR

Approved:

*C.H. Ritchie*  
C. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*R.C. Dooley*  
R. C. DOOLEY,  
Lieut-Comdr., U. S. N. Navigator.

28

UNITED STATES SHIP

BELLATRIX

Tuesday

23

March

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus four

OPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

9.0.0. 1.0.0. 00-04 Moored port side to Pier #317-A, Navy Yard, Charleston, S.C. Receiving steam, power, water and telephone service from the Yard.

E. Barber  
E. S. BARBER, Lieut., USNR

1120 0720 04-08  
Sunrise. Lighted ship.

W. T. Lightner  
W. T. LIGHTNER, Ensign, USNR

1430 1030 08-12  
USS ALCYONE assumed SOPA.

R. J. Dooley  
R. J. DOOLEY, Lt-Cdr., USNR

12-16  
No remarks.

ROY FORD  
ROY FORD, Cdr., PAC, USNR

2333 1933 16-20  
Sunset.  
2343 1943 Darkened ship locally.

M. E. Vash  
M. E. VASH, Lieut., USNR

March 24 20-24  
No remarks.

J. Campbell  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Ensign, USNR

Approved:

O. H. Ritchie  
O. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

R. J. Dooley  
R. J. DOOLEY,  
Lieut-Comdr., U. S. N., Navigator.



UNITED STATES SHIP

BELLATRIX

Wednesday

24

March

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus fourOPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04 Moored port side to Pier #317-A, Navy Yard, Charleston, S.C. Receiving steam, power, water and telephone service from the Yard.

Roy Ford  
ROY FORD, CSM, P&C, USNR

1119 0719 04-08  
Sunrise. Lighted ship.

W. S. Vash  
W. S. VASH, Lieut., USNR

08-12  
No remarks.

J. C. Campbell  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Ensign, USNR

12-16  
No remarks.

R. F. Birmingham  
R. F. BIRMINGHAM, Lieut., USNR

2334 1934 16-20  
2344 1944 Sunset.  
Darkened ship locally.

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR

March 25 20-24  
No remarks.

J. E. Carlin  
J. E. CARLIN, Lieut., USNR

Approved:

O. H. Ritchie  
O. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.A.S.

Examined:

R. G. Dogley  
R. G. DOGLEY,  
Lieut-Comdr., U.S.N., Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP

BELLATRIX

Thursday

25

March

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus four

OPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

0.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04 Moored port side to Pier #317-A, Navy Yard, Charleston,  
S.C. Receiving steam, power, water and telephone service  
from the Yard.

W.T. Lightner  
W.T. LIGHTNER, Ensign, USNR

1118 0718 04-08 Sunrise. Lighted ship.

R. C. Doolley  
R.C. DOOLEY, Lt-Comdr., USNR

08-12  
No remarks.

R. B. Birmingham  
R.B. BIRMINGHAM, Lieut., USNR

12-16  
No remarks.

Roy Ford  
ROY FORD, CQM, FAC, USNR

2335 1935 16-20 Sunset.  
2345 1945 Darkened ship locally.

M. E. Vash  
M.E. VASH, Lieut., USNR

March 26 20-24  
No remarks.

J. C. Campbell  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Ensign, USNR

Approved:

C. H. Ritchie  
C. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

R. C. Doolley  
R. C. DOOLEY,  
Lieut-Comdr., U. S. N. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Friday 26 March 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus four

OPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04 Moored port side to Pier #317-A, Navy Yard, Charleston, S.C. Receiving steam, power, water and telephone service from the Yard.  
0620 0220 Yard tugs alongside starboard side to assist in moving ship back down the dock.  
0700 0300 Commenced moving ship.  
0725 0325 Ship secured to dock, and yard tugs cast off.

*M. V. Vash*  
M. E. VASH, Lieut., USNR

1117 0717 04-08 Sunrise. Lighted ship.

*Roy Ford*  
ROY FORD, Cpl., P4C, USNR

08-12  
No remarks.

*J. C. Campbell*  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Ensign, USNR

12-16  
No remarks.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR

2336 1936 16-20 Sunset.  
2346 1946 Darkened ship locally.

*J. E. Carlin*  
J. E. CARLIN, Lieut., USNR

March 27 20-24  
No remarks.

*W. T. Lightner*  
W. T. LIGHTNER, Ensign, USNR

Approved:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*R. D. Doolley*  
R. D. DOOLEY,  
Lieut.-Comdr., U.S.N., Westgate.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Saturday 27 March 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus four

OPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

G.S.T. L.T.T. 00-04. Moored port side to Pier #317-A, Navy Yard, Charleston, S.C. Receiving steam, power, water and telephone service from the Yard.

*R. O. Dugley*  
R. O. DUGLEY, Lt-Jdr., USNR

1115 0715 04-08  
Sunrise. Lighted ship.

*R. F. Birmingham*  
R. F. BIRMINGHAM, Lieut., USNR

1210 0810 08-12  
USS DYSON standing out.  
1315 0915 USS STEVENS standing out.  
1355 0955 Gunnery and Material Inspection party commenced inspection of ship.  
1540 1140 Gunnery inspection completed.  
1545 1145 Material inspection completed.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR

1635 1235 12-16  
USS DYSON standing in.

*J. Campbell*  
J. CAMPBELL, Lieut., USNR

2336 1936 16-20  
Sunset.  
2346 1946 Darkened ship locally.

*M. S. Vash*  
M. S. VASH, Lieut., USNR

March 28 20-24  
No remarks.

*Roy Ford*  
ROY FORD, Cdr., USNR

Approved:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*R. O. Dugley*  
R. O. DUGLEY,  
Lieut-Comdr., U. S. N., Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP

BULLWINK

Sunday

28

March

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus four

OPERATIONAL  
 REMARKS

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04 Moored port side to Pier #317-A, Navy Yard, Charleston, S.C. Receiving steam, power, water and telephone service from the Yard.

*J.C. Campbell*  
 J.C. CAMPBELL, Ensign, USNR

1115 0715 04-08 Sunrise. Lighted ship.

*M.P. Nash*  
 M.P. NASH, Lieut., USNR

08-12  
 No remarks.

*Royford*  
 ROYFORD, Cpl., P4C, USNR

1730 1330 12-16 Make preparations for shifting berth. Disconnected steam, water and telephone lines from dock.  
 1805 1405 Underway shifting berth.  
 1835 1435 Moored port side to Pier #317-A, after having moved ship up about 100 yards.  
 1845 1445 Yard tugs cast off.  
 1900 1500 Telephone line connected to dock.  
 1940 1540 Steam line connected to dock.

*E. E. Carlin*  
 E. E. CARLIN, Lieut., USNR

2336 1936 16-20 Sunset.  
 2346 1946 Darkened ship locally.

*W. T. Lightner*  
 W. T. LIGHTNER, Ensign, USNR

March 29 20-24  
 No remarks.

*R. C. Dooley*  
 R. C. DOOLEY, Lt-Comdr., USNR

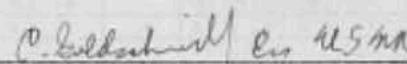
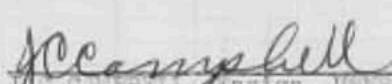
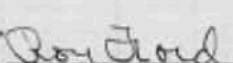


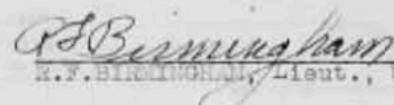
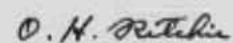

Approved:

*C. H. Ritchie*  
 C. H. RITCHIE,  
 Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*R. C. Dooley*  
 R. C. DOOLEY,  
 Lieut-Comdr., U. S. N. R. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP		BELLATRIX	Monday	29	March	1943
			(Day)	(Date)	(Month)	
ZONE DESCRIPTION <u>plus four</u>		<b>OPERATIONAL REMARKS</b>				
G.C.T. L.C.T.	00-04	Moored port side to Pier #317-A, Navy Yard, Charleston, S.C. Receiving steam, power, water and telephone service from the Yard.				
		<i>R.F. Birmingham</i> R.F. BIRMINGHAM, Lieut., USNR				
1112	0712	04-08	Sunrise. Lighted ship.			
		<i>F.F. Ryan</i> F.F. RYAN, Lieut., USNR				
		08-12	No remarks.			
		<i>J.S. Carlin</i> J.S. CARLIN, Lieut., USNR				
1830	1430	12-16	USS LIVENOR and USS EBERLE stood in.			
1900	1500		USS KEARNEY and USS ERICSON stood in.			
		<i>J. Campbell</i> J. CAMPBELL, Ensign, USNR				
2337	1937	16-20	Sunset.			
2347	1947		Darkened ship locally.			
		<i>Roy Ford</i> ROY FORD, CQ, P40, USNR				
March 30		20-24	No remarks.			
		<i>E.E. Vash</i> E.E. VASH, Lieut., USNR				
Approved:		Examined:				
<i>O.H. Ritchie</i>		<i>R.S. Dooley</i>				
O. H. RITCHIE, Commander, U.S.N.R.		R. S. DOOLEY, Lieut-Comdr., U.S.N., Navigator.				

UNITED STATES SHIP		BELLATRIX	Tuesday	30	March	1943
ZONE DESCRIPTION		OPERATIONAL REMARKS				
G.C.T. L.C.T.	00-04	Moored port side to Pier #317-A, Navy Yard, Charleston, S.C. Receiving steam, power, water and telephone service from the Yard.				
		 C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Ensign, USNR				
1112	0712	04-08	Sunrise. Lighted ship.			
		 J.P. CAMPBELL, Ensign, USNR				
1500	1100	08-12	A British cruiser stood in.			
		 ROY FORD, Cdr., F4J, USNR				
		12-16	No remarks.			
		 W.T. LIGHTNER, Ensign, USNR				
2338	1938	16-20	Sunset.			
2348	1948	Darkened ship locally.				
		 R.S. DOOLEY, Lt-Comdr., USNR				
March 31		20-24	No remarks.			
		 R.F. BIRMINGHAM, Lieut., USNR				
Approved:		Examined:				
 O. H. RITCHIE, Commander, U.S.N.R.		 R. S. DOOLEY, Lieut-Comdr., U.S.N. Navigator.				

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLMATRIX Wednesday 31 March 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus four OPERATIONAL REMARKS

0.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04 Moored to port side of Pier #317-A, Navy Yard, Charleston, S.C.; receiving steam, power, water and telephone service from the Yard.

F.P. Ryan  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR

1006 0606 04-08 USS ALCYONE proceeding out of dry dock.  
1111 0711 Sunrise. Lighted ship.

J.E. Berlin  
J.E. BERLIN, Lieut., USNR

08-12  
No remarks.

W.T. Lightner  
W.T. LIGHTNER, Ensign, USNR

12-16  
1620 1220 Made preparations for entering dry dock.  
1624 1224 Pilot I. JOHNSON reported aboard.  
1640 1240 Navy tugs BLACK FOX and CATAWBA alongside to assist.  
1645 1245 Tugs J.H. WILLIAMS and HINTON alongside to assist.  
1648 1248 Underway from Pier #317-A.  
1658 1258 Tug WABAN alongside to assist.  
1718 1318 Entered dry dock. Crossed sill block to dry dock #1.  
1729 1319 Pilot left ship.  
1721 1321 Moored in dry dock #1.  
1750 1350 Caisson to dry dock closed.  
1802 1402 Commenced pumping dry dock.  
1810 1410 USS HELL stood in.  
1842 1442 USS ALCYONE shifting berth.  
1915 1515 Ship settling on keel blocks.  
1921 1521 Ship on keel blocks.

Roy Ford  
ROY FORD, CQM, F4C, USNR

2338 1938 16-20  
2348 1948 Sunset.  
Darkened ship locally.

M.S. Vash  
M.S. VASH, Lieut., USNR

April 1 20-24  
No remarks.

J.V. Aista  
J.V. AISTA, Lieut., USNR

Approved: O. H. Ritchie  
O. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined: A. J. Dooley  
A. J. DOOLEY,  
Lieut.-Comdr., U.S.N.R. Navigator.



UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Thursday 1 April 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus four OPERATIONAL REMARKS

Log no 650  
S.S. No 03797

DESIGNATION: U.S.S. BELLATRIX

COMPOSITION: Acting singly.

NEXT HIGHER ECHELON: Transports, Amphibious Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet.

MAJOR FORCE TO WHICH ATTACHED: Amphibious Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet.

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04 Moored in dry-dock #1, Navy Yard, Charleston, S.C. Receiving steam, power, water and telephone service from the Yard.

J.C. Campbell  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Ensign, USNR

1111 0711 04-08  
Sunrise. Lighted ship.

Roy Ford  
ROY FORD, CQM PLC, USNR

1330 0930 08-12  
Commenced Annual Material Inspection, Inspection Party from the ALCOME.  
1530 1130 Completed Annual Material Inspection.

J.C. Campbell  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Ensign, USNR

12-16  
No remarks.

R.C. Dooley  
R.C. DOOLEY, Lt-Cdr., USNR

2339 1939 16-20  
Sunset.  
2349 1949 Darkened ship locally.

R.F. Birmingham  
R.F. BIRMINGHAM, Lieut., USNR

April 2 20-24  
No remarks.

F.F. Ryan  
F.F. RYAN, Lieut., USNR

1943 MAY 18 9 32  
COMMANDER IN CHIEF  
U.S. FLEET  
RECEIVED

49445

Approved: C.H. Ritchie  
C.H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined: F.F. Ryan  
F. E. RYAN,  
Lieutenant, U.S. Navy

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Friday

2

April

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus fourOPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04 Moored in Drydock No. 1, Navy Yard, Charleston, S.C.; receiving steam, power, water, and telephone service from yard.

*J.E. Carlin*  
J.E. CARLIN, Lieut., USNR

1110 0710 04-08  
Sunrise. Lighted ship.

*W.F. Lightner, Ens. USNR*  
W.F. LIGHTNER, Ens., USNR

08-12  
No remarks.

*R.C. Dooley, Lieut. USNR*  
R.C. DOOLEY, Lieut.-Cmdr., USNR

12-16  
No remarks.

*C. (n). Goldschmidt, Ens. USNR*  
C. (n). Goldschmidt, Ens., USNR

2035 1635 16-20  
2340 1940 U.S.S. BELL standing in.  
2350 1950 Sunset.  
Darken ship locally.

*M.E. Vash*  
M.E. VASH, Lieut., USNR

April 3 20-24  
No remarks.

*J.C. Campbell*  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Ens., USNR

Approved:

*O.H. Hitchie*  
O.H. HITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN  
Lieut., U.S.N.R. *U.S. Naval Navigator*

UNITED STATES SHIP		BELLATRIX	Saturday	3	April	1943
ZONE DESCRIPTION <u>plus four</u>		OPERATIONAL REMARKS				
G.C.T. L.C.T.		<u>00-04</u> Moored in Drydock #1, Navy Yard, Charleston, S.C.; receiving steam, power, water and telephone service from the yard.				
						<u>Roy Ford</u> ROY FORD, CQM, F4C, USNR
0107	0707	<u>04-08</u> Sunrise. Lighted ship.				
						<u>W. T. Lightner</u> W. T. LIGHTNER, Ensign, USNR
		<u>08-12</u> No remarks.				
						<u>S. V. Montgomery</u> S. V. MONTGOMERY, Lieut., USNR
		<u>12-16</u> No remarks.				
						<u>R. F. Birmingham</u> R. F. BIRMINGHAM, Lieut., USNR
2341	1941	<u>16-20</u> Sunset.				
2351	1951	Darkened ship locally.				
						<u>F. P. Ryan</u> F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR
April 4		<u>20-24</u>				
0002	2002	U.S.S. BELL stood in.				
						<u>J. E. Carlin</u> J. E. CARLIN, Lieut., USNR

Approved:

O. H. Ritchie  
O. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut.,  
U. S. N. R. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP

BELLATRIX

Sunday

4

April

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus fourOPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04 Moored in Drydock #1, Navy Yard, Charleston, S.C.  
Receiving steam, power, water and telephone service from  
the yard.

W. T. Lightner  
W.T. LIGHTNER, Ensign, USNR

1105 0705 04-08  
Sunrise. Lighted ship.

R. F. Birmingham  
R.F. BIRMINGHAM, Lieut., USNR

08-12  
No remarks.

R. C. Dooley  
R.C. DOOLEY, Lt.-Cdr., USNR

12-16  
No remarks.

J. V. Aiepa  
J.V. AIEPA, Lieut., USNR

2342 1942 16-20  
2352 1952 Sunset.  
Darkened ship locally.

J. C. Campbell  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Ensign, USNR

April 5 20-24  
No remarks.

M. E. Vash  
M.E. VASH, Lieut., USNR

Approved:

O. H. Ritchie  
O.H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

F. F. Ryan  
F.F. RYAN,  
Lieutenant *g. s. M.* Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP

BELLATRIX

Monday

5

April

19 43

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus four

OPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04 Moored in drydock #1, Navy Yard, Charleston, S.C. Receiving steam, power, water and telephone service from the Yard.  
0510 0110 Commenced flooding drydock.  
0615 0215 Started #1 generator.  
0620 0220 Completed flooding drydock.  
0630 0230 Opened caisson to drydock. Disconnected steam, power and water lines from the dock.

*S.V. Montgomery*  
S.V. MONTGOMERY, Lieut., USNR

04-08  
0925 0525 Pilot I JOHNSON reported aboard. Made preparations to undock.  
0930 0530 Navy tugs BLACK FOX, CATAWBA, and civilian tugs WABAN, HINTON and WILLIAMS standing by to assist in undocking.  
1000 0600 Commenced moving out of drydock.  
1010 0610 Undocked.  
1042 0642 Moored starboard side to Pier #324, Navy Yard, Charleston, S.C.  
1057 0657 Pilot I JOHNSON left the ship.  
1103 0703 Sunrise. Lighted ship.

*J.V. Aleta*  
J.V. ALETA, Lieut., USNR

08-12  
No remarks.

*J.C. Campbell*  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Ensign, USNR

12-16  
No remarks.

*F.F. Ryan*  
F.F. RYAN, Lieut., USNR

2343 1943 16-20 Sunset.  
2353 1953 Darkened ship locally.

*J.E. Carlin*  
J.E. CARLIN, Lieut., USNR

April 6 20-24  
No remarks.

*W.T. Lightner*  
W.T. LIGHTNER, Ensign, USNR

Approved:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*F.F. Ryan*  
F.F. RYAN  
Lieutenant, U.S.N.R. (Midstar)

UNITED STATES SHIP

BELLATRIX

Tuesday

6

April

19 43

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus fourOPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04 Moored starboard side to Pier #324, Navy Yard, S.C.  
Receiving steam, water and telephone service from the dock.

*R.C. Dooley*  
R.C. DOOLEY, Lt-Cdr., USNR

1103 0703 04-08  
Sunrise. Lighted ship.

*R.F. Birmingham*  
R.F. BIRMINGHAM, Lieut., USNR

1500 1100 08-12  
U.S.S. ROCKAWAY standing in.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR

12-16  
No remarks.

*Roy Ford*  
ROY FORD, COM, PAC, USNR

2343 1943 16-20  
Sunset.  
2353 1953 Darkened ship locally.

*S.V. Montgomery*  
S.V. MONTGOMERY, Lieut., USNR

April 7 20-24  
No remarks.

*J.V. Aleta*  
J.V. ALETA, Lieut., USNR

Approved:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN  
Lieutenant, U.S.N.R. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP

BELLATRIX

Wednesday

7

April

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus fourOPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04 Moored starboard side to Pier #324, Navy Yard, Charleston, S.C. Receiving steam, water and telephone service from the Yard.

*J.C. Campbell*  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Ensign, USNR

1102 0702 04-08  
Sunrise. Lighted ship.

*Roy Ford*  
ROY FORD, COM, PLC, USNR

08-12  
No remarks.

*S.V. Montgomery*  
S.V. MONTGOMERY, Lieut., USNR

1645 1245 12-16  
1650 1250 Destroyer PAUL HAMILTON (DD590) launched.  
Destroyer TWIGGS (DD591) launched.

*J.V. Aleta*  
J.V. ALETA, Lieut., USNR

2345 1945 16-20  
2355 1955 Sunset.  
Darkened ship locally.

*W.T. Lightner*  
W.T. LIGHTNER, Ensign, USNR

April 8 20-24  
No remarks.

*R.C. Dooley*  
R.C. DOOLEY, Lt-Cdr., USNR

Approved:

*O.N. Ritchie*  
O.N. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN,  
Lieutenant, U.S.N. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Thursday 8 April 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus four

OPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04 Moored starboard side to Pier #324, Navy Yard, Charleston, S.C. Receiving steam, water and telephone service from the Yard.

*R.F. Birmingham*  
R.F. BIRMINGHAM, Lieut., USNR

1100 0700 04-08 Sunrise. Lighted ship.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR

08-12  
No remarks.

*J.E. Carlin*  
J.E. CARLIN, Lieut., USNR

12-16  
No remarks.

*S.V. Montgomery*  
S.V. MONTGOMERY, Lieut., USNR

2346 1946 16-20 Sunset.  
2356 1956 Darkened ship locally.

*J.C. Campbell*  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Ensign, USNR

April 9 20-24  
No remarks.

*M.E. Vash*  
M. E. VASH, Lieut., USNR

Approved: *O. N. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined: *F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN  
Lieutenant, U.S. Navigator.

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CONFIDENTIAL

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UNITED STATES SHIP

BELLATRIX

Friday

9

April

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus fourOPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04 Moored starboard side to Pier #324, Navy Yard, Charleston, S.C. Receiving steam, water and telephone service from the Yard.

*Roy Ford*  
ROY FORD, CQM, FAC, USNR

1059 0659 04-08 Sunrise. Lighted ship.  
1115 0715 USS KEARNY, ERICSSON and EBERLE stood out.  
1140 0740 Ammunition barge alongside #5 hold, port side.

*S.V. Montgomery*  
S.V. MONTGOMERY, Lieut., USNR

1230 0830 08-12 Commenced loading ammunition.

*J.V. Aista*  
J.V. AISTA, Lieut., USNR

12-16  
No remarks.

*W.T. Lightner*  
W.T. LIGHTNER, Ensign, USNR

2230 1830 16-20 Made all preparations for getting underway.  
2300 1900 Navy tugs BLACK FOX and CATAWBA, and civilian tug HINTON standing by to assist.  
2307 1907 Pilot C. SWAN came aboard.  
2336 1936 Underway from Pier #324, Navy Yard, Charleston, S.C., on various courses and speeds conforming to channel, proceeding to fueling dock, Navy Yard. Pilot at the conn, Captain on the bridge.  
2343 1943 Moored starboard side to fueling dock, "J-3", Navy Yard, Charleston, S.C.  
2344 1944 Sunset. Darkened ship.

*R.C. Dooley*  
R.C. DOOLEY, Lt-Cdr., USNR

April 10 20424  
0014 2014 Ship secured.  
0015 2015 Commenced fueling ship.  
0220 2220 Completed fueling ship, having received 90,362 gallons diesel oil.

*R.F. Birmingham*  
R.F. BIRMINGHAM, Lieut., USNR

Approved:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN  
Lieutenant, U.S.N.R. Navigator.

9

UNITED STATES SHIP

BELLATRIX

Saturday

10

April

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION

OPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04 Moored starboard side to fuel dock "J-3", Navy Yard, Charleston, S.C. Ship darkened and in Condition III, (Special).

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR

1058 0658 04-08 Sunrise. Lighted ship.  
1130 0730 Made all preparations for getting underway.  
1143 0743 Tugs HINTON and WABAN alongside to assist.  
1150 0750 Pilot LOUIS BURKE, Lieut-Comdr., USCG, came aboard.

*J.E. Carlin*  
J.E. CARLIN, Lieut., USNR

1222 0822 08-12 Underway from fuel dock "J-3", Navy Yard, Charleston, S.C., proceeding to Degaussing Range, on various courses and speeds conforming to COOPER RIVER channel; pilot at the conn, Captain on the bridge.  
1305 0905 Commenced runs on Degaussing Range, COOPER RIVER, Charleston, S.C.  
1446 1046 Completed six runs through Degaussing Range.  
1453 1053 Proceeding on various courses at various speeds to the Deperming Dock.  
1524 1124 Moored starboard side to Deperming Dock, Cooper River, Charleston, S.C.  
1544 1144 Pilot left ship.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR

1700 1300 12-16 Deperming Station crew commenced operations to deperma ship.  
1730 1330 USS ROGERS and BELL standing in.

*J.C. Campbell*  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Ensign, USNR

2345 1945 16-20 Sunset. Darkened ship.

*Roy Ford*  
ROY FORD, CQM, P4C, USNR

0000 2000 20-24 USS ALCYONE standing in.  
0020 2020 Secured from deperming ship.

*S.V. Montgomery*  
S.V. MONTGOMERY, Lieut., USNR

Approved:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN,  
Lieutenant P.S. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP

U.S.S. BELLATRIX

Sunday

11

April

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus fourOPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04 Moored starboard side to Departing Dock, Charleston, S.C. Ship darkened locally.

*J.C. Campbell*  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Ensign, USNR

04-08

1000 0600 Made all preparations for getting underway.  
1050 0650 Navy tugs BLACK FOX and CATAWBA alongside to assist.  
1105 0705 Pilot C. SWAN came aboard.  
1132 0732 Underway on various courses and speeds conforming to channel, proceeding to Degaussing Range. Pilot at the conn, Captain on the bridge.  
1145 0745 Cut in degaussing gear.

*Roy Ford*  
ROY FORD, Com V4C, USNR

08-12

1200 0800 Commenced runs through Degaussing Range, Cooper River, Charleston, S.C.  
1415 1015 USS MOONSTONE standing out, passed abeam to port.  
1459 1059 Completed nine runs through Degaussing Range.  
1521 1121 Proceeding down Cooper River to Lower Harbor to compensate magnetic compasses, and calibrate Radio Direction Finder.  
1554 1154 Commenced compensation of magnetic compasses and calibration of Radio Direction Finder.

*S.V. Montgomery*  
S.V. MONTGOMERY, Lieut., USNR

12-16

1820 1420 Completed compensation of standard and steering magnetic compasses.  
1858 1458 Completed calibration of Radio Direction Finder.  
1904 1504 Commenced making runs on Degaussing Range.

*J.E. Carlin*  
J.E. CARLIN, Lieut., USNR

16-20

2034 1634 Completed five runs on Degaussing Range. Proceeded to Navy Yard on various courses and speeds conforming to the channel, pilot at the conn, Captain on the bridge.  
2118 1718 Tugs BLACK FOX, WABAN and HINTON alongside to assist in mooring.  
2124 1724 Moored port side to Pier #317, Navy Yard, Charleston, S.C.  
2140 1740 Pilot left the ship.  
2150 1750 Secured degaussing gear.  
2349 1949 Sunset.  
2359 1959 Darkened ship locally.

*R.F. Birmingham*  
R.F. BIRMINGHAM, Lieut., USNR

April 12  
0047 2047

20-24

Secured ship's boilers; receiving steam from dock.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR

Approved:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN,  
Lieutenant, U.S.N.R.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Monday 12 April 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus fourOPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04 Moored port side to Pier #317, Navy Yard, Charleston,  
 S.C. Receiving steam, water and telephone service from  
 the Yard. Ship darkened locally.

*J.E. Carlin*  
 J.E. CARLIN, Lieut., USNR

1058 0658 04-08  
 Sunrise. Lighted ship.

*W.T. Lighter*  
 W.T. LIGHTER, Ensign, USNR

08-12  
 No remarks.

*R.F. Birmingham*  
 R.F. BIRMINGHAM, Lieut., USNR

12-16  
 No remarks.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
 C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Ensign, USNR

2230 1830 16-20-  
 USS BELL standing in.  
 2348 1948 Sunset.  
 2358 1958 Darkened ship locally.

*S.V. Montgomery*  
 S.V. MONTGOMERY, Lieut., USNR

April 13 20-24  
 No remarks.

*J.C. Campbell*  
 J.C. CAMPBELL, Ensign, USNR

Approved:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
 O. H. RITCHIE,  
 Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*F.P. Ryan*  
 F.P. RYAN,  
 Lieutenant, U. S. Navy Aviator.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Tuesday 13 April 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus four OPERATIONAL REMARKS

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04 Moored port side to Pier #317, Navy Yard, Charleston, S.C. Receiving steam, water and telephone service from the Yard. Ship darkened locally.

*Roy Ford*  
ROY FORD, COM, P4C, USNR

1057 0657 04-08 Sunrise. Lighted ship.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Ensign, USNR

08-12  
No remarks.

*S.V. Montcomery*  
S.V. MONTCOMERY, Lieut., USNR

1630 1230 12-16 Made all preparations for getting underway. Disconnected steam, water and telephone lines from the dock.  
1654 1254 Pilot Lieut-Comdr. PETERSON, USCG, and pilot T.L.LUCAS came aboard.  
1707 1307 USS ALOYONE underway.  
1716 1316 Tugs BLACK FOX and WABAN alongside to assist.  
1727 1327 Underway from Pier #317, Navy Yard, Charleston, S.C., in accordance with Commander Task Group 20.16 Operation Order No. 1-43 of April 12, 1943.

DESIGNATION; Task Group 20.16  
COMPOSITION: 20.16.1 TRANSPORT UNIT  
USS ALOYONE C.T.C.  
USS BELLATRIX  
USS BETELGEUSE  
20.16.2 SCREENING UNIT  
USS NIBLACK  
USS MAYO  
USS PLUNKETT  
USS GLEAVES  
NEXT HIGHER ECHELON: Transports, Amphibious Force,  
United States Atlantic Fleet.  
MAJOR FORCE TO WHICH ATTACHED: Amphibious Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet.

1744 1344 Stood out, with pilot at the conn, Captain on the bridge, on various courses at various speeds conforming to channel.  
1931 1531 USS BETELGEUSE underway.  
1937 1537 Passed through anti-submarine net.  
1942 1542 Passed through jetty entrance to Charleston Harbor.  
General Quarters.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR

Approved: *O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined: *F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN,  
Lieutenant, U.S.N.R. Navigator.

13

UNITED STATES SHIP

BELLATRIX

Tuesday

13

April

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus four.OPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

(Continued)

G.C.T.	L.C.T.	16-20
2001	1601	Secured from General Quarters, set Condition III.
2007	1607	Sea buoy "2C" abeam to port, distance 600 yards.
2009	1609	Pilot left ship.
2026	1626	Swept channel buoy "2BC" abeam to starboard, distance 600 yards.
2044	1644	With swept channel sea buoy "2AC" abeam to starboard, distance 700 yards, took departure and set course 092°(T). Standard speed ahead.
2047	1647	ALCYONE broke down. Formation slowed to 1/3 ahead.
2053	1653	ALCYONE resumed position as guide in formation.
2148	1748	ALCYONE resumed position as guide in formation.
2149	1749	Changed standard speed to 10 knots.
2206	1806	Commenced zig-zag Plan #11.
2235	1835	Changed standard speed to 11 knots.
2302	1902	BETELGEUSE broke down and fell astern of formation.
2305	1905	Changed standard speed to 7 knots.
2322	1922	BETELGEUSE resumed position in formation. Changed standard speed to 10 knots.
2343	1943	Sunset. Darkened ship.
2358	1958	General Quarters.
0000	2000	Ship's position: Lat. 32-17-30 N., Long. 79-06-00 W.

*J.V. Aleta*  
J.V. ALETA, Lieut., USNR

		20-24
0001	2001	Ship set at General Quarters.
0030	2030	Secured from General Quarters, set Condition III.
0400	2400	Changed standard speed to 11 knots.

*J.E. Carlin*  
J.E. CARLIN, Lieut., USNR

Approved:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN,  
Lieutenant, U.S.N.R. Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP

BELLATRIX

Wednesday

14

April

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus fourOPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04 Zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #11, on base  
course 092(T). Standard speed 10 knots.  
0723 0323 Moonset (observed).

*M.E. Vash*  
M.E. VASH, Lieut., USNR.

04-08  
0800 0400 Changed base course to 049(T).  
0830 0430 Changed standard speed to 14 knots.  
0935 0535 Secured degaussing gear.  
0940 0540 Set Condition I (Special).  
1025 0625 Secured from Condition I (Special), set Condition III.  
1200 0800 Ship's position: Lat. 33-18-00 N., Long. 76-37-30 W.

*J.V. Aleta*  
J.V. ALETA, Lieut., USNR

08-12  
1335 0935 Ceased zig-zag; commenced forming column bearing 180° from  
Guide for purpose of test-firing guns.  
1400 1000 Commenced test-firing 20 mm. AA guns, 3" .50 cal. guns and  
the 5" 51 cal. gun.  
1510 1110 Completed test-firing guns, having expended 1 round of 5"  
51 cal. - B. L. & T. Target; 4 rounds 3" .50 cal.  
B. L. & T. Target; and 540 rounds of 20 mm. M.G.-Service.  
1525 1125 Reformed regular cruising formation.  
1546 1146 Commenced zig-zag Plan #14.  
1600 1200 Ship's position: Lat. 33-57-00 N., Long. 75-36-00 W.  
Distance made good since departure at 1644, April 13, 1943,  
225.5 miles.

*J.E. Carlin*  
J.E. CARLIN, Lieut., USNR

12-16  
1655 1255 One Hudson Patrol bomber (A-29) passed from port to star-  
board astern of convoy.  
1734 1334 Sighted one Mitchell bomber (B-25) bearing 030°T.  
1802 1402 Changed standard speed to 11 knots.

*M.E. Vash*  
M. E. VASH, Lieut., USN

16-20  
2256 1856 Ceased zigzag and resumed base course 049°T.  
2300 1900 Changed base course to 004°T.  
2315 1915 Commenced zigzag Plan #14.  
2330 1930 Sunset. Darkened Ship.  
2344 1944 General Quarters.  
0000 2000 Ship's Position: Lat. 35-03-00 N., Long. 74-19-00 W.

*J.V. Aleta*  
J.V. ALETA, Lieut., USNR

20-24  
No remarks.

*J.E. Carlin*  
J.E. CARLIN, Lieut., USNR

Approved:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE  
Commander, USNR

Examined:

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN  
Lieut., U.S.N. Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Thursday 15, April 1943

OPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus four

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Zigzagging in accordance with Plan #14, on base course  
004°T. Standard speed 11 knots.  
0746 0346 Moonset (observed).

*M. E. Wash*  
M. E. WASH, Lieut., USNR

04-08  
0812 0412 Ceased zigzag and remained on zigzag course 025°T.  
0830 0430 Changed base course to 323°T.  
0927 0527 Commenced zigzag Plan #14.  
0930 0530 Set Special Condition 1.  
1021 0621 Secured from Special Condition 1. Set Condition 3.  
1027 0627 Sunrise  
1105 0705 Ceased zig zag and resumed base course 323°T.  
1122 0722 Formed in column of ships bearing 180° on guide.  
1157 0757 Changed base course to 270°T.  
1200 0800 Position: Lat. 37-13-00 N., Long. 74-13-00 W.

*J. V. Aleta*  
J. V. ALETA, Lieut., USNR

08-12  
1207 0807 Commenced zig zag plan #11.  
1234 0834 Ceased zig zag and resumed base course 270°T.  
1237 0837 Changed base course to 240°T.  
1249 0849 Changed base course to 225°T.  
1252 0852 Commenced zig zag plan #11.  
1315 0915 Out in degaussing gear.  
1316 0916 Sighted one FBV Catalina-Patrol bomber.  
1405 1005 Changed standard speed to 15 knots.  
1442 1042 Ceased zig zag and resumed base course 225°T.  
1510 1110 Sighted buoy "X-1" bearing 147°T. distance 5.5 miles.  
1525 1125 Changed base course to 258°T.  
1530 1130 Following movements of O.T.C. and guide in passing through  
Swept Channel.  
1600 1200 Ship's position: Lat. 37-00-30N.; Long. 75-14-30W.  
Distance made good since 1200 April 14, 1943 - 280 miles.

*J. E. Carlin*  
J. E. CARLIN, Lieut., USNR.

12-16  
1635 1235 Buoy "F" passed abeam to port, distance 200 yards.  
1732 1332 Buoy "16 C.L.S." (Point "C") passed abeam to port, distance  
300 yards, Changed course to 225°T.  
1750 1350 Buoy "V-1" passed abeam to port.  
1810 1410 Buoy "2CB" (Point "B") passed abeam to port distance 150  
yards.  
1817 1417 Made all preparations for entering port.  
1830 1430 Pilot, F.W. HOPE, Lieut-Comdr., USCG, came on board. Pilot  
at conn, Captain on the bridge.  
1854 1454 Entered channel through mine fields.  
1906 1506 Passed CAPE HENRY LIGHT HOUSE abeam to port. Distance 1  
mile. Cleared mine fields.

Approved:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN,  
Lieut., U. S. N. Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Thursday

15

April

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION ~~plus four~~  
Thursday 15, (cont)OPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

G.C.T.	L.C.T.	<u>12-16</u>
1914	1514	Entered THIMBLE SHOAL CHANNEL.
1956	1556	THIMBLE SHOAL LIGHT abeam to starboard, distance 800 yards.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN,  
Lieut., USNR.

2125	1725	<u>16-20</u> Anchored in Berth 9, HAMPTON ROADS, VA., in 6 fathoms of water with 30 fathoms of chain to the port anchor, on following anchorage bearings: Clock Tower, NOB, 108 3/4°, Stack at HAMPTON 006°, Tank at NEWPORT NEWS, 272°T.
2133	1733	Secured Condition III, set Condition III (special). Secured Special Sea Detail.
2145	1745	Secured Degaussing gear.
2340	1940	Sunset.
2355	1955	Darkened ship.

*G.J. Cotsiros*  
G.J. COTSIROLOS,  
Ens., USNR.

April 16      20-24  
No remarks.

*W.F. Lightner*  
W.F. LIGHTNER,  
Ens., USNR.

Approved:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN,  
Lieut., U.S.N.R. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Friday 16 April 1943

(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus fourOPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Anchored in Berth 9, HAMPTON ROADS, VIRGINIA. Ship fully darkened except for anchor lights and in Condition III special.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN,  
Lieut., USNR.

1032 0632 04-08  
Sunrise. Lighted ship.

*R.F. Birmingham*  
R.F. BIRMINGHAM,  
Lieut., USNR.

08-12  
No remarks.

*W.T. Lightner*  
W.T. LIGHTNER,  
Ens., USNR.

1630 1230 12-16  
Commenced hoisting on board tank lighters.

*J.C. Campbell*  
J.C. CAMPBELL,  
Ens., USNR.

2310 1910 16-20  
Completed hoisting aboard eight tank lighters.  
2340 1940 Sunset.  
2355 1955 Darkened ship except for anchor lights.

*R.G. Holcombe*  
R.G. HOLCOMBE,  
Ens., USNR.

April 17 20-24  
No remarks.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT,  
Ens., USNR.

Approved:

*C.H. Ritchie*  
C.H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN,  
Lieut., U. S. N. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIXSaturday 17, April, 1943

(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus fourOPERATIONAL  
REMARKSG.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Anchored in Berth 9, HAMPTON ROADS, VIRGINIA. Ship is fully darkened except for anchor lights and in condition 111 special.

*J. C. Campbell*  
J. C. CAMPBELL,  
Ens., USNR.1029 1629 04-08  
Sunset. Lighted snip.*K. G. Holcombe*  
K. G. HOLCOMBE,  
Ens., USNR.08-12  
No remarks.*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT,  
Ens., USNR.12-16  
No remarks.*J. E. Carlin*  
J. E. CARLIN,  
Lieut., USNR.2340 1940 16-20  
2355 1955 Sunset.  
Darkened ship except for anchor lights.*W. T. Lightner*  
W. T. LIGHTNER,  
Ens., USNR.April 18 20-24  
No remarks.*F. F. Ryan*  
F. F. RYAN,  
Lieut., USNR.

Approved:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*F. F. Ryan*  
F. F. RYAN,  
Lieut., U. S. N. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Sunday 18 April 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus four

OPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Anchored in Berth 9, HAMPTON ROADS, VIRGINIA. Ship is fully darkened except for anchor lights and in Condition 111 special.

*G. J. Cotirilos*  
G. J. COTIRILOS,  
Ens., USNR.

1028 0628 04-08  
Sunrise. Lighted ship.

*W. T. Lightner*  
W. T. LIGHTNER,  
Ens., USNR.

1221 0821 08-12  
1530 1130 U.S.S. VULCAN standing into HAMPTON ROADS.  
Made all preparations for getting underway.

*F. F. Ryan*  
F. F. RYAN,  
Lieut., USNR

1615 1215 12-16  
Underway from Berth 9, HAMPTON ROADS VIRGINIA, in accordance with Commander, Transport Division Seven, Gunnery and Boat Training Exercise Order No. 2-43 of April 10, 1943.  
Designation: Training Exercise group.

Composition:  
Section one  
U.S.S. BARNETT  
U.S.S. ANDROMEDA  
U.S.S. ARCTURUS  
Section two  
U.S.S. ALCYONE  
U.S.S. JOSEPH T. DICKMAN  
U.S.S. BETELGUESE  
Section three  
U.S.S. THOMAS JEFFERSON  
U.S.S. OBERON  
U.S.S. BELLATRIX

Next higher echelon: Transports, Amphibious, United States, Atlantic Fleet.

Major force to which attached: Amphibious Force, United States, Atlantic Fleet.

Formed column with U.S.S. Betelguese astern, other ships not in company. Stood out on various courses and speeds conforming to channel.

1638 1238 FORT WOOL LIGHT abeam to starboard.  
1651 1251 Passed with Anti-Submarine net.  
1658 1258 THIMBLE SHOAL LIGHT abeam to port, distance 1200 yards.  
1704 1304 Entered Thimble Shoal channel.

Approved: *O. H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined: *F. F. Ryan*  
F. F. RYAN,  
Lieut., U. S. N. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Sunday

18,

April

1943

OPERATIONAL  
REMARKSZONE DESCRIPTION plus four

Sunday 18, (cont)

G.C.T.	L.C.T.	12-16 (cont)
1735	1335	Left Thimble Shoal Channel. Rounding the TAIL OF THE HORSESHOE heading up CHESAPEAKE BAY.
1753	1353	With buoy #6 abeam to starboard, distance 1,000 yards, set course 326 <sup>OT</sup> .
1802	1402	Secured Channel watch. Set Condition 111.
1830	1430	Changed course to 000 <sup>OT</sup> .
1839	1439	Entered YORK SPIT CHANNEL.
1904	1504	Left YORK SPIT CHANNEL.
1919	1519	Sighted WOLF TRAP LIGHT bearing 029 <sup>OT</sup> .
1942	1542	Exchanged calls with U.S.S. MOBILE.
1950	1550	U.S.S. BETELGEUSE dropped out of formation and proceeded to RAPPAHANNOCK SPIT Anchorage.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN,  
Lieut., USNR.

G.C.T.	L.C.T.	16-20
2012	1612	RAPPAHANNOCK SPIT lighted buoy sighted bearing 334 <sup>OT</sup> . Distance 3½ miles.
2034	1634	Exchanged calls with the U.S.S. OBERON.
2108	1708	Sighted bell buoy "12-TL" bearing 325 <sup>OT</sup> , distance 3 miles.
2122	1722	Sighted SMITH POINT light bearing 338½ <sup>OT</sup> . Distance 5½ miles.
2125	1725	Changed standard speed to 14 knots.
2133	1733	Changed standard speed to 15 knots.
2138	1738	With SMITH POINT light bearing 312 <sup>OT</sup> ., distance 2½ miles, changed course to 342 <sup>OT</sup> .
2147	1747	SMITH POINT Light abeam to port. Distance 1.4 miles.
2253	1853	POINT NO POINT Light abeam to port, distance 1.6 miles.
2344	1944	Sunset. Darkened ship locally.
2359	1959	COVE POINT Light abeam to port, distance 1.4 miles. Approaching COVE POINT ANCHORAGE "T-3".

*M.E. Vash*  
M.E. VASH,  
Lieut., USNR.

G.C.T.	L.C.T.	20-24
April 19 0018	2018	Anchored in Berth "T-3", COVE POINT anchorage in 8 fathoms of water, with 45 fathoms of chain to the port anchor, on the following anchorage bearings: COVE POINT Light, 179 <sup>OT</sup> , Bell buoy "21-A" - 147 <sup>OT</sup> .
0025	2025	Set condition 111 (special).

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT,  
Ens., USNR.

Approved:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN,  
Lieut., U.S.N. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Monday 19 April 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)ZONE DESCRIPTION plus fourOPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Anchored in berth "T-3" Cove Point Anchorage, Md. Ship is fully darkened except for anchor lights and in Condition 111 (special).

*K. H. Holcombe*  
K.G. HOLCOMBE,  
Ens., USNR.

04-08  
No remarks.

*J. C. Campbell*  
J.C. CAMPBELL,  
Ens., USNR.

08-12  
1200 0800 Set Condition 1V; Commenced training exercise 4AP.  
H-hour set at 1110.  
1211 0811 First boat in the water.  
1415 1015 Completed unloading boats.  
1505 1105 First wave at line of departure.  
1513 1113 Second wave at line of departure.  
1513 1113 First wave on beach.  
1519 1119 Second wave on beach.  
1523 1123 Third wave at line of departure.  
1526 1126 Third wave on beach.

*F. F. Ryan*  
F.F. RYAN,  
Lieut., USNR.

12-16  
1830 1430 Lexington standing up bay.  
1855 1455 Iowa standing up bay.  
1930 1530 Set Condition 111 (special).

*F. F. Ryan*  
F.F. RYAN,  
Lieut., USNR.

16-20  
2206 1806 Arcturus standing in and anchored.  
2346 1946 Sunset.  
2351 1951 Darkened ship.

*H. L. D. Cover*  
H.L.D. COVER,  
Ens., USNR.

April 20 20-24  
No remarks.

*G. F. Costello*  
G.F. COSTELLO,  
Ens., USNR.

Approved:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*F. F. Ryan*  
F.F. RYAN,  
Lieut., U.S.N.R. *Wingston*

CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Tuesday

20,

April

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus fourOPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Anchored in berth "T-3" Cove Point Anchorage, Md. Ship  
is fully darkened except for anchor lights and in  
Condition 111 (special)

*W. T. Lightner*  
W.T. LIGHTNER,  
Ens., USNR.

1025 1625 04-08  
Sunrise. Lighted ship.

*H. L. D. Coffey*  
H.L.D. COFFEY,  
Ens., USNR.

1200 0800 08-12  
Set Condition 1V: Commenced training exercise 4AP.  
H-hour set at 0945.  
1202 0802 First boat in the water.  
1323 0923 Completed unloading boats.  
1337 0937 First wave at line of departure.  
1341 0941 First wave on the beach.  
1342 0942 Second wave at line of departure.  
1345 0945 Second wave on the beach.  
1351 0951 Third wave at line of departure.  
1355 0955 Third wave on the beach.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN,  
Lieut., USNR.

1503 1203 12-16  
Set Condition 111 (special).  
1734 1334 General quarters.  
1741 1341 Secured from general quarters set condition 111 (special).

*J. C. Campbell*  
J.C. CAMPBELL,  
Ens., USNR.

16-20  
No remarks.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT,  
Ens., USNR.

April 21 20-24  
No remarks.

*K. G. Holcombe*  
K.G. HOLCOMBE,  
Ens., USNR.

Approved:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*F. P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN,  
Lieut., U.S.N.R. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIXWednesday 21 April 1943  
(Date) (Date) (Date)ZONE DESCRIPTION plus fourOPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Anchored in Berth "T-3" Cove Point Anchorage, Md. Ship is fully darkened except for anchor lights and in Condition III (special).  
0720 0320 Set Condition IV.  
0730 0330 Commenced hoisting out boats.  
0732 0332 First boat in the water.

*J. C. Campbell*  
J. C. CAMPBELL,  
Ens., USNR.

04-08  
0835 0435 H-hour set at 0500.  
0847 0447 Completed hoisting out boats.  
0852 0452 First wave at line of departure.  
0856 0456 Second wave at line of departure.  
0900 0500 First wave on the beach.  
0904 0504 Third wave at line of departure.  
0910 0510 Second wave on the beach.  
0915 0515 Third wave on the beach.  
1010 0610 Aleyone stood in and anchored.  
1115 0715 Set Condition III (special).  
1125 0725 Joseph T. Dickman stood in and anchored.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN,  
Lieut., USNR.

08-12  
1400 1000 Lexington standing down bay.  
1415 1015 Tarazed standing down bay.

*K. G. Holcombe*  
K. G. HOLCOMBE,  
Ens., USNR.

12-16  
No remarks.

*H. L. D. Coper*  
H. L. D. COPER,  
Ens., USNR.

April 22 16-20  
2347 1947 Sunset.  
2352 1952 Darkened ship except for anchor lights.

*G. J. Cotirilos*  
G. J. COTIRILOS,  
Ens., USNR.

20-24  
No remarks.

*W. T. Lightner*  
W. T. LIGHTNER,  
ENS., USNR.

Approved:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN,  
Lieut., U. S. N. Navigator.



UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIXThursday 22 April 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)ZONE DESCRIPTION plus fourOPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Anchored at Cove Point Anchorage, Md., berth "T-3". Ship is fully darkened except for anchor lights and in Condition III (special).  
0720 0320 Set Condition IV.  
0730 0330 Commenced hoisting out all boats.  
0733 0333 First boat in the water.

*H.L.D. Coffey*  
H.L.D. COFFEY,  
Ens., USNR.

04-06  
0856 0456 Completed hoisting out boats.  
0900 0500 First wave at line of departure.  
0905 0505 Second wave at line of departure.  
0907 0507 First wave on the beach, "H" hour.  
0914 0514 Second wave on the beach.  
0914 0514 Third wave at line of departure.  
0923 0523 Third wave on the beach.  
1010 0610 Barnett stood in and anchored.  
1024 0624 Sunrise. Lighted ship.  
1125 0725 Betelgeuse and Dickman underway and standing out.  
1132 0732 Aloyone underway and standing out.  
1135 0735 Set Condition III (special).

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN,  
Lieut., USNR.

08-12  
1303 0903 General quarters.  
1310 0910 Set Condition IV.  
1310 0910 Commenced hoisting out all boats.  
1313 0913 First boat in the water.  
1406 1006 Completed hoisting out boats.  
1424 1024 First wave at line of departure.  
1429 1029 Second wave at line of departure.  
1430 1030 "H" hour. First wave on the beach.  
1432 1032 Second wave on the beach.  
1432 1032 Third wave at line of departure.  
1437 1037 Third wave on the beach.

*W.T. Leghner*  
W.T. LEGHNER,  
Ens., USNR.

12-16  
1745 1345 Barnett underway and standing out.  
1930 1530 Made all preparations for getting underway.  
1955 1555 Underway from Cove Point Anchorage on various courses and speeds.

*J.C. Campbell*  
J.C. CAMPBELL,  
Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN,  
Lieutenant, U.S.N. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Thursday

22

April

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus four

Thursday 22 (cont)

OPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

G.C.T.	L.C.T.	16-20
2010	1610	Bell buoy "21-A" abeam to starboard, distance 600 yards.
2015	1615	Astern of the Oberon on course 160 <sup>0</sup> T.
2045	1645	Hooper Island Light abeam of port. Distance 3 miles.
2112	1712	Point No Point Light abeam to starboard. Distance 2½ miles.
2211	1811	Smith Point Light abeam to starboard. Distance 2,400 yards.
2218	1818	Changed course to 169 <sup>0</sup> T.
2259	1859	Changed course to the left proceeding to target area preparatory to making rehearsal runs on target. 5"-51 cal. gun manned.
2305	1905	Commenced first rehearsal run.
2322	1922	Target abeam to starboard. Distance 3,800 yards.
2327	1927	Completed rehearsal run.
2343	1943	Commenced second rehearsal run.
2345	1945	Sunset.
2347	1947	Target abeam to starboard 3,000 yards.
2349	1949	Completed second rehearsal run.
2350	1950	Maneuvering to anchorage.

*F.F. Ryan*  
F.F. RYAN,  
Lieut., USNR

April 23	20-24	
0000	2000	Darkened ship except for running lights.
0022	2022	Anchored in Chesapeake Bay in 6½ fathoms of water with 30 fathoms of chain to the port anchor, on the following anchorage bearings: San Marcos Lighted Wreck Buoy 357½ <sup>0</sup> T, East Side Lighted Buoy "4", 094 <sup>0</sup> T.
00:5	2025	Set Condition 111 (special).

*K.G. Holcombe*  
K.G. HOLCOMBE,  
Ens., USNR.

Approved:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*F.F. Ryan*  
F.F. RYAN,  
Lieut., U.S.N.R.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Friday 23 April 1943  
(Day) (Week) (Month)ZONE DESCRIPTION plus fourOPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Anchored in Chesapeake Bay Target Area "B". Ship is fully darkened and set in Condition 111 (special).

*H.L.D. COVER*  
H.L.D. COVER,  
Ens., USNR.

04-08  
1021 0621 Sunrise. Lighted ship.  
1130 0730 Made all preparations for getting underway.  
1130 0730 Spotting detail departed for U.S.S. OBERON.  
1145 0745 OBERON underway.  
1200 0800 Underway from anchorage on various courses and speeds, proceeding to designated firing area. Captain at conn, Navigator on the bridge.

*F.P. RYAN*  
F.P. RYAN,  
Lieut., USNR.

08-12  
1215 0815 General Quarters.  
1215 0815 Commenced first rehearsal run on target.  
1222 0822 Secured from General Quarters.  
1224 0824 Various speeds, coming on the range.  
1254 0854 Completed first rehearsal run on target.  
1300 0900 U.S.S. OBERON spotting party came aboard composed of Lieut. (jg) and Ens., Morris and Van Dyke.  
1326 0926 Commenced firing run. Base course 000<sup>OT</sup>.  
1342 0942 Commenced firing, day spotting practice.  
1347 0947 Ceased firing. Expended 6 rounds 5"51 caliber target ammunition, completed official firing run.  
1400 1000 Spotting detail from U.S.S. OBERON left ship.  
1401 1001 Anchored in Chesapeake Bay, in Target Area, Tangier Sound, in 6 fathoms of water with 30 fathoms of chain to port anchor, on the following anchorage bearings: Target Bouy 084<sup>OT</sup>, San Marcos Wreck Bouy 000<sup>OT</sup>, Bouy #6, 320<sup>OT</sup>.  
1405 1005 Set Condition 111 (special).

*K.G. HOLCOMBE*  
K.G. HOLCOMBE,  
Ens., USNR.

12-16  
Anchored as before.  
1600 1200 Made all preparations for getting underway.  
1620 1220 U.S.S. OBERON underway.  
1622 1222 Underway from Target area Tangier Sound, Chesapeake Bay, on various courses and speeds.  
1628 1228 General Quarters.  
1635 1235 Proceeding on courses and speeds in target area "Baker".  
1918 1518 Secured from General Quarters, set Condition 111 (special).

*F.P. RYAN*  
F.P. RYAN,  
Lieut., USNR.

Approved:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*F.P. RYAN*  
F.P. RYAN,  
Lieut. & s. s. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Friday 23 April 1943  
(1947) (1946) (1943)

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus four OPERATIONAL REMARKS

Friday 23 (cont)

G.C.T.	L.C.T.	16-18
2013	1613	General Quarters.
2016	1616	Ship set at General Quarters.
2030	1634	Secured General Quarters, set Condition III.
2040	1640	C/C to 180°T.
2058	1658	C/C to 000°T.
2110	1710	Plane made first Starboard run on U.S.S. OBERON.
2111	1711	U.S.S. OBERON passed to port on parallel course up Bay. Distance 500 yards.
2113	1713	C/C to 180°T and pgo.
2117	1717	Plane commencing first Port Run on U.S.S. OBERON.
2121	1721	General Quarters.
2122	1722	C/C to 124°T.
2131	1731	C/C to 000°T., taking position for firing AA machine gun practice "G".
2141	1741	Commenced firing starboard run on sleeve.
2142	1742	Ceased firing.
2145	1745	Secured General Quarters. Set Condition III.

*W.T. Lightner*  
W.T. LIGHTNER,  
Ens., USNR.

		18-20
2223	1823	U.S.S. OBERON anchored.
2227	1827	Anchored in Chesapeake Bay, in Target Area, Tangier Sound, in 6½ fathoms of water, with 30 fathoms of chain to port anchor on following anchorage bearings: Tangier Sound Light 038°T, San Marcos Wreck Bouy 350°T.
2230	1830	Set Condition III (special).
2347	1947	Sunset.

*W.T. Lightner*  
W.T. LIGHTNER,  
Ens., USNR.

		20-24
0002	2002	Darkened ship.
0031	2031	Underway from Target area anchorage, Tangier Sound, Chesapeake Bay.
0053	2053	Commenced firing; night spotting practice.
0057	2057	Ceased firing. Expended 6 rounds 5"51 target ammunition.
0104	2104	Settled on course 235°T.
0150	2150	Anchored in Chesapeake Bay in 6½ fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to starboard anchor on the following anchorage bearings-Windmill Point Light 166°T., Stingray Point Light 243°T., Rappahannock Spit Lighted Bell Bouy 177°T.
0155	2155	Set Condition III (special).

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN,  
Lieut., USNR.

Approved:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN,  
Lieut., U.S. Navy Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Saturday

24

April

1953

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus fourOPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Anchored in Chesapeake Bay. Ship fully darkened and set,  
in Condition III (special)

*B. J. Cottrillo*  
B. J. COTTRILLO,  
Ens., USNR.

00-08  
0910 0510 U.S.S. BARNETT standing down the bay.  
1020 0620 Sunrise. Lighted ship.  
1120 0720 U.S.S. COVE underway.  
1130 0730 Made all preparations for getting underway.

*W. T. Lightner*  
W. T. LIGHTNER,  
Ens., USNR.

08-12  
1217 0817 Underway on various speeds and courses, proceeding down the  
Chesapeake Bay, Captain at the Conn. Set Standard speed at  
15 knots (80RPM's).  
1220 0820 Set Condition III.  
1225 0825 Set course 175°T.  
1310 0910 WOLF TRAP light abeam to starboard. Distance two miles.  
1323 0923 Changed standard speed to 13 knots (69 RPM's), Changed  
course to 180°T.  
1344 0944 Lowered and anchored No. 1 surf boat to act as reference  
point for taking ship's Cassical.  
1410 1010 Commenced first run of ship's data exercise.

*J. V. Aleta*  
J. V. ALETA,  
Lieut., USNR.

12-16  
1702 1302 Completed ship's data exercises, completing six runs.  
1721 1321 Anchored in Chesapeake Bay in 6½ fathoms of water with 30  
fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor, on following  
anchorage bearings: Tank at Cape Charles, 090°T, Bell  
buoy "9" 162°T.  
1755 1355 Underway proceeding to Hampton Roads, Va.  
1757 1357 Set course 186°T. Standard speed 15 knots (80 RPM's).  
1818 1418 Changed course to 178°T.  
1820 1420 Bell buoy "1-A" passed abeam to starboard.  
1830 1430 With buoy "10" Bearing 135°T, changed course to 143°T.  
1846 1446 Changed standard speed to 13.2 knots (70 RPM's).  
1907 1507 Made all preparations for entering port.  
1909 1509 Buoy "1" passed abeam to starboard.  
1920 1520 Changed course to 164°T, rounding the Tail of the Horseshoe.  
1936 1536 Entered Thimble Shoal Channel, various courses and speeds  
to conform with channel.

*H. Terrio*  
H. TERRIO, Ens.  
Ens., USNR.

Approved:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN,  
Lieut., U. S. N. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIXSaturday 24  
(Day) (Date)April 1943  
(Month) (Year)ZONE DESCRIPTION plus fourOPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

Saturday 24 (cont)

G.C.T.	L.C.T.	16-20
2018	1618	Left Thimble Shoal Channel.
2028	1628	Thimble Shoal Light passed abeam to starboard. Distance 1500 yards.
2041	1641	Passed through Anti-Submarine net.
2055	1655	Old Point Comfort Light passed abeam to starboard. Distance 1 mile.
2136	1736	Anchored in Berth "27", Hampton Roads, Va., in 6½ fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to the port anchor, on following anchorage bearings: Tank at Newport News, 2681/4° T., Middle Ground, 2351/4° T, and Clock Tower 114½° T.
2335	1935	Made preparations to shift anchorage.
2347	1947	Sunset.
2355	1955	Underway, shifting anchorage.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN,  
Lieut., USNR.

April 25	20-24
0005	2005

Anchored in Berth 27, on following bearings: Tank at Newport News, 270° T, Middle Ground Light 237° T, and Clock Tower 116° T.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN,  
Lieut., USNR.

Approved:

*O. N. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN,  
Lieut., U. S. N. BuWgator.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Sunday 25 April 1943  
(Day) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus four

OPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

G.C.T. I.C.T. 00-04  
Anchored in Berth "27", Hampton Roads, Va. Ship is fully darkened except for anchor lights, and set in Condition III (special).

*K. G. Holcombe*  
K.G. HOLCOMBE,  
Ens., USNR.

1020 0620 04-08  
Sunrise. Lighted ship.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT,  
Ens., USNR.

08-12  
No remarks.

*J. C. Campbell*  
J.C. CAMPBELL,  
Ens., USNR.

1800 1400 12-16  
1900 1500 Made all preparations for getting underway.  
1901 1501 U.S.S. CARROLL underway.  
Underway on various courses and speeds, astern of the U.S.S. CARROLL in accordance with Commander Transports Division Five Gunnery and Boat Training Exercise order no. 1-43 of April 24, 1943.  
Designation: Training Exercise Group.  
Composition:

Section one  
U.S.S. CHARLES CARROLL  
U.S.S. BELLATRIX  
Section two  
U.S.S. SUSAN B. ANTHONY  
U.S.S. ANDROMEDA  
Section Three  
U.S.S. ALCYONE  
U.S.S. FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE

Next higher echelon: Transports Amphibious, United States, Atlantic Fleet.

Major force to which attached: Amphibious Force, United States, Atlantic Fleet.

1925 1525 Fort Wool abeam to the starboard. Distance 1,000 yards.  
1928 1528 Old Point Comfort Light abeam to port. Distance 1 mile.  
1938 1538 Passed through Anti-Submarine net.  
1942 1542 Set standard speed at 15 knots ( 80 RPM's ).  
1945 1545 Thimble Shoal Light Abeam to port, distance 1, 700 yards.  
1950 1550 Entered Thimble Shoal Channel.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN,  
Lieut., USNR.

Approved:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*F. P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN,  
Lieut., U.S.N. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP

BELLATRIX

Sunday

25

April

19 43

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus four

## REMARKS

(Continued)

G.C.T.	L.C.T.	16-20
2018	1618	Set Condition III (Special). Changed course to left, round in the Tail of the Horseshoe. Left Thimble Shoal Channel.
2032	1632	Set course 325(T).
2122	1722	Changed course to 000(T).
2131	1731	Changed course to 017(T), and entered York Spit Channel, with buoy "1" abeam to port.
2148	1748	Changed course to 000(T). Left York Spit Channel.
2225	1825	WOLF TRAP LIGHT abeam to port, distance 2 miles.
2312	1912	RAPPAHANNOCK SPIT bell buoy abeam to port, distance 1 1/2 miles.
2317	1917	WINDMILL POINT LIGHT abeam to port, distance 2 1/2 miles.
2349	1949	Sunset.
2359	1959	Darkened ship.

*M.E. Vash*  
M.E. VASH, Lieut., USNR.

April 26	20-24
0005	2005
0007	2007
0028	2028
0030	2030
0105	2105
0133	2133
0136	2136
0158	2158
0200	2200
0215	2215

GREAT WICOMICO LIGHT abeam to port, distance 3 miles.  
Changed course to 005(T).  
SMITH POINT LIGHT abeam to port, distance 1/2 mile.  
Changed course to 342(T).  
HOLLAND ISLAND LIGHT abeam to starboard, distance 3 1/2 miles.  
Changed course to 000(T). Made all preparations for coming to anchor.  
POINT NO POINT LIGHT abeam to port, distance 1 1/2 miles. Approaching anchorage, with the Captain at the conn, and Navigator on the bridge.  
ALOYONE and CHARLES CARROLL anchored.  
Anchored in berth "F-2" in Naval Anchorage off HOOPER STRAIT, in 10 fathoms of water, with 45 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor, on the following anchorage bearings: HOOPER ISLAND LIGHT 354 3/4(T); RED LIGHTED buoy 153(T); WHITE LIGHTED buoy 137 1/2(T); HOOPER STRAIT LIGHT 079(T).  
Set Condition III (Special).

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR

Approved:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN,  
Lieutenant, U.S.N.R. Navigator.



UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Monday 26 April 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION		plus four	OPERATIONAL REMARKS
G.C.T. L.C.T.	00-04		Anchored in berth "F-2", HOOVER ISLAND ANCHORAGE, Chesapeake Bay. Ship is fully darkened except for anchor lights, and in Condition III (Special).
0405	0005		SUSAN B. ANTHONY stood in and anchored.  <i>W. T. Lightner</i> W.T. LIGHTNER, Ensign, USNR
1016	0616	04-08	Sunrise. Lighted ship.  <i>H. L. Cooper</i> H.L. COOPER, Ensign, USNR
1340	0940	08-12	FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE stood in and anchored.
1450	1050		SUSAN B. ANTHONY underway.
1540	1140		Made all preparations for getting underway.
1552	1152		CHARLES CARROLL underway.
1556	1156		Underway on various courses and at various speeds from berth "F-2". Set Condition IV.  <i>G. J. Cotsirilos</i> G.J. COTSIRILOS, Ensign, USNR
1618	1218	12-16	CHARLES CARROLL anchored.
1625	1225		Anchored in berth "K", Chesapeake Bay, Md.
1626	1226		First boat in water.
1729	1329		Last boat in water.
1921	1521		First wave on beach.
2041	1541		Last wave on beach.  <i>F. P. Ryan</i> F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR
2000	1600	16-20	Set Condition III (Special).
2300	1900		Set Condition IV.
2306	1906		First boat in water.
2350	1950		Last boat in water. Sunset.
2355	1955		Set Condition III, (Special).  <i>G. J. Cotsirilos</i> G.J. COTSIRILOS, Ensign, USNR
April 27	20-24		
0005	2005		Darkened ship.
0301	2301		First wave on beach.
0320	2320		Last wave on beach.
0321	2321		Set Condition IV.  <i>C. Goldschmidt</i> C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Ensign, USNR

Approved:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*F. P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN,  
Lieutenant, U.S.N.R.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Tuesday 27 April 19 43  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION <u>plus four</u>		OPERATIONAL REMARKS
G.C.T. L.C.T. 0505 0105	00-04	Anchored in berth "K", Chesapeake Bay, Md. Ship fully darkened and in Condition IV. Set Condition III (Special).  <i>H.P. Coper</i> H.P. COFER, Ensign, USNR
1018 0618 1055 0655 1129 0729 1155 0755	04-08	Sunrise. Lighted ship. Set Condition IV. First boat in water. ALCYONE, NIGHTINGALE and CHARLES CARROLL underway and standing down bay.  <i>K.G. Holcombe</i> K.G. HOLCOMBE, Ensign, USNR
1218 0818 1447 1047	08-12	Last boat in water. Set Condition III (Special). Set Condition IV.  <i>K.G. Holcombe</i> K.G. HOLCOMBE, Ensign, USNR
1734 1334	12-16	Set Condition III (Special).  <i>C. Goldschmidt</i> C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Ensign, USNR
2101 1701 2340 1940 2347 1947 2351 1951	16-20	CBERON stood in and anchored. Set Condition IV. First boat in water. Sunset.  <i>H.L. Coper</i> H.L. COFER, Ensign, USNR
April 28 0006 2006 0042 2042 0043 2043 0250 2250	20-24	Darkened ship. Last boat in water. Set Condition III (Special). Set Condition IV.  <i>J.V. Aleta</i> J.V. ALETA, Lieut., USNR

Approved:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN,  
Lieutenant, U.S.N. Navigator

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Wednesday 28 April 1943ZONE DESCRIPTION plus four.OPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04 Anchored in berth "K", Chesapeake Bay, Md. Ship fully darkened and in Condition IV.  
0512 0112 Set Condition III (Special).  
0630 0230 CHARLES CARROLL and FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE standing up Bay.

*J.E. Carlin*  
J.E. CARLIN, Lieut., USNR

1019 0619 04-08 Sunrise. Lighted ship.  
1120 0720 STANTON, LYON, THURSTON and BETELGEUSE standing down the Bay.

*M.E. Vash*  
M.E. VASH, Lieut., USNR

1215 0815 08-12 Made all preparations for getting underway.  
1225 0825 Underway from berth "K", Chesapeake Bay, Md., on various courses at various speeds.  
1314 0914 Anchored off CEDAR POINT, Chesapeake Bay.  
1333 0933 Made preparations for getting underway.  
1335 0935 CHARLES CARROLL underway.  
1352 0952 Underway on various courses and speeds, proceeding to anchorage "Q".  
1415 1015 COVE POINT LIGHT abeam to port, distance 2000 yards.  
1416 1016 CHARLES CARROLL anchored.  
1433 1033 Anchored in berth "Q", COVE POINT anchorage, Chesapeake Bay, Md.

*J.V. Aleta*  
J.V. ALETA, Lieut., USNR

1625 1225 12-16 Set Condition IV.  
1737 1337 First boat in water.  
1817 1417 Last boat in water.  
1838 1438 One "PT" boat laid smoke screen.  
1958 1558 Set Condition IV.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR

2152 1752 16-20 Set Condition III (Special).  
2352 1952 Sunset.

*M.E. Vash*  
M.E. VASH, Lieut., USNR

April 29 20-24  
0027 2007 Darkened ship.

*J.V. Aleta*  
J.V. ALETA, Lieut., USNR

Approved:

*O. N. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN,  
Lieutenant, U. S. N. R. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Thursday 29 April 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus four.OPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04 Anchored in berth "Q", Chesapeake Bay, Md. Ship fully darkened except for anchor lights, and in Condition IV.  
0745 0345 Made all preparations for getting underway.

*J.E. Carlin*  
J.E. CARLIN, Lieut., USNR

04-08  
0828 0428 CHARLES CARROLL underway.  
0829 0429 Underway from berth "Q", on various courses at various speeds, following movements of the CHARLES CARROLL. Standard speed 14 knots.  
0848 0448 Breakdown due to engine trouble.  
0854 0454 Turned off breakdown lights; engine-room reports trouble corrected. Set Condition III.  
0921 0521 HOOPER ISLAND light abeam to port, distance 2.1 miles.  
0947 0547 POINT NO POINT light abeam to starboard, distance 1.5 miles.  
1006 0606 POINT LOOKOUT light abeam to starboard, distance 4.5 miles.  
1013 0613 Sunrise. Lighted ship.  
1050 0650 SMITH POINT light abeam to starboard, distance 1.5 miles. Changed course to 185(T).  
1111 0711 GREAT WILCOMICO light abeam to starboard, distance 4.4 miles.  
1117 0717 Changed course to 175(T).  
1130 0730 Entering target area "C", for "AA" firing practice.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR

08-12  
1207 0807 RAPPAHANNOCK SPIT bell buoy abeam to starboard, distance 600 yards.  
1315 0915 General quarters. Maneuvering on various courses at various speeds, following movements of the CHARLES CARROLL.  
1500 1100 CHARLES CARROLL left formation, and this ship took number one position in column.  
1503 1103 Plane (towing sleeve) commenced runs on this ship.  
1505 1105 "AA" batteries commenced firing.  
1606 1106 Ceased firing first run. Plane returned to base to refuel.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR

12-16  
1605 1205 Set Condition III.  
1635 1235 General quarters.  
1647 1247 Plane commenced runs on this ship.  
1649 1249 Commenced firing "AA" batteries.  
1651 1251 Ceased firing.  
1654 1254 Secured from "AR" firing practice; 800 rounds 20 mm. expended. Left formation and proceeded to anchorage. Set Condition III.  
1718 1318 Made preparations for coming to anchor.  
1748 1348 Anchored in berth "H-2", RAPPAHANNOCK SPIT anchorage, Chesapeake Bay, Va.  
1754 1354 Set Condition III (Special).

*J.E. Carlin*  
J.E. CARLIN, Lieut., USNR

Approved: *O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined: *F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN,  
Lieutenant, U.S.N. Navigator.

CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLA TRIX Thursday 29 April 1943  
(Ship) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus fourOPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

(Continued)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 16-20  
 2140 1740 MOBILE stood in and anchored.  
 2352 1952 Sunset.

*M. E. Vash*  
 M. E. VASH, Lieut., USNR

April 30 20-24  
 0006 2006 Darkened ship except for anchor lights.

*J. V. Aleta*  
 J. V. ALETA, Lieut., USNR

Approved: *O. H. Ritchie*  
 O. H. RITCHIE,  
 Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:  
*F. P. Ryan*  
 F. P. RYAN,  
 Lieutenant, U. S. N. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP

BELLATRIX

Friday

30

April

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus fourOPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04 Anchored in berth "H-2", RAPPAHANNOCK SPIT anchorage, Chesapeake Bay, Va. Ship fully darkened except for anchor lights, and in Condition III (Special).

*J.E. Carlin*  
J.E. CARLIN, Lieut., USNR

04-08  
0900 0500 Made all preparations for getting underway.  
0941 0541 Underway from berth "H-2" on various courses at various speeds, proceeding to target area. Standard speed 15 knots. Set Condition III.  
1017 0617 Sunrise. Lighted ship.  
1018 0618 Anchored in target area "B", in 8 fathoms of water, in order to stream short range battle targets.  
1119 0719 General Quarters.  
1122 0722 Underway for short range battle practice on various courses at various speeds.  
1150 0750 Commenced first starboard run.  
1154 0754 Commenced firing 5" 51 cal. gun.  
1156 0756 Ceased firing, 8 rounds target ammunition expended on first run.

*M.E. Wash*  
M.E. WASH, Lieut., USNR

08-12  
1258 0858 Commenced second starboard run.  
1300 0900 Commenced firing No. 1 3"/50 cal. gun.  
1302 0902 Ceased firing; 4 rounds target ammunition expended on second run.  
1312 0912 Commenced third run to starboard.  
1315 0915 Commenced firing Nos. 1 and 3 - 3" 50 cal. guns.  
1325 0925 Ceased firing; 16 rounds target ammunition expended on third run.  
1358 0958 Commenced first port run.  
1410 1010 Commenced firing Nos. 2 and 4 3"50 cal. guns.  
1416 1016 Ceased firing; 16 rounds target ammunition expended on fourth run. Short range battle practice completed.  
1417 1017 Set Condition III; proceeding to anchorage.  
1537 1137 Anchored in berth "J-1", RAPPAHANNOCK SPIT anchorage, Chesapeake Bay, Va.

*J.V. Aleta*  
J.V. ALETA, Lieut., USNR

12-16  
1935 1535 Made preparations for getting underway.  
1920 1520 Underway from berth "J-1" for HAMPTON ROADS, on various courses at various speeds conforming to channel.

*J.E. Carlin*  
J.E. CARLIN, Lieut., USNR

16-20  
2018 1618 WOLF TRAP abeam to starboard, distance 2.5 miles. Changed course to 180(T).  
2043 1643 NEW POINT COMFORT light abeam to starboard, distance 7 miles.  
2048 1648 Changed course to 167(T).  
2057 1657 With channel buoy "9" abeam to starboard changed course to 197(T), and entered YORK SPIT CHANNEL.

Approved:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN,  
Lieutenant, U. S. N. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP

BELLATRIX

Friday

30

April

19 43

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus fourOPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

(Continued)

G.C.T. L.C.T.

2112	1712	With channel buoy "1" abeam to starboard changed course to 180(T).
2131	1732	With buoy "10" abeam to port, distance 1 1/4 miles, changed course to 142(T).
2207	1807	On various courses rounding the Tail of the Horseshoe.
2223	1823	Entered Thimble Shoal Channel.
2248	1848	Made all preparations for coming to anchor; on various courses and speeds conforming to channel.
2301	1901	Thimble Shoal light abeam to starboard, distance 1800 yards.
2352	1952	Anchored in Anchorage Area "D", Hampton Roads, Va., in 6 1/2 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to the port anchor, on the following anchorage bearings: Middle Ground Beacon 351 3/4(T); Newport News Tank 258 3/4(T); Beacon "F-1" 253 3/4(T).
2353	1953	Sunset.

*M.E. Vash*  
M.E. VASH, Lieut., USNR

May 1

0002 2002  
0006 2006

20-24

Set Condition III (Special).  
Darkened ship locally.

*J.E. Carlin*  
J.E. CARLIN, Lieut., USNR

Approved:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*F. F. Ryan*  
F. F. RYAN,  
Lieutenant, U.S.N.R.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Saturday 1

May

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus four

OPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Anchored in Anchorage Area "D", Hampton Roads, Va. Ship darkened except for anchor lights and in Condition III special.  
DESIGNATION: U.S.S. BELLATRIX  
COMPOSITION: Acting singly.  
NEXT HIGHER ECHELON: Transports Amphibious, United States Atlantic Fleet.  
MAJOR FORCE TO WHICH ATTACHED: Amphibious Force, United States Atlantic Fleet.

*J.E. Carlin*  
J.E. CARLIN, Lieut., USNR.

04-08  
1016 0616 Sunrise. Lighted ship.  
1025 0625 Made all preparations for getting underway. Pilot R.B. MCCOY came aboard.  
1051 0651 Underway from anchorage on various courses and speeds proceeding to N.O.B., Pilot at Conn, and Captain on the bridge.  
1103 0703 Cut in degaussing gear.  
1108 0708 Tugs alongside to assist in mooring.  
1133 0733 Moored starboard side to Berth "41", Pier "4", N.O.B., Norfolk, Va.  
1146 0746 Pilot R.B. MCCOY left ship. Secured degaussing gear.

*M.E. Vash*  
M.E. VASH, Lieut., USNR.

08-12  
No remarks.

*J.V. Aleta*  
J.V. ALETA, Lieut., USNR.

12-16  
1820 1420 KUTHATCH moored alongside port side.  
1847 1447 KUTHATCH underway from port side.

*R.F. Birmingham*  
R.F. BIRMINGHAM, Lieut., USNR.

16-20  
2045 1645 Made all preparations for getting underway.  
2050 1650 Pilot WALDEN came aboard.  
2107 1707 Underway from Berth "41", Pier "4", N.O.B. Norfolk, Va. on various courses and speeds conforming to channel, proceeding to Norfolk Navy Yard, Portsmouth, Va., with Pilot at Conn and Captain on Bridge.  
2116 1716 Set Channel Watch.  
2210 1810 Tugs alongside to assist in mooring.  
2235 1835 Stopped; waiting for anti-torpedo net to be opened.  
2250 1850 Passed through anti-torpedo net.  
2304 1904 Moored starboard side to Berth "36", Pier "5", Norfolk Navy Yard, Portsmouth, Va.  
2313 1913 Pilot WALDEN left ship.  
2350 1950 Sunset.

*F.F. Ryan*  
F.F. RYAN, Lieut., USNR.

Approved:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, USNR.

Examined:

*F.F. Ryan*  
F.F. RYAN,  
Lieut., U.S. Navy Navigator.



ADDITIONAL SHEET

OPERATIONAL

U. S. S. BELLATRIX

Date May 1, (cont) 1943

G.C.T.	L.O.T.	
May 2,		20-24
0005	2005	Darkened snip locally.

*J. Carlin*  
 J. CARLIN, Lieut., USNR.

Approved:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
 O.H. RITCHIE,  
 Commander, USNR.

Examined:

*F. P. Ryan*  
 F.P. RYAN,  
 Lieut., U. S. N. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Sunday

2

May

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus four

OPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Moored starboard side to Berth "36", Pier "5", Norfolk Navy Yard, Portsmouth, Va., receiving telephone service and electricity from the Yard. Ship darkened locally and in Condition III Special.

*W.F. Leganner*  
W.F. LEGANNER,  
Ens., USNR.

1010 0610 04-08  
Sunrise. Lighted ship.

*H.F. Birmingham*  
H.F. BIRMINGHAM,  
Lieut., USNR.

1355 0955 08-12  
Commenced receiving steam and water from the yard.

*F.F. Ryan*  
F.F. RYAN,  
Lieut., USNR.

12-16  
No remarks.

*M.E. Vash*  
M.E. VASH,  
Lieut., USNR.

2002 1602 16-20  
Informed by radio that Condition "Yellow" exists. Possibility of air attack.  
2012 1612 Secured from Condition "Yellow".  
2355 1955 Sunset.

*K.G. Holcombe*  
K.G. HOLCOMBE,  
Ens., USNR.

May 3, 0010 20-24  
2010 Darkened ship locally.

*J.V. Albia*  
J.V. ALBIA,  
Lieut., USNR.

Approved:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, USNR.

Examined:

*F.F. Ryan*  
F.F. RYAN,  
Lieut., U.S. Navy.

UNITED STATES SHIP

BELLATRIX

Monday

3

May

19 43

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus four

OPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04 Moored starboard side to berth #36, Pier #5, Norfolk Navy Yard, Portsmouth, Va. Receiving electricity, steam, water and telephone service from the Yard. Ship darkened locally and in Condition III, (Special).

M. S. Vach  
M. S. VACH, -Lieut., USNR

1009 0609 04-08 Sunrise. Lighted ship.

S. V. Nonington  
S. V. NONINGTON, -Lieut., USNR

08-12  
No remarks.

J. H. Aitta  
J. H. AITTA, -Lieut., USNR

12-16  
No remarks.

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, -Lieut., USNR

2352 1952 16-20 Sunset.

J. Barlin  
J. BARLIN, -Lieut., USNR

May 4 2407 2007 20-24 Darkened ship locally.

R. P. Birmingham  
R. P. BIRMINGHAM, -Lieut., USNR

Approved:

O. H. Ritchie  
O. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN,  
Lieutenant, U. S. MR Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Tuesday 4 May 1943  
(1943) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus four

OPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
 Moored starboard side to berth "36", pier "5", Norfolk Navy Yard, Portsmouth, Va. Receiving telephone service, electricity, steam, and water from the yard. Ship darkened locally and in Condition III Special.

*F.P. Ryan*  
 F.P. RYAN,  
 Lieut., USNR.

1012 0612 04-08  
 Sunrise. Lighted Ship.

*J.E. Cardin*  
 J.E. CARDIN,  
 Lieut., USNR.

08-12  
 No remarks.

*F.P. Ryan*  
 F.P. RYAN,  
 Lieut., USNR.

12-16  
 No remarks.

*M.E. Wash*  
 M.E. WASH,  
 Lieut., USNR.

2355 1955 16-20  
 Sunset.

*S.V. Montgomery*  
 S.V. MONTGOMERY,  
 Lieut., USNR.

May 5, 2010 20-24  
 0010 2010 Darkened ship locally.  
 0145 2145 General quarters.  
 0153 2153 Set Condition III Special.

*J.V. Aista*  
 J.V. AISTA,  
 Lieut., USNR.

Approved:

*O.N. Ritchie*  
 O.N. RITCHIE,  
 Commander, USNR.

Examined:

*F.P. Ryan*  
 F.P. RYAN,  
 Lieut., U. S. Nav. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELATRIX Wednesday 5 May 1942  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus four

OPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

U.S.T. L.C.T. Moored starboard side to berth #36, Pier #5, Norfolk Navy Yard, Portsmouth, Va. Receiving electricity, steam, water and telephone service from the Yard. Ship darkened locally and in Condition III (Special).

M. M. Vasm  
M. M. VASM, Lieut., USNR

1007 0607 04-08  
Sunrise. Lighted ship.

D. I. Montgomery  
D. I. MONTGOMERY, Lieut., USNR

08-12  
No remarks.

J. V. Smith  
J. V. SMITH, Lieut., USNR

12-16  
No remarks.

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR

2358 1958 16-20  
Sunset.

P. J. Conrado  
P. J. CONRADO, Ensign, USNR

May 6 20-24  
Darkened ship locally.

J. Carlin  
J. CARLIN, Lieut., USNR

Approved:

O. H. Ritchie  
O. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U. S. N. R.

Examined:

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN,  
Lieutenant, U. S. N. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Thursday 6, May, 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus four

OPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Moored starboard side to Berth "36" Pier "5", Norfolk Navy Yard, Portsmouth, Va. Receiving telephone service, electricity, steam, and water from the yard. Ship darkened locally and in Condition III Special.

*R.F. Birmingham*  
R.F. BIRMINGHAM, Lieut., USNR.

0414 0614 04-08  
Sunrise. Lighted ship.

*J.S. Carlin*  
J.S. CARLIN, Lieut., USNR.

08-12  
No remarks.

*F.F. Ryan*  
F.F. RYAN, Lieut., USNR.

12-16  
No remarks.

*M.E. Vash*  
M.E. VASH, Lieut., USNR.

2030 1630 16-20  
2359 1959 U.S.S. ALCYONE moored alongside to port.  
Sunset.

*S.V. Montgomery*  
S.V. MONTGOMERY, Lieut., USNR.

May 7, 0014 2014 20-24  
Darkened ship locally.

*M.E. Vash*  
M.E. VASH, Lieut., USNR.

Approved:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, USNR.

Examined:

*F.F. Ryan*  
F.F. RYAN,  
Lieut. p.s. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP

BELLATRIX

Friday

7

May

19 43

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus four

REMARKS

G.C.T. I.C.T. 00-04 Moored starboard side to berth #36, Pier #5, Norfolk Navy Yard, Portsmouth, Va. Receiving steam, water, electricity and telephone service from the Yard. Ship darkened locally and in Condition III (Special).

*J. V. Montgomery*  
J. V. MONTGOMERY, Lieut., USNR

1013 0613 04-08 Sunrise. Lighted ship.

*J. V. Rieta*  
J. V. RIETA, Lieut., USNR

08-12  
No remarks.

*B. Krauss*  
B. KRAUSS, CDR, USN

12-16  
No remarks.

*H. H. Jeff*  
H. H. JEFF, COAST, USN

16-20  
No remarks.

*C. G. Williams*  
C. G. WILLIAMS, USN (RET)

May 8 20-24  
0000 2000 Sunset.  
0015 2015 Darkened ship locally.

*H. L. D. Cooper*  
H. L. D. COOPER, Asst. Lt., USNR

Approved:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN,  
Lieutenant, U.S.N. Navigator

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Saturday 8, May 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus four OPERATIONAL REMARKS

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Moored starboard side to berth "36" Pier "5", with the U.S.S. ALCYONE moored to port, Norfolk Navy Yard, Portsmouth, Va. Receiving telephone service, electricity, steam, and water from the yard. Ship darkened locally and in Condition III Special.

P. J. Cottrill  
P. J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

1015 0615 04-08  
Sunrise. Lighted ship.

W. T. Lightner  
W. T. LIGHTNER, Ens., USNR.

08-12  
No remarks.

G. L. White  
G. L. WHITE, CEM, USN.

12-16  
No remarks.

J. J. Mytych  
J. J. MYTYCH, CEM, USN.

2145 1745 16-20  
U.S.S. ALCYONE underway from alongside to port and standing out.

R. Edwards  
R. (a) EDWARDS, CEM, USN.

May 9, 0001 2008 20-24  
0016 2016 Sunset.  
Darkened ship locally.

J. C. Campbell  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Ens., USNR.

Approved: O. H. Ritchie  
O. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, USNR.

Examined: P. F. Ryan  
P. F. RYAN,  
Lieut. J. S. NR Navigator.



UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Sunday 9 May 1943ZONE DESCRIPTION plus fourOPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04 Moored starboard side to berth #36, Pier #5, Norfolk Navy Yard, Portsmouth, Va. Receiving electricity, steam, water and telephone service from the Yard. Ship darkened locally and in Condition III (Special).

*K.G. Holcombe*  
K.G. HOLCOMBE, Ensign, USNR

1001 0601 04-08 Sunrise. Lighted ship.

*J.C. Campbell*  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Ensign, USNR

08-12  
No remarks.

*P. Newsom*  
P. NEWSOM, CSM, USNR

12-16  
No remarks.

*C.B. Williams*  
C.B. WILLIAMS, CSM (RET)

16-20  
No remarks.

*G.L. White*  
G.L. WHITE, CSM, USN

May 10 20-24  
0001 2001 Sunset.  
0016 2016 Darkened ship.

*G.J. Conspirilos*  
G.J. CONSPIRILLOS, Ensign, USNR

Approved:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*P.P. Ryan*  
P.P. RYAN,  
Lieutenant, U.S.N. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Monday

10

May

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus fourOPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

G.C.T.	L.C.T.	00-04	Moor'd starboard side to Berth "36" Pier "5", Norfolk Navy Yard, Portsmouth, Va. Receiving telephone service, electricity, steam, and water from the yard. Ship darkened locally and in Condition III Special.
			<i>J. Basler</i> J.S. CARLIN, Lieut., USNR.
1002	0602	04-08	Sunrise. Lighted ship. Made all preparations for getting underway.
			<i>R.F. Birmingham</i> R.F. BIRMINGHAM, Lieut., USNR.
1205	0805	08-12	Pilot T. Parcell reported aboard.
1221	0821		Underway from Berth "36" Pier "5" Norfolk Navy Yard, Portsmouth, Va. on various courses and speeds with the Pilot at Conn, Captain, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge, in accordance with Commander Transport Division Seven's Gunnery and Boat Training Order #5-43 of May 6, 1943 proceeding independently, other ships not present. <u>Designation:</u> Training Exercise Group. <u>Composition:</u> Section one U.S.S. CALVERT U.S.S. ANNE ARUNDEL Section two U.S.S. THOMAS JEFFERSON U.S.S. BELLATRIX Section Three U.S.S. WILLIAM P. BIDDLE U.S.S. ANDROMEDA <u>Next higher echelon:</u> Transports Amphibious, United States, Atlantic Fleet. <u>Major force to which attached:</u> Amphibious Force, United States Atlantic Fleet.
1245	0845		Cut in degaussing gear.
1407	1007		Pilot T. Parcell left the ship.
1535	1135		Set Condition III.
1555	1155		Secured degaussing gear.
			<i>F.P. Ryan</i> F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR.
1720	1320	12-16	Wolf Trap abeam to port, distance 3 miles.
1800	1400		Stingray abeam to port, distance 5 miles.
1850	1450		Anchored in berth "14-2" Rappahannock Spit anchorage in 7 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain.
1900	1500		Set Condition III Special.
			<i>R.G. Holcombe</i> R.G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.
2055	1655	16-20	Made preparations for getting underway.

Approved:

*O. N. Ritchie*  
C.H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, USNR.

Examined:

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN,  
Lieut., U.S. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP

BELLATRIX

Monday

10

May

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION plus fourOPERATIONAL  
REMARKS

(Continued)

G.C.T.	L.C.T.	<u>16-20</u>	
2108	1708		Underway from berth "H-2" on various courses at various speeds to shift anchorage, with Captain at the conn, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge.
2115	1715		Set Condition III.
2227	1827		SMITH POINT LIGHT abeam to port, distance 1.7 miles.
2324	1924		POINT NO POINT LIGHT abeam to port, distance 2.5 miles.

*J.C. Campbell*  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Ensign, USNR

May 11		<u>20-24</u>	
0003	2003		Sunset.
0018	2018		Darkened ship except for navigation lights.
0035	2035		Made preparations to anchor.
0101	2101		Anchored in berth "C-3", Cove Point Anchorage, in 8 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to the port anchor.
0107	2107		Set Condition III (Special).

*J.V. Aleta*  
J.V. ALETA, Lieut., USNR

Approved:

*O. N. Ritchie*O.H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN,  
Lieutenant, U.S.N.R. Navigator.

Doc. No. 721  
 Lt. No. 06082

## ADDITIONAL SHEET

U. S. S. BELLATRIX

OPERATIONAL

Date Tuesday, May 11, 1943.

FR

G.C.T. I.C.T. 00-04 Anchored in berth "C-3", Cove Point Anchorage, Md., in 8 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to the port anchor. Ship darkened and in Condition III (Special).

*C. Goldschmidt*  
 C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Ensign, USNR

1004 0604 04-08 Sunrise. Lighted ship.  
 1118 0718 Made preparations for getting underway.  
 1138 0738 Underway from berth "C-3", Cove Point Anchorage, Md., on various courses at various speeds conforming to the channel, Captain at the conn, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge, in accordance with Commander, Transport Division Seven, Exercise Order No. 6-43 of May 10, 1943. Proceeding independently, other ships not present.

DESIGNATION: Training Exercise Group.

COMPOSITION: Section One

USS CALVERT  
 USS ANNE ARUNDEL  
 USS BELLATRIX

Section Two

USS NEVILLE  
 USS FUNSTON

NEXT HIGHER ECHELON: Transports, Amphibious, United States Atlantic Fleet.

MAJOR FORCE TO WHICH ATTACHED: Amphibious Force, United States Atlantic Fleet.

*J. E. Carlin*  
 J. E. CARLIN, Lieut., USNR

1235 0835 08-12 Anchored in berth "B-2", Cove Point Anchorage, Md., in 7 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to the port anchor. Ship present: USS CALVERT and USS NEVILLE.  
 1312 0912 Set Condition III (Special).

*F. P. Ryan*  
 F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR

1600 1200 12-16 Set Condition IV.  
 1612 1212 First boat in water.  
 1715 1315 Last boat in water. Eight LCM's and nine LCVP's were sent to the CALVERT for Exercise 4-AP.  
 1720 1320 Set Condition III (Special).

*J. V. Aleta*  
 J. V. ALETA, Lieut., USNR

Approved: *O. H. Ritchie*  
 O. H. RITCHIE,  
 Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined: *F. P. Ryan*  
 F. P. RYAN,  
 Lieutenant p. S. AR Navigator.

ADDITIONAL SHEET

66082

OPERATIONAL

U. S. S. BELLATRIX

Date Tuesday, May 11, 1943.

(Continued)

G.C.T.	L.C.T.	<u>16-20</u>	
2055	1655		Set Condition IV. Commenced hoisting in boats.
			Exercise 4-AP complete.
2212	1812		USS CALVERT underway and standing out.
2300	1900		Set Condition III (Special).
2307	1907		USS NEVILLE underway and standing out.

*J.C. Campbell*  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Ensign, USNR

May 12                    20-24  
 No remarks.

*K.G. Holcombe*  
K.G. HOLCOMBE, Ensign, USNR

Approved: *O.N. Ritchie*  
 O.H. RITCHIE,  
 Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined: *F.P. Ryan*  
 F.P. RYAN  
 Lieutenantj. S. NR Navigator.

## ADDITIONAL SHEET

0609

U. S. S. BELLATRIXDate May 12, 19 43

## OPERATIONAL

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Anchored in berth "B-2" Cove Point Anchorage, Md. in 7 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to the port anchor. Ship is darkened and in Condition III special.

B. J. Cottrill  
B. J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

1002 0602 04-08  
Sunrise. Lighted ship.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Ens., USNR.

1255 0855 08-12  
1302 0902 Set Condition IV.  
1354 0954 First boat in the water.  
Last boat in the water.

J. E. Carlin  
J. E. CARLIN, Lieut., USNR.

1700 1300 12-16  
Pistol instruction and practice were held for all officers and boat crews.  
1717 1317 Set Condition III special.  
1950 1530 Pistol instruction and practice completed and commenced boat M.G. practice.

J. C. Campbell  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Ens., USNR.

1256 1856 16-20  
Completed boat M.G. practice.

H. L. D. Coffey  
H. L. D. COFFEY, Ens., USNR.

May 13, 20-24  
0008 2008 Sunset.  
0023 2023 Darkened ship.  
0115 2115 U.S.S. ANNE ARUNDEL stood in and anchored.  
0215 2215 Made preparations to shift anchorage.  
0222 2222 Underway on various courses and speeds with the Captain at conn, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge.  
0324 2324 Anchored off Cove Point, Md. in 7 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor on the following bearings: Sharp's Island 017 3/4°T, Buoy "18-A" 002°T, and Buoy "21-B" 164°T.

J. V. Aleta  
J. V. ALTA, Lieut., USNR.

Approved:

O. H. Ritchie  
O. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, USNR.

Examined:

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN,  
Lieut., U. S. N. Navigator.

## ADDITIONAL SHEET

U. S. S. BELLATRIX

OPERATIONAL

Date Thursday, May 13, 1943

0608

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04 Anchored off Cove Point, Md., in 7 fathoms of water with 45 of chain to the starboard anchor, on the following bearings: SHARPE'S ISLAND 018(T); Buoy "18-A" 002(T); Buoy "21-B" 164(T). Ship is darkened except for anchor lights, and in Condition III (Special).

*K. G. Holcombe*  
K.G. HOLCOMBE, Ensign, USNR

0956 0556 04-08  
Sunrise. Lighted ship.

*J. V. Aista*  
J.V. AISTA, Lieut., USNR

1240 0840 08-12  
1247 0847 Set Condition IV. Commenced Exercise 4-AP.  
1343 0943 First boat in water.  
All boats in the water. H Hour was set for 1130. All boats reported to the ARUNDEL.

*J. C. Campbell*  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Ensign, USNR

1629 1229 12-16  
CALVERT stood in and anchored.

*J. C. Campbell*  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Ensign, USNR

2050 1650 16-20  
2200 1800 Set Condition III (Special). Completed Exercise 4-AP.  
FUNSTON stood in and anchored.

*H. L. D. Coffey*  
H.L.D. COFFEY, Ensign, USNR

May 14 20-24  
0007 2007 Sunset.  
0012 2012 Darkened ship except for anchor lights.

*W. T. Lightner*  
W.T. LIGHTNER, Ensign, USNR

Approved:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.

Examined:

*F. P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN,  
Lieut enant, U. S. R. Navigator.

ADDITIONAL SHEET

06082

U. S. S. BELLATRIX

Date May 14, 1943

OPERATIONAL

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
 Anchored off Cove Point, Md. in 7 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor on the following bearings: Sharp's Island 017 3/4°T, Buoy "18-A" 002°T, Buoy "21-B" 164°T. Ship is fully darkened except for anchor lights and in Condition III special.  
 0420 0020 Set Condition IV. Commenced exercise 4-AP.  
 0423 0023 First boat in the water.  
 0511 0111 Last boat in the water. Eight LCM's and nine LOVP's were sent to the U.S.S. ANNE ARUNDEL.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
 C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Ens., USNR.

0956 0556 04-08  
 Sunrise. Lighted ship.

*J.C. Campbell*  
 J.C. CAMPBELL, Ens., USNR.

1205 0805 08-12  
 Set Condition III special. Exercise 4-AP completed.

*J.V. Aleta*  
 J.V. ALETA, Lieut., USNR.

1622 1222 12-16  
 U.S.S. CALVERT underway and stood out.

*J.E. Carlin*  
 J.E. CARLIN, Lieut., USNR.

16-20  
 No remarks.

*H.L.D. Coper*  
 H.L.D. COPER, Ens., USNR.

May 15, 20-24  
 0008 2008 Sunset.  
 0023 2023 Darkened ship except for anchor lights.

*J.V. Aleta*  
 J.V. ALETA, Lieut., USNR.

Approved: *O.H. Ritchie*  
 O.H. RITCHIE,  
 Commander, USNR.

Examined: *F.P. Hild*  
 F.P. HILD,  
 Lieut., U. S. NR Navigator.



## ADDITIONAL SHEET

06082

## OPERATIONAL

U. S. S. BELLATRIX

Date May 15, 1943

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Anchored off Cove Point, Md. in 7 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor on the following bearings: Sharp's Island 018<sup>0</sup>T, Buoy "18-A", 002<sup>0</sup>T, Buoy "21-B" 164<sup>0</sup>T. Ship is darkened except for anchor lights and in Condition III special.

*G.J. Cottrill*

G.J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

1040 0440  
1155 0555

04-08

U.S.S. FUNSTON stood in and anchored.  
Sunrise. Lighted ship.

*K.G. Holcombe*

K.G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

1330 0930  
1356 0956

08-12

Commenced hoisting out boats.  
2 LCM's and 5 LCVP's in the water, and were sent to the U.S.S. FUNSTON for exercise 4 AF.

*J. G. Carlin*

J. G. CARLIN, Lieut., USNR.

1715 1315  
1940 1540

12-16

Boats returned from the U.S.S. FUNSTON, Exercise 4-AF completed.  
Commenced boat machine gun practice.

*H.L.D. Coffey*

H.L.D. COFFEY, Ens., USNR.

2205 1805

16-20

Completed boat machine gun practice.

*J.V. Aleta*

J.V. ALTA, Lieut., USNR.

May 16,  
0209 2209  
0224 2224

20-24

Sunset.  
Darkened ship except for anchor lights.

*G.J. Cottrill*

G.J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, USNR,

Examined:

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN,  
Lieut. J. S. 2d, Navigator.

**ADDITIONAL SHEET**

06087

**OPERATIONAL**

U. S. S. BELLATRIX

Date Sunday 16, 1943

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Anchored off Cove Point, Md. in 7 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor on the following bearings: Sharp's Island 017°T. Buoy "18-A" 002°T, Buoy "21-B" 164°T. Ship is fully darkened except for anchor lights and in Condition III special.

K. G. Holcombe  
K.G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

1004 0604 04-08  
1130 0730

Sunrise. Lighted ship.  
Made all repairs for getting underway and set Condition III.

F. P. Ryan  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR.

1200 0800 08-12

Underway to shift berths with the U.S.S. FUNSTON proceeding independently on various courses and at various speeds conforming to the Channel. Captain at Cons, Executive Officer, and Navigator on the bridge.

1347 0947

Anchored in Transport Area off Cedar Point, Md. in 7 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor on the following bearings: Hooper Island Light 038°T, Point No Point Light 178½°T.

1354 0954  
1359 0959  
1518 1118  
1520 1120

U.S.S. FUNSTON anchored bearing 269°T, distant 1100 yards.  
Set Condition III special.  
Set Condition IV. Commenced exercises 4-AF.  
First boat in the water.

H. L. D. Cover  
H.L.D. COVER, Ens., USNR.

1606 1206 12-16

Eight LCM's and nine LCVP's were sent to the U.S.S. FUNSTON.

1615 1215  
1625 1225

U.S.S. SATURN standing down the bay.  
U.S.S. DOROTHEA L. DIX standing up the bay.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Ens., USNR.

2025 1625 16-20

Set Condition III special. Exercise 4-AF completed.

J. V. Rieta  
J.V. RIETA, Lieut., USNR.

May 17 20-24

0010 2010  
0025 2025

Sunset.  
Darkened ship except for anchor lights.

0040 2040

U.S.S. SUSAN B. ANTHONY and FLORANCE NIGHTENGALE stood in and anchored.

K. G. Holcombe  
K.G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

Approved: O. H. Ritchie  
O.H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, USNR.

Examined: F. P. Ryan  
F.P. RYAN  
Lieut., U. S. N. Navigator.

## ADDITIONAL SHEET

OPERATIONAL

0608<sup>2</sup>

U. S. S. BELLATRIX

Date May Monday 17., 1943

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Anchored in transport area off Cedar Point, Md., in 7 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor. Ship is darkened except for anchor lights and in Condition III special.

*J. E. Carlin*

J. E. CARLIN, Lieut., USNR.

04-08

0945 0554 Sunrise. Lighted ship.  
1055 0655 U.S.S. CALVERT and U.S.S. PROCYON standing up the bay.  
1104 0704 U.S.S. SUSAN B. ANTHONY standing up the bay.  
1130 0730 U.S.S. JAMES O'HARA standing down the bay.  
1148 0748 U.S.S. FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE standing down the bay.

*H. L. D. Coper*

H. L. D. COPER, Ens., USNR.

08-12

1255 0855 Set Condition IV. Commenced exercise 4-AP.  
1300 0900 First boat in the water.  
1345 0945 Eight LCM's and nine LOVP's sent to the U.S.S. FUNSTON.  
1437 1037 U.S.S. DOROTHEA L. DIX and U.S.S. HARRY LEE standing down the bay.

*C. Goldschmidt*

C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Ens., USNR.

12-16

1742 1342 Set Condition III special. Exercise 4-AP completed.

*G. J. Cotterill*

G. J. COTTERILL, Ens., USNR.

16-20

2040 1640 U.S.S. HARRY LEE, U.S.S. ALCYONE, U.S.S. FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE, U.S.S. LEONARD WOOD, U.S.S. DOROTHEA L. DIX standing down the bay.  
2130 1730 Made all preparations for getting underway. Set Condition III.  
2156 1756 Underway on various courses and at various speeds to shift anchorage with Captain, Executive Officer, and Navigator on the bridge.  
2310 1910 Anchored in Berth "T-2" Cove Point, Md. in 7 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor.  
2315 1915 Set Condition III special.

*K. G. Holcombe*

K. G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

May 18

20-24

0010 2010 Sunset.  
0025 2025 Darkened ship except for anchor lights.  
0030 2030 U.S.S. FUNSTON stood in and anchored.

*J. E. Carlin*

J. E. CARLIN, Lieut., USNR.

Approved:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, USNR.

Examined:

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN,  
Lieut., U. S. N. Navigator.

06087

ADDITIONAL SHEET  
OPERATIONAL

U. S. S. BELLATRIXDate Tuesday 18, May, 43

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Anchored in berth "T-2" Cove Point, Md., in eight fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor. Ship is darkened except for anchor lights and in Condition III special.

*H.L.D. Cooper*  
H.L.D. COOPER, Ens., USNR.

0952 0552 04-08  
1040 0640 Sunfise. Lighted ship.  
U.S.S. CHARLES CARROLL, U.S.S. ARCTURUS, and U.S.S. WILLIAM P. BIDDLE standing down the bay.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Ens., USNR.

1210 0810 08-12  
1259 0859 Made all preparations for getting underway.  
Underway from berth "T-2" to shift anchorage on various courses and at various speeds with Captain at the Conn., the Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge.

1315 0915 Set Condition III.  
1320 0920 Steering various courses in column astern of FUNSTON, distant about 3200 yards.

1348 0948 Bell Buoy #9 abeam to port, distant 150 yards.  
1349 0949 Cedar Point Light abeam to starboard, distant 1.5 miles.

1354 0954 Made preparations to anchor.  
1400 1000 Proceeding independently to anchorage.  
1419 1019 Anchored in Transport Area South of Cedar Point in 7 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor.

1424 1024 Set Condition III special.

*J.V. Aitta*  
J.V. AITTA, Lieut., USNR.

1625 1225 12-16  
1758 1358 WILLIAM P. BIDDLE standing up bay.  
1946 1546 ARCTURUS and THOMAS JEFFERSON standing up bay.  
General Quarters.

*J.F. Cottrill*  
J.F. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

2011 1611 16-18  
2045 1645 Secured from General quarters, set condition III special.  
CALVERT standing up bay.

*K.G. Holcombe*  
K.G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

2245 1845 18-20  
2246 1846 Set Condition IV.  
2319 1919 First boat in the water.  
Last boat in water, 8 LCM(3)'s and 8 LCV(P)'s sent to FREDERICK FUNSTON for Exercise 4AF.

*J.L. Carlin*  
J.L. CARLIN, Lieut., USNR.

Approved:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, USNR.

Examined:

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN,  
Lieut., S. N., Navigator.

ADDITIONAL SHEET  
OPERATIONAL

U. S. S. BELLATRIX

Date Tues., May 18, 1943

G.C.T.	L.C.T.	
May 19		20-24
0220	2220	Set Condition IV.
0358	2358	Set condition III special. Exercise 4-AP completed.

*J.V. Aleta*  
J.V. ALETA, Lieut., USNR.

Approved:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, USNR.

Examined:

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN,  
Lieut., U. S. N. Navigator.

## ADDITIONAL SHEET

OPERATIONAL

U. S. S. BELLATRIX

Date Wednesday May 19, 1943

G.C.T.	L.C.T.	00-04
		Anchored in transport area off Cedar Point, Md. in 7 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor. Ship is darkened except for anchor lights and in Condition III special.
0448	0048	Made all preparations for getting underway. Set Condition III.
0503	0103	Underway on various courses and at various speeds with the Captain at Conn, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge, for night spotting exercise using PT's.
0507	0107	Ship's formed column as follows: CALVERT, FREDRICK FUNSTON, BELLATRIX.
0529	0129	General Quarters.
0617	0217	Maximum posture radar control on PT was made bearing 045°, distant 2150 yards. Unidentified contact believed to be PT was made bearing 005°, distant 4910 yards.
0618	0218	Located one PT on starboard bow with starboard searchlight, distant 1500 yards.
0624	0224	Set Condition III. Proceeding to anchorage. Exercise completed.
0655	0255	Anchored in Transport off Cedar Point, Md. in 7 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor, bearing 180° distance 2000 yards from CALVERT and 1000 yards from the FREDRICK FUNSTON.
0658	0258	Set Condition III special.

*H.P. Dwyer*  
H.P. DWYER, Ens., USNR.

		04-08
1000	0600	LEONARD WOOD, HARRY LEE, FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE, DOROTHEA L. DIX, ALCYONE standing down the bay in column.
1001	0610	Observed sunrise.
1025	0625	ANDROMEDA standing down the bay.
1100	0700	Made all preparations for getting underway.
1135	0735	Underway from Transport Area off Cedar Point, Md. on various courses and at various speeds with the Captain at Conn, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge in column as follows: CALVERT, FREDRICK FUNSTON, and BELLATRIX to conduct joint Transport Cruiser Exercises consisting of simulated Cruising Disposition for Air Defense with Attacks by Carrier Groups, with Army Fighters furnishing the defense.
0753	0753	Set Condition III.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Ens., USNR.

		08-12
1310	0910	Underway as before. ARCTURUS jointed formation, taking position in column astern of this ship.

*J.E. Carlin*  
J.E. CARLIN, Lieut., USNR.

Approved:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, USNR.

Examined:

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN,  
Lieut., U. S. N. Navigator.

## ADDITIONAL SHEET

## OPERATIONAL

U. S. S. BELLATRIX

Date/Ed., May 19, Cont 43

G.C.T.	L.C.T.	
		<u>12-16</u>
1625	1225	Transdiv. one in column on port beam, distant about about six miles.
1630	1230	On various courses and speeds, Convoy forming for exercises.
1720	1320	General Quarters.
1807	1407	Several planes simulating dive bombing, torpedo bombing, and convoy strafing.
1822	1422	Secured General Quarters. Set Condition III, Watch III.
1853	1453	Convoy breaking up, cruisers left formation. Divisions on and seven proceeding independently.
1933	1533	Three destroyers passed to starboard on opposite course.
1955	1555	Destroyer on starboard quarter holding small caliber anti-aircraft fire. Proceeding in column astern of the FUNSTON with CALVERT to area "A" for "AA" practice.

*H. G. Holcombe*  
H.G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

		<u>16-20</u>
2033	1633	Great Wilcomico River Light abeam to port, distance 4/3/4 miles.
2100	1700	Smith Point Light abeam to Port bearing 227°T.
2120	1720	CALVERT fired run to starboard.
2124	1724	GENERAL QUARTERS.
2136	1736	ANCON passed to starboard on parallel course.
2153	1753	CALVERT fired second run to port.
2205	1805	FUNSTON fired first run to starboard.
2214	1814	FUNSTON fired second run to port.
2221	1821	BELLATRIX fired first run to port.
2232	1832	BELLATRIX fired second run to starboard.
2235	1835	Set Condition III.
2332	1932	Point No Point abeam to port bearing 250°T., distance 2 miles.
2353	1953	Anchored in Chesapeake Bay south of Cedar Point, Md. in 7 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to starboard anchor on the following anchorage bearings: Cove Point Light 330°T, and Hooper Island Light 035°T.

*H. L. O. Coffey*  
H.L.O. COFFEY, Ens., USNR.

		<u>20-24</u>
0009	2009	Sunset.
0024	2024	Darkened ship except for anchor lights.
0030	2030	Held radar tracking and motor detection exercises using PT boats as a target.
0100	2100	Secured from radar tracking and motor detection exercises.
0300	2300	Made all preparations for getting underway. Underway on various courses and various speeds; with Captain at the Conn and the Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge. In column anchor of ships; CALVERT, FREDRICK FUNSTON, and BELLATRIX.
0352	2352	Set Condition III, Watch I.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, USNR.

Examined:

*F. P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN  
Lieut., U. S. N. Navigator.

## ADDITIONAL SHEET

## OPERATIONAL

U. S. S. BELLATRIXDate Thursday May 20, 1943

G.C.T.	L.C.T.	00-04
		Underway as before proceeding on various courses and at various speeds following movements of the guide.
0405	0005	Point No Point Light abeam to starboard, distant 1 1/2 miles.
0425	0025	Point Lookout Light abeam to starboard, distant 4 miles.
0512	0112	Smith Point Light abeam to starboard, distant 1.4 miles.
0536	0136	Great Wicomico River Light abeam to starboard, distant 4 3/4 miles.
0714	0314	Wolf Trap Light abeam to starboard, distant, 2.8 miles.
0742	0342	Maneuvering to await entrance to York Spit Channel.

*J. V. Aista*  
 J. V. AISTA, Lieut., USNR.

		04-08
0845	0445	Set Condition III.
0905	0505	Proceeding through York Spit Channel.
0955	0555	Sunrise. Lighted ship.
1030	0630	Entered Thimble Shoal Channel.
1118	0718	Cleared Thimble Shoal Channel. Made all preparations for coming to anchor with Captain at the Conn and Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge.

*G. J. Cottrill*  
 G. J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

		08-12
1228	0828	Entered Newport News Channel in James River on course of 264°T.
1308	0908	Anchored in James River in berth D-13 in 5 1/3 fathoms of water with 30 fathoms of chain to starboard anchor.
1313	0913	Set Condition III special.

*K. G. Holcombe*  
 K. G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

		12-16
1915	1515	FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE underway standing down the river.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
 C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Ens., USNR.

16-20  
 No remarks.

*L. A. Biggs*  
 L. A. BIGGS, Ens., USNR.

		20-24
0013	2013	Sunset.
0018	2018	Darkened ship.

*K. G. Holcombe*  
 K. G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
 O. H. RITCHIE,  
 Commander, USNR.

Examined:

*F. P. Ryan*  
 F. P. RYAN,  
 Lieut. j. g. USNR Navigator.



## ADDITIONAL SHEET

OPERATIONAL

U. S. S. BELLATRIXDate Friday, May 21, 1943G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Anchored in James River in berth "D-13" in 5 1/3 fathoms of water with 30 fathoms of chain to starboard anchor. Ship is fully darkened except for necessary lights and in Condition III special.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Ens., USNR.

0949 0549 04-08  
Sunrise. Lighted ship.

L.A. Biggs  
L.A. BIGGS, Ens., USNR.

08-12  
No remarks.

R.G. Holcombe  
R.G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

12-16  
No remarks.

H.L.D. Coffey  
H.L.D. COFFEY, Ens., USNR.

16-20  
No remarks.

G.J. Cottrill  
G.J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

May 22, 20-24  
0013 2013 Sunset.  
0028 2028 Darkened ship except for necessary lights.

M.U. Pitt  
M.U. PITT, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

O. N. Ritchie  
O.N. RITCHIE,  
Commander, USNR.

Examined:

F.P. Ryan  
F.P. RYAN  
Lieut., U. S. R. Navigator.

ADDITIONAL SHEET

OPERATIONAL

U. S. S. BELLATRIX

Date Saturday, May 22, 1943

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
 Anchored in James River in berth "D-13" in 5 1/3 fathoms of water with 30 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor. Ship is fully darkened except for necessary lights and in condition III special.

H. L. D. Coffey  
 H. L. D. COFFEY, Ens., USNR.

0953 0553 04-08  
 Sunrise. Lighted ship.

C. F. Cottrill  
 C. F. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

08-12  
 No remarks.

H. W. Pitt  
 H. W. PITT, Ens., USNR.

12-16  
 No remarks.

L. A. Biggs  
 L. A. BIGGS, Ens., USNR.

16-20  
 No remarks.

R. G. Holcombe  
 R. G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

May 23, 20-24  
 0013 2013 Sunset.  
 0028 2028 Darkened ship.

C. Goldschmidt  
 C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Ens., USNR.

Approved: O. H. Ritchie  
 O. H. RITCHIE,  
 Commander, USNR.

Examined: F. P. Ryan  
 F. P. RYAN,  
 Lieut., U. S. N. Navigator.

ADDITIONAL SHEET

OPERATIONAL

U. S. S. BELLATRIX

Date Sunday May 23, 1943

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
 Anchored in James River in berth "D-13" in 5 1/3 fathoms of water with 30 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor. Ship is fully darkened except for necessary lights and in Condition III special.

L.A. Bigger  
 L.A. BIGGER, Ens., USNR.

0948 0548 04-08  
 Sunrise. Lighted ship.

K.G. Holcombe  
 K.G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

08-12  
 No remarks.

C. Goldschmidt  
 C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Ens., USNR.

12-16  
 No remarks.

C.J. Cottrill  
 C.J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

16-20  
 No remarks.

M. W. Pitt  
 M.W. PITT, Ens., USNR.

May 24, 20-24  
 0014 2014 Sunset.  
 0029 2029 Darkened ship.

H.L.D. Soyer  
 H.L.D. SOYER, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

O.H. Ritchie  
 O.H. RITCHIE,  
 Commander, USNR.

Examined:

F.P. Ryan  
 F.P. RYAN,  
 Lieut., U. S. N. Navigator.

ADDITIONAL SHEET

OPERATIONAL

U. S. S. BELLATRIX

Date Monday May 24, 1943

G.C.T.	L.C.T.	<u>00-04</u> Anchored in James River in berth "D-13" in 5 1/3 fathoms of water with 30 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor. Ship is fully darkened except for necessary lights and in Condition III special.	<u>K. J. Cottrill</u> K. J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.
0950	0950	<u>04-08</u> Sunrise. Light ship.	<u>M. U. Pitt</u> M. U. PITT, Ens., USNR.
1230	0830	<u>08-12</u> Made all preparations for getting underway.	
1330	0930	Pilot F. RAMSIS reported aboard.	
1340	0940	Underway on various courses and at various speeds with the Pilot at Conn, Captain, Executive Officer, Navigator on the bridge.	
1414	1014	Moored port side to south side of Pier "2" Army Port of Embarkation, Newport News, Va. Pilot left the ship.	
1450	1050	Commenced receiving cargo.	<u>H. L. D. Cifer</u> H. L. D. CIFER, Ens., USNR.
		<u>12-16</u> No remarks.	<u>K. G. Holcombe</u> K. G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.
		<u>16-20</u> No remarks.	<u>C. Goldschmidt</u> C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Ens., USNR.
May 25,		<u>20-24</u>	
0015	2015	Sunset.	
0030	2030	Darkened ship except for necessary lights.	<u>L. A. Bigger</u> L. A. BIGGER, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

O. H. Ritchie  
O. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, USNR.

Examined:

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN,  
Lieut. S. J. R. Navigator.

## ADDITIONAL SHEET

## OPERATIONAL

U. S. S. BELLATRIXDate Tuesday May 25, 1943

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
 Moored portside to south side of Pier "2", Army Port of Embarkation, Newport News, Va. Ship is darkened except for necessary lights and in Condition III special. Receiving cargo.

K. G. Holcombe  
 K. G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

0951 0551 04-08  
 Sunrise. Lighted ship.

C. Goldschmidt  
 C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Ens., USNR.

08-12  
 No remarks.

L. A. Biggs  
 L. A. BIGGS, Ens., USNR.

12-16  
 No remarks.

M. U. Pitt  
 M. U. PITT, Ens., USNR.

16-20  
 No remarks.

H. L. D. Coper  
 H. L. D. COPER, Ens., USNR.

May 26, 20-24  
 0014 2014 Sunset.  
 0029 2029 Darkened ship locally.

G. J. Cottrill  
 G. J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

Approved: C. H. Ritchie  
 C. H. RITCHIE,  
 Commander, USNR.

Examined: F. P. Ryan  
 F. P. RYAN,  
 Lieut., U. S. N. Navigator.

## ADDITIONAL SHEET

OPERATIONAL

U. S. S. BELLATRIXDate May 26, Wednesday, 1943G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Moored portside to south side of Pier "2", Army Port of Embarkation, Newport News, Va. Ship is darkened except for necessary lights and in condition III special. Receiving cargo.

M. W. Pitt  
M. W. PITT, Ens., USNR.

04-08  
No remarks.

H. L. D. Coffey  
H. L. D. COFFEY, Ens., USNR.

08-12  
No remarks.

G. J. Cottrill  
G. J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

12-16  
No remarks.

J. Goldschmidt  
J. GOLDSCHMIDT, Ens., USNR.

16-20  
No remarks.

L. R. Biggs  
L. R. BIGGS, Ens., USNR.

May 27,  
0016 2016  
0031 2031

20-24  
Sunset.

Darkened ship, except for necessary lights.

R. G. Holcombe  
R. G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

O. H. Ritchie  
O. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, USNR.

Examined:

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN,  
Lieut., U. S. N. Navigator.

## ADDITIONAL SHEET

OPERATIONAL

U. S. S. BSILATIKDate May 27, Thursday, 1943G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Moored portside to south side of Pier "2", Army Port of Embarkation, Newport News, Va. Ship is darkened except for necessary lights and in Condition III special. Receiving cargo.

K. G. Holcombe  
K.G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

0952 0552 04-08  
Sunrise. Lighted ship.

L. A. Biggs  
L.A. BIGGS, Ens., USNR.

08-12  
No remarks.

K. G. Holcombe  
K.G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

12-16  
No remarks.

H. L. B. Cofey  
H.L.B. COFEY, Ens., USNR.

16-20  
No remarks.

G. J. Cottrill  
G.J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

May 28, 20-24  
0017 2017 Sunset.  
0032 2032 Darkened ship locally.

M. U. Pitt  
M.U. PITT, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

O. H. Ritchie  
O.H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, USNR.

Examined:

F. P. Rish  
F.P. RISH,  
Lieut. S. S. Navigator.

## ADDITIONAL SHEET

OPERATIONAL

U. S. S. BELLATRIX

Date May 28, Friday, 1943

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Floored portside to South side of Pier "2" Army port of Embarkation, Newport News, Va. Ship is darkened except for necessary lights and in condition III special. Receiving cargo.

*H. D. Coffey*  
H. D. COFFEY, Ens., USNR.

0949 0549 04-08  
Sunrise. Lighted ship.

*G. J. Cottrill*  
G. J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

08-12  
No remarks.

*M. V. Pitt*  
M. V. PITT, Ens., USNR.

1635 1235 12-16  
LCVP #15 was dropped while being hoisted aboard due to the brake lining being wet on account of rainy weather thus permitting the topping left to over-haul. Damage to the boat was negligible. DAINIEL, J.P., P3c, USNR, and COLLINS, J.H., S2a, USNR sustained slight abrasions of knees.

*L. A. Biggs*  
L. A. BIGGS, Ens., USNR.

2018 1618 16-20  
2052 1652 Made all preparations for getting underway.  
2130 1730 Pilot J.W. TONILINSON reported aboard.  
Underway with the Pilot at the con, Captain, Executive Officer, and Navigator on the bridge in accordance with Commander Transport division seven's training order #7-43 of May 26, 1943, operating singly.

DESIGNATION: Training Exercise Group.

COMPOSITION: Group one.

U.S.S. CALVERT  
U.S.S. FREDERICK MUNSTON  
U.S.S. BELLATRIX

Group two.

U.S.S. NEVILLE  
U.S.S. ANNE ARUNDEL  
U.S.S. BELLATRIX

Next higher echelon; Transports Amphibious, U.S. Atlantic Fleet.

Major force which attached; Amphibious Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet.

2145 1745 Pilot J.W. TONILINSON left the ship.  
2146 1746 On various courses and at various speeds conforming to Channel.

Approved:

*C. H. Ritchie*  
C. H. RITCHIE,  
Commander, USNR.

Examined:

*F. J. Ryan*  
F. J. RYAN,  
Lieut., U. S. NR Navigator.



## ADDITIONAL SHEET

OPERATIONAL

U. S. S. BELLATRIXDate May 28, Friday (2) 1943.

G.C.T.	L.C.T.	
		<u>16-20 (Cont)</u>
2254	1854	Set Condition III.
2300	1900	Entered Thimble Shoal Channel.
2335	1935	Cleared Thimble Shoal Channel.
2355	1955	Cleared the Tail of the Horseshoe, standing up the bay on various courses conforming to the channel.

*K. G. Holcomb*  
 K. G. HOLCOMB, Ens., USNR.

May 29,		<u>20-24</u>
0030	2030	Darkened ship except for navigational lights.
0037	2037	Entered York Spit Channel.
0103	2103	Cleared York Spit Channel.

*H. L. D. Coper*  
 H. L. D. COPER, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

*C. H. Ritchie*  
 C. H. RITCHIE,  
 Commander, USNR.

Examined:

*F. P. Ryan*  
 F. P. RYAN,  
 Lieut., U. S. N. Navigator.

## ADDITIONAL SHEET

OPERATIONAL

U. S. S. BELLATRIXDate May 29, Friday, 19 43.G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Underway on various courses and at various speeds standing up Chesapeake Bay. Ship is fully darkened except for running lights and in Condition III.

K. G. Holcombe  
K.G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

0812 0412  
0901 0501

04-08

Made all preparations for coming to anchor. Anchored off Thomas Point, Maryland in 7 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor on following anchorage bearings: Bloody Bar light 148<sup>0</sup>T, Thomas Point Shoal Light 338<sup>0</sup>T, Greenburg Point Shoal Light 345<sup>0</sup>T.

0913 0513  
0945 0545

Set Condition III special.  
Sunrise. Lighted ship.

E. J. Cottrill  
E.J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

1235 0835  
1410 1010  
1509 1109  
1533 1133

08-12

FREDRICK FUNSTON underway. MOUNTAINOCK passed standing down the bay. Made all preparations for getting underway. Underway on various courses and various speeds with the Captain at the conn and the Executive Officer and the Navigator on the bridge. Proceeding to the Measured Mile.

C. Schmidt  
C. SCHMIDT, Ens., USNR.

1600 1200

12-16

On various courses at various speeds running the measured mile off Thomas Point, Maryland.

H. D. Sifer  
H.D. SIFER, Ens., USNR.

2153 1753  
2158 1758  
2200 1800  
2352 1953

16-20

Completed final run. Set condition III. On various courses proceeding to Cove Point anchorage. Anchored north of Cove Point, Maryland. Bearings "21B" 267<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub><sup>0</sup>T, Cove Point 179<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub><sup>0</sup>T, Buoy "21A" 170<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub><sup>0</sup>T.

K. G. Holcombe  
K.G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

May 30  
0008 2008  
0015 2015  
0030 2030

20-24

Set Condition III special.  
Sunset.  
Darkened ship except for anchor lights.

E. J. Cottrill  
E.J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

Approved: O. H. Ritchie  
O.H. RITCHIE,  
Captain, USNR.

Examined:

F. S. Ryan  
F.S. RYAN,  
Lieut. J. S. Navigator.

ADDITIONAL SHEET  
OPERATIONAL

U. S. S. BELLATRIXDate May 30, Sunday, 19 43.G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Anchored North of Cove Point, Maryland in 12 fathoms of water with 60 fathoms of chain to starboard anchor on the following anchorage bearings: Buoy "21-B" 267°T, Buoy "21-A" 170°OT, Cove Point Light 179°OT. Ship is fully darkened except for anchorage lights and in Condition III special. Ship's present: CALVERT, NEVILLE, ANNE ARUNDEL.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Ens., USNR.

0946 0546 04-08  
Sunrise. Lighted ship.

H.L.D. Cover  
H.L.D. COVER, Ens., USNR.

08-12  
No remarks.

K.G. Holcombe  
K.G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

1635 1235 12-16 Set Condition IV. Commenced exercise 4AP.  
1645 1245 First boat in water.  
1704 1304 One LCS sent to CALVERT.  
1707 1307 One LCS sent to NEVILLE.  
1731 1331 One LCM sent to NEVILLE.  
1733 1333 7 LCM'S sent to CALVERT.  
1735 1335 8 LCVF'S sent to NEVILLE.

G.F. Cottrill  
G.F. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

2220 1820 16-20 Set Condition III special. Exercise 4AP completed.  
2230 1830 LEONARD WOOD stood in and anchored.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Ens., USNR.

May 31, 20-24  
0022 2022 Sunset.  
0033 2033 Darkened ship.

L.A. Biggs  
L.A. BIGGS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

O.H. Ritchie  
O.H. RITCHIE,  
Captain, USNR.

Examined:

F.P. Ryan  
F.P. RYAN,  
Lieut., U. S. N. Navigator.

## ADDITIONAL SHEET

## OPERATIONAL

U. S. S. BELLATRIXDate May 31, Monday, 1943.G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Anchored North of Cove Point, Md. in 12 fathoms of water with 60 fathoms of chain to starboard anchor on the following anchorage bearings; Buoy "21-B" 267 $\frac{1}{2}$ <sup>OT</sup>, Buoy "21-A" 170 $\frac{1}{2}$ <sup>OT</sup>; Cove Point Light 179 $\frac{1}{2}$ <sup>OT</sup>. Ship is fully darkened except for anchorage lights and in Condition III special. Ships present: CALVERT, NEVILLE, ANNE ARUNDEL, FREDERICK FUNSTON, and LEONARD WOOD.

*M. U. Pitt*  
M. U. PITT, Ens., USNR.

0947 0547

04-08

Sunrise. Lighted ship.

*H. L. D. Coffey*  
H. L. D. COFFEY, Ens., USNR.

08-12

No remarks.

*K. G. Holcombe*  
K. G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

1837 1437  
1850 1450  
1943 154312-16

CALVERT underway to stream paravanes.  
CAPELLA standing down the bay.  
Made all preparations for getting underway.

*G. F. Cotserilos*  
G. F. COTSERILOS, Ens., USNR.

2000 1600  
2040 1640  
2041 1641  
2050 1650  
2105 1705  
2204 180416-20

Underway to stream paravanes.  
Streamed starboard paravane.  
Streamed port paravane.  
Port paravane dove under ship and foiled starboard paravane.  
Completed streaming paravanes.  
Made all preparations for anchoring.

*M. U. Pitt*  
M. U. PITT, Ens., USNR.

June 1,  
0008 200820-24

Anchored north of Cove Point, Md. in 12 fathoms of water with 60 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor on the following bearings: Cove Point 181<sup>OT</sup>, and Buoy "21-B" 272<sup>OT</sup>.  
Set Condition III special.  
Sunset.  
Darkened ship except for anchor lights.

*H. L. D. Coffey*  
H. L. D. COFFEY, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE,  
Captain, USNR.

Examined:

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN,  
Lieut., U. S. N. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Tuesday

1

June

1913

Zone description plus fourPosition 0800  
Lat.  
Long.

1200

2000

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T.

00-04

Anchored in Chesapeake Bay North of Cove Point, Md. in 12 fathoms of water with 60 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor on following bearings: Cove Point, 181° T; Buoy "21-B" - 272° OT. Ship is completely darkened except anchor lights and in condition III special.

K. J. Holcombe

K. J. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

0944 0544  
1042 0642  
1138 073804-08Sunrise. Lighted ship.  
ANNE ARUNDEL underway to stream paravanes.  
Made all preparations for getting underway.W. J. Cottrill

W. J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

1230 0830  
1237 0837  
1310 0910  
1315 0915  
1426 1026  
1430 103008-12NEVILLE underway.  
Underway on various courses at various speeds. Standard speed 15 knots.  
Streamed port paravane.  
Hoisted in port paravane; proceeding to anchorage.  
Anchored east of Cedar Point, Md. in 12 fathoms of water with 60 fathoms of chain to port anchor. Anchorage bearings: Hooper Island 136° OT, and Cedar Point 271° OT.  
Set Condition III special.L. A. Biggs

L. A. BIGGS, Ens., USNR.

1920 1520  
1944 154412-16Made all preparations for getting underway.  
Underway, shifting anchorage.W. H. Pitt

W. H. PITT, Ens., USNR.

2012 1612  
2032 1632  
2035 1635  
2132 1732  
2330 193016-20Anchored East of Cedar Point, Md. in 10 fathoms of water with 60 fathoms of chain to port anchor on the following bearings: Cedar Point 264° T, Cove Point Light 324° OT, Bell Buoy "19" 289° OT.  
Set Condition III special.  
ANNE ARUNDEL stood in and anchored.  
NEVILLE stood in and anchored.  
Set Condition IV.C. Goldschmidt

C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Ens., USNR.

June 2,  
0022 2022  
0025 2025  
0037 2037  
0130 213020-24Sunset.  
Set Condition III special.  
Darkened ship.  
Set Condition IV. Commenced exercises "A-E".

Approved:

Examined:

O. H. RitchieO. H. RITCHIE, Captain, USNR.  
Commanding Officer.F. P. RyanF. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR.  
Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

013926

UNITED STATES SHIP NEVILLE

Tuesday 1 June (cont.) 19 43

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus four

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T.	L.C.T.	20-24
0131	2131	First boat in the water.
0215	2215	All boats in water.
0210	2210	8 LCVT's, 1 LCM and 1 LCS to NEVILLE.
0218	2218	7 LCM's, and 11CS to SALVERT.

*K. G. Holcombe*  
K. G. HOLOCMBE, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

*C. H. Ritchie*  
C. H. RITCHIE, Captain, USNR.  
Commanding Officer.

Examined:

*F. S. Ryan*  
F. S. RYAN, Lieut., USNR.  
Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Wednesday 2, June 19 43  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus four

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

**OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)**

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Anchored east of Cedar Point, Md. in 10 fathoms of water with 60 fathoms of chain to port anchor on the following bearings: Cedar Point, 264<sup>0</sup>T; Bell Buoy #19 - 289<sup>0</sup>T. Ship darkened except for anchor lights and in Condition III special.

G.F. Collins  
G.F. COLLINS, Ens., USNR.

0843 0543 04-08  
1130 0730 Sunrise. Lighted ship.  
Made all preparations for getting underway.

L.A. Biggs  
L.A. BIGGS, Ens., USNR.

1204 0804 08-12  
1226 0826 Underway for maneuvering exercises.  
1500 1100 Set Condition III special.  
1529 1129 Completed maneuvering exercises.  
1548 1148 Made all preparations for coming to anchorage.  
Anchored east of Cedar Point, Md. in 10 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to port anchor. Ship's head, 332<sup>0</sup>T. Anchor bearings: Cedar Point 264<sup>0</sup>T, and Cove Point, 324<sup>0</sup>T, and Bell Buoy #19 286<sup>0</sup>T.  
1555 1155 Set Condition III special.

J.C. Campbell  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

1634 1234 12-16  
1640 1240 Made all preparations for getting underway.  
1701 1301 FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE standing down the bay.  
Underway in formation with Transport Division Seven, order of ships: CALVERT (guide), NEVILLE, ANNE ARUNDEL, and BELLATRIX.  
1728 1328 Set Condition III.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Ens., USNR.

2139 1739 16-20  
2234 1834 Made all preparations for anchoring.  
Anchored off Old Plantation Flats, Va., in 6 fathoms of water with 30 fathoms of chain to port anchor on following anchorage bearings: Old Plantation Flats Light 064<sup>0</sup>T, Buoy "A" 022<sup>0</sup>T. Ship's head on anchoring, 068<sup>0</sup>T.  
2240 1840 Set Condition III special.

H.L.D. Coffin  
H.L.D. COFFIN, Ens., USNR.

May 3, 20-24  
0018 2018 Sunset.  
0023 2023 Darkened ship.

K.G. Holcombe  
K.G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

C.H. Ritchie  
C.H. RITCHIE, Capt. Commanding Officer, USNR.

F.P. Ryan  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Thursday 3 JUNE 1943.

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus four

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Anchored off Old Plantation Flats, Va. in 6 fathoms of water with 30 fathoms of chain to port anchor on following bearings: Old Plantation Flats Light, 051<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub><sup>OT</sup>, Buoy "A" 022<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub><sup>OT</sup>. Ship is fully darkened except for anchor lights and in Condition III Special. Ships present, CALVERT, ANNE ARUNDEL, ALCYONE, NEVILLE, LEONARD WOOD, HARRY LEE, FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE, and DOROTHEA L. DIX.  
0729 0329 Made all preparations for getting underway.

G. J. Cottrill  
G. J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

0803 0403 04-08  
Underway in formation with Transport Division Seven. Standard distance, 600 yards. Standard speed 14 knots. Order of ships: CALVERT (guide), NEVILLE, ANNE ARUNDEL, and BELLATRIX, proceeding to Base How on various courses and at various speeds.

0948 0548 Sunrise. Lighted ship.  
1038 0638 Thimble Shoal Light abeam to starboard, distance 1500 yards.

1129 0729 Anchored in berth six, Hampton Roads, Va. in 7 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to port anchor, ship's head; 278<sup>OT</sup>. on the following bearings, Newport News Middle Ground 229<sup>OT</sup>, Tank 263<sup>OT</sup>, and Twin stacks 003<sup>OT</sup>.

K. G. Holcombe  
K. G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

08-12  
No remarks.

H. L. D. Cofer  
H. L. D. COFER, Ens., USNR.

12-16  
No remarks.

J. C. Campbell  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lt. (JG), USNR.

16-20  
2215 1815 FREDERICK FUNSTON underway standing up James River.  
2335 1935 CALVERT underway standing up James River.  
2336 1936 THOMAS JEFFERSON underway standing up James River.  
2400 2000 DOROTHEA L. DIX underway standing up James River.  
2400 2000 NEVILLE underway standing up James River.

G. Goldschmidt  
G. GOLDSCHMIDT, Ens., USNR.

June 4, 20-24  
0010 2010 ANNE ARUNDEL underway standing up James River.  
0021 2021 Observed sunset.  
0036 2036 Darkened ship locally.

L. A. Biggs  
L. A. BIGGS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O. H. Ritchie  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR, Commanding Officer.

F. F. Ryan  
F. F. RYAN, Lieutenant, USNR, Navigator.



PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELIATRIX

Friday

4

June, 1943

(Day)

(Date)

(Month)

Zone description BLUE FOUR

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Anchored in Berth "6", Hampton Roads, Va. in 7 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to port anchor, on following bearings: Newport News Middle Ground 229<sup>0</sup>T, Twin Stacks 003<sup>0</sup>T. Ship fully darkened except for anchor lights and in Condition III Special.

K. H. Holcombe  
K. H. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

04-08  
0830 0430 Made all preparations for getting underway.  
0904 0504 Underway on various courses and at various speeds standing into the James River. Captain at the Conn, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge.  
0946 0546 Sunrise. Lighted ship.  
0954 0554 Pilot J.P. EDWARDS reported aboard.  
1022 0622 Moored Port side to South side of Pier #2 Army Port of Embarkation, Newport News, Va. Pilot J.P. EDWARDS left the ship.  
1056 0656 Set Condition III Special.

J. C. Campbell  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

08-12  
No remarks.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Ens., USNR.

12-16  
No remarks.

V. G. Cottrill  
V. G. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

16-20  
2200 1800 Made all preparations for getting underway. Pilot R.H. FOX reported aboard.  
2230 1830 Underway with the Pilot at the Conn, Captain, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge. Stood out on various courses and at various speeds conforming to the channel.  
2237 1837 Pilot R.H. FOX left the ship.  
2349 1949 Set Condition III. Standing up Chesapeake Bay.

M. H. Pitt  
M. H. PITT, Ens., USNR.

June 5, 20-24  
0021 2021 Sunset.  
0036 2036 Darkened ship except for navigation lights.  
0203 2203 Anchored in Berth "63" off Old Plantation Flats, Va. in 8 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to port anchor on the following bearings: Old Plantation Flats 101<sup>0</sup>T, and Buoy "10" 252<sup>0</sup>T.  
0209 2209 Set Condition III Special.

L. A. Biggs  
L. A. BIGGS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O. H. Ritchie  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Saturday

5

June

19 43

(Day)

(Date)

(Month)

Zone description plus four

Position 0800

1200

2000

Lat.

Long.

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.O.T. L.C.T.

00-04

Anchored off Old Plantation Flats, Va. in Berth "63" in 8 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to port anchor. Ships of Transport Divisions One and Seven present. Ship darkened except for anchor lights and in Condition III special.

M. W. Pitt  
M. W. PITT, Ens., USNR.0948 0548  
1055 0655  
1136 073604-08

Sunrise. Lighted ship. Made preparations for getting underway. Underway to shift berths. Captain at the Conn, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge. Standard speed 15 knots.

J. Campbell  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.1202 0802  
1224 0824  
1549 114908-12Anchored off Old Plantation Flats, Va. in 8 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to port anchor on the following Bearings: New Point Comfort 293 3/4<sup>OT</sup>, Lighted Buoy "10" 269 3/4<sup>OT</sup>, and Lighted Buoy "A" 043<sup>OT</sup>. Set Condition III special. FREDERICK FUNSTON stood in and anchored.C. W. Schmidt  
C. W. SCHMIDT, Ens., USNR.

1657 1257

12-16

ANNE ARUNDEL stood in and anchored.

M. D. Coffey  
M. D. COFFEY, Ens., USNR.2135 1735  
2136 1736  
2140 1740  
2310 191016-20

Fire in vicinity of incinerator. Fire extinguished (originated in collected trash and rubbish to be burned). No damage. Secured from fire quarters. MMS 228 along side to deliver guard mail.

H. A. Holcomb  
H. A. HOLCOMB, Ens., USNR.June 6,  
0021 2021  
0036 203620-24

Sunset. Darkened ship except for anchor lights.

B. J. Cottrill  
B. J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O. H. Ritchie  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR, Commanding Officer.F. F. Ryan  
F. F. RYAN, Lieut., USNR, Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Sunday 6 JUNE, 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus four

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. I.C.T. 00-04  
Anchored off Old Plantation Flats, Va. in Berth "63", in eight fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to the port anchor. Ship fully darkened except for anchor lights and in Condition III Special. All ships of Task Group 65.4 present.

L.L. Biggs  
L.L. BIGGS, Ens., USNR.

0944 0544 04-08  
Sunrise. Lighted ship.

M. U. Pitt  
M. U. PITT, Ens., USNR.

06-12  
No remarks.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Ens., USNR.

12-16  
No remarks.

J. C. Campbell  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

16-20  
No remarks.

H. L. D. Coper  
H. L. D. COPER, Ens., USNR.

June 7, 20-24  
0021 2021 Sunset.  
0036 2036 Darkened ship.

K. J. Holcombe  
K. J. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O. H. Ritchie  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR, Commanding Officer.

F. F. Ryan  
F. F. RYAN, Lieut., USNR, Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Monday

7

June

1943

(Day)

(Date)

(Month)

Zone description

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Anchored off Old Plantation Flats, Va. in Berth "63" in 8 fathoms of water with 65 fathoms of chain to port anchor. Ships of Task Group 65.4 present. Ship darkened except for anchor lights and in Condition III special.

G. J. Collins  
G. J. COLLINS, Ens., USNR.

0943 0543 04-08  
Observed sunrise, lighted ship.

L. A. Briggs  
L. A. BRIGGS, Ens., USNR.

1300 0900 08-12  
General quarters.  
1326 0926 Set Condition III special.

M. U. Pitt  
M. U. PITT, Ens., USNR.

1828 1428 12-16  
General quarters. Exercised at setting readiness Condition II Mike Able and Condition II Mike Sugar.

J. C. Campbell  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lt. (JG), USNR

2056 1656 16-20  
Secured from all drills and exercises. Set condition III special.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Ens., USNR.

June 8 20-24  
0022 2022 Sunset.  
0037 2037 Darkened ship except for anchor lights.

H. L. D. Coffey  
H. L. D. COFFEY, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O. H. Ritchie  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Commanding Officer.

F. F. Ryan  
F. F. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Tuesday 8 JUNE, 19 43.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus four

Position	0800	1200	2000	
Lat.			36° - 37'	- 30" N.
Long.			73° - 30'	- 30" W.

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

O.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Anchored off Old Plantation Flats, Va. in Berth "63" in 8 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to the port anchor. Ship is fully darkened except for anchor lights and in Condition III Special. All ships of Task Group 65.4. present.

H. G. Holcombe  
H.G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR

O944 O544 04-08  
1200 0800 Sunrise. Lighted ship. Made all preparations for getting underway.

G. J. Cottrill  
G.J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR

1215 0815 08-12  
1252 0852 Out in degaussing gear. Set Material Condition "A". Underway in accordance with O.T.F. #65's secret orders No. 2-43 and No. 3-43 of May 25, 1943.

DESIGNATION: Task Group 65.4.

COMPOSITION: Convoy: Transdiv one plus O'HARA, ANDROMEDA, Transdivs Five, Seven, MOUNT BAKER, TARAZED, VULCAN, CHEMUNG, SALAMONIE, MORENO.

Next Higher Echelons: Task Force 65.

1506 1106 Major Force to which attached: U.S. Atlantic Fleet. General quarters.

L. A. Biggs  
L.A. BIGGS, Ens., USNR

1614 1214 12-16  
Set Condition II Mike Sugar.

J. C. Campbell  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt., (jg), USNR.

2012 1612 16-20  
With Whistle Buoy "X-M" abeam to port distant 300 yards; took departure and set course 110°T. Standard speed 14 knots.  
2100 1700 Formed Cruising Formation No. 3 distance 500 yards, interval 1200 yards. This ship #63.  
2136 1736 Set Material Condition "B".  
2139 1739 Changed course to 117°T.  
2207 1807 Commenced zig-zag plan #40.  
2311 1911 Changed standard speed to 14.5 knots.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O. H. Ritchie  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR, Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR, Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Tuesday

8

June (2), 1943

(Day)

(Date)

(Month)

Zone description plus four

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			36-37-30N
Long.			73-30-30W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

June 9, 20-24  
 0011 2011 Sunset.  
 0026 2026 Darkened ship.  
 0030 2030 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course.  
 0038 2038 Commenced zig-zag plan #40.

*H. L. D. Coffey*  
 H.L.D. COFFEY, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
 O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR, Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
 F.P. RYAN, Lieut, USNR, Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Wednesday 9 June, 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus four

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	35-29-30N	35-18-00N	34-23-00N
Long.	70-36-00W	69-35-30W	67-57-30W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Underway in convoy with Task Force 65 on course 117<sup>0</sup>T.  
Standard speed 14.5 knots (79 RPM). Ship completely  
darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.  
0500 0100 Advanced clocks one hour to zone plus 3 time.

K. H. Holcombe  
K. H. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

04-08  
0620 0520 Commenced zig-zag plan #40.  
0630 0530 General quarters.  
0923 0623 Sunrise. Lighted ship.  
0930 0630 Set Condition II Mike Sugar.

G. J. Cottrill  
G. J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

08-12  
1417 1117 Exercised at emergency maneuvers on signals from Officer  
in Tactical Command.  
1442 1142 Commenced zig-zag plan #19.

J. C. Campbell  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

12-16  
No remarks.

C. G. Gredschmidt  
C. G. GREDSCHMIDT, Ens., USNR.

16-20  
2230 1930 Ceased zig-zagging and changed base course to 090<sup>0</sup>T.

K. H. Holcombe  
K. H. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

20-24  
2330 2030 Commenced zig-zag plan #19.  
2340 2040 Sunset.  
2355 2055 Darkened ship.  
June 10  
0110 2210 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 090<sup>0</sup>T.  
0130 2230 Changed base course to 120<sup>0</sup>T.

G. J. Cottrill  
G. J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O. H. Ritchie

O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USN, Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan

F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR, Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Thursday 10, June, 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus three

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	33-27-00N	34-04-00N	32-28-00N
Long.	65-04-30W	64-07-00W	62-16-00W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Underway in convoy with Task Force 65 on course 120<sup>OT</sup>. Standard speed 14.5 knots (79 RPM). This ship in position 63. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.

0400 0100 Advanced clocks one hour to zone plus 2 time.

J.C. Campbell  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

04-08  
0744 0544 Commenced zig-zag plan #19.  
0815 0615 General quarters.  
0907 0707 Sunrise. Lighted ship. Set Condition II Mike Sugar.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Ens., USNR.

08-12  
1201 1001 Changed base course to 115<sup>OT</sup>.

K.G. Holcombe  
K.G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

12-16  
No remarks.

S.J. Cottrill  
S.J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

16-20  
2005 1805 Commenced test firing of automatic AA guns.  
2027 1827 Completed test firing of automatic AA guns.

J.C. Campbell  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

20-24  
2307 2107 Sunset.  
2322 2122 Darkened ship.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O. H. Ritchie  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Commanding Officer.

F.P. Ryan  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.



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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Friday 11 June, 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)Zone description plus two.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	31-32-00N	31-34-00N	31-24-00N
Long.	59-12-00W	58-09-00W	56-04-00W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Underway in convoy with Task Force #65 on course 115<sup>0T</sup>, zig-zag plan #19. Standard speed is 14.5 knots (79RPM). This ship in position 63. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.

0423 0223 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course of 115<sup>0T</sup>.  
*R.G. HOLCOMBE*  
R.G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

04-08  
0730 0530 Changed base course to 088<sup>0T</sup>.  
0755 0555 General quarters.  
0802 0602 Commenced zig-zag plan #19.  
0853 0653 Sunrise. Lighted ship.  
0853 0653 Set Condition II Mike Sugar.  
*G.J. COTRILL*  
G.J. COTRILL, Ens., USNR.

08-12  
1246 1046 HOFFETT reported a mine sighted close aboard to port.  
*J.C. CAMPBELL*  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

12-16  
1631 1431 Changed standard speed to 14 knots (76RPM).  
*C. GOLDSCHMIDT*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Ens., USNR.

16-20  
1905 1705 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course of 088<sup>0T</sup>.  
1912 1712 Changed base course to 106<sup>0T</sup>.  
1935 1735 Commenced zig-zag plan #11.  
1948 1748 Changed standard speed to 14.5 knots (79RPM).  
*R.G. HOLCOMBE*  
R.G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

20-24  
2247 2047 Sunset.  
2302 2102 Darkened ship.  
June 12  
0143 2343 CALVERT showed break down lights.  
0146 2346 CALVERT turned off breakdown lights and reported ready to proceed.  
0148 2348 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 106<sup>0T</sup>.  
0152 2352 SALAMONIE showed breakdown lights and sheered out of column to port. This ship sheered out of column to starboard to avoid collision.  
0154 2354 SALAMONIE reported steering casualty. Convoy Commander ordered two destroyers to stand by SALAMONIE.  
*J.C. CAMPBELL*  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O.H. Ritchie**F.P. Ryan*O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. *Commanding Officer.*F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. *Navigator.*

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Saturday

12

June, 19

(Day)

(Date)

(Month)

Zone description plus two

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	30-40-00N	30-18-00N	30-10-00N
Long.	53-01-00W	52-02-00W	49-59-00W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Underway in convoy with Task Force #65 on course 106°T. Standard speed 14.5 knots (79 RPM). This ship in position 63. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.

0203 0003 Commenced zig-zag plan #11.  
0300 0100 Advanced clocks one half hour to zone plus 1½ time.  
0315 0145 SALAMONIE resumed station in position 62.  
0439 0309 Moonset observed.  
0443 0313 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 106°T.

*L.A. Biggs*  
L.A. BIGGS, Ens., USNR.

04-08  
0555 0425 Escort reported flashing searchlight on horizon bearing 160°T, indeterminable distance.  
0638 0508 Escort reported radar contact made with surface craft bearing 166°T, distance one mile.  
0700 0530 Commenced zig-zag plan #11.  
0725 0555 PHILADELPHIA and two destroyers left convoy to investigate surface craft.  
0730 0600 General quarters.  
0828 0658 Set Condition II Mike Sugar.  
0828 0658 Sunrise. Lighted ship.

*R. G. Holcombe*  
R. G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

08-12  
1157 1027 Signal from BIRMINGHAM: Ship bearing 300°T is friendly.  
1245 1115 PHILADELPHIA and two destroyers returned from investigating surface craft and resumed positions.

*G. J. Cottrill*  
G. J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

12-16  
No remarks.

*J. C. Campbell*  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lt. (jg), USNR.

16-18  
1920 1750 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 106°T.

*L.A. Biggs*  
L.A. BIGGS, Ens., USNR.

18-20  
1948 1818 ALLYONE assumed position 62 in convoy. SALAMONIE assumed position 64.  
2010 1840 COLLEY alongside LEONARD WOOD to transfer appendicitis case.  
2035 1905 Stopped.  
2045 1915 Ahead standard, 14.5 knots (79 RPM).  
2046 1916 Commenced zig-zag plan #11.

Approved:

Examined:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR, Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR, Navigator.

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CONFIDENTIAL

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Saturday 12 June (Cont.) 19 43  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description: plus 1 1/2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T.	L.C.T.	18-20
2051	1921	Stopped.
2053 1/2	1923 1/2	Ahead standard, 14.5 knots (79RPM).
2055	1925	COLLEY resumed position.
2120	1950	Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 106°T.
2129	1959	Changed base course to 124°T.

*K. G. Holcombe*  
K.G. HOLCOMBE, ENS., USNR.

		20-24
2149	2019	Commenced zig-zag plan #11.
2221	2051	Sunset.
2336	2106	Darkened ship.
June 13		
0042	2312	Destroyer in position D70 reported sighting possible periscope bearing 270°T, distance 1500 yards.
0047	2317	Executed emergency turn 45° to port, course 104°T.
0053	2323	Comdesron 15 reported submarine sound indications at 270°T, distance 700 yards. Destroyers carrying out search.
0100	2330	Resumed base course, 124°T.
0103	2333	Commenced zig-zag plan #11. All destroyers except one resumed positions.
0125	2355	Last destroyer resumed position.

*J. J. Cottrillo*  
J.J. COTTRILLO, ENS., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR Forwarding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Sunday 13 June 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus 11

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	28-44-15N	28-21-00N	27-40-00N
Long.	42-30-30W	46-51-00W	45-26-00W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Underway in convoy with Task Force #65 on course 124<sup>0T</sup>. Standard speed 14.5 knots (79 RPM), zig-zag plan #11. This ship in position 63. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.  
0230 0100 Advanced clocks one half hour to zone plus one time.  
0445 0345 Moonset observed.

*J.C. Campbell*  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

04-08  
0517 0417 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 124<sup>0T</sup>.  
0645 0545 Commenced zig-zag plan #11.  
0715 0615 General Quarters.  
0739 0639 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 124<sup>0T</sup>.  
0800 0700 Changed standard speed to 12 knots (65 RPM).  
0801 0701 Commenced zig-zag plan #30.  
0813 0713 Sunrise. Lighted ship.  
0813 0713 Set Condition II Mike Sugar.

*L.A. Biggs*  
L.A. BIGGS, ENS., USNR.

08-12  
1020 0920 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course of 124<sup>0T</sup>.  
1054 0954 Changed standard speed to 14 knots (76 RPM).  
1057 0957 Changed base course to 104<sup>0T</sup>.  
1119 1019 Changed standard speed to 8 knots (43.5 RPM).  
1122 1022 Changed base course to 124<sup>0T</sup>.  
1128 1028 Commenced zig-zag plan #30.  
1325 1125 Changed standard speed to 13 knots (70.5 RPM).

*K.H. Holcomb*  
K.H. HOLCOMB, ENS., USNR.

12-16  
1422 1322 Changed standard speed to 13.5 knots (73.5 RPM).  
1538 1438 Changed standard speed to 12.5 knots (68 RPM).  
1616 1516 BOISE reported one of her planes one hour overdue.  
1635 1535 One destroyer division and aircraft detached to search for missing plane.  
1643 1543 Changed standard speed to 11.5 knots (62.5 RPM).

*G.J. Cottrill*  
G.J. COTTRILL, ENS., USNR.

16-18  
1703 1603 Changed standard speed to 10 knots (54.5 RPM).  
1821 1721 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course of 124<sup>0T</sup>.  
1835 1735 Changed standard speed to 14.5 knots (79 RPM).  
1843 1743 Commenced zig-zag plan #19.

*J.C. Campbell*  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O.H. Ritchie*

*F.F. Ryan*

O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Commanding Officer.

F.F. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

PART III  
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UNITED STATES SHIP HELLATRIX Sunday 13 June (Con), 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus one

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 18-20  
 1931 1831 WHELAN reported sighting periscope bearing 104<sup>OT</sup>.  
 1933 1833 Made emergency turn 45° to starboard to course 149<sup>OT</sup>.  
 1936 1836 Made emergency turn 45° to starboard to course 194<sup>OT</sup>.  
 1941 1841 Made emergency turn 45° to port to course 149<sup>OT</sup>.  
 2047 1947 Resumed base course 124<sup>OT</sup>.  
 2048 1948 Destroyer on port flank of convoy reported sound contact.  
 2050 1950 Made emergency turn 45° to starboard to course 169<sup>OT</sup>.  
 2052 1952 Changed course to 179<sup>OT</sup>.  
 2055 1955 Made emergency turn 45° to port to course 134<sup>OT</sup>.  
 2058 1958 Resumed base course 124<sup>OT</sup>.

*L. A. Biggs*  
L. A. BIGGS, Ensign, USNR.

20-24  
 2108 2008 Commenced zig-zag plan #19.  
 2112 2012 Changed base course to 136<sup>OT</sup>.  
 2139 2039 Destroyer on port flank reported submarine contact. Made  
 emergency turn 45° to starboard to course 191<sup>OT</sup>.  
 2140 2040 Made emergency turn 45° to port to course 146<sup>OT</sup>.  
 2143 2043 Commenced zig-zag plan #19.  
 2155 2055 SALMONS reported sighting periscope to starboard.  
 General quarters.  
 2203 2103 Sunset.  
 2210 2110 Darkened ship.  
 2212 2112 Set Condition II Mike Sugar.  
 2320 2220 Division of destroyers previously detached to search for  
 missing plane resumed position.  
 June 14  
 0115 2315 HEWITT was detached to search for missing aircraft for  
 period of one hour.

*K. G. Holcomb*  
K. G. HOLCOMB, Ensign, USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR, commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR, Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Monday 14 June, 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description PLUM ONE

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	26-02-30N	25-31-00N	24-36-30N
Long.	43-15-00W	42-27-00W	40-49-00W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

S.O.T. L.O.T. 00-04  
Underway in convoy with Task Force #65 on course 126°T. Standard speed 14.5 knots (79 RPM). This ship in position 63. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.  
0245 0145 NIGHT previously detached to search for plane resumed position. Plane not found.

B. J. Cottrill  
U.S. COAST GUARD, ENS., USNR.

04-08  
0514 0414 Moonset observed.  
0700 0600 General quarters.  
0759 0659 Condition II Mike Sugar.  
0801 0701 Sunrise. Lighted ship.

J. C. Campbell  
U.S. COAST GUARD, LT. (JG), USNR.

08-12  
0958 0858 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 126°T.  
1000 0900 LEONARD WOOD fell astern of convoy to make minor repairs to steering gear.  
1010 0910 Commenced zig-zag plan #19.  
1105 1005 LEONARD WOOD resumed position #41 in convoy.  
1121 1021 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 126°T. Changed speed to 10 knots (54 RPM).  
1133 1033 Changed speed to 14.5 knots (79 RPM).  
1138 1038 Commenced zig-zag plan #19.  
1200 1100 Commenced test firing of automatic AA guns.  
1255 1155 Completed test firing of automatic AA guns.

L. A. Biggs  
U.S. COAST GUARD, ENS., USNR.

12-16  
No remarks.

K. J. Holcombe  
U.S. COAST GUARD, ENS., USNR.

16-18  
1850 1750 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 126°T.  
1859 1759 Changed base course to 102°T.

B. J. Cottrill  
U.S. COAST GUARD, ENS., USNR.

18-20  
1925 1825 Commenced zig-zag plan #19.

J. C. Campbell  
U.S. COAST GUARD, LT. (JG), USNR.

20-24  
2132 2032 Sunset.  
2147 2047 Darkened ship.

L. A. Biggs  
U.S. COAST GUARD, ENS., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O. H. Ritchie

O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR, Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan

F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR, Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Tuesday 15 June 1943

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus one

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	23-58-00N	23-56-00N	24-06-00N
Long.	28-04-00W	37-06-30W	35-10-30W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)C.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Underway in convoy with Task Force #65 on base course 102°T. Standard speed 14.5 knots (79 RPM), zig-zag plan #19. This ship is in position 63. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.

K. G. Holcombe  
K.G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

0635 0535  
0645 0545  
0743 0643  
0745 0645

04-08

Destroyers of the screen test fired 20mm guns. General Quarters. Set Condition II Mike Sugar. Sunrise. Lighted ship.

G. J. Cottrill  
G.J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

0955 0855  
1001 0901  
1016 0916  
1035 0935  
  
1039 0939  
1044 0944  
1047 0947  
1055 0955

08-12

Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 102°T. Changed course to 089°T. Commenced zig-zag plan #19. Destroyer on starboard flank reported submarine sound contact and attacked with depth charges. Made emergency turn 45° to port to course 044°T. Made emergency turn 45° to starboard to course 089°T. Commenced zig-zag plan #19. Destroyer on starboard flank reported what appeared to be a submarine had surfaced briefly after second pattern of depth charges.

J. C. Campbell  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(JG), USNR.

1407 1307  
  
1411 1311  
1414 1314  
1419 1319  
1421 1321  
1427 1327

12-16

Destroyer on starboard flank reported submarine contact bearing 075°T, distance 600 yards and made an attack with depth charges. Made emergency turn 45°T to port to course 044°T. Made emergency turn 45°T to port to course 359°T. Made emergency turn 45°T to starboard to course 044°T. Made emergency turn 45°T to starboard to course 089°T. Commenced zig-zag plan #19.

L. A. Biggs  
L.A. BIGGS, Ens., USNR.

16-18

No remarks.

K. G. Holcombe  
K.G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

2035 1935  
2037 1937  
2039 1939  
2051 1951

18-20

Destroyer in position "D-1-A" reported sound contact bearing 075°T. Made emergency turn 45°T to port to course 084°T. Made emergency turn 45°T to starboard to course 129°T. Resumed base course 089°T.

Approved:

Examined:

O. H. RitchieO.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Commanding Officer.F. P. RyanF.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Tuesday 15 June (Con) 19 43  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus one

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

18-20  
 G.C.T. L.C.T. 2051 1951 Destroyer in position "D-6-K" reported sound contact.  
 2054 1954 Made emergency turn 45° to starboard to course 134°T.  
 2056 1956 Destroyer in position "D-6-K" reported sound contact too wide to be classified as submarine.  
 2058 1958 Made emergency turn 45° to port to base course 089°T.

*G. J. Cottrill*  
 U.S. COCTRILL, Ens., USNR.

20-24  
 2103 2003 Commenced zig-zag plan #19.  
 2110 2010 Sunset.  
 2125 2025 Darkened ship.  
 June 16  
 0025 2325 Destroyer on starboard flank reported sound contact.  
 0027 2327 Made emergency turn 45° to port to course 044°T.  
 0032 2332 Made emergency turn 45° to starboard to course 089°T.  
 0037 2337 Commenced zig-zag plan #19.

*J. Campbell*  
 U.S. CAMPBELL, Lt. (jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
 O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR, Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
 F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR, Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.



PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP USSL-7422 Wednesday, 16, June, 1947  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus one

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	24-03-00N	24-08-00N	24-10-00N
Long.	122-14-00W	121-37-00W	121-14-00W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

0300 0300 00-04  
 Underway in convoy with Task Force 765 on course 089°T. Standard speed 14.5 knots (79 MPH), zig-zag plan #19. This ship in position 53. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.  
 0200 0300 Advanced all clocks one-half hour to zone plus 1/2 time.  
*L.A. Biggs*  
 L.A. BIGGS, Ens., USNR.

0554 0524 04-08  
 Echoes observed.  
 0624 0555 General Quarters.  
 0724 0654 Set Condition II Mike Sugar.  
*K.G. Holcombe*  
 K.G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

1021 0951 08-12  
 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 089°T.  
 1030 1000 Changed base course to 080°T.  
 1039 1009 Commenced zig-zag plan #11.  
*G.J. Cottrill*  
 G.J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

12-16  
 No remarks.  
*J.C. Campbell*  
 J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

16-18  
 No remarks.  
*L.A. Biggs*  
 L.A. BIGGS, Ens., USNR.

18-20  
 No remarks.  
*K.G. Holcombe*  
 K.G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

2048 2018 20-24  
 2103 2033 Sunset.  
 Darkened ship.  
*G.J. Cottrill*  
 G.J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
 O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR, Commanding Officer.

*F.P. Ryan*  
 F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR, Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Thursday 17 June, 1943

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus 4

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	25-06-30N	24-57-30N	25-54-00N
Long.	27-01-30W	26-36-00W	24-58-00W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Underway in convoy with Task Force #65 on base course 080<sup>OT</sup>. Standard speed 14.5 knots (79 RPM), zig-zag plan #11. This ship in position 03. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.

0130 0100 Advanced clocks one half hour to Greenwich time.  
*J.C. Campbell*  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

04-08  
0600 0600 General quarters.  
0625 0625 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 080<sup>OT</sup>.  
0631 0631 Changed base course to 065<sup>OT</sup>.  
0638 0638 Changed standard speed to 10.5 knots (57 RPM).  
0640 0640 CHELUNG and SALASCHIE commenced fueling destroyers.  
0651 0651 Commenced zig-zag plan #30.  
0658 0658 Sunrise. Set Condition II Mike Sugar.  
*L.A. Biggs*  
L.A. BIGGS, Ens., USNR.

08-12  
0845 0845 Changed standard speed to 10 knots (54.5 RPM).  
1025 1025 Destroyer in position D-10 reported sound contact bearing 165<sup>OT</sup>, distance 500 yards.  
1029 1029 Destroyer dropped depth charges.  
*K.G. Holcombe*  
K.G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

12-16  
1258 1258 Fueling exercise completed.  
1312 1312 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 065<sup>OT</sup>.  
1314 1314 Changed standard speed to 14.5 knots (79 RPM).  
1318 1318 Changed base course to 057<sup>OT</sup>.  
1329 1329 Commenced zig-zag plan #11.  
*G.J. Cottrill*  
G.J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

16-18  
No remarks.  
*J.C. Campbell*  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

18-20  
No remarks.  
*L.A. Biggs*  
L.A. BIGGS, Ens., USNR.

20-24  
2034 2034 Sunset. Darkened ship.  
*K.G. Holcombe*  
K.G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O.H. Ritchie*

O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Commanding Officer.

*F.P. Ryan*

F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Friday 18 June 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)Zone description Greenwich

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	27-38-00N	28-00-30N	28-56-30N
Long.	22--35-00W	21-56-00W	20-19-00W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T.	L.O.T.	<u>00-04</u> Underway in convoy with Task Force #65 on course 057 <sup>OT</sup> . Standard speed 14.5 knots (79 RPM), zig-zag plan #11. This ship in position 03. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.
0100	0100	Advanced clocks one-half hour to zone minus $\frac{1}{2}$ time.  <i>B.J. Cottrill</i> G.S. COTSIRILOS, Ens., USNR.
0452	0522	<u>04-08</u> DORAN and MERVINE detached to investigate radio transmission bearing 079 <sup>OT</sup> , distance 26 miles.
0535	0605	General Quarters.
0637	0707	Sunrise. Lighted ship.
0637	0707	Set Condition II Mike Sugar.
0727	0757	DORAN and MERVINE resumed positions in screen.  <i>J.C. Campbell</i> J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.
		<u>08-12</u> No remarks  <i>L.A. Biggs</i> L.A. BIGGS, Ens., USNR.
		<u>12-16</u> No remarks.  <i>M.U. Pitt</i> M.U. PITT, Ens., USNR.
		<u>16-18</u> No remarks.  <i>B.J. Cottrill</i> G.S. COTSIRILOS, Ens., USNR.
1846	1916	<u>18-20</u> MERVINE close ahead of convoy reported possible submarine contact and attacked with two depth charges.
1848	1918	Made emergency turn 45° to port to course 042 <sup>OT</sup> .
1850	1920	Made emergency turn 45° to port to course 357 <sup>OT</sup> .
1853	1923	Made emergency turn 45° to port to course 312 <sup>OT</sup> .
1902	1932	Made emergency turn 45° to starboard to course 357 <sup>OT</sup> .
1905	1935	Made emergency turn 45° to starboard to course 042 <sup>OT</sup> .
1910	1940	Resumed base course 057 <sup>OT</sup> .
1930	2000	Commenced zig-zag plan #11.  <i>J.C. Campbell</i> J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.
2021	2051	<u>20-24</u> Sunset.
2036	2106	Darkened ship.  <i>L.A. Biggs</i> L.A. BIGGS, USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR, *Commanding Officer.**F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR, *Navigator.*

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Saturday 19 June 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Year)Zone description -3

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	30-09-00N	30-38-00N	31-44-30N
Long.	17-43-30W	16-43-00W	15-09-00W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Underway in convoy with Task Force #65 on base course 057<sup>0</sup>T. Standard speed 14.5 knots (79 RPM), zig-zag plan #11. This ship in position 63. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.

2357 0027 Sighted neutral vessel on opposite course bearing 010<sup>0</sup>T, distance 8 miles.

0000 0100 Advanced clocks one-half hour to zone minus 1 time.

M. V. Pitt  
M.U. PITT, Ens., USNR.

04-08  
0510 0610 General Quarters.  
0545 0645 Destroyers EARLE and BUTLER laid smoke screen on port and starboard quarters of convoy.  
0605 0705 B-24 Bomber (Liberator) sighted bearing 025<sup>0</sup>T, distance 4 miles.  
0611 0711 Sunrise. Lighted ship.  
0611 0711 Set Condition II Mike Sugar.

G. J. Cotsirilos  
G.J. COTSIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

08-12  
0930 1030 One Catalina (PBV) and one Liberator (B-24) patrolling area around convoy.  
1007 1107 Commenced test firing automatic AA guns.  
1047 1147 Completed test firing automatic AA guns.

J. C. Campbell  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

12-16  
No remarks.

L. A. Biggs  
L.A. BIGGS, Ens., USNR.

16-18  
1528 1628 Made emergency turn 45<sup>0</sup> to port to course 342<sup>0</sup>T.  
1534 1634 Made emergency turn 45<sup>0</sup> to starboard to course 027<sup>0</sup>T.  
1537 1637 Resumed base course 057<sup>0</sup>T.  
1539 1639 Commenced zig-zag plan #11.  
1541 1651 TILLMAN dropped two depth charges.

M. V. Pitt  
M.U. PITT, Ens., USNR.

18-20  
No remarks.

G. J. Cotsirilos  
G.J. COTSIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

20-24  
1910 2010 Set Material Condition Able.  
2000 2100 Darkened ship.  
2008 2108 Sunset.

J. C. Campbell  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O. H. Ritchie  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Sunday

20

June, 19 43

Zone description -1

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	33-18-00N	33-52-00N	34-55-30N
Long.	12-16-00W	11-44-30W	10-04-30W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Underway in convoy with Task Force #65 on base course 057°T. Standard speed 14.5 knots (79 RPM), zig-zag plan #11. This ship in position 63. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.

June 19  
2330 0100 Advanced clocks one-half hour to zone minus 1½ time.

L.A. Biggs  
E.A. BIGGS, Ens., USNR.

0440 0610 04-08  
0542 0712 General Quarters.  
0542 0712 Sunrise. Lighted ship.  
0553 0723 Set Condition II Mike Sugar.  
0611 0741 Set Material Condition Baker.  
VULCAN displayed breakdown signal and sheered out of formation to starboard.

M.U. Pitt  
M.U. PITT., Ens., USNR.

0635 0805 08-12  
0845 1015 VULCAN resumed position in convoy.  
DORAN and PHILADELPHIA left positions in convoy to transfer appendicitis case.  
0925 1055 DORAN and PHILADELPHIA resumed positions.  
0926 1056 Destroyer in position D8-J reported sound contact bearing 030°T, distance 1000 yards.  
0927 1057 Made emergency turn 45° to starboard to course 072°T.  
0928 1058 Destroyer in position D2-A reported ship on horizon bearing 035°T, distance undetermined.  
0930 1100 Destroyer in position D8-J reported contact definitely not a submarine.  
0935 1105 Resumed base course 052°T.  
0940 1110 Commenced zig-zag plan #11.  
0955 1125 Destroyer in position D6-K reported ship to be Portuguese.

G.A. Cottrill  
G.A. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

12-16  
No remarks.

J.C. Campbell  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

16-18  
No remarks.

L.A. Biggs  
L.A. BIGGS, Ens., USNR.

18-20  
No remarks.

M.U. Pitt  
M.U. PITT., Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O.H. Ritchie  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR, commanding Officer.

F.P. Ryan  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR, Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Sunday

20

June (C) 19 43

(Day)

(Date)

(Month)

Zone description \_\_\_\_\_

Position 0800

1200

2000

Lat.

Long.

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T.	L.C.T.	Remarks
	20-24	
1932	2102	Changed standard speed to 14.8 knots (80.5 RPM).
1952	2127	Sunset. Darkened ship.
1952	2127	General Quarters.
2050	2220	Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 052°T.
2101	2231	Set Condition II Mike Sugar.
2138	2308	Commenced zig-zag plan #11.

*G. J. Cotirilos*  
G.J. COTIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Commanding Officer

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Monday

21

June, 1943

Zone Description -1 1/2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	35-41-15-N	35-49-10N	36-15-30N
Long.	7-17-30-W	6-07-00W	3-50-00W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T.

00-04

Underway in convoy with Task Force #65 on base course 080°T. Standard speed 14.5 knots (81 RPM), zig-zag plan #11. This ship in position 63. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.

June 20

2330

0100

Advanced clocks one-half hour to zone minus 2 time.

*J.C. Campbell*  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(JG), USNR.

0346  
0415  
0514  
0514  
0546

0546  
0615  
0714  
0714  
0746

04-08

Changed standard speed to 14.5 knots (79 RPM).  
General Quarters.  
Sunrise. Lighted ship.  
Set Condition II Mike Sugar.  
Changed base course to 085°T.

*L.A. Biggs*  
L.A. BIGGS, Ens., USNR.

0644  
0645  
0647  
0649  
0651  
0657  
0720  
0839  
0847  
  
0902  
0905  
0916  
0941  
0956

0844  
0845  
0847  
0849  
0851  
0857  
0920  
1039  
1047  
  
1102  
1105  
1116  
1141  
1156

08-12

Destroyer in position D2-A reported a sound contact.  
Made emergency turn 45° to starboard to course 130°T.  
Made emergency turn 45° to starboard to course 175°T.  
Made emergency turn 45° to port to course 130°T.  
Made emergency turn 45° to port to course 085°T.  
Commenced zig-zag plan #11.  
Cut in degaussing gear.  
Resumed base course 085°T.  
Convoy formed two columns in preparation for passing through The Straits of Gibraltar.  
Changed base course to 055°T.  
Changed standard speed to 14 knots (76 RPM).  
Made landfall, Mt. Spartel, bearing 077°T, distance 15 miles.  
Changed base course to 078°T.  
Passed Point "A"; entered swept channel, Strait of Gibraltar.

*K.G. Holcombe*  
K.G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

1026  
1054  
1119  
1149 1/2  
1205  
1222  
1224  
1226  
1231

1226  
1254  
1319  
1349 1/2  
1405  
1422  
1424  
1426  
1431

12-16

Cape Spartel Light bearing 164°T, distance 3 3/4 miles.  
Changed base course to 057°T.  
Changed base course to 082°T.  
Point Malabata Light bearing 165°T, distance 6 1/2 miles.  
Changed base course to 071°T.  
Isla De Tarifa abeam to port, distance 21.9. Changed base course to 066°T.  
Convoy formed cruising disposition "1-Sugar".  
Changed standard speed to 14.5 knots (79 RPM). Changed base course to 070°T.  
Shore batteries on starboard beam fired on lone plane.  
General Quarters.  
Plane identified as skytrain (C-47) Transport towing sleeves.  
Set Condition II Mike Sugar.

Approved:

Examined:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Commanding Officer.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Monday 21 June (C), 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description \_\_\_\_\_

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 12-16 Cont.  
1248 1448 Great Europa Point abeam to port, distance 4.5 miles.  
Entered Mediterranean Sea.  
1252 1452 Commenced zig-zag plan #11.

G. J. Cottrill  
G. J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

16-18  
1520 1720 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 070°T.  
1549 1749 Changed base course to 089°T.  
1540 1740 Commenced zig-zag plan #11.

J. C. Campbell  
J. C. CAMPBELL, LT.(JG), USNR.

18-20  
No remarks.

L. A. Biggs  
L. A. BIGGS, Ens., USNR.

20-24  
1934 2134 Sunset. Darkened ship.  
1945 2145 General Quarters.  
2034 2234 Set Condition II Mike Sugar.  
2100 2300 Changed base course to 092°T.  
2128 2328 Destroyer on port flank reported sound contact bearing 030°T.  
2130 2330 Made emergency turn 45° to starboard to course 157°T.  
2134 2334 Resumed base course 092°T.

K. G. Holcombe  
K. G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O. H. Ritchie  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.



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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Tuesday 22 June 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)Zone description -2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Underway in convoy with Task Force #65 on course 092°T. Standard speed 14.5 knots (79 RPM). This ship in position 63. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.

June 21

2202 0002 Changed standard speed to 13 knots (71 RPM).  
2314 0114 Commenced zig-zag plan #40.

*B. J. Smith*B. J. SMITH, Ens., USNR.04-08

0230 0430 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 092°T.  
0240 0440 Changed base course to 120°T.  
0318 0518 Commenced zig-zag plan #40.  
0345 0545 General Quarters.  
0436 0636 Changed standard speed to 14 knots (76 RPM).  
0440 0640 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 120°T.  
0443 0643 Sunrise. Lighted ship.  
0443 0643 Set Condition II Mike Able.  
0449 0649 Commenced zig-zag plan #11.  
0522 0722 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 120°T.  
0527 0727 Changed base course to 150°T.

*J. C. Campbell*J. C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.08-12

0600 0800 On various courses and at various speed awaiting entrance to harbor.  
0747 0947 Proceeding as number one ship of group "B" to assigned berth.  
0856 1056 Passed through point "Able". Entered swept channel.  
0931 1131 Group "B" proceeding independently.  
0940 1140 Pilot L. ALTIERI reported aboard.  
0944 1144 Passed through point "B" of swept channel.  
0950 1150 Passed through point "C" of swept channel.  
0955 1155 On various courses and at various speeds conforming to channel with Pilot at the Conn, Captain, Executive Officer, and Navigator on the bridge.

*L. A. Biggs*L. A. BIGGS, Ens., USNR.12-16

1026 1226 Moored in berth #4 Mers el Kebir, Algeria in 13 fathoms of water with 74 fathoms of chain to the port and starboard anchors, stern secured to middle mole.  
1150 1350 Secured degaussing gear.  
1151 1351 Pilot L. ALTIERI left the ship.

*F. L. Roberts*F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR, Commanding Officer.*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR, Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Tuesday 22 June (C). 19 43  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description -2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 16-20  
No remarks.

F.P. Ryan  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR.

1922 2122 20-24  
1937 2137 Sunset.  
Darkened ship.

F.P. Ryan  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O.H. Ritchie  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Commanding Officer.

F.P. Ryan  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Wednesday 23 June, 1943

Zone description -2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAH DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Moored in berth #4 Mers el Kebir, Algeria in 13 fathoms of water with 74 fathoms of chain to the port and starboard anchors, stern secured to middle mole. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Able.

W.F. Lee  
W.F. LEE, Ens., USN.

0446 0646 04-06  
Sunrise. Lighted ship.

H.L.D. Cooper  
H.L.D. COOPER, Ens., USNR.

08-12  
No remarks.

R.E. Bedford  
R.E. BEDFORD, Ens., USNR.

12-16  
No remarks.

J.C. Campbell  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

16-20  
No remarks.

K.G. Holcombe  
K.G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

1922 2122 20-24  
1937 2137 Sunset.  
Darkened ship.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O.H. Ritchie  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNA. Commanding Officer.

F.P. Ryan  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Thursday 24 June 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description -2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	MOORED	MOORED	36-35-40N
Long.			0-54-45W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Moored in berth #4 Mers el Kebir, Algeria in 13 fathoms of water with 74 fathoms of chain to the port and starboard anchors, stern secured to the middle mole. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Able.

*J.C. Campbell*  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(JG), USNR.

0447 0647 04-08  
Sunrise. Lighted ship.

*K.G. Holcombe*  
K.G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

08-12  
No remarks.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT., Ens., USNR.

1045 1245 12-16  
1245 1445 Made all preparations for getting underway.  
Underway in accordance with OTF #85.  
Landing Exercise Plan #7 of June 23, 1943  
DESIGNATION: Task Unit: 85.1.2

COMPOSITION: Transports--TransDivs One, Seven;  
O'HARA, ANDROMEDA, ARCTURUS.

Next Higher Echelon: Task Group 85.1

Major force to which attached: Task Force 85.

1304 1504 Passed through anti-torpedo net.  
1312 1512 Set Condition II Mike Able.  
1326 1526 Passed through point "X". Changed course to 040°T.  
1329 1529 Ahead standard speed.  
1335 1535 Passed through point "B". Changed course to 352°T.  
1359 1559 Passed through point "A". Cleared swept channel.  
1359 1559 With Cap Falcon Light bearing 244°T and Cap de l' Aiguilla Light bearing 071.5°, took departure and set course 315°T.

*G.J. Cottrill*  
G.J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

1423 1623 16-20  
Underway on various courses and at various speeds forming up with convoy. This vessel assumed position #13.  
1600 1800 Convoy formation completed.  
1619 1819 Settled on base course 300°T.  
1634 1834 Changed base course to 345°T.  
1653 1853 Changed standard speed to 12 knots (65 RPM).  
1710 1910 Commenced zig-zag plan #11.  
1732 1932 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course, 345°T.  
1745 1945 Changed base course to 030°T.

*J.C. Campbell*  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(JG), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR, Commanding Officer.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR, Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Thursday 24 June (G), 19 43  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description -2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T.	L.C.T.	20-24
1807	2007	Changed standard speed to 10 knots (54.5 RPM).
1819	2019	Changed base course to 075 <sup>OT</sup> .
1851	2051	Changed base course to 120 <sup>OT</sup> .
1903	2103	Changed standard speed to 14 knots (76 RPM).
1914	2114	Changed course to 165 <sup>OT</sup> .
1915	2115	General Quarters.
1922	2122	Sunset. Darkened snip.
1948	2148	Changed course to 120 <sup>OT</sup> .
1953	2153	Commenced zig-zag plan #11.
2015	2215	Set Condition II Mike Able.
2100	2300	Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 120 <sup>OT</sup> .

*K.G. Holcombe*  
K.G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Commanding Officer.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Friday

25

June, 1943

(Day)

(Date)

(Month)

Zone description -2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	35-54-45N	35-55-30N	35-44-25N
Long.	00-00-30E	00-00-50E	00-37-00W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Underway in convoy with Task Force #85 on course 125<sup>OT</sup>. Standard speed 14 knots (70 RPM). This ship in position 13. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Able.

June 24  
2224 0024 Changed speed to 10 knots.  
2243 0043 Set Condition IV.  
2342 0142 Arrived in transport area and commenced hoisting out boats while lying to.  
2345 0145 First boat in the water.

June 25  
0023 0223 Moonrise observed.  
0130 0330 Last boat in the water. All boats were despatched to the CALVERT. "H" hour set for 0342.

F.P. Ryan  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR.

04-08  
0338 0538 Streamed barrage balloon.  
0444 0644 Sunrise. Lighted ship.

F.P. Ryan  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR.

08-12  
0710 0910 Commenced debarking troops.  
0730 0930 Completed debarking troops.  
0755 0955 Commenced hoisting in all boats.  
0948 1148 Completed hoisting in all boats.  
0953 1153 Set Condition II Mike Able.  
0953 1153 Housed barrage balloon.

F.P. Ryan  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR.

12-16  
1001 1201 Maneuvering on various courses and speeds to keep clear of ships hoisting boats.  
1131 1331 Took assigned position #15 in formation designated by O.T.C. Base course 300<sup>OT</sup>, standard speed 10 knots (55 RPM).  
1205 1405 Unidentified planes reported by O.T.C. coming from eastward. General quarters on signal from O.T.C.  
1220 1420 Streamed barrage balloon.  
1225 1425 Maneuvering in formation on various courses and speeds in accordance with O.T.C. signals.  
1319 1519 Set Condition II Mike Able.

G.J. Cotirilos  
G.J. COTIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

16-20  
1554 1754 Proceeding independently on various courses and speeds entering swept channel to Oran, Algeria with the Captain at Conn, Executive Officer, and Navigator on the bridge.

Approved:

Examined:

O.H. Ritchie  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Commanding Officer.

F.P. Ryan  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Friday 25 June (C) 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description -2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. 1733 L.C.T. 1933 16-20 (Cont)  
Anchored in 40 fathoms of water with 90 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor on the following bearings: West End of Jetee 224<sup>0</sup>T; East End of Jetee 184<sup>0</sup>T. Awaiting Pilot.

*J.C. Campbell*  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

1810 2010 20-24  
Underway on various courses, proceeding into Oran Harbor.  
1843 2043 Pilot Sam DIVIAN reported aboard and took the Conn.  
1910 2110 Moored in berth #7, Oran, Algeria in 8 fathoms of water with 78 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor, stern secured to buoy.  
1912 2112 Pilot Sam DIVIAN left the ship.  
1945 2145 Secured degaussing gear.

*K.G. Holcombe*  
K.G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Commanding Officer.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Saturday 26 June 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)Zone description -2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Moored in berth #7, Oran, Algeria in 8 fathoms of water with 78 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor, stern secured to buoy. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Able.

J.C. Campbell  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

0647 0647 04-08  
Sunrise. Lighted ship.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Ens., USNR.

08-12  
No remarks.

K.G. Holcombe  
K.G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

12-16  
No remarks.

H.L.D. Cover  
H.L.D. COVER, Ens., USNR.

16-20  
No remarks.

R.E. Bedford  
R.E. BEDFORD, Ens., USNR.

1923 2123 20-24  
1947 2127 Sunset.  
Darkened ship.

G.J. Cotsirilos  
G.J. COTSIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

C.H. Ritchie  
C.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR, Commanding Officer.

F.P. Ryan  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR, Instructor.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.



PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP <u>BELLATRIX</u>		Sunday	27	June	1943
Zone description <u>-2</u>		(Day)	(Date)	(Month)	
Position	0800	1200	2000		
Lat.					
Long.					

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Moored in berth #7, Cran, Algeria in 8 fathoms of water with 78 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor, stern secured to buoy. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Able.

H.L.D. Cofer  
H.L.D. COFER, Ens., USNR.

0448 0648 04-08  
Sunrise. Lighted ship.

R.E. Bedford  
R.E. BEDFORD, Ens., USNR.

08-12  
No remarks.

G.F. Coatsiriolos  
G.F. COATSIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

12-16  
No remarks.

R.G. Holcombe  
R.G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

16-20  
No remarks.

J.C. Campbell  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt. (JG), USNR.

1923 2123 20-24  
1938 2138 Sunset.  
Darkened ship.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O.H. Ritchie  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Commanding Officer.

F.P. Ryan  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Monday 26 June 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description -2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Moored in berth #7, Oran, Algeria in 8 fathoms of water with 78 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor, stern secured to buoy. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Able.  
K. G. HOLCOMBE  
K.G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

0448 0648 04-08  
Sunrise. Lighted ship.  
J.C. CAMPBELL  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(Jg), USNR.

0650 0850 08-12  
Secured the gyro compass for repairs.  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Ens., USNR.

1340 1540 12-16  
Cut in gyro compass.  
W.F. LEE  
W.F. LEE, Ens., USN.

16-20  
No remarks.  
G. J. COPIRILLO  
G.J. COPRILLO, Ens., USNR.

1923 2123 20-24  
1938 2138 Sunset.  
Darkened ship.  
H.L.D. COOPER  
H.L.D. COOPER, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O.H. RITCHIE  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. *Commanding Officer*

F.P. RYAN  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. *Navigator*

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Tuesday

29

June

1943

(Day)

(Date)

(Month)

Zone description -2

Position 0800

1200

2000

Lat.

Long.

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Moored in berth #7, Oran, Algeria in 8 fathoms of water with 78 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor, stern secured to buoy. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Able.

W. F. Lee  
W.F. LEE, Ens., USN.

0448 0648

04-08  
Sunrise. Lighted ship.

S. J. Cotsirilos  
S.J. COTSIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

08-12  
No remarks.

H. L. D. Coffey  
H.L.D. COFFEY, Ens., USNR.

12-16  
No remarks.

J. Goldschmidt  
J. GOLDSCHMIDT, Ens., USNR.

16-20  
No remarks.

J. C. Campbell  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

1923 2123  
1938 2138

20-24  
Sunset.  
Darkened ship.

K. G. Holcombe  
K.G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O. H. Ritchie  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Wednesday 30

June, 1943

Zone description -2

Position 0800

1200

2000

Lat.

Long.

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Moored in berth #7, Oran, Algeria in 8 fathoms of water with 78 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor, stern secured to buoy. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Able.

J.C. Campbell  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

0448

0648

04-08

Sunrise. Lighted ship.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Ens., USNR.08-12

No remarks.

K.G. Holcombe  
K.G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.12-16

No remarks.

G.J. Cotsiriolos  
G.J. COTSIRILOS, Ens., USNR.16-20

No remarks.

H.L.D. Coffey  
H.L.D. COFFEY, Ens., USNR.

1923

2123

20-24

Sunset.

1938

2138

Darkened ship.

W.F. Lee  
W.F. LEE, Ens., USN.

Approved:

Examined:

O.H. Ritchie  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Commanding Officer.F.P. Ryan  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

F9

Dep. No. 750  
R 13925

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Thursday 1 July 1943

Zone description -2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Moored in berth #7, Oran, Algeria in 8 fathoms of water with 78 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor, stern secured to buoy. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Able.

DESIGNATION: Task Unit 85.1.2  
COMPOSITION: Transport, TransDive One, Seven; O'HARA, ANDROMEDA, ARCTURUS.  
NEXT HIGHER ESCALON: Task Group 85.1  
MAJOR FORCE TO WHICH ATTACHED: Task Force 85.

G.J. Cottrill  
G.S. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

0448 0648 04-08  
Sunrise. Lighted ship.

H.H. Coffey  
H.L.D. COFFEY, Ens., USNR.

08-12  
No remarks.

W.F. Lee  
W.F. LEE, Ens., USN.

12-16  
No remarks.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Ens., USNR.

1525 1725 16-20  
1650 1850 FUNSTON underway standing into dock.  
NEVILLE underway standing into dock.

K.G. Holcombe  
K.G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

0724 0924 20-24  
0739 0939 Sunset.  
Darkened ship.

J.C. Campbell  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

COMMANDER IN CHIEF  
U.S. FLEET  
RECEIVED

1943 AUG 4 16 47

Approved:

Examined:

E. Ritchie  
E. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Commanding Officer.

P.P. Ryan  
P.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Friday 2 July, 1943

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description -2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Moored in berth #7, Oran, Algeria in 8 fathoms of water with 78 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor, stern secured to buoy. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Able.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Ens., USNR.

0438 0638 04-08  
0448 0648 TARAZED underway, standing into dock.  
Sunrise. Lighted ship.

K. G. Holcombe  
K.G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

08-12  
No remarks.

J. C. Campbell  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

12-16  
No remarks.

F.P. Ryan  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR.

16-20  
No remarks.

W. F. Lee  
W.F. LEE, Ens., USN.

1924 2124 20-24  
1939 2139 Sunset.  
Darkened ship.

G. J. Cotsirilos  
G.J. COTSIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O. H. Ritchie

F. P. Ryan

O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Commanding Officer.

F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

013925

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Saturday

3

July, 1943

(Day)

(Date)

(Month)

Zone description -2

Position 0800

1200

2000

Lat.

Long.

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Moored in berth #7, Oran, Algeria in 8 fathoms of water with 78 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor, stern secured to buoy. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Able.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR.

0449 0649

04-08

Sunrise. Lighted ship.

*W.F. Lee*  
W.F. LEE, Ens., USN.

08-12

No remarks.

*G.J. Cottrill*  
G.J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

12-16

No remarks.

*K.G. Holcombe*  
K.G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

16-20

No remarks.

*J.C. Campbell*  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

1924  
1939

2124  
2139

20-24

Sunset.  
Darkened ship.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR, commanding Officer.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR, navigator.

43

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Sunday

4

July, 1943

Zone description -2

Position 0800

1200

2000

Lat.

Long.

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Moored in berth #7, Cran, Algeria in 8 fathoms of water with 78 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor, 15 fathoms of chain to the port anchor and stern secured to buoy. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Able.

*K. G. Holcombe*  
K.G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

0450 0650 04-08  
Sunrise. Lighted ship.

*J. C. Campbell*  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

08-12  
No remarks.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Ens., USNR.

12-16  
No remarks.

*W. F. Lee*  
W.F. LEE, Ens., USN.

16-20  
No remarks.

*G. J. Cottrill*  
G.J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

1924 2124 20-24  
1939 2139 Sunset.  
Darkened ship.

*F. L. Roberts*  
F.L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR, Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR, Navigator.



PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Monday 5 July, 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description -2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			36-00-30N
Long.			00-49-30W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Moored in berth #7, Oran, Algeria in 8 fathoms of water with 78 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor, 15 fathoms of chain to the port anchor and stern secured to buoy. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Able.

*W.F. Lee*  
W.F. LEE, Ens., USN.

0450 0650

04-08  
Sunrise. Lighted snip.

*G.S. Cotirilos*  
G.S. COTIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

08-12  
No remarks.

*F.L. Roberts*  
F.L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

12-16  
No remarks.

*J.C. Campbell*  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

1412 1612  
1421 1621  
1546 1746

16-20  
Made all preparations for getting underway. Cut in degaussing gear. Underway in accordance with Commander Task Force #85, Operation Plan #5-43 of July 3, 1943.

DESIGNATION: Task Unit 85.1.2.

COMPOSITION: Convoy Transdivs One, Five, Seven, plus ANDROMEDA, ARCTURUS, and O'HARA.

Next Higher Echelon: Task Force #85.

Major Force to which Attached: Western Task Force.

1628 1828  
1653 1853  
1703 1903  
1750 1950

Stood out on various courses and speeds conforming to channel. Took departure with swept channel buoy abeam to starboard, distance 600 yards and set course 353<sup>OT</sup>. General Quarters. Cleared swept channel. Set Condition II Mike Able. Took position #12 in convoy. On various courses waiting for convoy to form.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Ens., USNR.

1827 2027  
1850 2050  
1852 2052  
1912 2112

20-24  
Changed standard speed to 9.5 knots (52 RPM). Streamed barrage balloon. Set base course 068<sup>OT</sup>. Commenced zig-zag plan #11.

Approved:

Examined:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. *Commanding Officer.*

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. *Navigator.*

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PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Monday

5

July (C) . 1943

(Day)

(Date)

(Month)

Zone description -2

Position 0800

1200

2000

Lat.

Long.

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T.	L.C.T.	20-24 (Cont)
1926	2126	Sunset. Darkened ship.
1926	2126	General Quarters.
2010	2210	Hauled down barrage balloon.
2026	2226	Set Condition II Mike Able.

*G. J. Cottrillos*  
G. J. COTTRILLOS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR, commanding Officer.

*F. F. Ryan*  
F. F. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Tuesday 6 July, 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description -2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	36-41-30N	36-41-30N	37-02-15N
Long.	01-00-00E	01-00-00E	3-17-30E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Underway in convoy with Task Force #85 on base course 068°T. Standard speed 9.5 knots (52 RPM), zig-zag plan #11 and convoy formation #2. This ship in position #12. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Able.

*R.G. Holcombe*  
R.G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

04-08

0245 0445 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 068°T.  
0333 0533 General Quarters.  
0340 0540 Commenced zig-zag plan #11.  
0433 0633 Sunrise. Lighted ship. Set Condition II Mike Able.  
0458 0658 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 068°T.  
0500 0700 Changed base course to 080°T.  
0515 0715 Commenced zig-zag plan #11.

*G. Goldschmidt*  
G. GOLDSCHMIDT, Ens., USNR.

08-12

0633 0833 Changed base course to 085°T.  
0804 1004 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 085°T.  
0806 1006 Changed standard speed to 13 knots (70.5 RPM).  
0816 1016 Made a 45° turn to starboard to course 130°T.  
0858 1058 Sighted Algeria bearing 169°T, distance 12 miles.  
0859 1059 Made a 45° turn to port to course 085°T.  
0913 1113 Changed standard speed to 9.5 knots (52 RPM).  
0916 1116 Commenced zig-zag plan #30.  
0942 1142 Changed base course to 080°T.  
1000 1200 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 080°T.

*L.A. Biggs*  
L.A. BIGGS, Ens., USNR.

12-16

1007 1207 Changed base course to 035°T.  
1053 1253 Commenced zig-zag plan #30.  
1140 1340 Made emergency turn 45° to port to course 330°T.  
1201 1401 Resumed base course 035°T.  
1207 1407 Commenced zig-zag plan #30.  
1210 1410 Secured starboard main engine for repairs.  
1232 1432 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 035°T.  
1236 1436 Starboard main engine placed back in commission. Repairs completed.  
1238 1438 Changed base course to 080°T.  
1315 1515 Changed base course to 118°T.  
1355 1555 Commenced zig-zag plan #30.

*M. W. Pitt*  
M.W. FITT, Ens., USNR.

16-18

1456 1656 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 118°T.  
1506 1706 Commenced zig-zag plan #30.  
1517 1717 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 118°T.  
1522 1722 Changed base course to 090°T.

Approved:

Examined:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR, commanding Officer.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR, Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Tuesday 6 July (C), 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description -2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 16-18 (Cont)  
 1549 1749 Made turn 90° to port to course 000°T.

*J.C. Campbell*  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

18-20  
 1601 1801 Made turn 90° to port to course 270°T.  
 1610 1810 Made turn 90° to port to course 180°T.  
 1616 1816 Made turn 90° to port to course 090°T.  
 1632 1832 Changed base course to 070°T.  
 1700 1900 Commenced zig-zag plan #40.  
 1702 1902 Hauled down barrage balloon to add helium gas.  
 1725 1925 Streamed barrage balloon.  
 1755 1955 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 070°T.

*G.V. Combrillo*  
G.V. COMBRILLO, Ens., USNR.

20-24  
 1701 1901 Changed base course to 090°T.  
 1810 2010 Changed standard speed to 9.2 knots (50 RPM).  
 1821 2021 Commenced zig-zag plan #40.  
 1905 2105 Darkened ship.  
 1908 2108 Sunset, darkened ship. General Quarters.  
 2008 2208 Set Condition II Mike Able.

*K.G. Holcombe*  
K.G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR, commanding Officer.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR, Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Wednesday 7

July 19 43

(Day)

(Date)

(Month)

Zone description -2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	37-10-00N	37-10-00N	37-17-15N
Long.	5-25-30E	6-10-00E	7-23-00E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Underway in convoy with Task Force #85 on base course 090°T. Standard speed 9.2 knots (50 RPM), zig-zag plan #40. Convoy formation #2. This ship in position #12. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Able.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Ens., USNR

0326 0526  
0426 0626  
0500 0700

04-08

General quarters.  
Sunrise. Lighted ship. Set Condition II Mike Able.  
Changed standard speed to 8.0 knots (43.5 RPM).

*L.A. Biggs*  
L.A. BIGGS, Ens., USNR

0656 0856  
0659 0859  
0727 0927  
0732 0932  
0741 0941  
0903 1103  
0911 1111  
0933 1133

08-12

Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 090°T.  
Made 90° turn to starboard to course 180°T.  
Made 90° turn to port to course 090°T.  
Changed standard speed to 9.5 knots (52 RPM).  
Commenced zig-zag plan #40.  
Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 090°T.  
Changed base course to 068°T.  
Commenced zig-zag plan #40.

*H. Z. Pitt*  
H. Z. PITT, Ens., USNR

1112 1312  
1240 1440  
1246 1446  
1308 1508

12-16

Two planes identified as Spitfires patrolling convoy area.  
Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 068°T.  
Changed base course to 090°T.  
Commenced zig-zag plan #40.

*J.C. Campbell*  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR

1403 1603  
1420 1620  
1426 1626  
1525 1725

16-18

Ceased zig-zagging and made a 90° turn to starboard to course 180°T.  
Made a 90° turn to port to base course 090°T.  
Commenced zig-zag plan #40.  
Hauled down barrage balloon.

*G. Cottrill*  
G. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR

1608 1808  
1651 1851  
1700 1900  
1734 1934  
1736 1936

18-20

Sighted Cap de Fer bearing 150°T, distance 13 miles.  
Changed standard speed to 6 knots (33 RPM).  
Streamed paravanes.  
Changed standard speed to 9.5 knots (52 RPM).  
Retrieved port paravane to make adjustments.

*R.S. Holcombe*  
R.S. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR

Approved:

Examined:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR, Commanding Officer.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR, Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Wednesday 7 July (C), 1943

Zone description -2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T.	L.C.T.	20-24
1803	2003	Streamed port paravane.
1805	2005	Starboard paravane fouled by port paravane. Retrieved both paravanes.
1850	2050	Darkened ship.
1852	2052	Streamed barrage balloon.
1853	2053	Sunset. General Quarters.
1953	2153	Set Condition II Mike Able.
2009	2209	Changed standard speed to 13 knots (71 RPM).
2010	2210	Streamed paravanes.
2024	2224	Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 090 <sup>CT</sup> .
2043	2243	Convoy assumed convoy formation #4.
2044	2244	Retrieved port paravane.
2056	2256	Sighted Cap de Garde Light bearing 217 <sup>CT</sup> , distance 25 3/4 miles.
2157	2357	Moonset.

*D. Goldschmidt*  
 U. GOLDSCHMIDT, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
 O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. *Commanding Officer.*

*F.P. Ryan*  
 F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. *Navigator.*

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Thursday

8

July, 19 43

(Day)

(Date)

(Month)

Zone description -2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	37-14-45N	36-51-45N	35-22-00N
Long.	10-27-15E	11-14-00E	11-38-30E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Underway in convoy with Task Force #85 on base course 090°T. Standard speed 13 knots (70.5 RPM), and convoy formation #4. This ship in position #17. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Able with barrage balloon and starboard paravane streamed. Degaussing gear cut in.

July 7,  
1030 0030 Streamed port paravane.  
1033 0033 Slowed to 2/3 standard speed on order of O.T.C.  
2400 0200 Changed base course to 080°T. Passed Point "A" and entered swept channel.

July 8,  
0010 0210 Changed course to 070°T.  
0025 0225 Resumed base course 080°T.  
0029 0229 Resumed standard speed 13 knots (70.5 RPM).

*L.A. Biggs*  
L.A. BIGGS, Ens., USNR.

04-08  
0307 0507 Changed base course to 113°T.  
0310 0510 General Quarters.  
0406 0606 Sunrise. Lighted ship.  
0410 0610 Set Condition II Mike Able.  
0445 0645 Changed standard speed to 14 knots (76 RPM).  
0455 0655 Damaged port paravane while attempting to hoist it in.

*M.U. Pitt*  
M.U. FITT, Ens., USNR.

08-12  
0632 0832 Hoisted in starboard paravane.  
0635 0835 Sighted Zomba Island bearing 117°T, distance 2 miles.  
0711 0911 Sighted Cape Bon Light bearing 114½°T, distance 14 3/4 miles.  
0830 1030 Passed through point "B".  
0830 1030 Changed course to 160°T.  
0848 1048 Sighted Pantelleria Island bearing 113°T, distance 40 miles.  
0920 1120 Streamed starboard paravane.  
0939 1139 Changed standard speed to 12.5 knots (68 RPM).  
0950 1150 Passed through point "C". Changed course to 210°T.

*J.C. Campbell*  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

12-16  
1016 1216 Passed Ras El Mustapha Light abeam to starboard, distance 4 miles.  
1104 1304 Formed Cruising Disposition 3 Sail Victor.  
1114 1314 Convoy formed formation #2.  
1140 1340 Passed through point "D". Changed base course to 180°T.  
1154 1354 Changed standard speed to 13 knots (70.5 RPM).  
1205 1405 Commenced zig-zag plan #40.  
1231 1431 Changed standard speed to 14.5 knots (79 RPM).  
1310 1510 Changed standard speed to 13 knots (70.5 RPM).  
1342 1542 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 180°T.

Approved:

Examined:

*O.H. Ritchie**F.P. Ryan*

O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Commanding Officer.

F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Thursday 8 July (C), 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description -2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 12-16 (Cont)

1349 1549 Changed base course to 145<sup>OT</sup>.  
1355 1555 Changed standard speed to 14.5 knots (79 RPM).  
1356 1556 Passed through point "E".

G.G. Cotirilos  
G.G. COTIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

16-18

1420 1620 Streamed port paravane. Paravane dived under ship.  
1424 1624 Commenced zig-zag plan #40.  
1450 1650 Changed base course to 150<sup>OT</sup>.  
1455 1655 SUSAN B. ANTHONY reported passing dead torpedo in the water to starboard, stern up.  
1530 1730 Hoisted in port paravane.  
1557 1757 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 150<sup>OT</sup>.

K.O. Holcombe  
K.O. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

18-20

1601 1801 Made 60° turn to starboard to course 210<sup>OT</sup>.  
1624 1824 Made 60° turn to port to course 150<sup>OT</sup>.  
1631 1831 Changed standard speed to 13 knots (71 RPM).  
1713 1913 Changed base course to 145<sup>OT</sup>.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Ens., USNR.

20-24

1813 2003 Changed base course to 130<sup>OT</sup>.  
1824 2024 Darkened ship.  
1827 2027 Slowed to 2/3 standard speed, 8.7 knots (47 RPM).  
1829 2029 Sunset. General Quarters.  
1845 2045 Commenced zig-zag plan #11.  
1900 2100 Resumed standard speed, 13 knots (71 RPM).  
1917 2117 SHUBRICK dropping depth charges.  
1929 2129 Set Condition II Mike Able.  
2102 2302 Made emergency turn 45° to starboard to course 145<sup>OT</sup>.  
2125 2325 Resumed base course 130<sup>OT</sup>.  
2141 2341 Slowed to 2/3 speed (47 RPM).  
2153 2353 Observed moonset.  
2156 2356 Changed base course to 180<sup>OT</sup>.  
2156 2356 Ahead standard.

L.A. Biggs  
L.A. BIGGS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O.H. Ritchie  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR, commanding Officer.

F.P. Ryan  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR, Navigator.



PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Friday  
(Day)

9  
(Date)

July , 1943  
(Month)

Zone description -2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	13-52-30N	14-32-45N	16-08N
Long.	13-20-00E	13-42-30E	14-00E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Underway in convoy with Task Force #85 on base course 180°T, standard speed 13 knots, (70.5 RPM). Convoy formation #2. This ship in position #12. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Able. Degaussing gear cut in.

2351 0151 Changed standard speed to 9 knots, (49 RPM).  
0014 0214 Changed base course to 140°T.  
0116 0316 Changed standard speed to 12 knots, (65 RPM).

*M. U. Pitt*  
M. U. PITT, Ens., USNR.

04-08  
0247 0447 Commenced zig-zag plan #11.  
0310 0510 General Quarters.  
0334 0534 Changed standard speed to 14 knots, (76 RPM).  
0358 0558 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 140°T.  
0406 0606 Changed base course to 100°T.  
0408 0608 Sunrise. Lighted ship. Set Condition II Mike Able.  
0437 0637 Changed base course to 090°T.  
0454 0654 Commenced zig-zag plan #11.  
0527 0727 Made emergency turn 45° to starboard to course 145°T.  
0537 0737 Resumed base course 090°T.  
0543 0743 Commenced zig-zag plan #11.

*J. C. Campbell*  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

08-12  
0641 0841 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 090°T.  
0645 0845 Changed base course to 043°T.  
0648 0848 Changed standard speed to 14.5 knots, (79 RPM).  
0655 0855 Assumed Cruising Disposition One Sail Victor.  
0656 0856 Changed base course to 000°T.  
0730 0930 Changed base course to 010°T.  
0735 0935 Commenced zig-zag plan #11.  
0850 1050 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 010°T.  
0918 1118 LUDLOW dropped depth charges after reporting submarine contact.  
0932 1132 Changed base course to 025°T.

*G. S. Cottrilos*  
G. S. COTTRILLOS, Ens., USNR.

12-16  
1239 1439 Commenced zig-zag plan #10.  
1252 1452 Changed standard speed to 14 knots, (76 RPM).

*K. G. Holcombe*  
K. G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

16-18  
1440 1640 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 015°T.  
1441 1641 Changed course to 330°T.  
1443 1643 Sighted Malta Island bearing 048°T, distance 25 miles.  
1456 1656 Changed course to 350°T.

Approved:

Examined:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Friday (C) 9 July 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description -2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 16-18 (Cont)  
1507 1707 Changed course to 015<sup>OT</sup>.  
1530 1730 Sighted Gozo Island bearing 045<sup>OT</sup>, distance 21 miles.  
1552 1752 Changed standard speed to 14.5 knots, (79 RPM).

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Ens., USNR.

18-20  
1603 1803 Slowed to 2/3 speed.  
1614 1814 Transports were reformed in approach formation #3. This ship in position #22.  
1643 1843 Ahead standard speed.  
1649 1849 Made 25<sup>o</sup> turn to starboard to course 015<sup>OT</sup>.  
1717 1917 Made 20<sup>o</sup> turn to port to course 355<sup>OT</sup>.  
1737 1937 Slowed to 2/3 speed.  
1738 1938 Made 20<sup>o</sup> turn to starboard to course 015<sup>OT</sup>.  
1739 1939 Ahead standard speed.  
1753 1953 Made 50<sup>o</sup> turn to starboard to course 065<sup>OT</sup>.

L.A. Biggs  
L.A. BIGGS, Ens., USNR.

20-24  
1821 2021 Sunset. Darkened ship.  
1831 2031 Made 50<sup>o</sup> turn to port to course 015<sup>OT</sup>.  
1837 2037 Made 50<sup>o</sup> turn to starboard to course 065<sup>OT</sup>.  
1838 2038 Commander 8th Fleet reported six hostile aircraft bearing 070<sup>OT</sup>, distance 22 miles. General Quarters.  
1850 2050 Made 50<sup>o</sup> turn to port to course 015<sup>OT</sup>.  
1902 2102 Changed base course to 008<sup>OT</sup>.  
1925 2125 Set Condition II Mike Able.  
1935 2135 Changed base course to 006<sup>OT</sup>.  
2030 2230 Received message by TBS from C.T.F. 85 to "Execute Landing Attack Plan #4, D-day, July 10, 1943; H-hour 0245."  
2040 2240 Parachute flares were dropped ahead of the transports.  
2100 2300 Observed many flares and considerable gun fire dead ahead, in the vicinity of the beach.  
2108 2308 Set Condition IV.  
2129 2329 Observed huge fire on beach, bearing 055<sup>OT</sup>.

F.P. Ryan  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O.H. Ritchie  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Commanding Officer.

F.P. Ryan  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Saturday 10, July, 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description -2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Underway in convoy with Task Force #85 on base course 0060 T, standard speed 14.5 knots, (79 RPM). Convoy in Approach Formation #3. This ship in position #22. Ship completely darkened and in Condition IV.

July 9,  
2209 0009 Made approach to Transport Area on various courses and at various speeds.  
2230 0030 Anchored in Transport Area in 51 fathoms of water with 70 fathoms of chain to the port anchor. Commenced hoisting out all boats.  
2231 0031 Moonset.  
2232 0032 First boat in the water. Weather conditions were extremely unfavorable, heavy swells were causing the boats to swing violently from the booms, partially out of control of the deck hands.  
2359 0159 Gunfire and many flares were observed near the beach. Enemy searchlights ashore swept the beach and the Transport Area.

July 10,  
0035 0235 H-hour was advanced to 0345.  
0045 0245 Destroyers fired at enemy searchlights and extinguished them.  
0130 0330 Destroyers and Support Boats laid down a heavy barrage on the beach.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR.

04-08  
0207 0407 Last boat in the water. All boats were dispatched to the CALVERT except the following:  
1-LCS(S)-Damaged in hoisting out, leaking badly and in danger of sinking.  
1-LCM-Lines fouled around propellers.  
1-LCVF-Retained as reserve in accordance with Boat Employment plan.

0226 0426 This ship was brightly illuminated by three flares dropped from enemy plane overhead.  
0230 0430 The PHILADELPHIA was straddled by a stick of bombs. There appeared to be no direct hits.  
0308 0508 Two bombs hit approximately 800 yards off the port bow.  
0351 0551 Sunrise. Lighted ship.  
0355 0555 LCVF #9 swamped on sand bar 50 yards from the beach.  
0516 0716 Shifted to inshore anchorage about 5000 yards off Beach Red, bearing 0510T, Gela light bearing 3320T, 14 fathoms of water, 60 fathoms of chain to port anchor.  
0540 0740 Commenced unloading cargo.

*S.V. Montgomery*  
S.V. MONTGOMERY, Lieut., USNR.

08-12  
0630 0830 LCVF #12 and LCVF #17 were swamped when they struck a sand bar 30 yards from the beach.  
0815 1015 LCVF #15 was broached on the beach as a result of damaged steering gear.

Approved:

Examined:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Commanding Officer.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

55

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Saturday

10(C)

July

1943

(Day)

(Date)

(Month)

Zone description -2

Position 0800

1200

2000

Lat.

Long.

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 08-12 (cont)

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR.

1015 1215 12-16  
LCM(3) #4 stranded on beach as a result of stern sinking deep into the sand.

*S.V. Montgomery*  
S.V. MONTGOMERY, Lieut., USNR.

1435 1635 16-20  
1510 1710 LCT #153 alongside to port to receive cargo.  
1815 2015 LCT #153 was shifted to starboard side of #1 & #2 holds.  
LCVP #16 was swamped on beach as a result of being rammed by a retracting boat.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR.

1820 2020 20-24  
1823 2023 LCT #153 shoved off loaded and proceeded to the beach.  
1920 2120 Sunset. Darkened ship.  
Shifted anchorage to position 2300 yards off Beach Red Two at Scoglitti, bearing 050°T, 8 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to port anchor.  
2018 2218 A large bomb or heavy caliber shell hit the water near the ANNE ARUNDEL and detonated with a very large burst.

*S.V. Montgomery*  
S.V. MONTGOMERY, Lieut., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O. H. Ritchie*

*F.P. Ryan*

O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR.

Commanding Officer.

F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR.

Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Sunday 11 July, 1943

(Day)

(Date)

(Month)

Zone description -2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Anchored in Cent Transport Area off Scoglitti, Sicily in 8 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to port anchor with Red Beach bearing 050<sup>OT</sup>, distance 2850 yards. Ship completely darkened and in Condition IV. Continued unloading cargo, using ship's boats to transport it to the beach.

July 10,  
2310 0110 Moonset.  
*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR.

July 11,  
0315 0515 04-08  
One Dornier 217 E2 passed ahead from starboard to port, distance approximately 900 yards, and dropped six bombs at irregular intervals along line of flight. No damage was observed.

0317 0517 Observed four Spitfires over Transport Area.  
0325 0525 Enemy planes over Dime Transport Area were engaged by Spitfires.  
0352 0552 Sunrise. Lighted ship.  
0445 0645 Sighted ten HE 111's at an altitude of 6000 feet over Gela.  
0452 0652 Commenced firing on two HE 111's which attacked ships in this area, [See Action Report #1-43]  
0454 0654 Ceased firing.  
0535 0735 C.T.F. 85 reported by TBS that approximately 48 unidentified planes were in formation to the North headed in general direction of Dime Transport Area. Screen took stations around transports for A-A defense.

0544 0744 Six Spitfires observed above Cent Transport Area.  
0546 0746 Formation of 10 Liberty Ships and other merchant vessels approached from South-Southwest and proceeded to Gela Area.  
0558 0758 One ME 109F fighter dived low over Red Beach, dropping two bombs and strafing beach.  
0559 0759 C.T.F. 85 message by TBS stated that the 48 unidentified planes previously reported had passed clear.  
0600 0800 Salvage party with Ensign R.E. BEDFORD in charge left the ship to report to Capt. D.M. LOOMIS on Beach Red.  
0600 0800 LCT #153 came alongside to port at #3 hold to receive cargo.  
*S.V. Montgomery*  
S.V. MONTGOMERY, Lieut., USNR.

08-12  
0710 0910 LCVF #11 was beached on beach as a result of inoperative steering gear.  
0715 0915 LCVF #18 was swamped while unloading due to sea breaking over bow.  
0723 0923 Red alert sounded by C.T.F. 85.  
0728 0928 Transports commenced making all possible smoke on orders from C.T.F. 85. Hoisted barrage balloon. LCT #153 shoved off.  
0734 0934 LCS #19 and LCS #20 laid smoke screen around ship.  
0736 0936 Received orders from C.T.F. 85 to cease making smoke.  
0742 0942 Observed four Spitfires over Transport Area.  
0750 0950 Resumed unloading.

Approved:

Examined:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Commanding Officer.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

Page 197

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Sunday 11 (C) July, 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)Zone description -2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T.	L.C.T.	REMARKS
0803	1003	08-12 (Cont) Formation of 18 flying fortresses (B-17E) passed over on Northwesterly course.
0828	1028	Formation of 15 flying fortresses (B-17E) passed over on Southwesterly course.
0840	1040	Formation of 6 flying fortresses (B-17E) passed over on Southwesterly course.
0846	1046	Demolition party left the ship and proceeded to Scoglitti.
0915	1115	Formation of 14 flying fortresses (B-17E) passed over on Northwesterly course.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR.

G.C.T.	L.C.T.	REMARKS
1025	1225	12-16 LCT #153 came alongside to starboard at #1 hold to receive cargo.
1223	1423	LCT #153 shoved off loaded, and proceeded to the beach.
1316	1516	Got underway and shifted anchorage to Cent Transport Area off Scoglitti, Sicily in 9 1/2 fathoms of water with 30 fathoms of chain to port anchor with Red Beach 044 <sup>OT</sup> , distance 2300 yards.
1349	1549	Sighted 15 enemy bombers (Do 217 E2's) over Scoglitti at an altitude of about 5000 ft. They approached on bearing 300 <sup>OT</sup> and departed on course 000 <sup>OT</sup> .

*S.V. Montgomery*  
S.V. MONTGOMERY, Lieut., USNR.

G.C.T.	L.C.T.	REMARKS
1401	1601	16-20 C.T.F. 85 reported 17 hostile aircraft were approaching from the West at a very high altitude.
1403	1603	C.T.F. 85 reported 15 hostile aircraft were approaching from 010 <sup>OT</sup> .
1405	1605	A formation of Spitfires on patrol passed overhead.
1410	1610	Resumed unloading.
1414	1614	All clear sounded. Sighted a formation of 25 Marauders (B-25) with fighter escort over Transport Area.
1444	1644	Three Do 217 E2's approached from bearing 320 <sup>OT</sup> , altitude 8000 feet and dropped several bombs on port bow, distance about 1100 yards. No hits on ships observed. Planes departed on course 215 <sup>OT</sup> .
1450	1650	YMS 18 came alongside to port for fueling.
1455	1655	All clear signal received by TBS.
1503	1703	C.T.F. 85 reported 15 unidentified aircraft bearing 100 <sup>OT</sup> , distance 20 miles.
1556	1756	YMS 18 completed fueling and shoved off.
1752	1952	Red Alert from C.T.F. 85 received by TBS. Planes reported approaching from direction of sun.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR.

G.C.T.	L.C.T.	REMARKS
1823	2023	20-24 Sunset. Darkened ship.
1915	2115	LCVP #14 beached on beach because steering gear was damaged while landing.
2015	2215	Salvage party returned aboard and reported having salvaged LCVP #11 which had been floated and returned to ship and

Approved:

Examined:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Commanding Officer.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Sunday 11 (C) July 19 43  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description -2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

O.C.T.	L.C.T.	20-24 (cont)
		that LCM (3) #4, LCVP #16, LCVP #18, LCVP #12, and LCVP #9 could not be salvaged and were left on the beach.
2026	2226	Flares dropped by enemy aircraft lighted up the Dime Transport Area. Ships and beach being subjected to very concentrated bombing attack.
2027	2227	Two flares were dropped by enemy aircraft off the starboard bow.
2032	2232	Heard roar of planes over head. Commenced firing, (See Action Report #2-43). Approximately six bombs exploded 800 yards dead ahead.
2102	2302	C.T.F. 85 reported hostile aircraft bearing 260 <sup>OT</sup> ; 150 <sup>OT</sup> ; and 340 <sup>OT</sup> .
2126	2326	Two formations of six unidentified aircraft reported by C.T.F. 85 to be bearing 140 <sup>OT</sup> and 150 <sup>OT</sup> .
2129	2329	Barrage balloon settled slowly until touching the water.
2159	2359	C.T.F. 85 reported three unidentified aircraft bearing 180 <sup>OT</sup> , distance 9 miles.

*S. V. Montgomery*  
 S.V. MONTGOMERY, Lieut., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O. H. Ritchie*

*F. P. Ryan*

O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Approving Officer.

F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Monday 12 July 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description -2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Anchored in Cent Transport Area off Scoglitti, Sicily in 9.5 fathoms of water with 30 fathoms of chain to the port anchor, with Red Beach bearing 044°T, distance 2300 yards. Ship completely darkened and in Condition IV. Continued unloading cargo, using ship's boats to transport it to the beach.

2305 0105 C.T.F. 85 reported unidentified aircraft bearing 210°T, distance 17 miles.  
2329 0129 Moonset.

F.P. Ryan  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR.

0325 0525 04-08  
C.T.F. 85 reported unidentified aircraft bearing 220°T, distance 12 miles.

0354 0554 Sunrise. Lighted ship.  
0412 0612 C.T.F. 85 reported three F.W. 190's flying low over the beach.

S.V. Montgomery  
S.V. MONTGOMERY, Lieut., USNR.

08-12  
No remarks.

F.P. Ryan  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR.

1325 1525 12-16  
Shifted anchorage to position 2000 yards off Beach Red Two, 8.5 fathoms of water with 30 fathoms of chain to the port anchor on the following bearings: Church 083°T, and White House 359°T.

S.V. Montgomery  
S.V. MONTGOMERY, Lieut., USNR.

1445 1645 16-20  
LCM (3) #1 broached on beach as a result of damaged steering gear.

F.P. Ryan  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR.

1915 2115 20-24  
Shifted anchorage to position 7000 yards off Beach Red behind minefield in 10 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to port anchor on the following bearings: Gela light 332°T, and Scoglitti light 121°T.

1942 2142 LST #153 came alongside to starboard side of #1 hold to receive cargo.  
2030 2230 LST #413 came alongside to port side of #2 hold to receive cargo.

S.V. Montgomery  
S.V. MONTGOMERY, Lieut., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O. H. Ritchie  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Commanding Officer.

F.P. Ryan  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.



UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Tuesday 13, July 1943  
(Date) (Date) (Month)

Zone description -2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			36-34-30N
Long.			14-09-30E

**OPERATIONAL REMARKS**  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
 Anchored in Cent Transport Area off Scoglitti, Sicily in 10 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to the port anchor on the following bearings: Gela Light 332 T, Scoglitti Light 121 T. Ship completely darkened and in Condition IV. Continued unloading into two LCT's alongside to port and starboard.

2242 0042 Outer screen reported two or more unidentified ships bearing 293°T, distance 13.5 miles. No further report was made.

0010 0210 Moonset.  
*S.V. Montgomery*  
 S.V. MONTGOMERY, Lieut., USNR.

04-08  
 Sunrise. Lighted ship.  
 0410 0610 LCT #153 shoved off loaded and proceeded to the beach.  
 0550 0750 LCT #413 shoved off loaded and proceeded to the beach.  
*F.P. Ryan*  
 F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR.

08-12  
 No remarks.  
*S.V. Montgomery*  
 S.V. MONTGOMERY, Lieut., USNR.

12-16  
 1005 1205 Completed unloading cargo.  
 1315 1515 Disembarked remaining ARMY personnel, and dispatched 3 ICM's, numbers 2, 3, and 5 with five-man crews to report to Beachmaster, Cent Area.  
*F.P. Ryan*  
 F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR.

16-20  
 1400 1600 Set Condition II Mike Able.  
 1441 1641 PC 556 came along port side and began receiving fuel.  
 1530 1730 PC 556 completed fueling and cast off.  
 1531 1731 Underway in accordance with Comtransdiv Five dispatch 131206B of July on various courses and speeds. Standard speed 14.5 knots, (79 RPM). The Captain at the Conn, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge.  
DESCRIPTION: Task Unit 85.2.2  
COMPOSITION: Convoy, CHARLES CARROLL, FREDERICK FUNSTON, ARCTURUS, FROGTON, ALCYONE ANNE ARUNDEL, BELLATRIX.  
NEXT HIGHER ECHELON: Task Force #85.  
MAJOR FORCE TO WHICH ATTACHED: Western Task Force.

1612 1812 Entered swept channel on course 160°T.  
 1616 1816 Scoglitti light abeam to port, distance 2 miles.  
 1645 1845 Cabo Scalambrì light bearing 057°T, distance 8.5 miles. Passed through point "GZ". Took departure and set course 229°T. Formed convoy cruising disposition. This ship in position #23.  
 1725 1925 Commenced zig-zag plan #19.  
*J.C. Campbell*  
 J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(JG), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
 O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Covoyaging Officer.

*F.P. Ryan*  
 F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Tuesday 13 (C) July 19 43  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description -2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T.	L.C.T.	20-24
1819	2019	Darkened ship.
1824	2024	Sunset. General Quarters.
1924	2124	Set Condition II Mike Able.
2104	2304	Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 229 <sup>0</sup> T.
2111	2311	Changed base course to 270 <sup>0</sup> T.
2140	2340	One friendly plane passed over convey from port to starboard; flashed correct identification.
2143	2343	Commenced zig-zag plan #19.

*L.A. Biggs*  
L.A. BIGGS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*C.H. Ritchie*  
C.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Commanding Officer.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Wednesday 14 July 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description -2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	36-18-30N	37-03-40N	37-18-30N
Long.	11-11-30E	11-09-15E	8-52-45E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Underway in convoy with Task Unit #85.2.2 on base course 270<sup>OT</sup>, standard speed 14.5 knots, (79 RPM), zig-zag plan #40. This ship in position #23. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Able. Degaussing gear in operation.

July 13,  
2320 0120 Destroyer ahead reported floating mine directly ahead of column #2.  
2322 0122 Made emergency turn 45° to port to course 265<sup>OT</sup>.  
2330 0130 On signal resumed base course 270<sup>OT</sup>.  
2333 0133 Commenced zig-zag plan #40.

*B. J. Cottrill*  
B. J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

04-08  
0310 0510 General Quarters.  
0330 0530 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 270<sup>OT</sup>.  
0333 0533 Changed base course to 301<sup>OT</sup>.  
0357 0557 Commenced zig-zag plan #40.  
0408 0608 Sunrise. Lighted ship.  
0408 0608 Set Condition II Mike Able.

*K. G. Holcombe*  
K. G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

08-12  
0626 0826 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 301<sup>OT</sup>. Column #2 formed astern of column #1.  
0650 0850 Changed base course to 028<sup>OT</sup>. Passed through point "D". Entered swept channel.  
0835 1035 Changed base course to 031<sup>OT</sup>.  
0903 1103 Passed through point "C" of swept channel and changed base course to 340<sup>OT</sup>.  
0955 1155 Changed base course to 336<sup>OT</sup>.

*W. F. Lee*  
W. F. LEE, Ens., USNR.

12-16  
1023 1223 Passed through point "B" and changed base course to 261<sup>OT</sup>.  
1033 1233 Cape Bon light abeam to port, distance 4 1/2 miles.  
1250 1450 Changed base course to 289<sup>OT</sup>.  
1256 1456 Ile Plane light abeam to port, distance 4 miles.  
1352 1552 Iles Cani light abeam to starboard, distance 2 3/4 miles.

*J. C. Campbell*  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

16-20  
1424 1624 Changed base course to 293<sup>OT</sup>.  
1447 1647 Changed base course to 289<sup>OT</sup>.  
1505 1705 Changed base course to 260<sup>OT</sup>.  
1514 1714 Passed thru point "B" of swept channel.

*L. A. Biggs*  
L. A. BIGGS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Wednesday 14 (0) July, 19 43  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description -2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T.	L.C.T.	20-24
1802	2002	Changed base course to 267°T.
1803	2003	On signal convoy assumed cruising disposition. This ship in position #23.
1810	2010	Passed through point "A". Cleared swept channel.
1826	2026	Commenced zig-zag plan #19.
1840	2040	Darkened ship.
1845	2045	Sunset. General Quarters.

*B. J. Cottrill*  
B. J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Thursday 15 July 1943

Zone description -2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	37-11-00N	37-00-30N	36-52-00N
Long.	5-30-15E	4-16-50E	2-01-00E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

July 14,  
2305 0105  
0003 0203

Underway in convoy with Task Unit 85.2.2 on course 267<sup>OT</sup>, standard speed 14.5 knots, (79 RPM), zig-zag plan #40. This ship in position #23. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Able. Degaussing gear in operation. Adjusted base course to 270<sup>OT</sup>. Passed allied convoy bearing 180<sup>OT</sup> on port beam.

K. S. Holcombe  
K.S. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

0215 0415  
0255 0455  
0302 0502  
0311 0511  
0326 0526  
0421 0621

04-08  
Moonset.  
Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 270<sup>OT</sup>.  
Changed base course to 258<sup>OT</sup>.  
Commenced zig-zag plan #19.  
General Quarters.  
Set Condition II Mike Able.

W. F. Lee  
W.F. LEE, Ens., USN.

0745 0945  
0754 0954  
0935 1135

08-12  
Ceased zig-zagging and changed base course to 270<sup>OT</sup>.  
Commenced zig-zag plan #19.  
Changed base course to 265<sup>OT</sup>.

J. C. Campbell  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt. (jg), USNR.

1156 1356  
1158 1358  
1205 1405  
1230 1430  
1245 1445  
1310 1510  
1314 1514

12-16  
Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base to 265<sup>OT</sup>.  
Changed base course to 252<sup>OT</sup>.  
Commenced zig-zag plan #19.  
Ceased zig-zagging and remained on base course 252<sup>OT</sup>.  
Commenced zig-zag plan #40.  
Ceased zig-zagging and continued on present course of 252<sup>OT</sup>.  
Commenced zig-zag plan #19.

L. A. Biggs  
L.A. BIGGS, Ens., USNR.

1449 1649  
1453 1653  
1455 1655

16-20  
Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 252<sup>OT</sup>.  
Changed base course to 267<sup>OT</sup>.  
Commenced zig-zag plan #19.

G. F. Cottrilos  
G.F. COTTRILLOS, Ens., USNR.

1907 2107  
1912 2112  
2012 2212  
2036 2236  
2040 2240  
2105 2305

20-24  
Darkened ship.  
Sunset. General Quarters.  
Set Condition Mike Able.  
Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 267<sup>OT</sup>.  
Changed base course 242<sup>OT</sup>.  
Commenced zig-zag plan #19 and changed standard speed to 13.5 knots, (74 RPM).

K. S. Holcombe  
K.S. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

C. H. Ritchie  
C.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

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PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Friday 16 July 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description -2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	35-51-00N		
Long.	00-39-00W		

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Underway in convoy with Task Force 85.2.2 on base course 242<sup>OT</sup>, standard speed 13.5 knots, (74 RPM), zig-zag plan #19. This ship in position #23. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Able. Degaussing gear in operation.

*W.F. Lee*  
W.F. LEE, Ens., USN.

04-08

0356	0556	General Quarters.
0415	0615	Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 242 <sup>OT</sup> .
0417	0617	Column #2 formed astern of column #1, guide in the CARROLL. This ship in position #17.
0436	0636	Changed standard speed to 14.5 knots, (79 RPM).
0450	0650	Changed base course to 180 <sup>OT</sup> .
0453	0653	Sunrise. Lighted ship. Set Condition II Mike Able.
0512	0712	Changed base course to 140 <sup>OT</sup> .
0522	0722	Changed base course to 145 <sup>OT</sup> .
0528	0728	Changed base course to 127 <sup>OT</sup> .
0552	0752	Proceeded independently on various courses and at various speeds entering swept channel.

*J. Campbell*  
J. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

08-12

0604	0804	Changed course to 176 <sup>OT</sup> . Passed through point "A". Entered swept channel.
0630	0830	Swept channel buoy abeam to port, distance 200 yards.
0655	0855	Passed through point "B". Changed course to 178 <sup>OT</sup> .
0920	1120	Anchored off Oran harbor, Algeria, in 37 fathoms of water with 60 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor on the following bearings: Mers El Kebir 262 <sup>OT</sup> ; East end of Jetty 199 <sup>OT</sup> ; and Chapel 226 <sup>OT</sup> .
0950	1150	Veered chain to 75 fathoms.

*L.A. Biggs*  
L.A. BIGGS, Ens., USNR.

12-16

1106	1306	Made all preparations for getting underway. Pilot Antoine CARAVANE reported aboard.
1117	1317	Underway on various courses at various speeds proceeding to berth #13 in Oran Harbor. Pilot at the Conn with Captain, Executive Officer, and Navigator on the bridge. Standard speed 15 knots, (81.5 RPM).
1209	1409	Moored port side to berth #13, Quay Henri Beaupuy, Oran Harbor, Algeria.
1239	1439	Pilot left the ship.

*G.S. Cotzirilos*  
G.S. COTZIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

16-20

1500	1700	Made all preparations for getting underway.
1644	1844	Pilot Gabriel SCOTT reported aboard.

Approved:

Examined:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Commanding Officer.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

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CONFIDENTIAL

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Friday 16 (0) July 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)Zone description -2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 16-20 (cont)  
 1706 1906 Underway on various courses at various speeds proceeding to berth assigned in Mers El Kebir harbor. Pilot at the Conn with Captain, Executive Officer, and Navigator on the bridge. Standard speed 15 knots, (81.5 RPM).  
 1735 1935 Pilot left the ship. Captain took the Conn.  
 1757 1957 Pilot L. ALTIERI reported aboard and took the Conn.

G. J. Cottrill  
 G. J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

20-24  
 1809 2009 Passed through anti-torpedo net.  
 1832 2032 Secured degaussing gear.  
 1843 2043 Moored starboard side to the port side of the CALVERT in berth #5, Mers El Kebir, Algeria.  
 1850 2050 Pilot left the ship.  
 1915 2115 sunset.  
 1930 2130 Darkened ship.

R. S. Bedford  
 R. S. BEDFORD, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O. H. Ritchie  
 O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
 F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Saturday 17

(Day)

July, 1943

(Month)

Zone description -2

Position 0800

1200

2000

Lat.

Long.

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Moored starboard side to the port side of the CALVERT in berth #5, Mers El Kebir, Algeria. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Abie.

F.L. Roberts  
F.L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

0405 0605

04-06

Sunrise. Lighted ship.

R.G. Holcombe  
R.G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

08-14

No remarks.

H.L.D. Coper  
H.L.D. COFER, Ens., USNR.

12-16

No remarks.

J.C. Campbell  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

16-20

No remarks.

L.A. Biggs  
L.A. BIGGS, Ens., USNR.

1915 2115  
1930 2130

20-24

Sunset.  
Darkened ship.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O.E. Ritchie  
O.E. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Commanding Officer.

F.P. Ryan  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

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PART III  
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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Sunday

18

July, 1943

(Day)

(Date)

(Month)

Zone description -2

Position 0800

1200

2000

Lat.

Long.

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Moored starboard side to port side of the CALVERT in berth #5, Mers El Kebir, Algeria. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Able.

M. U. Pitt  
M. U. PITT, Ens., USNR.

0406 0606 04-08  
Sunrise. Lighted ship.

W. F. Lee  
W. F. LEE, Ens., USN.

08-12  
No remarks.

J. C. Campbell  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

12-16  
No remarks.

G. J. Cotirilos  
G. J. COTIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

16-20  
No remarks.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Ens., USNR.

1918 2118 20-24  
1933 2133 Sunset.  
Darkened ship.

F. L. Roberts  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O. H. Ritchie  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. *Commanding Officer*

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. *Navigator*

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Monday 19 July 1943

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description -2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Moored starboard side to the port side of the CALVERT in berth #5, Mers El Kebir, Algeria. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II MIKE Able.

K.G. Holcombe  
K.G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

0458 0658 04-08  
Sunrise. Lighted ship.

H.L.D. Cofer  
H.L.D. COFER, Ens., USNR.

08-12  
No remarks.

G.N. Cotsiriolos  
G.N. COTSIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

12-16  
No remarks.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Ens., USNR.

16-20  
No remarks.

F.L. Roberts  
F.L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

1914 2114 20-24  
1929 2129 Sunset.  
Darkened ship.

M.U. Pitt  
M.U. PITT, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

C.H. Ritchie  
C.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Commanding Officer.

F.P. Ryan  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

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CONFIDENTIAL

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Tuesday

20

July

19 43

(Day)

(Date)

(Month)

Zone description -2

Position 0800

1200

2000

Lat.

Long.

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. I.C.T. 00-04

Moored starboard side to the port side of the CALVERT in berth #5, Mers El Kebir, Algeria. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Able.

*W.F. Lee*  
W.F. LEE, Ens., USN.0458 0658 04-08  
Sunrise. Lighted ship.*J.C. Campbell*  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.08-12  
No remarks.*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Ens., USNR.12-16  
No remarks.*K.G. Holcombe*  
K.G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.16-20  
No remarks.*F.L. Roberts*  
F.L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.1916 2116 20-24  
1931 2131 Sunset.  
Darkened ship.*G.J. Cotirilos*  
G.J. COTIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*C.H. Ritchie*  
C.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Commanding Officer.*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Wednesday 21

July

19 43

(Day)

(Date)

(Month)

Zone description -2

Position 0800

1200

2000

Lat.

Long.

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Moored starboard side to the port side of the CALVERT in berth #5, Mers El Kebir, Algeria. Ship is completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Able.

K.H. Holcombe

K.C. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

0458 0658

04-08

Sunrise. Lighted ship.

H.L.D. Coper

H.L.D. COPER, Ens., USNR.

08-12

No remarks.

G.J. Cottrill

G.J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

12-16

No remarks.

L.A. Biggs

L.A. BIGGS, Ens., USNR.

16-20

No remarks.

J.C. Campbell

J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

1916 2116

20-24

Sunset.

1931 2131

Darkened ship.

C. Goldschmidt

C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lt.(jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O.H. Ritchie

O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR, Commanding Officer.

F.P. Ryan

F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR, Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Thursday

22

July

1943

(Day)

(Date)

(Month)

Zone description -2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			30-09-00N
Long.			1-47-30W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 04-08  
Moored starboard side to the port side of the CALVERT in berth #5, Mers El Kebir, Algeria. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Able.

*L.A. Biggs*  
L.A. BIGGS, ENS., USNR.

0458 0658 04-08  
Sunrise. Lighted ship.

*J.C. Campbell*  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

0725 0925 08-12  
Made all preparations for getting underway. Cut in the degaussing gear.  
0751 0951 Pilot J.R. GULLI reported aboard.  
0800 1000 Underway on various courses and various speeds proceeding to assigned anchorage. Pilot at the Conn, Captain, Executive Officer, and Navigator on the bridge. Standard speed 14.5 knots, (79 RPM).

0827 1027 Pilot left the ship. Captain took the Conn.  
0911 1111 Anchored off Cran Harbor, Algeria in 29 fathoms of water with 60 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor on the following bearings: Cran Entrance Buoy, 220°T, Old Light-house, 235°T, and Chapel 242°T. Sounding aft 25 fathoms when ship's head was 340°T.

0917 1117 Set Condition II Mike Able.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lt.(jg), USNR.

1144 1314 12-16  
1247 1447 Made all preparations for getting underway. Underway, in accordance with Commander Task Force #85, orders of July 21, 1943, on various courses and at various speeds with the Captain at the Conn, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge.

DESIGNATION: Task Group 85.3  
COMPOSITION: DORRIS L. DIX, WILLIAM P. BIDDLE, LEONARD WOOD, ALCYONE, FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE, SUSAN B. ANTHONY, ANNE ARUNDEL, BELLATRIX, NEVILLE, HARRY LEE, MONROVIA, THURSTON, MATTAPONI, WINOCKSI, and NICBARA.

NEXT HIGHER ECHELON: Task Force #85.  
MAJOR FORCE TO WHICH ATTACHED: Eighth Fleet.

1300 1500 Passed through point "C" of swept channel.  
1306 1506 Passed through point "B" of swept channel.  
1312 1512 Set Material Condition Baker.  
1327 1527 Passed through point "A" and took departure with Cape Falcon bearing 243°T, Mers El Kebir bearing 207°T, and Cape De L'Aiguilla bearing 073°T, standard speed 14.5 knots (79 RPM). Manuevered to take position in Convoy on base course 315°T.

*K.O. Holcombe*  
K.O. HOLCOMBE, ENS., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Commanding Officer.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Thursday 22 (0) July, 19 43  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description -2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 16-18  
 1417 1617 This ship took position #43 in cruising disposition one  
 Sugar Victor.  
 1422 1622 Changed base course to 279°T.  
 1450 1650 Commenced zig-zag plan #40.

*W.F. Lee*  
 W.F. LEE, Ens., USN.

18-20  
 No remarks.

*J.C. Campbell*  
 J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

1805 2005 20-24  
 Sighted coast of Alameria, Spain bearing 344°T, distance  
 42 miles.  
 1918 2118 Darkened ship.  
 1923 2123 Sunset. General quarters.  
 2023 2223 Set Condition II Mike Able.  
 2140 2340 Sighted Isla Del Albaran Light bearing 212°T, distance  
 approximately 20 miles.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
 C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lt.(jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*C.H. Ritchie*  
 C.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Commanding Officer.

*F.P. Ryan*  
 F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Friday 23 July, 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description -2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	35-58-00N	35-51-30N	35-13-N
Long.	4-56-00/W	5-55-50W	7-36-W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Underway in convoy with Task Force #85 on base course 279<sup>OT</sup>, standard speed 14.5 knots, (79 RPM), zig-zag plan #40. Convoy formation I Sugar Victor. This ship in position #43. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Able. Degaussing gear out in.  
2230 0030 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 279<sup>OT</sup>.  
2245 0045 Changed base course to 262<sup>OT</sup>. Sighted Cabo Sacratif light bearing 326<sup>OT</sup>, distance 31 miles.  
2307 0107 Commenced zig-zag plan #40.  
2312 0112 Observed moonrise.

*L.A. Biggs*  
L.A. BIGGS, Ensign, USNR.

04-08  
0420 0620 General Quarters.  
0455 0655 Sighted the Rock of Gibraltar bearing 276<sup>OT</sup>, distance 27 miles.  
0513 0713 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 262<sup>OT</sup>.  
0516 0716 Changed base course to 271<sup>OT</sup>.  
0520 0720 Sunrise. Lighted ship. Set Condition II Mike Able.  
0528 0728 Commenced zig-zag plan #40.

*S.J. Cottrill*  
S.J. COTTRILL, Ensign, USNR.

08-12  
0616 0816 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 271<sup>OT</sup>.  
0632 0832 Changed base course to 285<sup>OT</sup>.  
0648 0848 Sections one and four formed astern of two and three for passing through the Strait of Gibraltar.  
0735 0935 Entered Strait of Gibraltar.  
0852 1052 Changed base course to 262<sup>OT</sup>.  
0855 1055 Passed through point "D" of swept channel.  
0921 1121 Changed base course to 267<sup>OT</sup>.  
0934 1134 Passed through point "C" of swept channel and changed base course to 237<sup>OT</sup>.

*W.F. Lee*  
W.F. LEE, Ensign, USNR.

12-16  
1005 1205 Passed through point "B" of swept channel and changed base course to 260<sup>OT</sup>. Entered Atlantic Ocean.  
1050 1250 Passed through point "A" of swept channel and changed base course to 243<sup>OT</sup>. Formed cruising disposition I Sugar Victor.  
1117 1317 Commenced zig-zag plan #40.  
1130 1330 Made emergency turn 45<sup>o</sup> turn to port to course 158<sup>OT</sup>.  
1141 1341 Made 80<sup>o</sup> turn to starboard to course 238<sup>OT</sup>.  
1144 1344 Resumed base course 243<sup>OT</sup>.  
1148 1348 Commenced zig-zag plan #40.

*J.C. Campbell*  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

16-20  
1524 1724 Sighted S.S. ARGENTINA and S.S. SLOTERDYK and escorting destroyers, the GILLESPIE and TURNER bearing 298<sup>OT</sup>, distance

Approved:

Examined:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Commanding Officer.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Friday 23(c) July 19 43  
(Day) (Date) (Month)Zone description -2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T.	L.C.T.	16-20(Cont)
		8 miles.
1559	1759	Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 243°T.
1625	1825	SUSAN B. ANTHONY reports unidentified ship bearing 188°T, distance 24 miles.
1644	1844	S.S. ARGENTINA and S.S. SLOTERDYK assumed positions "14" and "25" in convoy.
1645	1845	Commenced zig-zag plan #40.
1648	1848	TURNER and GILLESPIE left convoy proceeding on assigned duty.
1655	1855	Secured degaussing gear.
1700	1900	Set clocks back 30 minutes to zone minus one and one-half time.
1735	1935	SUSAN B. ANTHONY reported 6 unidentified ships bearing 180°T, distance 12 miles.
1740	1940	"D-11" reported 2 or 3 unidentified ships bearing 000°T, distance 20 miles. Above ships were assumed to be friendly as recognition signals were not exchanged.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lt.(jg), USNR.

		20-24
1808	2008	Darkened ship.
1813	2013	Sunset.
2119	2319	Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 243°T.

*L.A. Biggs*  
L.A. BIGGS, Lt., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*W.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR, Commanding Officer.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR, Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.



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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Saturday 24 July 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)Zone description -13

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	34-25-30N	34-30-00N	34-17-00N
Long.	11-03-00W	12-08-00W	14-29-00W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

U.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Underway in convoy with Task Force #85 on base course 243<sup>OT</sup>, standard speed 14.5 knots, (79 RPM). Convoy formation I Sugar Victor. This ship in position 43. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Able.

July 23, 2300 0030 Changed base course to 275<sup>OT</sup>.

July 24, 0052 0222 Commenced zig-zag plan #40. G. J. Cottrill  
G. J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

04-08  
0444 0614 General Quarters.  
0544 0714 Set Condition II Mike Able. Sunrise. Lighted ship.  
0620 0750 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 275<sup>OT</sup>.  
0630 0800 Convoy commenced forming new cruising disposition. Slowed to 12 knots, (65 RPM). W. F. Lee  
W. F. Lee, Ens., USN.

08-12  
0704 0834 Formed new cruising disposition of five columns. This ship in position #52.  
0710 0840 Commenced zig-zag plan #40.  
0808 0938 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 275<sup>OT</sup>.  
0815 0945 Commenced zig-zag plan #11. J. C. Campbell  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

12-16  
1227 1357 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 275<sup>OT</sup>.  
1230 1400 Changed base course to 260<sup>OT</sup>.  
1245 1415 Commenced zig-zag plan #11. C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lt.(jg), USNR.

16-20  
1730 1900 Set all clocks back one-half hour to zone minus 1 time.  
1845 1945 Set Condition II Mike Sugar. L. A. Biggs  
L. A. BIGGS, Ens., USNR.

20-24  
2115 2215 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 260<sup>OT</sup>. G. J. Cottrill  
G. J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O. H. Ritchie  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Commanding Officer.F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Sunday 25 July 19 43

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description -1

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	33-28-30N	33-16-00N	31-58-00N
Long.	17-51-00W	18-56-30W	20-02-00W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Underway in convoy with Task Force 85 on base course 260°T, standard speed 14.5 knots, (79 RPM). This ship in position 52. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.

0112 0212 Moonrise.  
0138 0238 Commenced zig-zag plan #11. W.F. Lee  
W.F. LEE, Ens., USN.

04-08  
0513 0613 General Quarters.  
0613 0713 Sunrise. Lighted snip. Set Condition II Mike Able. J.C. Campbell  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

08-12  
0935 1035 Sighted one B-24 Liberator patrol bomber bearing 020°T., distance 5 miles. C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lt.(jg), USNR.

12-16  
1103 1203 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 260°T.  
1108 1208 Changed base course to 215°T.  
1154 1254 Commenced zig-zag plan #11. L.A. Biggs  
L.A. BIGGS, Ens., USNR.

16-20  
1800 1900 Set clocks back one-half hour to zone minus 1/2 time.  
1850 1950 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 215°T.  
1900 2000 Changed base course to 260°T. G.J. Cottrillo  
G.J. COTTRILLO, Ens., USNR.

20-24  
1943 2013 Commenced zig-zag plan #11.  
2007 2037 Signal from O.T.C., submarine has been sighted ahead of convoy.  
2019 2049 Darken ship.  
2024 2054 Sunset.  
2130 2200 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 260°T. W.F. Lee  
W.F. LEE, Ens., USN.

Approved:

Examined:

O.H. Ritchie  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. *Commanding Officer.*

F.P. Ryan  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. *Navigator.*

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Monday 26 July 1943

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zona description -2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	31-13-30N	31-03-00N	31-00-42N
Long.	23-41-00W	24-51-48W	27-20-30W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.O.T. L.O.T. 00-04  
Underway in convoy with Task Force 85 on base course 260°T standard speed 14.5 knots, (79 RPM). This ship in position 52. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.

0230 0300 Commenced zig-zag plan #11.

*J.C. Campbell*  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

0546 0616 04-08  
General quarters.  
0646 0716 Sunrise. Lighted ship. Set Condition II Mike Sugar.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lt.(jg), USNR.

1122 1152 08-12  
Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 260°T.  
1130 1200 Changed base course to 270°T.

*L.A. Biggs*  
L.A. BIGGS, Ens., USNR.

1146 1216 12-16  
Commenced zig-zag plan #11.

*G.J. Cottrill*  
G.J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

1830 1900 16-20  
Set clocks back one-half hour to Greenwich time.

*W.F. Lee*  
W.F. LEE, Ens., USN.

2044 2044 20-24  
Darkened ship.  
2049 2049 Sunset.

*J.C. Campbell*  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. *Commanding Officer.*

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. *Navigator.*

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Tuesday 27 July 1943.

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description: Greenwich

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	30-53-00N	30-53-30N	31-03-30N
Long.	30-18-00W	31-17-30W	33-34-48W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T.	L.C.T.	00-04	Underway in convoy with Task Force 85 on base course 270 <sup>OT</sup> standard speed 14.5 knots, (79 RPM), zig-zag plan #11. This ship in position #52. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.
0310	0310	Moonrise.	<u>C. Goldschmidt</u> C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lt.(jg), USNR.
0616	0616	General Quarters.	
0715	0715	Sunrise. Lighted ship. Set Condition II Mike Sugar.	<u>L.A. Biggs</u> L.A. BIGGS, Ens., USNR.
		08-12	No remarks.
			<u>G.J. Cottrill</u> G.J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.
1200	1200	12-16	Changed base course to 275 <sup>OT</sup> .
			<u>W.F. Lee</u> W.F. LEE, Ens., USN.
1900	1900	16-20	Set clocks back one-half hour to zone plus 1/2 time.
			<u>J.C. Campbell</u> J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.
2114	2044	20-24	Sunset. Darkened ship.
0020	2350		Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 275 <sup>OT</sup> .
0030	2400		Changed base course to 290 <sup>OT</sup> .
			<u>C. Goldschmidt</u> C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lt.(jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O.H. Ritchie  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR, commanding officer.

F.P. Ryan  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR, Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Wednesday 28, 1943 July, 19 43

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus 1

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	31-45-30N	32-03-30N	32-27-00N
Long.	36-47-00W	37-43-00W	39-46-00W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Underway in convoy with Task Force 85 on base course 290°T, standard speed 14.5 knots, (79 RPM). This ship in position #52. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.  
0055 0025 Commenced zig-zag plan #11.  
0428 0358 Morrise.

L.A. Biggs  
L.A. BIGGS, Ens., USNR.

04-08  
0638 0600 General quarters.  
0738 0708 Sunrise. Lighted ship. Set Condition II Mike Sugar.  
0800 0730 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 290°T.  
0814 0744 Commenced fueling exercises. Changed standard speed to 12 knots, (65 RPM).

G.J. Cottrill  
G.J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

08-12  
No remarks.

W.F. Lee  
W.F. LEE, Ens., USN.

12-16  
1339 1309 Completed fueling exercises. Changed standard speed to 14.5 knots, (79 RPM).  
1341 1311 Commenced zig-zag plan #11.

J.C. Campbell  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

16-20  
2000 1900 Set all clocks back one-half hour to zone plus 1 time.

O. Goldschmidt  
O. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lt.(jg), USNR.

20-24  
2136 2006 Darkened ship.  
2141 2041 Sunset.  
2300 2200 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course to 290°T.

L.A. Biggs  
L.A. BIGGS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O.H. Ritchie  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR, Commanding Officer.

F.P. Ryan  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR, Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Thursday 29, July, 1943

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus 1

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	33-27-30N	33-48-15N	34-42-00N
Long.	42-50-30W	44-00-00W	46-14-00W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Underway in convoy with Task Force 85 on base course 290°T, standard speed 14.5 knots, (79 RPM). This ship in position #52. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.

0124 0024 LEONARD WOOD showed breakdown lights and dropped astern of formation.

0134 0034 ANNE ARUNDEL designated as O.T.C. of convoy.

0154 0054 LEONARD WOOD reported breakdown due to loss of fuel-oil suction. Now has steam up and coming ahead.

0200 0100 Changed standard speed to 8 knots, (43.5 RPM).

0244 0144 MONROVIA, HARRY LEE, and WINOOSKI moved ahead one position and took stations 31, 32, and 33 respectively. LEONARD WOOD took position 34. Instructed to resume former position as guide in morning.

0300 0200 MONROVIA designated as guide. Changed standard speed to 14.5 knots, (79 RPM).  
*G. J. Cottrilos*  
G. J. COTTRILLOS, Ens., USNR.

04-08  
0538 0438 Moonrise.

0659 0559 General Quarters.

0728 0628 LEONARD WOOD resumed fleet guide. MONROVIA, HARRY LEE, and WINOOSKI resumed stations 32, 33, and 34 respectively.

0733 0633 Commenced zig-zag plan #11.

0759 0659 Sunrise. Lighted ship. Set Condition II Mike Sugar.  
*W. F. Lee*  
W. F. LEE, Ens., USN.

08-12  
0903 0803 Destroyer in position "D-2" reported doubtful submarine contact and dropped one depth charge.

1146 1046 BEATTY carried out firing exercises.  
*J. C. Campbell*  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

12-16  
No remarks.  
*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lt.(jg), USNR.

16-20  
1730 1900 Set clocks back one-half hour to zone plus 1½ time.  
*L. A. Biggs*  
L. A. BIGGS, Ens., USNR.

20-24  
1904 2034 Darkened ship.

1909 2039 Sunset.

2030 2200 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 290°T.

2056 2226 THURSTON reported breakdown momentarily. Resumed position promptly.

Approved:

Examined:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Thursday 29 (G) July 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description \_\_\_\_\_

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T.	L.C.T.	20-24 (cont)
2107	2237	THURSTON again reported momentary breakdown.
2114	2244	THURSTON reported previous breakdown due to forced draught blower trouble.
2157	2327	THURSTON showed breakdown lights.
2216	2346	THURSTON took station #23 and NICBRARA took station #22.

*G. J. Cottrillo*  
 G. J. COTTRILLO, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
 O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
 F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Friday 30 July 19 43

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus 13

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	35-20-30N	35-39-30N	35-15-00N
Long.	49-38-30W	0-50-43W	52-55-00W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Underway in convoy with Task Force 85 on base course 290<sup>0</sup>T, standard speed 14.5 knots, (79 RPM). This ship in position 52. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.

*W.F. Lee*  
W.F. LEE, Ens., USN.

04-08  
0551 0421 FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE showed breakdown lights and dropped out of formation.  
0615 0445 TILLMAN ordered to stand by FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE.  
0700 0530 Commenced zig-zag plan #11.  
0710 0540 General Quarters.  
0810 0640 Sunrise. Lighted ship. Set Condition II Mike Sugar.  
0900 0730 FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE took station in position #44. MATTEONI took position #43. TILLMAN resumed position in screen.

*J.C. Campbell*  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

08-12  
No remarks.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lt.(jg), USNR.

12-16  
No remarks.

*L.A. Biggs*  
L.A. BIGGS, Lt., USNR.

16-20  
2030 1900 Set all clocks back one-half hour to zone plus 2 time.  
2029 1929 Changed standard speed to 13.5 knots, (73.5 RPM).

*G.J. Cotirilos*  
G.J. COTIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

20-24  
1835 2025 Darkened ship.  
1840 2040 Sunset.  
2000 2200 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 290<sup>0</sup>T.

*W.F. Lee*  
W.F. LEE, Ens., USN.

Approved:

Examined:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Commanding Officer.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.



UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Saturday 31 July, 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus 2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	37-00-45N	37-05-00N	36-51-30N
Long.	55-05-00W	57-06-30W	59-05-00W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

00-04  
Underway in convoy with Task Force 85 on base course 290°T, standard speed 13.5 knots, (74 RPM). This ship in position #52. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.

J. Campbell  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt. (jg), USNR.

04-08  
0700 0500 Changed base course to 275°T.  
0720 0520 Commenced zig-zag plan #11.  
0748 0548 General quarters.  
0848 0548 Sunrise. Lighted ship. Set Condition II Mike Sugar.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lt. (jg), USNR.

08-12  
1352 1152 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 275°T.  
1359 1159 Commenced zig-zag plan #16.

L.A. Biggs  
L.A. BIGGS, Lt., USNR.

12-16  
No remarks.

G.J. Cottrill  
G.J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

16-20  
1950 1750 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 275°T.  
1959 1759 Changed base course to 230°T.  
2048 1848 Commenced zig-zag plan #16.  
2100 1900 Set clocks back one-half hour to zone plus 2½ time.

W.P. Lee  
W.P. LEE, Ens., USNR.

20-24  
2252 2022 Darkened ship.  
2257 2027 Sunset.  
August 1,  
0020 2150 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 230°T.  
0030 2200 Changed base course to 275°T.

J.C. Campbell  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt. (jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

D.H. Ritchie  
D.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. *Commanding Officer.*

F.P. Ryan  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. *Navigator.*

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

020046  
Monday 1  
(Day) (Date)

August, 1943  
(Month)

Zone description plus 2 1/2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	36-52-00N	36-56-45N	37-04-00N
Long.	61-45-00W	62-45-00W	64-32-00W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Underway in convoy with Task Force 85 on base course 275°T, standard speed 13.5 knots, (74 RPM). This ship in position #52. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.

DESIGNATION: Task Group 85.3

COMPOSITION: DORTHEA L. DIX, WILLIAM P. BIDDEE, LEONARD WOOD, ALCYONE, FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE, SUSAN B. ANTHONY, ANNE ARUNDEL, BELLATRIX, NEVILLE, HARRY LEE, MONROVIA, THURSTON, MATRAPONI, WINGOSKI, NIORARA, S.S. ARGENTINA, and S.S. SLOTERDYK,

NEXT HIGHER ECHELON: Task Force #85.

MAJOR FORCE TO WHICH ATTACHED: United States Atlantic Fleet.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lt.(Jg), USNR.

0740	0510	<u>04-08</u>
0807	0537	Commenced zig-zag plan #16.
0907	0637	General Quarters.
0924	0654	Set Condition II Mike Sugar.
0954	0724	Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 275°T.
		Commenced zig-zag plan #11.

L.A. Biggs  
L.A. BIGGS, Ens., USNR.

08-12  
No remarks.

G.J. Cotsirilos  
G.J. COTSIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

12-16  
No remarks.

W.F. Lee  
W.F. LEE, Ens., USN.

2130	1900	<u>16-20</u>
		Set clocks back one-half hour to zone plus 3 time.

J.C. Campbell  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(Jg), USNR.

2322	2022	<u>20-24</u>
2327	2027	Darkened ship.
0115	2215	Sunset.
		Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 275°T.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lt.(Jg), USNR.

54739

Approved:

Examined:

O.H. Ritchie  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR, Commanding Officer.

F.P. Ryan  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR, Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Monday

2

August, 1943

Zone description plus 3

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	37-12-30N	37-27-00N	37-23-30N
Long.	67-52-00W	69-00-00W	71-07-00W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Underway in convoy with Task Force 85 on base course 275<sup>OT</sup>, standard speed 13.5 knots, (73.5 RPM). This ship in position 52. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR.

04-08  
0800 0500 Commenced zig-zag plan #11.  
0835 0535 General Quarters.  
0935 0635 Sunrise. Lighted ship. Set Condition II Mike Sugar.

*G.J. Cottrillo*  
G.J. COTTRILLO, Ens., USNR.

08-12  
1131 0831 Changed standard speed to 14.5 knots, (79 RPM).  
1227 0927 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 275<sup>OT</sup>.  
1232 0932 Changed base course to 295<sup>OT</sup>.  
1255 0955 Commenced zig-zag plan #11.

*W.F. Lee*  
W.F. LEE, Ens., USNR.

12-16  
1632 1332 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 295<sup>OT</sup>.  
1644 1344 Changed base course to 260<sup>OT</sup>.  
1658 1358 The following ships were detached and formed a separate convoy: DOROTHEA L. DIX, ANNE ARUNDEL, SUSAN B. ANTHONY, THURSTON, FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE, and the S.S. ARGENTINA, and the S.S. SLOTERDYK, with five destroyers.  
1700 1400 Remaining ships of this convoy formed new cruising disposition of three columns. This ship in position #32.  
1729 1429 Commenced zig-zag plan #11.

*J.C. Campbell*  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

16-20  
2300 1900 Set all clocks back one hour to zone plus 4 time.  
2348 1948 Darkened ship.  
2353 1953 Sunset.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lt.(jg), USNR.

20-24  
0200 2200 Altered base course to 258<sup>OT</sup>.  
0215 2215 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 258<sup>OT</sup>.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Commanding Officer.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Tuesday

3

August 19 43

(Day)

(Date)

(Month)

Zone description plus four

Position 0800

1200

2000

Lat.

Long.

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.O.T. L.O.T. 00-04

Underway in convoy with Task Force 85 on base course 258<sup>OT</sup>, standard speed 14.5 knots, (79 RPM). This ship in position #32. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.

*E.J. Cottrill*

G.T. COTTRILL, ens., USNR.

0830 0430

04-08

Commenced zig-zag plan #11.

0901 0501

General Quarters.

0915 0515

Cut in degaussing gear.

1001 0601

Sunrise. Lighted ship. Set Condition II Mike Sugar.

1026 0626

Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 258<sup>OT</sup>.

1034 0634

Changed base course to 285<sup>OT</sup>.

1049 0649

Commenced zig-zag plan #11.

1118 0718

Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 285<sup>OT</sup>.

1128 0723

Changed base course to 325<sup>OT</sup>.

1130 0730

Sighted buoy "X-S" bearing 314 T, distance 7 miles. Convoy changed standard speed to 14 knots, (76 RPM).

*W.F. Lee*

W.F. LEE, ens., USN.

1203 0803

08-12

With entrance buoy "X-S" abeam to starboard, distance 700 yards. Entered swept channel.

*J.C. Campbell*

J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

1602 1202

12-16

Passed buoy #4 abeam to starboard, distance 100 yards.

1613 1213

Changed course to 277 T. Entered Mine Field Channel.

1627 1227

Passed Cape Henry Light abeam to port, distance one mile.

1627 1227

Passed black buoy abeam to port, distance 100 yards.

1638 1238

Changed course to 290<sup>OT</sup>.

1638 1238

Entered Thimble Shoal Channel.

1711 1311

Made all preparations for entering port. On various courses and at various speeds conforming to the channel. The Captain at the Conn, the Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge.

1736 1336

Old Point Comfort Light abeam to starboard, distance 1/2 mile.

1751 1351

Pilot R.B. MC COY came aboard.

1752 1352

Pilot took the Conn.

1834 1434

Moored port side to Pier 4 in berth #42, N.O.B. Norfolk, Va.

1848 1448

Secured degaussing gear.

1900 1500

Set Condition II Mike Able.

*C. Goldschmidt*

C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lt.(jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O.H. Ritchie*

O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Executive Officer.

*F.P. Ryan*

F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Tuesday 3 (0) August, 19 43  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus four

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 16-20  
No remarks.

F.P. Ryan  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR.

Aug. 4, 20-24  
0011 2011 Sunset.  
0026 2026 Darkened snip locally.

G.J. Cottrill  
G.J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

Olt Ritchie

F.P. Ryan

O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR Commanding Officer.

F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Wednesday 4

August, 1943

(Day)

(Date)

(Month)

Zone description plus 4

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Moored port side to Pier 4, berth #12, N.C.B. Norfolk, Va.  
Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Able.  
*[Signature]*  
F.L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

1011 0611 04-08  
Sunrise. Lighted ship. *K.G. HOLCOMBE*  
K.G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

08-12  
No remarks. *G.J. COPELAND*  
G.J. COPELAND, Ens., USNR.

12-16  
No remarks. *J.C. CAMPBELL*  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

2015 1615 16-20  
Made all preparations for getting underway.  
2023 1623 Pilot E.T. SEXTON came aboard.  
2033 1633 Underway on various courses and at various speeds conforming to channel proceeding to Norfolk Navy Yard, Portsmouth, Va. Standard speed 15 knots, (31.5 RPM). Pilot at the Conn, Captain, Executive Officer, and Navigator on the bridge. Cut in degaussing gear.

2125 1725 Pilot T.F. PURCELL came aboard and took the Conn. Pilot E.T. SEXTON left the ship.

2206 1806 Moored starboard side to Berths 7 and 8 Norfolk Navy Yard, Portsmouth, Va.

2228 1828 Pilot left the ship.

2230 1830 Secured degaussing gear. *J.C. CAMPBELL*  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

AUG. 5, 20-24  
0010 2010 Sunset.  
0025 2025 Darkened ship locally. *G.J. COPELAND*  
G.J. COPELAND, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O.H. RITCHIE*  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR Commanding Officer.*F.F. RYAN*  
F.F. RYAN, Lieut., USNR Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Thursday 5 Aug., 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus 4

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Moored starboard side to Bertas 7 and 8 Norfolk Navy Yard, Portsmouth, Va. Receiving following services from shore: fresh water, steam, and telephone. Ship darkened locally and in Condition II Mike Able.

J.C. Campbell  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

1012 0612 04-08  
Sunrise. Lighted ship.

J.J. Madden  
J.J. MADDEN, Lt.(jg), USNR.

08-12  
No remarks.

G.J. Cottrill  
G.J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

12-16  
No remarks.

R.F. Monger Ens. USNR  
R.F. MONGER, Ens., USNR.

16-20  
No remarks.

J.C. Campbell  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

Aug. 20-24  
0009 2009 Sunset.  
0024 2024 Darkened ship locally.

G.J. Cottrill  
G.J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O.H. Ritchie  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR, Commanding Officer.

F.P. Ryan  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR, Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Friday 6 AUG., 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus 4

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. I.C.T. 00-04  
Moored starboard side to Berths 7 and 8 Norfolk Navy Yard, Portsmouth, Va. Receiving following services from shore: fresh water, steam, and telephone. Ship darkened locally and in Condition II Mike Able.

R. F. Moxley Ensign, USNR  
R.F. MOXLEY, Ensign, USNR.

1013 0613 04-08  
Sunrise. Lighted ship.

J. C. Campbell  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

08-12  
No remarks.

G. F. Cottrill  
G.F. COTTRILL, Ensign, USNR.

12-16  
No remarks.

J. J. Madden  
J.J. MADDEN, Lt.(jg), USNR.

16-20  
No remarks.

J. C. Campbell  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

Aug. 7  
0008 2008 20-24  
0023 2023 Sunset.  
Darkened ship locally.

G. F. Cottrill  
G.F. COTTRILL, Ensign, USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O. H. Ritchie  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. *Commanding Officer.*

F. F. Ryan  
F.F. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. *Navigator.*



PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Saturday 7 August, 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description \_\_\_\_\_

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Moored starboard side to Berths 7 and 8 Norfolk Navy Yard, Portsmouth, Va. Receiving following services from shore: fresh water, steam, and telephone. Ship darkened locally and in Condition II Mike 0400.  
J. Madden  
J. MADDEN, Lieut.(jg), USNR.

1014 0014 04-08  
Sunrise. Lighted ship.  
J.C. Campbell  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lieut.(jg), USNR.

08-12  
No remarks.  
B.J. Cottrill  
B.J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

12-16  
No remarks.  
R.A. Morgan  
R.A. MORGAN, Ens., USNR.

16-20  
No remarks.  
J.C. Campbell  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lieut.(jg), USNR.

Aug. 8 20-24  
0007 2007 Sunset.  
0022 2022 Darkened ship locally.  
B.J. Cottrill  
B.J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

Approved: Alt Ritchie  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR, Commanding Officer.

Examined: R.P. Ryan  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR, Navigator.

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PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Sunday 8 August, 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus four

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-01  
Moored starboard side to Bertas 7 and 8 Norfolk Navy Yard, Portsmouth, Va. Receiving following services from shore: fresh water, steam, and telephone. Ship darkened locally and in Condition II Mike Able.

C.F. Campbell, Ens., USNR

04-08  
1015 0615 Sunrise. Lighted ship.  
1140 0740 Made all preparations for getting underway.  
1155 0755 Pilot T.W. TREAKLE came aboard.

J.C. Campbell, Lieut.(JG), USNR

08-12  
1225 0825 Underway on various courses and at various speeds conforming to channel proceeding to Berkley, Va. Pilot at the Conn., the Captain, Executive Officer, and Navigator on the bridge.

1253 0853 Moored port side to southeast side of Pier #4, Berkley, Va.  
1300 0900 Pilot left the ship.

S.J. Cottrill, Ens., USNR

12-16  
No remarks.

J.D. Madden, Lieut.(JG), USNR

16-20  
No remarks.

J.C. Campbell, Lieut.(JG), USNR

AUG. 9, 20-24  
0006 2006 Sunset.  
0021 2021 Darkened ship locally.

S.J. Cottrill, Ens., USNR

Approved:

Examined:

O.H. Ritchie, Capt., USNR  
Commanding Officer.

F.P. Ryan, Lieut., USNR  
Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Monday 9 August, 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus four

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Moored port side to Pier #4, Berkley, Va. Receiving following services from shore: fresh water, steam, and electricity. Ship darkened locally and in Condition II Mike Able.

J.D. Madden  
J.D. MADDEN, Lieut.(jg), USNR.

1015 0615 04-08  
Sunrise. Lighted ship.

J.C. Campbell  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lieut.(jg), USNR.

08-12  
No remarks.

G.V. Cottrillo  
G.V. COTTRILLO, Ens., USNR.

12-16  
No remarks.

R.F. Menger  
R.F. MONGER, Ens., USNR.

16-20  
No remarks.

J.C. Campbell  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lieut.(jg), USNR.

AUG. 10, 20-24  
0005 2005 Sunset.  
0020 2020 Darkened ship locally.

G.V. Cottrillo  
G.V. COTTRILLO, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

Old Ritchie

F.P. Ryan

O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. *Commanding Officer.*

F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. *Navigator.*

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Tuesday  
(Day)

10  
(Date)

August, 19 43  
(Month)

Zone description Plus four

Position 0800

1200

2000

Lat.

Long.

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.O.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Moored port side to Pier #4, Berkeley, Va. Receiving following services from shore: Fresh water, steam, and electricity. Ship darkened locally and in Condition II Mike Able.

R.F. MONGER, Ens., USNR.  
R.F. MONGER, Ens., USNR.

1016 0616

04-08  
Sunrise. Lighted ship.

J.C. CAMPBELL, Lieut.(JG), USNR.  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lieut.(JG), USNR.

08-12  
No remarks.

G.F. COTSIRILOS, Ens., USNR.  
G.F. COTSIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

12-16  
No remarks.

J.J. MADDEN, Lieut.(JG), USNR.  
J.J. MADDEN, Lieut.(JG), USNR.

16-20  
No remarks.

J.C. CAMPBELL, Lieut.(JG), USNR.  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lieut.(JG), USNR.

Aug. 11,  
0004 2004  
0019 2019

20-24  
Sunset.  
Darkened ship locally.

G.F. COTSIRILOS, Ens., USNR.  
G.F. COTSIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR.  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Commanding Officer.

F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR.  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Wednesday 11 August, 19 43  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus four

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Moored port side to Pier #4, Berkley, Va. Receiving following services from shore: fresh water, steam, and electricity. Ship darkened locally and in Condition II Mike Able.

*J.J. Madden*  
Lieut.(JG) J.J. MADDEN, USNR.

1017 0617 04-08  
Sunrise. Lighted ship.

*J.C. Campbell*  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lieut.(JG), USNR.

08-12  
No remarks.

*J.C. Cottrill*  
J.C. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

12-16  
No remarks.

*R.F. Monger*  
R.F. MONGER, Ens., USNR.

16-20  
No remarks.

*J.C. Campbell*  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lieut.(JG), USNR.

Aug. 12, 2003 20-24  
0016 2018 Sunset.  
Darkened ship locally.

*J.C. Campbell*  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lieut.(JG), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR, Commanding Officer.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR, Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Thursday

12

August, 1943

(Day)

(Date)

(Month)

Zone description plus four

Position 0800

1200

2000

Lat.

Long.

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.O.T. 00-04  
Moored port side to Pier #4, Berkley, Va. Receiving following services from shore: fresh water, steam, and electricity. Ship darkened locally and in Condition II Mike Able.

J. Campbell  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

1018 0618 04-08  
Sunrise. Lighted ship.

R.F. Monger  
R.F. MONGER, Ens., USNR.

08-12  
No remarks.

W.F. Lee  
W.F. LEE, Ens., USN.

12-16  
No remarks.

J.S. Madden  
J.S. MADDEN, Lt.(jg), USNR.

16-20  
No remarks.

F.L. Roberts  
F.L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

Aug. 13, 20-24  
0006 2006 Sunset.  
0015 2015 Darkened ship locally.

K.G. Holcombe  
K.G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O.H. Ritchie

F.P. Ryan

O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Commanding Officer.

F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Friday 13 August, 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus four

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Moored port side to Pier #4, Berkeley, Va. Receiving following services from shore: fresh water, steam, and electricity. Ship darkened locally and in Condition II Mike Able.  
C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lt.(jg), USNR.

1019 0619 04-08  
Sunrise. Lighted snip.  
F.L. Roberts  
F.L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

08-12  
No remarks.  
K.G. Holcombe  
K.G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

12-16  
No remarks.  
R.F. Monner  
R.F. MONNER, Ens., USNR.

16-20  
No remarks.  
C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lt.(jg), USNR.

Aug. 14, 20-24  
0001 2001 Sunset.  
0016 2016 Darkened ship locally.  
F.L. Roberts  
F.L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O.H. Ritchie  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR, Commanding Officer.

F.P. Ryan  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR, Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Saturday 14 AUGUST, 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)Zone description plus four

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Moored port side to Pier #4, Berkley, Va. Receiving following services from shore: fresh water, steam, and electricity. Ship darkened locally and in Condition II Mike Able.

K.S. Holcombe  
K.S. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

1018 0618 04-08  
Sunrise. Lighted snip.

J.J. Madden  
J.J. MADDEN, Lt.(jg), USNR.

1300 0900 08-12  
Shifted berth. Moored starboard side Pier #5, Berkley, Va. Receiving following services from shore: fresh water, steam, and electricity.

F.L. Roberts  
F.L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

12-16  
No remarks.

K.S. Holcombe  
K.S. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

16-20  
No remarks.

J.J. Madden  
J.J. MADDEN, Lt.(jg), USNR.

Aug. 15, 20-24  
2400 2000 Sunset.  
0015 2015 Darkened snip locally.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lt.(jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

Alt Ritchie  
O.R. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Commanding Officer.

F.P. Ryan  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.



PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Sunday 15 August, 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)Zone description plus four


Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)


G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Moored starboard side to Pier #5, Berkley, Va. Receiving following services from shore: fresh water, steam, and electricity. Ship darkened locally and in Condition II Mike Able.

  
F.L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

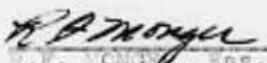
1020 0620 04-08  
Sunrise. Lighted ship.

  
K.G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

08-12  
No remarks.

  
C. ROLDSCHMIDT, Lt.(jg), USNR.

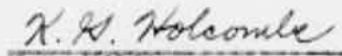
12-16  
No remarks.

  
R.F. MONAGHAN, Ens., USNR.

2359 1959 16-20  
Sunset.


  
F.L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

Aug. 16, 20-24  
0014 2014 Darkened ship locally.

  
K.G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. *Commanding Officer.*

  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. *Navigator.*

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Monday 16 August, 19 43  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus four

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Moored starboard side to Pier #5, Berkley, Va. Receiving following services from shore: fresh water, steam, and electricity. Ship darkened locally and in Condition II Mike Able.

*C. J. Schmitt*  
C. J. SCHMITT, Lt.(JG), USNR.

1021 0621 04-08  
Sunrise. Lighted ship.

*F. L. Roberts*  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

08-12  
No remarks.

*K. G. Holcomb*  
K. G. HOLCOMB, Ens., USNR.

12-16  
No remarks.

*J. Madden*  
J. MADDEN, Lt.(JG), USNR.

2357 1957 16-20  
Sunset.

*C. J. Schmitt*  
C. J. SCHMITT, Lt.(JG), USNR.

AUG. 17, 0013 2013 20-24  
Darkened ship locally.

*F. L. Roberts*  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR, Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR, Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Tuesday 17 August, 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)Zone description plus four

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Moored starboard side to Pier #5, Berkley, Va. Receiving following services from shore: fresh water, steam, and electricity. Ship darkened locally and in Condition II Mike Able.

K. G. Holcombe  
K. G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

1021 0601 04-08  
Sunrise. Lighted ship.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lt.(jg), USNR.

08-12  
No remarks.

F. L. Roberts  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

12-16  
No remarks.

R. H. Mays  
R. H. MAYS, Ens., USNR.

2357 1957 18-20  
Sunset.

K. G. Holcombe  
K. G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

Aug. 18, 20-24  
0013 2013 Darkened ship locally.  
0110 2110 Air alert. Yellow signal received by siren signal.  
0125 2125 Blue signal received.  
0140 2140 Red signal received.  
0155 2155 Blue #2 signal received.  
0202 2202 All clear received. Drill completed.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lt.(jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

W. H. Ritchie  
W. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Wednesday 18 August, 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus four

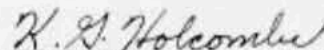
Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

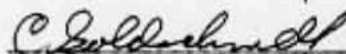
G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Moored starboard side to Pier #5, Berkley, Va. Receiving following services from shore: fresh water, steam, and electricity. Ship darkened locally and in Condition II like Able.

  
F.L. ROBERTS, ENS., USNR.

1022 0622 04-08  
Sunrise. Lighted ship.

  
K.G. HOLCOMBE, ENS., USNR.

08-12  
No remarks.

  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lt.(JG), USNR.


12-16  
No remarks.

  
J. MADDEN, Lt.(JG), USNR.

2357 1957 16-20  
Sunset.

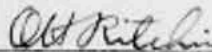
  
F.L. ROBERTS, ENS., USNR.

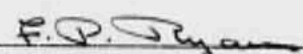
Aug. 19, 0012 2012 20-24  
Darkened ship locally.

  
K.G. HOLCOMBE, ENS., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:





O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Commanding Officer.

F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Thursday 19 August, 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus four

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Moored starboard side to Pier #5, Berkley, Va. Receiving following services from shore: fresh water, steam, and electricity. Ship darkened locally and in Condition II Mike Able.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lt.(JG), USNR.

04-08  
1021 0621 Sunrise. Lighted ship.  
1141 0741 Pilot R.L. WALTON reported aboard.

F.L. Roberts  
F.L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

08-12  
1200 0800 Made all preparations for getting underway.  
1211 0811 Underway on various courses and at various speeds conforming to the channel with the Pilot at the Conn, Captain, Executive Officer, and Navigator on the bridge.  
1355 0955 Moored port side to south side of Pier #4, N.O.B., Norfolk, Va. Pilot R.L. WALTON left the ship.

F.P. Ryan  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR.

12-16  
No remarks.

R.P. Menger  
R.P. MENGER, Ens., USNR.

16-20  
2355 1955 Sunset.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lt.(JG), USNR.

Aug. 20, 20-24  
0010 2010 Darkened ship locally.

F.L. Roberts  
F.L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O.H. Ritchie  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR, Responding Officer.

F.P. Ryan  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR, Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BULLBAT

Friday  
(Day)

20  
(Date)

AUGUST, 1943  
(Month)

Zone description plus four

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

U.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Moored port side to south side of Pier #4, N.C.S., Norfolk, Va. Receiving following service from shore: fresh water. Ship darkened locally and in Condition II Mike Able.

K. H. Walcombe  
K. H. WALCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

1024 0624 04-08  
Sunrise. Lighted ship.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lt.(jg), USNR.

08-12  
No remarks.

F. L. Roberts  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

12-16  
No remarks.

J. O. Campbell  
J. O. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

2354 1954 16-20  
Sunset.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lt.(jg), USNR.

Aug. 21, 20-24  
0009 2009 Darkened ship locally.

F. L. Roberts  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O. H. Ritchie  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR, Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR, Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Saturday 21 August, 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus four

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Moored port side to south side of Pier #4, N.O.B., Norfolk, Va. Receiving the following services from shore: fresh water. Ship darkened locally and in Condition II Mike Able.

G.J. Cottrill  
G.J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

1025 0625 04-08  
Sunrise. Lighted ship.

J.C. Campbell  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

08-12  
No remarks.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lt.(jg), USNR.

12-16  
No remarks.

R.H. Holcombe  
R.H. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

2353 1953 16-20  
Sunset.

F.L. Roberts  
F.L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

Aug. 22, 0008 2008 20-24  
Darkened ship locally.

W.F. Lee  
W.F. LEE, Ens., USN.

Approved:

Examined:

C.H. Ritchie  
C.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR, Commanding Officer.

F.P. Ryan  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR, Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Sunday 22 August, 19 43  
(Day) (Date) (Month)Zone description plus four

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Moored port side to south side of Pier #4, N.O.B., Norfolk, Va. Receiving the following services from shore: fresh water. Ship darkened locally and in Condition II Mike Able.

R.F. Monger  
R.F. MONGER, Ens., USNR.

1026 0626 04-08  
Sunrise. Lighted snip.

K.G. Holcombe  
K.G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

08-12  
No remarks.

F.L. Roberts  
F.L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

12-16  
No remarks.

J.J. Madden  
J.J. MADDEN, Lt.(JG), USNR.

2352 1952 16-20  
Sunset.

F.J. Cottrill  
F.J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

Aug. 23, 20-24  
0007 2007 Darkened ship locally.

F.C. Campbell  
F.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(JG), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

Alb Ritchie  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Commanding Officer.

F.P. Ryan  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.



PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Monday 23 August, 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus four

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Moored port side to south side of Pier #4, N.O.B., Norfolk, Va. Receiving the following services from shore: fresh water. Snip darkened locally and in Condition II Mike Able.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lt.(jg), USNR.

1027 0627 04-08  
Sunrise. Lighted ship.

*J.J. Madden*  
J.J. MADDEN, Lt.(jg), USNR.

08-12  
No remarks.

*G.J. Cotserilos*  
G.J. COTSERILOS, Ens., USNR.

1753 1353 12-16  
1757 1357 Pilot R.B. MQ-COY came aboard. Underway, proceeding to anchorage on various courses at various speeds. Pilot at the Conn, Captain, Executive Officer, and Navigator on the bridge. Standard speed 15 knots, (81.5 RPM).  
1805 1405 Captain took the Conn.  
1806 1406 Pilot R.B. MQ-COY left the ship.  
1826 1426 Anchored in Berth #4, Hampton Roads, Va. in 9 fathoms of water with 40 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor on the following bearings: Twin Stacks 350°T, Port Wool 074°T, and Clock Tower 133°T.  
1912 1512 Underway on various courses at various speeds to shift anchorage.  
1926 1526 Anchored in Berth #27, Hampton Roads, Va. in 7 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor on the following bearings: Clock Tower 238 3/4°T, Middle Ground Light 271 1/2°T, and Beacon 315 1/2°T.

*W.F. Lee*  
W.F. LEE, Ens., USN.

2351 1951 16-20  
Sunset.

*R.F. Monger*  
R.F. MONGER, Ens., USNR.

Aug. 24, 20-24  
0005 2005 Darkened snip.  
0115 2115 Made all preparations for getting underway.  
0147 2147 Underway on various courses at various speeds conforming to the channel and proceeding to assigned Berth #4. The Executive Officer at the Conn, and the Navigator on the bridge. Standard speed 15 knots, (81.5 RPM).

Approved:

Examined:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USN Commanding Officer.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Monday 23 (C) August, 19 43  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus four

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 20-24 (Cont)  
 0220 2220 Anchored in Berth #4, Hampton Roads, Va. in 9 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor, on the following bearings: Middle Ground Light 227 $\frac{1}{2}$ <sup>OT</sup>, Fort Wool 075 $\frac{1}{2}$ <sup>OT</sup>, and Beacon 261 $\frac{1}{2}$ <sup>OT</sup>.

*K. G. Holcombe*  
 K. G. HOLCOMBE, Ensign, USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*Albert Ritchie*  
 G. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Quartermaster

*F. P. Ryan*  
 F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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CONFIDENTIAL

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Tuesday

24

August, 1943

(Day)

(Date)

(Month)

Zone description plus four

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	36-58-24N	36-54-00N	36-13-30N
Long.	76-20-15W	75-17-00W	73-26-00W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Anchored in Berth #4, Hampton Roads, Va. in 9 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor on the following bearings: Middle Ground Light 227 $\frac{1}{2}$ °T, Fort Wool Light 075 $\frac{1}{2}$ °T, and Beacon 261 $\frac{1}{2}$ °T. Ship is fully darkened and in Condition II Mike Able.

*F.L. Roberts*  
F.L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

04-08

1029 0629  
1100 0700  
1131 0731

Sunrise. Lighted ship.  
Made all preparations for getting underway.  
Underway on various courses and at various speeds conforming to the channel proceeding to sea in accordance with Commander Task Group 20.15, Operation Order #1-43.

DESIGNATION: Task Group 20.15COMPOSITION: 20.15.1 Screen.

BEBAS  
SEID  
MC CONNELL  
OSTERHAUS  
PARIS  
DOWNEFF  
EROSTRON  
TURNER

20.15.2 Convoy.

LEONARD WOOD  
CALVERT  
BELLATRIX  
FOLLUX  
MONROVIA  
HARRY LEE  
VIRGO  
NEVILLE  
WILLIAM F. BIDDLE  
ALOYOME

NEXT HIGHER ECHELON: Sixth Amphibious ForceMAJOR FORCE TO WHICH ATTACHED: U.S. Atlantic Fleet.

1200 0800

Took position in column astern of the CALVERT in accordance with Sortie Plan #1-43, Formation #1.

*W.F. Lee*  
W.F. LEE, Ens., USN.

08-12

1318 0918  
1347 0947  
1401 1001

General Quarters.  
Passed through Point "A".  
Entered swept channel and changed base course to 085°T.  
Set Condition II Mike Sugar.

Approved:

Examined:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR, Commanding Officer.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR, Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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CONFIDENTIAL

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Tuesday

24 (2)

August, 1943

(Day)

(Date)

(Month)

Zone description plus four

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T.	L.C.T.	08-12 (Cont)
1230	0830	Passed through Point "X-Ray". Changed standard speed to 14 knots, (76 RPM).
1544	1144	Passed through Point "P-S".

*J.C. Campbell*  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt. (jg), USNR.

		<u>12-16</u>
1758	1358	Buoy "S-1" abeam to port, distance 100 yards.
1812	1412	Changed course to 135°T.
1815	1415	Assumed convoy formation #2. This ship in position #23.
1846	1446	Changed standard speed to 14.5 knots (79 RPM).
1853	1453	Commenced zig-zag plan #11.

*G.J. Cottrill*  
G.J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

16-18  
No remarks.

*G. Goldschmidt*  
G. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lt. (jg), USNR.

		<u>18-20</u>
2216	1816	Escort vessel reported unidentified surface craft bearing 108°T.
2220	1820	TURNER proceeded to investigate unidentified craft.
2315	1915	TURNER reported previously unidentified craft to be friendly.
2334	1934	Sunset.
2344	1944	Barkened ship.

*W.F. Lee*  
W.F. LEE, Ens., USN.

Aug. 25,		<u>20-24</u>
0030	2030	Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 135°T.
0250	2250	Changed base course to 180°T.

*J.C. Campbell*  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt. (jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR Commanding Officer.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lt., USNR Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Wednesday 25 August, 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus four

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	33-33-00N	32-35-00N	30-47-30N
Long.	72-57-00W	73-04-00W	73-35-30W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Underway in convoy with Task Group 20.15 on course 180°T, standard speed 14.5 knots, (79 RPM). Convoy formation #2. This ship in position #23. Ship is completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.  
0500 0100 Changed base course to 186°T.  
0545 0145 Commenced zig-zag plan #11.  
0639 0239 Changed standard speed to 12 knots, (65 RPM).  
0651 0251 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 186°T.  
0723 0323 Changed standard speed to 14.5 knots, (79 RPM).

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lt.(jg), USNR.

04-08  
0919 0519 General Quarters.  
0945 0545 Commenced zig-zag plan #11.  
1019 0619 Set Condition II Mike Sugar. Sunrise. Lighted ship.

G.J. Cottrill  
G.J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

08-12  
1356 0956 Changed base course to 191°T.

W.F. Lee  
W.F. LEE, Ens., USNR.

12-16  
1959 1559 Changed base course to 186°T.

J. Campbell  
J. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

16-18  
No remarks.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lt.(jg), USNR.

18-20  
2121 1721 Darkened ship.  
2126 1726 Sunset.

G.J. Cottrill  
G.J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

Aug. 26, 20-24  
0000 2000 Changed base course to 183°T.  
0045 2045 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 183°T.

W.F. Lee  
W.F. LEE, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O.H. Ritchie  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR, Commanding Officer.

F.F. Ryan  
F.F. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Thursday 26  
(Day) (Date)

August, 1943  
(Month)

Zone description PLUS FOUR

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	27-52-00N	27-00-00N	25-36-00N
Long.	73-47-00W	73-52-00W	73-50-30W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Underway in convoy with Task Group 20.15 on course 183°T, standard speed 14.5 knots, (79 RPM). Convoy formation #2. This ship in position #23. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.

0645 0245 Commenced zig-zag plan #11.  
*J.C. Campbell*  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

04-08  
0929 0529 General quarters.  
1029 0629 Sunrise. Lighted ship. Set Condition II Mike Sugar.  
*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lt.(jg), USNR.

08-12  
1227 0827 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 183°T.  
1231 0831 Commenced zig-zag plan #18.  
*G.F. Cottrill*  
G.F. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

12-16  
1620 1220 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 183°T.  
1630 1230 Changed base course to 153°T.  
1650 1250 Commenced zig-zag plan #18.  
1820 1420 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 153°T.  
1830 1430 Changed base course to 183°T.  
1850 1450 Changed base course to 213°T.  
1910 1510 Commenced zig-zag plan #18.  
*W.F. Lee*  
W.F. LEE, Ens., USNR.

16-18  
2040 1640 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 213°T.  
2050 1650 Changed base course to 183°T.  
2111 1711 Commenced zig-zag plan #30.  
*J.C. Campbell*  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

18-20  
2317 1917 Darkened ship.  
2322 1922 Sunset.  
*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lt.(jg), USNR.

Aug. 27, 20-24  
0115 2115 Adjusted base course to 193°T.  
*G.F. Cottrill*  
G.F. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Commanding Officer.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., U.S.N.R. Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Friday 27 August, 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus FOUR

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	23-40-00N	22-41-00N	21-25-00N
Long.	14-11-30W	14-30-15W	15-02-00W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Underway in convoy with Task Group 20.15 on course 193<sup>OT</sup>, standard speed 13.5 knots, (73.5 RPM). Convoy formation #2. This ship in position #23. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.

0645 0245 Sighted San Salvador Island Light bearing 230<sup>OT</sup>, distance 22 miles.

0945 0345 Adjusted base course to 195<sup>OT</sup>.

W.F. Lee  
W.F. LEE, Ens., USN.

04-08  
0800 0400 Commenced zig-zag plan #30.  
0820 0420 San Salvador Island Light abeam to starboard, distance 15.3 miles.  
0940 0540 General Quarters.  
1040 0640 Sunrise. Lighted ship. Set Condition II Mike Sugar.  
1127 0727 TURNER reported submarine sound contact bearing 180<sup>OT</sup>.  
1129 0729 Made emergency turn 45° to starboard to course 240<sup>OT</sup>.  
1132 0732 Made emergency turn 45° to starboard to course 285<sup>OT</sup>.  
1137 0737 Made emergency turn 45° to port to course 240<sup>OT</sup>.  
1139 0739 TURNER reported submarine contact false.  
1144 0744 Resumed base course 195<sup>OT</sup>.  
1150 0750 Commenced zig-zag plan #30.

J. Campbell  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

08-12  
1335 0935 Sighted Bird Rock Light bearing 179½<sup>OT</sup>, distance 13.5 miles.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lt.(jg), USNR.

12-16  
1626 1226 Changed standard speed to 10 knots, (54.5 RPM).  
1702 1302 ENGSTROM dropped several patterns of depth charges.  
1803 1403 ENGSTROM took station in screen.  
1823 1423 Changed standard speed to 13.5 knots, (73.5 RPM).

G.J. Cotarielos  
G.J. COTARIELOS, Ens., USNR.

16-18  
2026 1626 Changed base course to 195<sup>OT</sup>.

W.F. Lee  
W.F. LEE, Ens., USN.

Approved:

Examined:

O.H. Ritchie  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR, Commanding Officer.

F.P. Ryan  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR, Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Friday 27 (C) August, 19 43  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus four

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T.	L.C.T.	18-20
2250	1850	DONEFF reported doubtful submarine contact bearing 130°T.
2252	1852	Made emergency turn 45° to starboard to course 240°T.
2257	1857	Resumed base course 195°T.
2258	1858	DONEFF reported contact false.
2301	1901	Commenced zig-zag plan #30.
2319	1919	Darkened ship.
2324	1924	Sunset.
2330	1930	ENGSTROM reported surface radar contact bearing 090°T, distance 3400 yards. Moving on course 000°T, speed 5 knots.
2350	1950	Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 195°T.
0000	2000	Changed base course to 165°T.

*J. Campbell*  
J. CAMPBELL, Lt. (jg), USNR.

Aug. 28,	20-24
0010	2010
0020	2020
0040	2040
0151	2151
0152	2152
0210	2210

WILLIAM F. BIDDLE and the TURNER left the convoy and proceeded to Base Uncle.  
Changed base course to 136°T.  
Commenced zig-zag plan #30.  
Sighted steady white light bearing 190°T.  
MC CONNELL ordered to investigate white light bearing 190°T.  
MC CONNELL reported white light to be navigation light.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lt. (jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Commanding Officer.

*E. P. Ryan*  
E. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.



PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Saturday 28 August, 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus four

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	19-36-00N	19-21-00N	17-45-00N
Long.	74-06-00W	75-00-00W	75-15-00W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Underway in convoy with Task Group 20.15 on course 136<sup>OT</sup>, standard speed 13.5 knots, (73.5 RPM). Convoy formation #2. This ship in position #23. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.  
0629 0229 Sighted Cape Maysi Light bearing 175<sup>OT</sup>, distance 17 miles.  
0731 0331 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 136<sup>OT</sup>.  
0740 0340 Changed base course to 156<sup>OT</sup>.  
0751 0351 Changed base course to 176<sup>OT</sup>.  
0755 0355 Changed base course to 180<sup>OT</sup>.

S.J. Cottrill  
S.J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

04-08  
0805 0405 Commenced zig-zag plan #30.  
0830 0430 Cape Maysi Light abeam to starboard, distance 5.75 miles.  
0910 0510 Sighted Punta Caleta Light bearing 261<sup>OT</sup>, distance 13 1/2 miles.  
0928 0528 Punta Caleta Light abeam to starboard, distance 18 1/2 miles.  
0930 0530 Unidentified surface vessel contacted on radar by SIMPSON bearing 120<sup>OT</sup>, SIMPSON investigating.  
General Quarters.  
0940 0540 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 180<sup>OT</sup>.  
0953 0553 ComScreen reported unidentified vessel to be friendly.  
0955 0555 Commenced zig-zag plan #30.  
1004 0604 Unidentified air craft bearing 120<sup>OT</sup>, distance 11 miles.  
1040 0640 Sunrise. Lighted ship. Set Condition II Mike Sugar.  
1106 0706 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 180<sup>OT</sup>.  
1109 0709 Changed base course to 215<sup>OT</sup>.  
1130 0730 Changed base course to 251<sup>OT</sup>.  
1151 0751 Changed base course to 255<sup>OT</sup>.  
1157 0757 Commenced zig-zag plan #30.

W.F. Lee  
W.F. LEE, Ens., USN.

08-12  
No remarks.

J.C. Campbell  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(JG), USNR.

12-16  
1616 1216 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 255<sup>OT</sup>.  
1617 1217 Sighted WILLIAM F. BIDDLE and TURNER on the horizon bearing 340<sup>OT</sup>, distance 9 miles.  
1624 1224 Changed base course to 215<sup>OT</sup>.  
1646 1246 Changed base course to 180<sup>OT</sup>.  
1658 1258 Made 90<sup>o</sup> turn to starboard to course 270<sup>OT</sup>.  
1703 1303 Made 90<sup>o</sup> turn to starboard to course 000<sup>OT</sup>.  
1711 1311 Made 90<sup>o</sup> turn to starboard to course 090<sup>OT</sup>.  
1712 1312 WILLIAM F. BIDDLE rejoined the convoy.  
1716 1316 Made 90<sup>o</sup> turn to starboard to base course 180<sup>OT</sup>.  
1721 1321 Changed standard speed to 14.5 knots, (79 RPM).  
1726 1326 Commenced zig-zag plan #11.

Approved:

Examined:

O.H. Ritchie  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR, Commanding Officer.

F.P. Ryan  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR, Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Saturday 28 (0) August, 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus four

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 12-16 (Cont)  
1915 1515 Sighted Navassa Island bearing 110°T, distance 8½ miles.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lt.(JG), USNR.

2103 1703 16-18  
Navassa Island Light abeam to port, distance 7.4 miles.

G.J. Cottrill  
G.J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

2203 1803 18-20  
2222 1822 Changed standard speed to 10 knots, (54.5 RPM).  
2252 1852 Changed standard speed to 14.5 knots, (79 RPM).  
2300 1900 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 180°T.  
2313 1913 Changed base course to 210°T.  
2315 1913 Darkened ship.  
2315 1915 Commenced zig-zag plan #11.  
2318 1918 Sunset.

W.F. Lee  
W.F. LEE, Ens., USN.

Aug. 29, 20-24  
0200 2200 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 210°T.

J.C. Campbell  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(JG), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O.H. Ritchie  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR, Commanding Officer.

F.P. Ryan  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR, Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Sunday 29 August, 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus four

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	15-11-00N	14-21-00N	12-48-00N
Long.	75 43-00W	77-18-00W	78-31-00W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.O.T. L.O.T. 00-04  
Underway in convoy with Task Group 20.15 on course 210°T, standard speed 14.5 knots, (79 RPM). Convoy formation #2. This ship in position #23. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.  
0540 0140 BEBAS reported contact with unidentified surface vessel bearing 150°T.  
0600 0200 BEBAS reported contact false.  
0800 0400 Commenced zig-zag plan #11.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lt.(Jg), USNR.

04-08  
0950 0550 General Quarters.  
1050 0650 Sunrise. Lighted ship. Set Condition II Mike Sugar.

*B.J. Cottrill*  
B.J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

08-12  
1413 1013 Commenced test firing of AA guns.  
1509 1109 Completed test firing of AA guns.

*W.F. Lee*  
W.F. LEE, Ens., USN.

12-16  
No remarks.

*J. Campbell*  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lt.(Jg), USNR.

16-18  
No remarks.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lt.(Jg), USNR.

18-20  
2239 1839 Changed base course to 208°T.  
2322 1922 Darkened ship.  
2327 1927 Sunset.

*B.J. Cottrill*  
B.J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

Aug. 30, 20-24  
0200 2200 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 208°T.

*W.F. Lee*  
W.F. LEE, Ens., USN.

Approved:

Examined:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR, Commanding Officer.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR, Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Monday 30 August, 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus four

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	10-14-00N		
Long.	79-55-30W		

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04  
Underway in convoy with Task Group 20.15 on course 208<sup>0</sup>T, standard speed 14.5 knots, (79 RPM). Convoy formation #2. This ship in position #23. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.

*J. Campbell*  
J. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

1010 0610 04-08 General Quarters.  
1108 0708 Sunrise. Lighted ship. Set Condition II Mike Sugar.  
1135 0735 MC CONNELL reported surface radar contacts bearing 290<sup>0</sup>T, distance 3 miles and 255<sup>0</sup>T, distance 10 miles.  
1155 0755 Changed base course to 180<sup>0</sup>T.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lt.(jg), USNR.

1220 0820 08-12 Commenced zig-zag plan #11.  
1325 0925 Sighted land bearing 150<sup>0</sup>T, distance 25 miles. Identified as northern coast of the Republic of Panama.  
1407 1007 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 180<sup>0</sup>T.  
1414 1014 Changed base course to 200<sup>0</sup>T.  
1437 1037 Commenced zig-zag plan #11.  
1452 1052 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 200<sup>0</sup>T.  
1455 1055 Changed course to 205<sup>0</sup>T.  
1458 1058 On signal from O.T.C. formed single column for entry into port.  
1507 1107 Sighted swept channel entrance buoy bearing 210<sup>0</sup>T, distance 1 1/2 miles.  
1522 1122 Set Material Condition Able.  
1530 1130 Secured from Condition II Mike Sugar.  
1535 1135 Made all preparations for entering port.

*G. J. Cotserilos*  
G. J. COTSERILOS, Ens., USNR.

1605 1205 12-16 Passed through breakwater on various courses and at various speeds entering Colon Harbor. The Captain at the Conn, the Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge.  
1609 1209 Pilot A.S. WALLACE came aboard and took the Conn.  
1659 1259 Moored starboard side to Pier #7, Berth "B", Cristobal, Panama Canal Zone.  
1741 1311 Pilot A.S. WALLACE left the ship.  
1800 1400 Commenced receiving fresh water from shore.

*J. Campbell*  
J. CAMPBELL, Lt.(jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Monday 30 (0) August, 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus four

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 16-20  
 2330 1930 Sunset.  
 2345 1945 Darkened ship.

*J.J. Madden*  
J.J. MADDEN, Lt.(jg), USNR.

AUG. 31, 20-24  
 0115 2115 Pilot A.S. SPRINGTACE came aboard.  
 0150 2155 Made all preparations for getting underway.  
 0208 2208 Underway from Pier #7, Berth "B", Cristobal at various speeds and on various courses conforming to the channel, proceeding through Panama Canal. Pilot at the Conn, Captain, Executive Officer, and Navigator on the bridge. Standard speed 15 knots, (81.5 RPM).  
 0252 2252 Buoy #2 abeam to starboard, distance 25 yards. Entered approach to Gatun Locks.  
 0315 2315 Moored starboard side to Gatun Locks Dock.  
 0338 2338 Entered Gatun Locks.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lt.(jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR, Commanding Officer.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR, Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

UNITED STATES SHIP HELLATRIX Tuesday 31 August 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus four.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	37° 00' 45" N	37° 05' 00" N	36° 51' 30" N
Long.	56° 05' 00" W	57° 00' 30" W	59° 05' 00" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Moored in first lock of Gatun Locks, transiting Panama Canal with Pilot A.S. SPRINGTALKER at the Conn, Captain, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge. Standard speed 15 knots, (31.5 KMH). Ship completely darkened.

0900 0100 Underway from Gatun Locks proceeding through Gatun Lake on various courses and at various speeds conforming to the channel.

F.P. Ryan  
F.P. Ryan, Lieut., USNR.

04-08

0855 0455 Entered Pedro Miguel Locks.  
0920 0520 Cleared Pedro Miguel Locks. Entered Miraflores Lake.  
0947 0547 Entered Miraflores Locks.  
1025 0625 Cleared Miraflores Locks.  
1054 0654 Moored with bow and stern secured to buoys in Berth "A", in Balboa Harbor, Balboa, C.Z.  
1110 0710 Sunrise. Lighted ship.  
1144 0744 Pilot A.S. SPRINGTALKER left the ship.

F.P. Ryan  
F.P. Ryan, Lieut., USNR.

08-12

1315 0915 Set clocks back one hour to zone plus five time.

S.J. Collins  
S.J. Collins, Ens., USNR.

12-16

1937 1437 Pilot W.C. LONNERS reported aboard.  
1945 1445 Made all preparations for getting underway.  
2031 1531 Underway on various courses and at various speeds conforming to the channel, proceeding to the sea in accordance with Commander Task Group 12.5, Operation Order #2-43. Pilot at the Conn, Captain, Executive Officer, and Navigator on the bridge.

ORGANIZATION: Task Group 12.5

COMPOSITION: 12.5.1 Screen.

LT CORSELL  
DONOFF  
HENSCHER  
W.C. MILLER

(Continued on next page.)

Approved:

Examined:

W.H. Kilbuck  
W.H. Kilbuck, Capt., USNR, Commanding Officer.

F.P. Ryan  
F.P. Ryan, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Tuesday 31 (0) August, 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus four

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	37° 00' 45" N	37° 05' 00" N	36° 51' 30" N
Long.	56° 05' 00" W	57° 06' 30" W	59° 05' 00" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 12-16 Cont.

12.5.2 Convoy.

LEONARD WOOD  
CALVERT  
NEWELL  
MONROVIA  
W. F. BISHOP  
HARRY LEE  
BELLATRIX  
ALCYON  
VINGO

UNIT NUMBER ESTABLISHED: With Amphibious Force.

NAVAL FORCE TO WHICH ATTACHED: U.S. Pacific Fleet.

*R. J. Monger*  
R. J. MONGER, Lieut., USNR.

16-20

2115 1615 Entered swept channel. Pilot W.C. LONGCORE, left the ship.  
2140 1640 Toboguilla Island Light abeam to starboard, distance 3/4 mile.  
2200 1700 Set Condition II Mike Sugar.  
2234 1734 With Isla Bona Light abeam to starboard bearing 270° T, distance 5 1/2 miles and Ballacolis Hook bearing 323° T, took departure and set course 180° T.  
2321 1821 Darkened ship.  
2326 1826 Sunset.  
Sept. 1.  
0023 1923 Sighted Isla De San Jose Light bearing 074° T, distance 23 miles.  
0050 1950 Changed standard speed to 8 knots, (43.5 KPH).

20-24

Sept 1.  
0131 2031 Formed convoy in accordance with Commander Task Group, 12.5, cruising order #2-43. This ship in position #23.  
0340 2240 Changed standard speed to 14 knots, (76 KPH).  
0409 2309 Changed base course to 215° T.  
0422 2322 Changed base course to 247° T.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR.

*J. Campbell*  
J. S. CAMPBELL, LTJG, USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O. H. Kitchin*

*F. P. Ryan*

O. H. KITCHIN, Capt., USNR, Commanding Officer.

F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR, Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP

HELLATRIX

Wednesday 1 September 1943.

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus five.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	7° 02' 30" N	7° 22' 00" N	8° 17' 00" N
Long.	81° 28' 75" W	82° 22' 40" W	84° 04' 00" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-01

Underway in convoy with Task Group 12.5 on course 247° T. Standard speed 14.0 knots (76 RPM). This ship in position #23, completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.

DESIGNATION: Task Group 12.5COMPOSITION: 12.5.1 Screen. 12.5.2 Convoy

MC CONNELL  
DOHERTY  
BROOKS  
MR. C. MILLER

LEONARD WOOD  
CALVERT  
NEVILLE  
NOROVIA  
MR. P. BIDDLE  
HARRY LEE  
HELLATRIX  
ALOYNE  
VIRGO

NEXT HIGHER Echelon: Ninth Amphibious Force.MAJOR FORCE TO WHICH ATTACHED: U.S. Pacific Fleet.

0516	0016	Sighted CAPE MALA LIGHT bearing 303° T., distance 13 1/2 miles.
0707	0207	Sighted MONRO FUEROS LIGHT bearing 302° T., distance 20 1/2 miles.
0715	0215	Changed base course to 270° T.

*C. W. Wilschmidt*  
C. W. WILSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

01-08

1018	0518	General quarters.
1053	0556	Commenced zig-zag Plan #11.
1108	0608	Changed standard speed to 14.5 knots (79 RPM).
1118	618	Sunrise. Lighted ship. Set Condition II Mike Sugar.

*S. J. Cotnam*  
S. J. COTNAM, Ens., USNR.

08-12

1410	0910	Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 270° (T).
1424	0924	Adjusted base course to 300° (T).
1445	0945	Commenced zig-zag Plan #11.

*W. F. Lee*  
W. F. LEE, Ens., USNR.

(Continued on next page)

Approved:

Examined:

*Ch. Ritchie*  
C. R. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR, Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.



UNITED STATES SHIP

BELLATRIX

Wednesday 01 September

1943

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus five.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	7° 02' 30" N	7° 22' 00" N	8° 17' 00" N
Long.	81° 28' 75" W	82° 22' 40" W	84° 04' 00" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

Continued.

G.C.T.	L.O.T.	REMARKS
		<u>12-16</u>
1946	1440	MC CONNELL reported object probably submarine periscope, bearing 300°T.
1949	1449	Made emergency turn 45° to starboard to course 345°T.
1951	1451	Made emergency turn 45° to starboard to course 030°T.
1953	1453	MC CONNELL reported object to be a floating tree.
1955	1455	Made emergency turn 45° to port to course 345°T.
1957	1457	Made emergency turn 45° to port to course 300°T.
2000	1500	Commenced zig-zag Plan #11.
2030	1530	Set clocks back 30 minutes to zone plus five and one-half time.

J. O. Campbell  
J. O. CAMPBELL, Lieut., (jg), USNR.

16-18  
No remarks.

C. Schuchmidt  
C. SCHUCHMIDT, Lieut., (jg), USNR.

18-20  
2338 1808 Darkened ship.  
2343 1813 Sunset.

B. J. Cottrill  
B. J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

20-24  
Sept. 2  
0419 2349 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 300°T.

W. F. Lee  
W. F. LEE, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

C. H. Ritchie  
C. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR, Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

2

UNITED STATES SHIP SELENIUM Thursday 2 September 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus five and one-half.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	9° 40' 00" N	10° 12' 00" N	11° 02' 30" N
Long.	86° 30' 30" W	87° 18' 00" W	88° 52' 30" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

U.S.T. L.S.T.

00-04

Underway in convoy with Task Group 12.5 on course 300 T. Standard speed 14.5 knots (79 RPM). Convoy formation #2. Tans ship in position #23, completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.

0630 0100

Set clocks back one-half hour to zone plus six time.

J. Campbell  
J. CAMPBELL, Lt. (jg), USNR.

04-08

1040 0440  
1109 0505  
1137 0537  
1330 0800

General Quarters.  
Commenced zig-zag plan #11.  
Sunrise. Lighted ship. Set Condition II Mike Sugar.  
Changed base course to 290 (S).

C. Schulz  
C. SCHULZ, Lt. (jg), USNR.

08-12

1411 0841  
1418 0848

Changed standard speed to 10 knots (54.5 RPM).  
Changed standard speed to 14.5 knots (79 RPM).

B. G. Lewis  
B. G. LEWIS, Ens., USNR.

12-16

No remarks.

W. F. Lee  
W. F. LEE, Ens., USNR.

16-18

2359 1759

Darkened ship.

J. Campbell  
J. CAMPBELL, Lt. (jg), USNR.

18-20

Sept. 3  
0004 1804

Sunset.

C. Schulz  
C. SCHULZ, Lt. (jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O. R. Ritchie  
O. R. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR, Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

3

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BALATRIK Thursday 2(0) September 19 43

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus six

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	9° 45' 00" N	10° 12' 00" N	11° 02' 30" N
Long.	85° 30' 30" W	87° 15' 00" W	88° 53' 30" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

Sent.  
 I.C.T. I.C.T. 20-24  
 Sept. 3  
 0219 2019 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 290°(T).

L. J. Collins  
 U.S. COMBINATION, ENS., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O. R. Ritchie  
 O. R. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR, Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
 F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR, Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Friday 3 September 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)Zone description plus six.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	12° 29' 00" N	12° 56' 00" N	13° 30' 00" N
Long.	91° 43' 00" W	92° 34' 34" W	94° 19' 00" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)S.C.T. L.C.T. 08-04

Underway in convoy with Task Group 12.5 on base course 296°(1). Standard speed 14.5 knots (79 RPM). This ship in position #23, completely darkened and in condition II Mike Sugar.

W. F. Lee  
W. F. LEE, Ens., USN.

04-08

1015 0415 Commenced zig-sag plan #11.  
1055 0455 General Quarters.  
1156 0550 Sunrise. Lighted ship. Set Condition II Mike Sugar.

J. C. Campbell  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut., (jg), USNR.

08-12

No remarks.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut., (jg), USNR.

12-16

No remarks.

B. J. Cottrill  
B. J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

16-18

No remarks.

W. F. Lee  
W. F. LEE, Ens., USN.

18-20

Sept. 4  
0020 1820 Darkened ship.  
0025 1825 Sunset.

J. C. Campbell  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut., (jg), USNR.

(Continued on next page.)

Approved:

Examined:

C. H. Ritchie  
C. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR, Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Friday (C) 3 September 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus six.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	12° 29' 00" N	12° 50' 00" N	13° 35' 00" N
Long.	91° 43' 00" W	92° 32' 34" W	94° 19' 00" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 20-24

Sept. 4  
0300 2100 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 290°T.

C. J. Schmitt  
C. J. SCHMITT, Lieut., (jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O. H. Ritchie  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR, Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Saturday 4 September 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus six & one-half.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	14° 24' 00" N	15° 18' 00" N	16° 05' 00" N
Long.	97° 02' 30" W	97° 53' 00" W	99° 35' 15" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.R.T. L.O.T. 00-01

Underway in convoy with Task Group 12.5 on course 290° (T). Standard speed 14.5 knots (79 RPM). Convoy formation #2. This ship in position #23, completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.

0700 0100 Set clocks back one-half hour to zone plus 6½ time.

B.J. Corinich  
U.S. COBALTINE, ENS., USNR.

01-08

1115 0445 General Quarters.  
1144 0514 Commenced zig-zag Plan #11.  
1215 0545 Secured from general quarters. Set Condition II Mike Sugar. Sunrise. Lighted ship.

W.F. Lee  
W.F. LEE, ENS., USNR.

08-12

1526 0856 MC CAMPBELL reported engine trouble and showed break down flag.  
1810 1140 MC CAMPBELL regained station in screen.

J.C. Campbell  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lieut.(jg), USNR.

12-16

No remarks.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut.(jg), USNR.

16-18

No remarks.

B.J. Corinich  
U.S. COBALTINE, ENS., USNR.

18-20

Sept. 5  
0042 1812 Darken ship.  
0047 1817 Sunset.

W.F. Lee  
W.F. LEE, ENS., USNR.

20-24

0430 2200 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 290° T.

J.C. Campbell  
J.C. CAMPBELL, Lieut.(jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

Old Ritchie  
C.E. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR, Commanding Officer.

F.P. Ryan  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BRILLIANT

Sunday 5 September, 1943

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zona description plus six & one-half.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	17° 15' 45" N	17° 34' 30" N	18° 36' 30" N
Long.	102° 15' 00" W	103° 06' 15" W	104° 50' 00" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Underway in convoy with Task Group 12.5, on base course 296°T. Standard speed 14.5 knots (79 RPM). Convoy formation #2. This ship in position #23, completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut., (JG), USNR.

1135 0505  
1142 0512  
1233 0603

04-08  
General Quarters.  
Commenced zig-zag Plan #11.  
Sunrise. Lighted ship. Set Condition II Mike Sugar.

B. J. Cotino  
B. J. COTINO, Ens., USNR.

1450 0820

08-12  
Adjusted base course to 295°T.

W. F. Lee  
W. F. LEE, Ens., USN.

2101 1431  
2137 1437  
2121 1451  
2130 1500  
2151 1521  
2201 1531

12-16  
Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 293°T.  
Changed base course to 248°T.  
Changed base course to 265°T.  
Changed base course to 304°T.  
Commenced zig-zag Plan #11.  
Adjusted base course to 305°T.

J. G. Campbell  
J. G. CAMPBELL, Lieut., (JG), USNR.

16-18  
No remarks.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut., (JG), USNR.

(Continued on next page.)

Approved:

Examined:

C. H. Ritchie  
C. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Sunday 5 (C) September 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus six & one-half.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	17° 16' 45" N	17° 34' 30" N	18° 36' 30" N
Long.	102° 15' 00" W	103° 05' 15" W	104° 50' 00" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.O.T. L.O.T. 18-20  
2503 1833 Drenched ship.  
2508 1838 Sunset.

G. J. Cozart  
U.S. COAST GUARD, ENS., USNR.

Sept. 6 20-24  
0450 2226 HARRY LEE reported (SC) Radar Contact, bearing 294°(T), distance 2000 yards.  
0507 2237 HARRY LEE reported (SC) Radar Contact bearing 086°(T), distance 5400 yards, believed to be aircraft.  
0523 2253 Moonset.  
0524 2254 HARRY LEE reported contact lost.  
0530 2300 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 305°(T).

W. F. Lee  
W. F. LEE, ENS., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

U.S. Ritchie  
U.S. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP	BELLATRIX	Monday	6	September	19 43
		(Day)	(Date)	(Month)	
Zone description <u>Plus six &amp; one-half.</u>					
Position	0800	1200	2000		
Lat.	20° 22' 00" N	20° 50' 00" N	21° 54' 00" N		
Long.	107° 22' 00" W	108° 12' 00" W	109° 43' 30" W		
<b>OPERATIONAL REMARKS (WAR DIARY)</b>					
G.C.T.	L.C.T.	<u>00-04</u>			
		Underway in convoy with Task Group 12.5 on course 305 T. Standard speed 14.5 knots (79 RPM). Convoy formation #2. This ship in position #23, completely darkened and in condition II Mike Sugar.			
0730	0100	Set clocks back one-half hour to zone plus seven time.			
		<u>J. Campbell</u> J. F. CAMPBELL, Lieut., (JG), USNR.			
		<u>04-08</u>			
1150	0450	General Quarters.			
1218	0516	Commenced zig-zag Plan #11.			
1250	0550	Sunrise. Ligated snip. Set Condition II Mike Sugar.			
		<u>C. Goldschmidt</u> C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut., (JG), USNR.			
		<u>08-12</u>			
		No remarks.			
		<u>B. J. Cottrill</u> B. J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.			
		<u>12-16</u>			
		No remarks.			
		<u>W. F. Lee</u> W. F. LEE, Ens., USNR.			
		<u>16-18</u>			
Sept. 7		MONROVIA left formation to receive a man from ENGSTROM.			
0051	1751	Changed standard speed to 10 knots (54.5 RPM).			
0054	1754				
		<u>J. Campbell</u> J. F. CAMPBELL, Lieut., (JG), USNR.			
		<u>18-20</u>			
0126	1826	Darkened snip.			
0130	1830	Changed standard speed to 14.5 knots (79 RPM).			
0131	1831	Sunset.			
0201	1901	MONROVIA resumed position #11 in convoy.			
		<u>C. Goldschmidt</u> C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut., (JG), USNR.			
Continued on next page.					
Approved:			Examined:		
<u>O. H. Ritchie</u>			<u>F. P. Ryan</u>		
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Commanding Officer.			F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.		

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Monday 0 (0) September 19 43  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus seven

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	20° 22' 00" N	20° 56' 00" N	21° 54' 00" N
Long.	107° 22' 00" W	108° 12' 00" W	109° 43' 30" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

Continued.

G.C.T.    L.C.T.    20-24  
 0645    2345    Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 305°(T).

L. J. Collins  
 L. J. COLLINS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

Alfred Ritchie  
 C. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
 F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR, Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP ESLATRIX

Tuesday 7 September

1943

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus seven/

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	23° 25' 30" N	24° 10' 00" N	25° 38' 00" N
Long.	112° 14' 00" W	12° 58' 00" W	111° 06' 00" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. 1.G.T. 00-04

Underway in convoy with Task Group 12.5 on base course 305°(T). Standard speed 14.5 (79 MPH). Convoy Formation #2. This ship in position #23, completely darkened and in condition II Mike Sugar.

W. F. Lee  
W. F. Lee, Ens., USN.

04-08

1210 0510 General Quarters.  
1215 0515 Commenced zig-zag Plan #11.  
1312 0612 Sunrise. Lighted ship. Set condition II Mike Sugar.

J. C. Campbell  
J. C. Campbell, Lieut., (JG), USN.

08-12

1630 0930 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 305°(T).  
1638 0938 Changed base course to 325°(T).  
1703 1003 Commenced zig-zag Plan #11.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. Goldschmidt, Lieut., (JG), USN.

12-16

1910 1210 VINC dropped out of position after reporting damage to boiler. ESSEX standing by as escort.

G. J. Corvino  
G. J. Corvino, Ens., USN.

16-18

No remarks.

W. F. Lee  
W. F. Lee, Ens., USN.

Approved:

Examined:

C. H. Ritchie  
C. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USN, Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USN., Navigator.

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PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Tuesday 7 (3) September 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus seven.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	23° 25' 30" N	24° 10' 00" N	25° 30' 00" N
Long.	112° 14' 00" W	112° 58' 00" W	114° 06' 00" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

Continued.

G.C.T. L.C.T. 18-20  
Sept. 8  
0244 1944 Darkened ship.  
0249 1949 Sunset.

J. Campbell  
J. J. CAMPBELL, Lieut., (jg), USNR.

20-24  
No remarks.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut., (jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

C. H. Ritchie  
C. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., Commanding Officer.

F. F. Ryan  
F. F. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Wednesday 8 September 1943.

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus seven.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	27° 50' 00" N	28° 40' 30" N	30° 18' 00" N
Long.	115° 48' 30" W	116° 09' 30" W	116° 52' 30" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

00-04  
 U.C.T. I.C.T. Underway in convoy with Task Group 12.5 on course 325°(T). Standard speed 14.5 knots (7.9 KPH), zig-zag Plan #11, Convoy Formation #2. This ship in position #23, completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.

0755 0055 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 325°(T).

B. J. Collins  
 U.S. NAVY, Ensign, USNR.

04-08  
 1220 0520 General Quarters.  
 1230 0530 Commenced zig-zag Plan #11.  
 1320 0620 Sunrise, Lighted Ship. Set Condition II Mike Sugar.  
 1338 0638 Sighted CERROS ISLAND bearing 029°(T), distance 31 miles.  
 1455 0755 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 325°(T).

W. F. Lee  
 U.S. NAVY, Ensign, USNR.

08-12  
 1500 0800 Changed base course to 340°(T).  
 1517 0817 Commenced zig-zag Plan #11.

W. P. Campbell  
 U.S. NAVY, Lieutenant, (JG), USNR.

12-16  
 2255 1555 VIKING rejoined convoy taking position #13. BELLATRIX resumed position in the screen.

C. S. Saldashinski  
 U.S. NAVY, Lieutenant, (JG), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

C. S. Ritchie  
 C. S. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
 F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Wednesday 8 (C) September, 1943.

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus seven

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

Continued.

G.C.T. L.C.T. 16-18

2338 1638 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 340 (T).  
2341 1641 Changed standard speed to 13.5 knots (73.5 RPM.) in  
order to reform convoy as scheduled.

Sept. 9  
0042 1742 Changed standard speed to 14.5 knots (79 RPM). Con-  
voy reformed. This ship in Position #11.  
0045 1745 Commenced zig-zag Plan #11.

G.J. Cottrill  
G.J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

18-20

0157 1857 Darkened ship.  
0202 1902 Sunset.

F.P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

J.C. Campbell  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut., (jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O.H. Ritchie  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., Commanding Officer.

F.P. Ryan  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP

HILLBROOK

Thursday 7 September

1943

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description Plus seven.

Position	0800	1300	2000
Lat.	32 11' 00" N	32 55' 30" N	32 17' 00" N
Long.	117 11' 00" W	117 21' 00" W	117 31' 00" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

T.O.T. L.O.T. 00-04

Underway in convoy with Task Group 12.5 on base course 340° (T). Standard speed 14.5 knots (79 RPM), zig-zag Plan #11. Convoy formation #2. This ship in Position #23, completely darkened and in Condition II Mine Sugar.

0837 0137 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 340° (T).

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut., (S), USN.

04-06

1155 0455 HQ SCHMIDT reported two unidentified surface contacts. Made emergency turn 45° to port to course 295° (T).  
1215 0515 Made emergency turn 45° to starboard to course 340° (T).  
1225 0525 General Quarters.

1248 0528 Commenced zig-zag Plan #11.  
1315 0615 SCHROVER, BIDDLE, NEWELL, and CALVERT left convoy under escort of EXETER and HINDSTAR.

1325 0625 Sunrise. Lighted ship. Set Condition II Mine Sugar.  
1334 0634 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 340° (T).  
Changed base course to 287° (T).

1355 0655 Commenced zig-zag Plan #11.  
1430 0730 Sighted two unknown ships bearing 340° (T), distance 10 miles.

*B. J. Cottrill*  
B. J. COTTRILL, Ensign, USN.

08-14

1500 0800 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 287° (T).  
1510 0810 Changed base course to 217° (T).  
1522 0822 Commenced zig-zag Plan #11.

*W. J. Lee*  
W. J. LEE, Lieut., (S), USN.

13-16

1910 1210 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 287° (T).  
1925 1215 Changed base course to 306° (T).  
1933 1223 VILCO left convoy, proceeding to sea 2100.

1925 1225 Commenced zig-zag Plan #11.  
2210 1310 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 306° (T).  
2216 1316 Changed base course to 317° (T).  
2225 1325 Commenced zig-zag Plan #11.

*J. O. Campbell*  
J. O. CAMPBELL, Lieut., (S), USN.

Approved:

Examined:

*W. H. Ritchie*  
W. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USN., Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Deegan*  
F. P. DEEGAN, Lieut., USN., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP

USS L-101

Thursday

9 September

1943

(Day)

(Date)

(Month)

Zone description plus seven.

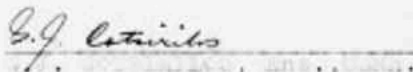
Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	18° 37' 00" N	18° 30' 00" N	18° 17' 00" N
Long.	112° 21' 00" W	112° 31' 00" W	113° 01' 00" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

L.O.T.	L.O.T.	16-17
2300	1800	Sighted SANTA ROSA Island bearing 025°(T), distance 29 miles.
2350	1850	Sighted SAN FERNANDO Island bearing 353°(T), distance 21 miles.
0027	1927	Changed zig-zagging. Resumed on base course 319°(T).
0030	1930	Changed base course to 331°(T).
0039	1939	Collected at -sec Plan 711.

  
F. L. ROBERTS, LTJG, USN.

L.O.T.	L.O.T.	18-20
0212	1911	Decreased zig-zag.
0217	1917	Direct.

  
G. J. LETIVITS, LTJG, USN.

L.O.T.	L.O.T.	20-21
0345	2011	Sighted SANTA ROSA Island bearing 020°(T), distance 17 miles.
0400	2100	Changed base course to 330°(T).

  
W. T. LINN, LTJG, USN.

Approved:

Examined:

  
O. J. KITCHIN, Capt., USN, Commanding Officer.

  
F. J. RYAN, Lieut., USN, Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.



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UNITED STATES SHIP HELIOTRIK Friday 10 September, 19 43.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description Plus seven.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	30° 44' 00" N	30° 30' 00" N	
Long.	122° 34' 00" W	123° 03' 30" W	

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

U.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Underway in convoy with Task Group 12.5 on base course 330° (T). Standard speed 16.5 (17.5 kts). Zig-zag Plan #11. Convoy formation #2. This ship in Position #11, completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.

0940 0240 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 330° (T) to clear vessel bearing 235° (T), distance 2,100 yards.

0944 0244 Made emergency turn 45° to starboard to course 015° (T).

0950 0250 Made emergency turn 45° to port to base course 330° (T). Vessel clear of convoy.

1000 0300 Commenced zig-zag Plan #11.

*J.C. Campbell*  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut., (JG), USNR.

04-05

1147 0447 Adjusted base course to 335° (T).

1224 0524 Passed POINT BUN LIGHT ahead to starboard, bearing 065° (T), distance 18 miles.

1245 0545 General Quarters.

1259 0559 HANNY LEE reported radar contact on friendly surface craft, bearing 041° (T), distance 12 miles.

1345 0645 Sunrise. Lighted ship. Set Condition II Mike Sugar.

*F. L. Roberts*  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

06-12

1600 0900 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 335° (T).

1601 0901 Changed base course to 340° (T).

1604 0904 Commenced zig-zag Plan #11.

1813 1113 Sighted SOUTHEAST FAIRLAW TOWER bearing 354° (T), distance 17 miles.

1846 1146 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 340° (T).

1850 1150 Convoy reformed into single column. Number one column took station astern of number two column.

*G. J. Cottrill*  
G. J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

12-16

1908 1208 Changed course to 070° (T) and entered swept channel.

2037 1337 Pilot J. F. RANNEY, Lieut. Comdr., USCG, reported aboard and took the conn. Captain, Executive Officer, and Navigator on the bridge, entering SAN FRANCISCO harbor on various courses and at various speeds conforming to the channel.

(continued on next page.)

Approved:

Examined:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F.F. Ryan*  
F.F. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

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PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Friday 10 September 1943.

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus seven.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	30° 44' 00" N	37° 31' 00" N	
Long.	122° 32' 00" W	123° 03' 30" W	

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 12-16 (Continued)  
 2245 1345 Heared port side to Pier 945 in Seta "SACRE", SAN -  
 FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.  
 2247 1347 Pilot J.F. HANSMAN, Lieut. Comdr., USCG. left the ship.  
 2249 1349 Secured from Condition II Mike Sugar.

*[Signature]*  
 W. F. LEE, Ens., USNR.

16-20

Sept. 11  
 0227 1927 Sunset.  
 0242 1942 Dashed ship locally.

*[Signature]*  
 K. J. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

*[Signature]*  
 P. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*[Signature]*  
 O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*[Signature]*  
 F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP

Saturday 11 September, 1943

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description PLUS SEVEN.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

10-11 10-11 00-04

Secured port side to Pier #15 in berth "ALPHA", San Francisco, California. Only consumed locally, including the following services from shore: Fresh Water.

R. L. Monger  
R. L. Monger, Lieut., USN.

12-11 12-11 00-07

04-08

Unrigger. Allocated help.

W. T. Lightner  
W. T. Lightner, Lieut., USN.

08-12

No remarks.

[Signature]  
[Signature], Lieut., USN.

12-16

No remarks.

J. O. Campbell  
J. O. Campbell, Lieut., USN.

Sept. 12  
0230 1930  
0311 1940

18-20

Unrigger.  
Consumed only locally.

J. J. Madden  
J. J. Madden, Lieut., USN.

20-21

No remarks.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. Goldschmidt, Lieut., USN.

Approved:

Examined:

[Signature]

[Signature]

C. A. [Signature], Capt., USN., Commanding Officer.

F. J. [Signature], Lieut., USN., Navigator.

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PART III  
CONFIDENTIALPage 286UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Sunday 12 September 1943.

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus seven

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Moored port side to Pier #45 in Berth "BAKER", San Francisco, California. Ship darkened locally, receiving the following service from shore: Fresh Water.

G. J. Cotsirilos  
G. J. COTSIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

1348 0648

04-08

Sunrise. Lighted ship.

J. C. Campbell  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.08-12

No remarks.

J. J. Madden  
J. J. MADDEN, Lieut. (jg), USNR.12-16

No remarks.

F. L. Roberts  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.16-20Sept. 13, 1943  
0224 1924  
0239 1939Sunset.  
Darkened ship locally.R. F. Monzer  
R. F. MONZER, Ens., USNR.20-24

No remarks.

W. T. Lightner  
W. T. LIGHTNER, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

Al H. Ritchie  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., *Commanding Officer.*F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., *Navigator.*

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Monday 13 September 19 43.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus seven.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Moored port side to Pier #45 in Berth "BAKER" San Francisco, California. Ship darkened locally and receiving the following service from shore: Fresh Water.

F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

04-08

1349 0649 Sunrise. Lighted ship.

R. F. MONGER, Ens., USNR.

08-12

No remarks.

W. T. LIGHTNER, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

12-16

No remarks.

C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

16-20

Sept. 14  
0223 1923 Sunset.  
0238 1938 Darkened ship locally.

G. J. COTSIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., Commanding Officer.

F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Monday 14 September 1943.

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus seven.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Moored port side to Pier #45 in Berth "BAKER", SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA. Ship darkened locally receiving the following services from shore: Fresh Water.

*J.J. Madden*  
J.J. MADDEN, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

1350 0650 04-08 Sunrise. Lighted ship.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

08-12  
No remarks.

*G.J. Cotirilos*  
G.J. COTIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

12-16  
No remarks.

*W.T. Lightner*  
W.T. LIGHTNER, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

0217 1917 16-20 Sunset.  
0232 1932 Darkened ship locally.

*K.G. Holcombe*  
K. G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

20-24  
No remarks.

*F.L. Roberts*  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O.H. Ritchie*  
O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

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PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Wednesday 15 September, 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus seven.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Moored port side to Pier #45, in Berth "BAKER", San Francisco, California. Ship darkened locally receiving the following service from shore: Fresh Water.

R. F. Monger  
R. F. MONGER, Ens., USNR.

04-08

1351 0651 Sunrise. Lighted ship.

W. T. Lightner  
W. T. LIGHTNER, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

08-12

No remarks.

K. G. Holcombe  
K. G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

12-16

No remarks.

J. C. Campbell  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

16-20

Sept. 16  
0219 1919  
0234 1934

Sunset.  
Darkened ship locally.

J. J. Madden  
J. J. MADDEN, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

R. E. Goodman  
R. E. GOODMAN, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O. H. Ritchie  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

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PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Thursday 16 September, 1943.

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus seven

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Moored port side to Pier #45 in Berth "BAKER", San Francisco, California. Ship darkened locally and receiving the following services from shore: Fresh Water.

B. J. Cotirilos  
G. J. COTIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

04-08

1340 0640 Made all preparations for getting underway. Pilot G. H. Mawdsley came aboard.  
1352 0652 Sunrise. Lighted ship.  
1406 0706 Underway on various courses and at various speeds conforming to the channel. Standard speed 15 knots, (81.5 RPM), Pilot at the Conn., Captain, Executive Officer, and Navigator on the bridge.

J. C. Campbell  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

08-12

1512 0812 PT. SAN PEDRO abeam to port, distance 1 1/2 miles. Entered SAN PABLO BAY.  
1609 0909 Passed beneath CARQUINEZ bridge entering CARQUINEZ STRAIT.  
1645 0945 Moored port side to S.E. side of BENICIA ARSENAL DOCK, in BERTH "3", BENICIA, CALIFORNIA.

J. J. Madien  
J. J. MADIEN, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

12-16

No remarks.

P. L. Roberts  
P. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O. H. Ritchie  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

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PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Thursday 16 September 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus seven

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 16-20  
 Sept. 17  
 0217 1917 Sunset.  
 0232 1932 Darkened ship locally.

R. F. Monger  
 R. F. MONGER, Ens., USNR.

20-24  
 No remarks.

W. T. Lightner  
 W. T. LIGHTNER, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O. H. Ritchie  
 O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
 F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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PART III  
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Page 292UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIXFriday 17 September, 1943.Zone description plus seven

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Moored port side to Berth #3, Benicia Arsenal, Benicia, California. Ship darkened locally.

K. G. Holcombe

K. G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

04-08

1353 0653 Sunrise. Lighted snip.

F. L. Roberts

F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

08-12

No remarks.

H. F. Monger

H. F. MONGER, Ens., USNR.

12-16

No remarks.

C. Goldschmidt

C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

16-20Sept. 18  
0215 1915  
0230 1930Sunset.  
Darkened ship locally.R. E. Goodman

R. E. GOODMAN, Ens., USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

J. C. Campbell

J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O. H. Ritchie  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., Commanding Officer.F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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PART III  
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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Saturday 18 September, 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus seven

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Moored port side to Berth #3, BENICIA ARSENAL, BENICIA, CALIFORNIA. Ship darkened locally.

*J. J. Madden*  
J. J. MADDEN, Lieut. (Jg), USNR.

04-08

1354 0654 Sunrise. Lighted ship.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (Jg), USNR.

08-12

No remarks.

*J. C. Campbell*  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (Jg), USNR.

12-16

No remarks.

*W. T. Lightner*  
W. T. LIGHTNER, Lieut. (Jg), USNR.

16-20

Sept. 19  
0214 1914 Sunset.  
0229 1929 Darkened ship locally.

*K. G. Holcombe*  
K. G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

*F. L. Roberts*  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Sunday 19 September, 19 43.Zone description Plus seven.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Moored port side to berth #3, BENICIA ARSENAL, BENICIA, CALIFORNIA. Ship darkened locally.

R. F. Monger  
R. F. MONGER, Ens., USNR.04-08

1355 0655 Sunrise. Lighted ship.

W. T. Lightner  
W. T. LIGHTNER, Lieut. (jg), USNR.08-12

No remarks.

K. G. Holcombe  
K. G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.12-16

No remarks.

J. C. Campbell  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.16-20

Sept. 20

0212 1912

0227 1927

Sunset.  
Darkened ship locally.J. J. Madden  
J. J. MADDEN, Lieut. (jg), USNR.20-24

No remarks.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O. H. Ritchie  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., Commanding Officer.F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Monday 20 September 1943

Zone description plus seven

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Moored port side to Berth #3, BENICIA ARSENAL, BENICIA, CALIFORNIA. Ship darkened locally.

*G. J. Cotirilos*  
G. J. COTIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

04-08

1355 0655 Sunrise. Lighted ship.  
1400 0700 Pilot P. L. Lister came aboard. Made all preparations for getting underway.

*J. C. Campbell*  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

08-12

1533 0833 Underway from ARMY ARSENAL DOCK, BENICIA, CALIFORNIA, at various speeds on various courses conforming to the channel, proceeding to OAKLAND OUTER HARBOR. Pilot LISTER at the Conn, the Executive Officer, and Navigator on the bridge. Standard speed 15 knots (81.5-R.P.M.).  
1831 1131 Moored starboard side to Berth #4, EAST OAKLAND OUTER HARBOR, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA.  
1840 1140 Pilot LISTER left the ship.

*J. J. Madden*  
J. J. MADDEN, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

12-16

No remarks.

*F. L. Roberts*  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

16-20

Sept. 21  
0210 1910 Sunset.  
0225 1925 Darkened ship locally.

*H. F. Monger*  
H. F. MONGER, Ens., USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

*W. T. Lightner*  
W. T. LIGHTNER, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Tuesday 21 September 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus seven.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Moored starboard side to Berta #4, EAST OAKLAND OUTER HARBOR, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA. Ship darkened locally.

*K. G. Holcombe*  
K. G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

04-08

1356 0656 Sunrise. Lighted ship.

*F. L. Roberts*  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

08-12

No remarks.

*R. F. Monger*  
R. F. MONGER, Ens., USNR.

12-16

No remarks.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

16-20

Sept. 22  
0209 1909 Sunset.  
0224 1924 Darkened ship locally.

*J. J. Madden*  
J. J. MADDEN, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

*J. C. Campbell*  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*C. H. Ritchie*  
C. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Wednesday 22 September, 1943.

Zone description plus seven.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Moored starboard side to Berth #4, EAST OAKLAND OUTER HARBOR, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA. Ship darkened locally.

J. J. Madden  
J. J. MADDEN, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

04-08

1357 0657 Sunrise. Lighted ship.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

08-12

1800 1200 No remarks.

R. E. Goodman  
R. E. GOODMAN, Ens., USNR.

12-16

No remarks.

W. T. Lightner  
W. T. LIGHTNER, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

16-20

Sept. 23  
0207 1907 Sunset.  
0225 1925 Darkened ship locally.

K. G. Holcombe  
K. G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

F. L. Roberts  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O. H. Ritchie  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Thursday 23 September 1943.

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus seven.

Position 0800

1200

2000

Lat.

Long.

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Moored starboard side to Berth #4, EAST OAKLAND OUTER HARBOR, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA. Ship darkened locally.

*R. F. Monger*R. F. MONGER, Ens., USNR.04-08

1358 0658 Sunrise. Lighted ship.

*W. T. Lightman*W. T. LIGHTMAN, Lieut. (jg), USNR.08-12

No remarks.

*K. G. Holcombe*K. G. HOLCOMBE, Ens., USNR.12-16

No remarks.

*J. C. Campbell*J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.16-20

Sept. 24

0204 1904

Sunset.

0219 1919

Darkened ship locally.

*J. J. Madden*J. J. MADDEN, Lieut. (jg), USNR.20-24

No remarks.

*C. Goldschmidt*C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O. H. Ritchie*O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., Commanding Officer.*F. P. Ryan*F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Friday 24 September 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus seven

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Moored starboard side to Berth #4, EAST OAKLAND OUTER HARBOR, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA. Ship darkened locally.

G. J. Cottrillo  
G. J. COTTRILLO, Ens., USNR.

04-08

1359 0659 Sunrise. Lighted ship.

J. C. Campbell  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

08-12

1523 0823 Pilot B. HUBBENETTE came aboard. Made all preparations for getting underway.  
1636 0936 Underway at various speeds on various courses conforming to the channel proceeding to sea. Pilot at the Conn, the Captain, Executive Officer, and Navigator on the bridge. Standard speed 15.2 knots (83 R.F.M.). In accordance with Commander Western Sea Frontier's Operation Order #138, C & R of 23 September 1943.

DESIGNATION: TASK GROUP 116.18

COMPOSITION: BELLATRIX  
ALCYONE

NEXT HIGHER ECHELON: FIFTH AMPHIBIOUS FORCE

MAJOR FORCE TO WHICH ATTACHED CENTRAL PACIFIC FORCE

1756 1056 MILE ROCK LIGHT abeam to port, distance 1200 yards. Set course 250°T.  
1838 1138 The PILOT left the ship.  
1840 1140 Set Condition II MIKE SUGAR.

J. J. Madden  
J. J. MADDEN, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O. H. Ritchie  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Friday 24 September 1943.

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus seven

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)G.C.T. L.C.T. 12-162001 1301 With FARALLON ROCK bearing  $346^{\circ}(T)$ , and FARALLON ISLAND LIGHT bearing  $049^{\circ}(T)$ , took departure and set course  $256^{\circ}(T)$ .

2008 1308 Commenced zig-zag Plan #11.

*J. C. Campbell*  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

16-18

No remarks.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

18-20

Sept. 25

0210 1910

Darkened ship.  
Sunset.

0215 1915

*F. L. Roberts*  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

20-24

0315 2015

Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course  $256^{\circ}(T)$ .

*A. B. Seibold Jr.*  
A. B. SEIBOLD, Jr., Lieut. (jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*C. H. Ritchie*  
C. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Saturday 25 September, 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)Zone description plus seven

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	36° 31' 30" N	36° 22' 00" N	35° 33' 00" N
Long.	128° 45' 00" W	130° 04' 00" W	132° 09' 00" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Underway in company with U.S.S. ALCYONE as Task Group 116.18, on base course 256°(T). Standard speed 15.2 knots, (83 R.P.M.). Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.

1000 0300 Commenced zig-zag Plan #11.

*G. J. Cottrill*  
G. J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

04-08

1250 0550 General Quarters.  
1352 0652 Set Condition II Mike Sugar.  
1415 0715 Lighted ship.  
1423 0723 Sunrise.

*J. C. Campbell*  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

08-12

1800 1000 Set clocks back one hour to Zone plus eight (8) time.

*F. L. Roberts*  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

12-16

2010 1210 Ceased zig-zagging. Changed base course to 244°(T).  
2020 1220 Commenced zig-zag Plan #11.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

16-18

No remarks.

*A. B. Seibold Jr.*  
A. B. SEIBOLD Jr., Lieut. (jg), USNR.

(Continued on next page.)

Approved:

Examined:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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PART III  
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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Saturday 25 September, 1943.

Zone description plus eight.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	36° 31' 30" N	36° 22' 00" N	35° 33' 00" N
Long.	128° 45' 00" W	130° 04' 00" W	132° 09' 00" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.O.T. L.C.T. 18-20  
 0242 1842 Sunset.  
 0247 1847 Darkened ship.  
 0345 1945 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 244°(T).

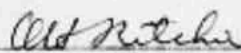
  
 F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

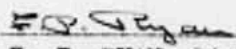
20-24  
 No remarks.

  
 J. COTIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

  
 O.H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., Commanding Officer.

  
 F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Sunday 26 September 1943.

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus eight

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	34° 18' 00" N	33° 56' 00" N	33° 06' 00" N
Long.	135° 11' 00" W	136° 12' 00" W	138° 14' 00" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Underway in company with U.S.S. ALCYONE, as Task Group 116.18, on base course 244<sup>0</sup>T. Standard speed 15.2 knots (83 R.P.M.). Ship completely darkened and in Condition II, MIKE SUGAR.

*J. C. Campbell*  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

04-08

1200 0400 Commenced zig-zag Plan #11.  
1350 0550 General Quarters.  
1450 0650 Sunrise. Lighted ship. Set Condition II, MIKE SUGAR.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

08-12

No remarks.

*F. L. Roberts*  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

12-16

2230 1430 Set all clocks back one-half hour to Zone plus eight and one-half (8½) time.

*A. B. Seibold Jr.*  
A. B. SEIBOLD Jr., Lieut. (jg), USNR.

16-18

0157 1727 Radar Contact reported bearing 260<sup>0</sup>(T), distance 8.4 miles.

*G. J. Cottrill*  
G. J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

(Continued on next page.)

Approved:

Examined:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Sunday 26 September

1943

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus 8 1/2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	34° 18' 00" N	33° 56' 00" N	33° 06' 00" N
Long.	135° 11' 00" W	136° 12' 00" W	138° 14' 00" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

Continued.

G.C.T. L.C.T. 18-20

0300 1830 Darkened ship.

0305 1835 Sunset.

0400 1930 Ceased zig-zagging. Remained on base course 244°(T).

*F. L. Roberts*  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

*J. C. Campbell*  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Monday 27 September 1943.Zone description plus 8½

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	31 44' 00" N	31 20' 00" N	30 07' 00" N
Long.	141 24' 00" W	142 08' 00" W	143 52' 00" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Underway in company with U.S.S. ALCYONE, as task Group 116.18, on base course 244°(T). Standard speed 15.2 knots (83 RPM). Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

04-08

1330	0500	Commenced zig-zag Plan #11.
1415	0545	General Quarters.
1500	0630	Ceased zig-zagging and changed base course to 236°(T).
1515	0645	Commenced zig-zag Plan #11. Lighted ship. Set Condition II Mike Sugar.

*A. B. Seibold, Jr.*  
A. B. SEIBOLD, JR., Lieut. (jg), USNR.

08-12

1836	1006	General Quarters. Ceased zig-zagging. Commenced A.A. firing practice on various courses.
1853	1023	Completed A.A. firing practice. Ammunition expended: 1638 rounds of 20 m.m.; 3 round 3"-50 cal. Set Condition II Mike Sugar.

*P. L. Roberts*  
P. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

12-16

2035	1205	Changed course to 236°(T).
2310	1440	Commenced zig-zag Plan #11.
2358	1528	Ceased zig-zagging. Resumed position.
0015	1545	Commenced zig-zag Plan #11.

*G. S. Cotirilos*  
G. S. COTIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

(Continued on next page.)

Approved:

Examined:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR, Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR, Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Monday 27 September, 19 43.Zone description plus 8½

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	31° 44' 00" N	31° 20' 00" N	30° 07' 00" N
Long.	141° 24' 00" W	142° 08' 00" W	143° 52' 00" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)Continued.G.C.T. L.C.T. 16-18

No remarks.

*J. C. Campbell*  
 J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

18-20

0322	1852	Darkened ship.
0327	1857	Sunset.
0400	1930	Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 236°(T).

*F. E. Roberts*  
 F. E. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

20-24

0430 2000 Changed base course to 239°(T).

*C. Goldschmidt*  
 C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
 O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
 F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.



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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Tuesday 28 September

1943.

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description Plus 8½

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	28° 32' 00" N	27° 59' 00" N	26° 53' 00" N
Long.	146° 51' 00" W	148° 01' 30" W	149° 45' 00" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Underway in company with U.S.S. ALOYCNE, as Task Group 116.18 on base course 239 (T). Standard speed 15.2 knots (83 R.P.M.). Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.

0949 0119 Unidentified plane passed overhead on course about 060 (T).

*A. B. Seibold Jr.*  
A. B. SEIBOLD, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

04-08

1400 0530 Commenced zig-zag Plan #11.  
1440 0610 General Quarters.  
1540 0710 Sunrise. Lighted snip. Set Condition II Mike Sugar.

*G. J. Cotsiriilos*  
G. J. COTSIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

08-12

1830 1000 Set clocks back one hour (1 hr.) to Zone plus nine and one-half (9½) time.

*F. L. Roberts*  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

12-16

2200 1230 Adjusted base course to 234 (T).

*J. C. Campbell*  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

16-18

No remarks.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

(Continued on next page.)

Approved:

Examined:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Tuesday 28 September 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description Plus 8 1/2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	28° 32' 00" N	27° 59' 00" N	26° 53' 00" N
Long.	146° 51' 00" W	148° 01' 30" W	149° 45' 00" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

Cont'd.

G.C.T. L.C.T. 18-20

Sept. 29

0343 1813 Darkened ship.  
0348 1818 Sunset.  
0420 1920 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 234°(T).

*J. Campbell*  
J. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (JG), USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

*A. B. Scribold Jr.*  
A. B. SCRIBOLD Jr., Lieut. (JG), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Wednesday 29 September 1943.

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus 9½

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	25° 06' 30"N	24° 35' 00" N	
Long.	152° 24' 30"W	153° 14' 00" W	

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Underway in convoy with U.S.S. ALCYONE, as Task Group 116.18, on base course 234°(T). Standard speed 15.2 knots (83 R.P.M.). Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.

*G. J. Cotirilos*  
G. J. COTIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

04-08

1500 0530 General Quarters. Commenced zig-zag Plan #11.  
1600 0630 Sunrise. Lighted ship. Set Condition II Mike Sugar.

*J. C. Campbell*  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

08-12

No remarks.

*P. L. Roberts*  
P. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

12-16

No remarks.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

16-18

No remarks.

*A. B. Seibold Jr*  
A. B. SEIBOLD JR., Lieut. (jg), USNR.

18-20

0403 1833 Darkened Ship.  
0408 1838 Sunset.  
0510 1940 Ceased zig-zagging and remained on base course 234°(T).

*P. L. Roberts*  
P. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIXWednesday 29 September, 19 43  
(Day) (Date) (Month)Zone description Plus 9½

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat. 25° 06' 30" N		24° 35' 00" N	
Long. 152° 24' 30" W		153° 14' 00" W	

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)G.C.T. L.C.T. 20-24

No remarks.

*S. J. Cotsirilos*  
S. J. COTSIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR, Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Thursday 30 September 1943.

Zone description Plus 9 1/2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	21° 29' 50" N		
Long.	157° 29' 00" W		

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Underway in company with U.S.S. ALCYONE, as Task Group 116.18 on base course 234°(T). Standard speed 15.2 knots, (83 R.P.M.). Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.

*J. C. Campbell*  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (Jg), USNR.

04-08

1520	0550	Commenced zig-zag Plan #11. General Quarters.
1536	0606	Changed base course to 205°(T).
1615	0635	Sighted MOKAPU POINT, OAHU ISLAND, bearing 165°(T), distance 30 miles.
1618	0648	Sunrise. Lighted ship. Set Condition II Mike Sugar.
1650	0720	ALLEN joined formation and assumed position ahead of this task group to act as escort.
1718	0748	Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 205°(T).
1721	0751	Changed base course to 195°(T).
1730	0800	Commenced zig-zag Plan #11.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (Jg), USNR.

08-12

1814	0844	Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 196°(T).
1817	0847	Changed base course to 217°(T).
1835	0905	Commenced Zig-Zag Plan #11.
1847	0917	Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 217°(T).
1851	0921	Changed base course to 233°(T).
1901	0931	Changed base course to 253°(T).
1924	0951	Changed base course to 268°(T).
1942	1012	Changed base course to 300°(T).
2010	1040	Changed base course to 000°(T), and proceeded independently on various courses and speeds proceeding into Honolulu Harbor. Made all preparations for entering port.
2040	1110	Pilot A. N. HASSELGREN, came aboard. Pilot at the Conn., Captain, Executive Officer, and Navigator on the bridge.
2104	1134	Passed through anti-submarine and torpedo net.

*F. L. Roberts*  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Thursday 30 September, 1943.

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description Plus 9 1/2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat. 21 29' 50" N			
Long. 157 29' 00" W			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 12-16  
 2145 1215 Moored starboard side to Pier #26, Honolulu Harbor,  
 OAHU ISLAND, TERRITORY OF HAWAII.  
 2158 1228 Pilot left the ship.

  
 F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

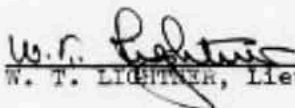
16-20

Oct. 1  
 0422 1852 Sunset.  
 0437 1907 Darkened snip locally.

  
 R. F. MONGER, Ens., USNR.

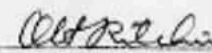
20-24

No remarks.

  
 W. T. LIDTNER, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

  
 O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., *Covanding Officer.*

  
 F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., *Navigator.*

E-405

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U.S. No. 029756 Page 313

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Friday 1 October 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus 9½

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Moored starboard side to Pier #26, Honolulu Harbor, OAHU ISLAND, TERRITORY OF HAWAII. Ship darkened locally and in Condition II Mike Able.

NEXT HIGHER ECHELON: FIFTH AMPHIBIOUS FORCE.MAJOR FORCE TO WHICH ATTACHED: CENTRAL PACIFIC FORCE.

*F. X. La Mountain, Ens. USNR.*  
F. X. La MOUNTAIN, Ens., USNR.

04-08

1619 0649 Sunrise. Lighted ship.

*G. W. Rives Jr.*  
G. W. RIVES JR., Ens., USNR.

08-12

No remarks.

*M. S. Young*  
M. S. YOUNG, Ens., USNR.

12-16

No remarks.

*J. C. Campbell*  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

16-20

Oct. 2  
0421 1851 Sunset.  
0436 1906 Darkened ship locally.

*J. J. Madden*  
J. J. MADDEN, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

58807

Approved:

Examined:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Friday 1 October, 1943.

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ 

Position 0800

1200

2000

Lat.

Long.

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)Continued.G.C.T. L.C.T. 20-24

0630 2110 Air raid alert sounded. Practice blackout. Darkened ship completely.

0645 2125 All clear sounded. Darkened ship locally.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O. H. Ritchie  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., *Commanding Officer.*F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., *Navigator.*

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.



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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Saturday 2 October 1943.

Zone description plus 9 1/2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Moored starboard side to Pier #26, Honolulu Harbor, OAHU ISLAND, TERRITORY OF HAWAII. Ship darkened locally and in Condition II Mike Able.

R. E. Goodman  
R. E. GOODMAN, Ens., USNR.

04-08

1622 0652 Sunrise. Lighted ship.

G. J. Cottrill  
G. J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

08-12

No remarks.

J. C. Campbell  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

12-16

No remarks.

R. F. Monger  
R. F. MONGER, Ens., USNR.

16-20

0419 1849 Sunset.  
0434 1904 Darkened ship locally.

W. T. Lightner  
W. T. LIGHTNER, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

F. X. La Mountain  
F. X. LA MOUNTAIN, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O. H. Ritchie  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Sunday 3 October 1943.

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus 9 1/2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Moored starboard side to Pier #26, Honolulu Harbor, OAHU ISLAND, TERRITORY OF HAWAII. Ship darkened locally and in Condition II Mike Able.

*G. W. Rives Jr.*  
G. W. RIVES JR., Ens., USNR.

04-08

1623 0653 Sunrise. Lighted ship.

*M. S. Young*  
M. S. YOUNG, Ens., USNR.

08-12

No remarks.

*P. L. Roberts*  
P. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

12-16

No remarks.

*J. J. Madden*  
J. J. MADDEN, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

16-20

0228 1858 Sunset.  
0243 1913 Darkened ship locally.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

20-24

0915 2345 No remarks.

*R. E. Goodman*  
R. E. GOODMAN, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Monday 4 October, 1943.Zone description plus 9½

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Moored starboard side to Pier #26, Honolulu Harbor, OAHU ISLAND, TERRITORY OF HAWAII. Ship darkened locally and in Condition II Mike Able.

B. J. Cotsirilos  
B. J. COTSIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

04-08

1622 0652 Sunrise. Lighted ship.

J. S. Campbell  
J. S. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

08-12

No remarks.

J. J. Madden  
J. J. MADDEN, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

12-16

No remarks.

F. X. La Mountain  
F. X. LA MOUNTAIN, Ens., USNR.

16-200417 1847 Sunset.  
0437 1907 Darkened ship locally.

G. W. Rives Jr  
G. W. RIVES, Ens., USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

M. S. Young  
M. S. YOUNG, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

C. H. Ritchie  
C. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Tuesday 5 October 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus 9 1/2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)


G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Moored starboard side to Pier #26, Honolulu Harbor, OAHU ISLAND, TERRITORY OF HAWAII. Ship darkened locally and in Condition II Mike Able.

  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

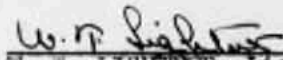
04-08

1623 0653 Sunrise. Lighted ship.

  
R. F. MONGER, Ens., USNR.

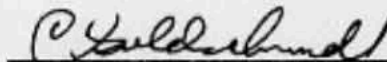
08-12

No remarks.

  
W. T. LIGHTNER, Lieut. (jg), USNR.


12-16

No remarks.

  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

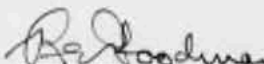
16-20

Oct. 5  
0417 1847 Sunset.  
0432 1902 Darkened ship locally.

  
G. J. COTSIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

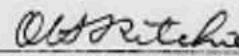
20-24

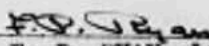
No remarks.

  
R. E. GOODMAN, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR,  *commanding Officer.*

  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR.,  *Navigator.*

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Wednesday 6 October 1943.

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus 9½

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Moored starboard side to Pier #26, Honolulu Harbor, OAHU ISLAND, TERRITORY OF HAWAII. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Able.

*J. C. Campbell*  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

04-08

1623 0653 Sunrise. Lighted ship.

*J. J. Madden*  
J. J. MADDEN, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

08-12

1750	0820	Made all preparations for getting underway.
1807	0837	Pilot G. Jennings came aboard.
1904	0934	Underway from Pier #26, Honolulu Harbor, OAHU ISLAND, TERRITORY OF HAWAII, in accordance with CinCPac's Despatch Orders 051950 of October, at various speeds and on various courses conforming to the channel, proceeding to sea. Pilot at the Conn, Captain, Executive Officer, and Navigator on the bridge. Standard speed 15.2 knots, (83 R.P.M.).
1921	0951	Passed through anti-submarine net.
1926	0956	Set base course 208°(T).
1927	0957	Pilot G. Jennings left the ship.
1932	1002	Changed base course to 203°(T).
1950	1020	Commenced zig-zag Plan #11.
2010	1040	General Quarters. Made all preparations for A.A. firing practice. Ceased zig-zagging and changed base course to 213°(T).
2017	1047	Changed base course to 203°(T).
2030	1100	Changed base course to 210°(T).
2040	1110	Changed base course to 225°(T).
2052	1122	Changed base course to 245°(T).
2054	1124	Changed base course to 000°(T).
2102	1132	Changed base course to 090°(T).
2106	1136	Changed base course to 108°(T).
2111	1141	Changed base course to 180°(T).
2119	1149	Commenced zig-zag Plan #11.
2130	1200	Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 180°(T).

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*C. H. Ritchie*  
C. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Wednesday 6 October 1943.

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ 

Position 0800

1200

2000

Lat.

Long.

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)Continued:G.C.T. L.C.T. 12-162132 1202 Commenced A.A. Firing Practice, using two planes; towing sleeve targets. The following runs were fired: BAKER, 1- run to starboard and 1-run to port; GEORGE, 2 runs to starboard, and three runs to port; AROUND THE ISLAND, six runs.

2253 1321 Completed A. A. Firing Practice. Ammunition expended 4150 - 20 m.m.'s; 41 3" 50 cal.

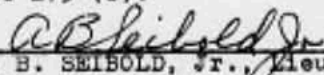
2255 1325 Set condition II Mike Able.

Commenced zig-zag Plan #11.

Oct. 7

0015 1445

Changed base course to 175°(T).

  
 A. B. SEIBOLD, Jr., Lieut. (jg), USNR.
16-18

No remarks.

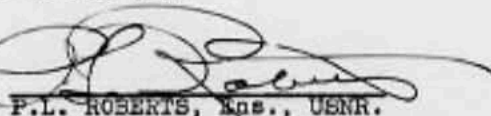
  
 G. J. COTSIHILOS, Ens., USNR.
18-20

0411 1841 Darkened ship.

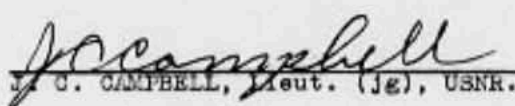
0416 1846 Sunset.

0506 1936 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 175°(T).

0519 1949 Changed base course to 180°(T).

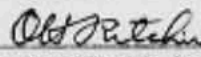
  
 F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.
20-24


No remarks.

  
 J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

  
 O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., Commanding Officer.

  
 F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Thursday 7 October 1943.

Zone description plus 9 1/2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	16° 04' 00" N	15° 03' 00" N	13° 01' 00" N
Long.	157° 58' 00" W	158° 00' 00" W	158° 06' 30" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Underway on base course 180 (T). Standard speed 15.2 knots (83 R.P.M.). Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Able.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (Jg), USNR.

04-08

1520 0550 General Quarters.  
1623 0653 Sunrise. Lighted ship. Set Condition II Mike Able.

A. B. Seibold Jr.  
A. B. SEIBOLD, Jr., Lieut. (Jg), USNR.

08-12

No remarks.

G. J. Cottrillo  
G. J. COTTRILLO, Ens., USNR.

12-16

No remarks.

F. L. Roberts  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

16-18

No remarks.

J. C. Campbell  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (Jg), USNR.

18-20

Oct. 8  
0414 1844 Darkened ship.  
0419 1849 Sunset.  
0517 1947 Changed base course to 177 (T).

F. L. Roberts  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O. H. Ritchie  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Thursday 7 October 19\_\_

Zone description plus 9 1/2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	16° 04' 00" N	15° 03' 00" N	13° 01' 00" N
Long.	157° 58' 00" W	158° 00' 00" W	158° 06' 30" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T.	L.C.T.	20-24
Oct. 8		
0740	2210	Radar contact with unidentified surface object bearing 185°(T), distance 2800 yards. Changed course to 167°(T).
0742	2212	Changed course to 147°(T).
0745	2215	Changed course to 127°(T).
0747	2217	Changed course to 157°(T).
0750	2220	Resumed base course 177°(T).
0757	2227	Radar contact with unidentified surface object bearing 217°(T), distance 4600 yards.
0801	2231	Changed course to 130°(T).
0805	2235	Changed course to 160°(T).
0807	2237	Resumed base course 177°(T); radar contact believed false.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O. H. Ritchie  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.



UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Friday 8 October 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus 9 1/2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	10° 01' 00" N	09° 04' 00" N	6° 56' 00" N
Long.	157° 58' 00" W	157° 54' 30" W	157° 45' 00" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Underway on base course 177° (T). Standard speed 15.2 knots, (83 R.P.M.). Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Able.

A. B. Seibold, Jr.  
A. B. SEIBOLD, Jr., Lieut. (jg), USNR.

04-08

1520 0550 General Quarters.  
1620 0650 Sunrise. Lighted ship. Set Condition II Mike Able.

G. J. Cotirilos  
G. J. COTIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

08-12

1811 0841 Changed base course to 180° (T).

J. C. Campbell  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

12-16

No remarks.

F. L. Roberts  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

16-18

No remarks.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

18-20

Oct. 9  
0415 1845 Darkened ship.  
0420 1850 Sunset.  
0455 1925 Changed course to 183° (T).

F. L. Roberts  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

(Continued)

Approved:

Examined:

O. H. Ritchie  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt. USNR., Forwarding Officer.

F. F. Ryan  
F. F. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Friday 8 October

19 43.

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus 9½

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	10° 01' 00" N	09° 04' 00" N	6° 56' 00" N
Long.	157° 58' 00" W	157° 54' 30" W	157° 45' 00" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

Continued:

G.C.T. L.C.T. 20-24

No remarks.

A. B. Seibold, Jr.  
A. B. SEIBOLD, Jr., Lieut. (jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O. H. Ritchie  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., Commanding Officer.

F. F. Ryan  
F. F. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Saturday 9 October 1943.

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description Plus 9 1/2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	03° 44' 00" N	02° 44' 00" N	00° 41' 00" N
Long.	157° 58' 00" W	158° 25' 00" W	158° 42' 00" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Underway on base course 183°(T). Standard speed 15.2 knots, (83 R.P.M.). Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Able.

*G. J. Cottrill*  
G. J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

04-08

1520 0550 General Quarters.  
1607 0637 Changed base course to 202°(T).  
1620 0650 Sunrise. Lighted ship. Set Condition II Mike Able.

*J. C. Campbell*  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

08-12

2130 1200 Changed base course to 187°(T).

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

12-16

2302 1332 Changed base course to 180°(T).

*F. L. Roberts*  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

16-18

No remarks.

*A. B. Seibold, Jr.*  
A. B. SEIBOLD, Jr., Lieut. (jg), USNR.

(Continued on next page)

Approved:

Examined:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Saturday 9 October

1943.

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus 9 1/2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	03° 44' 00" N	02° 44' 00" N	00° 41' 00" N
Long.	157° 58' 00" W	158° 25' 00" W	158° 42' 00" W

Continued:

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

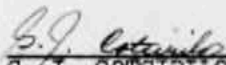
G.C.T. L.C.T. 18-20

0407 1837 Changed base course to 170°(T).  
 0416 1846 Darkened ship.  
 0421 1851 Sunset.  
 0530 2000 Changed base course to 180°(T).

  
 F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

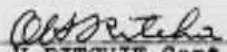
20-24

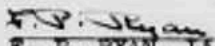
No remarks.

  
 G. J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

  
 O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., *Commanding Officer.*

  
 F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., *Navigator.*

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Sunday 10 October 1943.

Zone description Plus 9 1/2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	2° 20' 00" S	03° 16' 00" S	05° 11' 30" S
Long.	159° 39' 00" W	159° 54' 00" W	160° 34' 30" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Underway on base course 180°(T). Standard speed 15.2 knots (83 R.F.M.). Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Able.

1000 0030 Changed base course to 195°(T).

*J. C. Campbell*  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

04-08

1520 0550 General Quarters.  
1620 0650 Sunrise. Lighted ship. Sgt Condition II Mike Able.  
1640 0710 Changed base course to 193°(T).

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

08-12

No remarks.

*A. B. Seibold, Jr.*  
A. B. SEIBOLD, Jr., Lieut. (jg), USNR.

12-16

2330 1400 Changed base course to 200°(T).

*F. L. Roberts*  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

16-18

No remarks.

*G. J. Cotirilos*  
G. J. COTIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

18-20

Oct. 11.  
0435 1905 Darkened ship.  
0440 1910 Sunset.

*F. L. Roberts*  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*C. H. Ritchie*  
C. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX / Sunday 10 October, 19 43.

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description Plus 9½

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	20° 20' 00" S	03° 16' 00" S	05° 11' 30" S
Long.	159° 39' 00" W	159° 54' 00" W	160° 34' 30" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

Continued:

G.C.T. L.C.T. 20-24

No remarks.

*J. C. Campbell*  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., *Commanding Officer.*

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., *Navigator.*

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Monday 11 October 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description Plus 9 1/2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	8° 02' 00" S	8° 55' 00" S	10° 59' 00" S
Long.	161° 41' 00" W	162° 03' 00" W	162° 53' 00" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Underway on base course 200°(T). Standard speed 15.2 knots (83 R.P.M.). Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Able.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (Jg), USNR.

04-08

1525 0555 General Quarters.  
1625 0655 Sunrise. Lighted ship. Set Condition II Mike Able.

A. B. Skibold Jr  
A. B. SKIBOLD, Jr., Lieut. (Jg), USNR.

08-12

No remarks.

G. J. Cotirilos  
G. J. COTIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

12-16

No remarks.

F. L. Roberts  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

16-18

No remarks.

G. Campbell  
G. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (Jg), USNR.

18-20

Oct. 12  
0430 1900 Set clocks back one-half hour to zone plus ten (10) time.  
0441 1841 Darkened ship.  
0446 1846 Sunset.

F. L. Roberts  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

20-24

0640 2040 Radar contact with unidentified surface object bearing 025°(T), distance 2500 yards. Changed course to 210°(T).  
0644 2044 Radar contact believed false. Resumed base course 200°(T).

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (Jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O. H. Ritchie  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR. Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

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CONFIDENTIAL

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Tuesday 12 October 1943.

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus ten.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	13° 50' 00" S	14° 46' 30" S	16° 41' 00" S
Long.	164° 00' 00" W	164° 22' 00" W	164° 52' 00" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Underway on base course 200°(T). Standard speed 15.2 knots (83 R.P.M.). Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Able.

*A. B. Seibold Jr.*  
A. B. SEIBOLD, Jr., Lieut. (jg), USNR.

04-08

1530 0530 General Quarters.  
1630 0630 Sunrise. Lighted snip. Set Condition II Mike Able.

*G. J. Cotirilos*  
G. J. COTIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

08-12

1840 0840 Changed base course to 198°(T).  
2010 1010 Commenced A.A. 20 m.m. firing practice.  
2026 1026 Completed A.A. 20 m.m. firing practice and resumed base course 198°(T). Ammunition expended 942 rounds.

*J. C. Campbell*  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

12-16

2307 1307 Changed course to 193°(T).  
2338 1338 Commenced practice firing of .30 cal. and .50 cal. boat guns on No. 3 Hold.  
Oct. 13  
0014 1418 Completed practice firing of .30 cal. and .50 cal. guns. Expended 500 rounds .30 cal., and 360 rounds .50 cal. ammunition.

*P. L. Roberts*  
P. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

16-18

No remarks.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.



PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Tuesday 12 October 1943.

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus ten.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	13° 50' 00" S	14° 46' 30" S	16° 41' 00" S
Long.	164° 00' 00" W	164° 22' 00" W	164° 52' 00" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

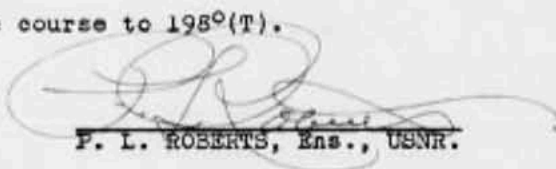
G.C.T. L.C.T. 18-20

Oct. 13

0453 1853 Darkened ship.

0458 1858 Sunset.

0600 2000 Changed base course to 198°(T).

  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

20-24

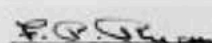
No remarks.

  
A. S. SEIBOLD, Jr., Lieut. (jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., Commanding Officer.

  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Wednesday 13 October 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)Zone description plus ten.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	19° 28' 30" S	20° 26' 00" S	22° 17' 00" S
Long.	165° 53' 00" W	166° 14' 00" W	166° 55' 00" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Underway on base course 198°(T). Standard speed 15.2 knots, (83 R.P.M.). Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Able.

G. J. Cotsirilos  
G. J. COTSIRILOS, Ens., USNR.04-081535 0535 General Quarters.  
1635 0635 Sunrise. Lighted ship. Set Condition II Mike Able.J. C. Campbell  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.08-12

No remarks.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.12-16

No remarks.

F. L. Roberts  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.16-18

No remarks.

A. B. Seibold, Jr.  
A. B. SEIBOLD, Jr., Lieut. (jg), USNR.18-20Oct. 14  
0504 1904 Darkened ship.  
0509 1909 Sunset.F. L. Roberts  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.20-240847 2247 Changed course to 190°(T), to reduce excessive rolling.  
0900 2300 Changed course to 183°(T).  
0906 2306 Changed course to 173°(T).  
0920 2320 Changed course to 160°(T).  
0921 2321 Ahead two-thirds.  
0928 2328 Changed course to 153°(T).G. J. Cotsirilos  
G. J. COTSIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O. H. Ritchie  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., Commanding Officer.F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Thursday 14 October 1943.

Zone description plus ten.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	24° 19' 00" S	24° 36' 00" S	25° 41' 00" S
Long.	166° 47' 00" W	167° 46' 00" W	168° 25' 00" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Underway on base course 153° (T). Standard speed 15.2 knots, (83 R.P.M.), at two-thirds speed (55 R.P.M.). Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Able.

*J. C. Campbell*  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

04-08

1635	0635	Changed base course to 210°(T).
1677	0637	Changed base course to 220°(T).
1638	0638	Changed base course to 235°(T).
1640	0640	Sunrise. Lighted ship.
1642	0642	Changed base course to 240°(T).
1654	0654	Changed base course to 250°(T).
1720	0720	Maneuvering on various courses keeping the sea astern of the ship.
1753	0753	Changed standard speed to 8.0 knots, (43 R.P.M.).
1759	0759	Changed standard speed to 7.2 knots, (39 R.P.M.).
1800	0800	Changed base course to 2630(T).

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut., (jg), USNR.

08-12

1830	0830	Changed base course to 268°(T).
2026	1026	Changed base course to 263°(T).
2102	1102	Changed base course to 255°(T).
2115	1115	Changed speed to 8.2 knots, (44 R.P.M.).
2117	1117	Changed speed to 9.1 knots, (50 R.P.M.).
2128	1128	Changed base course to 250°(T).
2130	1130	Changed base course to 245°(T). Changed speed to 10.2 knots, (55 R.P.M.).
2135	1135	Changed speed to 10.9 knots, (59 R.P.M.).
2148	1148	Changed speed to 10.5 knots, (57 R.P.M.).
2200	1200	Changed base course to 240°(T).

*A. B. Seibold Jr.*  
A. B. SEIBOLD JR., Lieut. (jg), USNR.

12-16

2200	1220	Changed course to 235°(T), and changed speed to 13.2 knots, (71 R.P.M.).
2241	1241	Changed speed to 15.2 knots, (83 R.P.M.).
2318	1318	Changed speed to 14.5 knots, (79 R.P.M.).

*F. L. Roberts*  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Thursday 14 October 1943.

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus ten.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	24° 19' 00" S	24° 36' 00" S	25° 41' 00" S
Long.	166° 47' 00" W	167° 46' 00" W	168° 26' 00" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)Continued:G.C.T. L.C.T. 16-18

Oct. 15

0212 1612 Changed course to 245°(T).  
 0240 1640 Changed course to 220°(T).  
 0241 1641 Changed course to 200°(T).  
 0243 1643 Changed course to 190°(T).  
 0247 1647 Changed course to 185°(T).  
 0249 1649 Changed course to 175°(T).  
 0330 1730 Changed course to 165°(T).  
 0339 1739 Changed speed to 13.2 knots, (71 R.P.M.).  
 0345 1745 Ahead two-thirds, (55 R.P.M.).  
 0346 1746 Changed course to 155°(T).  
 0347 1747 Ahead one-third, (27 R.P.M.).

*G. J. Cotsirilos*  
 G. J. COTSIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

18-20

0410 1810 Changed speed to 6.4 knots (35 R.P.M.).  
 0421 1821 Changed speed to 8.3 knots (45 R.P.M.).  
 0436 1836 Changed speed to 10.1 knots (55 R.P.M.).  
 0500 1900 Changed speed to 13.1 knots (71 R.P.M.).  
 0517 1917 Changed course to 160°(T). Darkened ship.  
 0519 1919 Changed course to 170°(T).  
 0521 1921 Sunset.  
 0541 1941 Changed course to 175°(T).  
 0544 1944 Changed speed to 13.8 knots (75 R.P.M.).  
 0548 1948 Changed course to 170°(T).

*P. L. Roberts*  
 P. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

20-24

0614 2014 Changed course to 160°(T).  
 0634 2034 Changed course to 155°(T).

*J. C. Campbell*  
 J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
 O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
 F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Friday 15 October 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus ten.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	27° 44' 00" S	28° 22' 00" S	30° 11' 00" S
Long.	167° 51' 00" W	168° 48' 00" W	169° 55' 00" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Underway on base course, 155°(T). Speed 10.1 knots, (55 - R.P.M.). Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Able.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (JG), USNR.

04-08

1400	0400	Changed speed to 14 knots, (75 R.F.M.).
1515	0515	Changed speed to 14.7 knots, (80 R.P.M.).
1530	0530	Changed base course to 170°(T).
1643	0643	Sunrise. Lighted ship.
1654	0654	Changed speed to 15.2 knots (83 R.P.M.).
1655	0655	Changed base course to 220°(T).
1700	0700	Changed base course to 225°(T).
1738	0738	Changed base course to 215°(T).

A. B. Beibold Jr  
A. B. BEIBOLD, JR., Lieut. (JG), USNR.

08-12

No remarks.

G. J. Cotserilos  
G. J. COTSIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

12-16

Oct. 16  
0002 1402 Changed base course to 207°(T).

F. L. Roberts  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

16-18

No remarks.

J. C. Campbell  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (JG), USNR.

18-20

0526 1926 Darkened ship.  
0531 1931 Sunset.

F. L. Roberts  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (JG), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O. H. Ritchie  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Saturday 16 October 1943.

Zone description plus ten.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	32° 48' 30" S	33° 34' 00" S	35° 01' 00" S
Long.	171° 29' 00" W	172° 07' 00" W	172° 51' 15" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Underway on base course 207°(T). Standard speed 15.2 knots (83 R.P.M.). Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Able.

*A. B. Seibold Jr.*  
A. B. SEIBOLD, JR., Lieut. (jg), USNR.

04-08

1545 0545 General Quarters.  
1645 0645 Sunrise. Lighted ship. Set Condition II Mike Able.  
1800 0800 Changed base course to 2050(T). Changed standard speed to 15 knots (81 R.P.M.). Commenced zig-zag Plan #5.

*G. S. Cottrilios*  
G. S. COTTRILIOS, Ens., USNR.

08-12

No remarks.

*J. C. Campbell*  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

12-16

2337 1337 Ceased zig-zagging and proceeded on various courses testing smoke generators.  
Oct. 17  
0000 1400 Resumed base course 205°(T), and commenced zig-zag Plan #5.  
0007 1407 Ceased zig-zagging and proceeded on various courses. Commenced A.A. firing practice.  
0122 1522 Completed A.A. firing practice. Ammunition expended 225 rounds 3"; 3000 rounds of 20 m.m.  
Resumed base course 205°(T).

*F. L. Roberts*  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

16-18

0330 1730 Commenced zig-zag Plan #5.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Saturday 16 October, 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)Zone description plus ten.


Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	32° 48' 30" S	33° 34' 00" S	35° 01' 00" S
Long.	171° 29' 00" W	172° 07' 00" W	172° 51' 15" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)G.C.T. L.C.T. 18-20

0500 1900 Set all clocks back one-half hour to conform with Zone plus ten and one-half (10½) time.  
 0542 1912 Darkened ship.  
 0547 1917 Sunset.  
 0628 1958 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 205°(T).

  
 F. L. ROBERTS, Ensign, USNR.
20-24

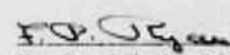
0600 2000 Changed base course to 219°(T).  
 Commenced Zig-Zag Plan #11.

  
 A. B. SEIBOLD, Jr., Lieut. (JG), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

  
 O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., Commanding Officer.

  
 F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Sunday 17 October 1943

Zone description plus 10 1/2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	36° 42' 00" S	37° 15' 00" S	38° 36' S.
Long.	175° 00' 00" W	175° 45' 00" S	176° 35' W.

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Underway on course 219° (T). Standard speed 15.0 knots, (81 R.P.M.). Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Able. Zig-zag Plan #11.

S. J. Ulanis  
S. J. ULANIS, Ens., USNR.

04-08

1655 0625 Sunrise. Lighted ship.

J. C. Campbell  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

08-12

2140 1110 Changed standard speed to 13.8 knots (75 R.P.M.).  
2200 1130 Ceased zig-zagging. Resumed base course 219 (T).  
2217 1147 Changed course to 209° (T).  
2227 1157 Changed course to 219° (T).

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

12-16

2348 1318 Changed course to 210° (T).

F. L. Roberts  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

16-18

No remarks.

A. B. Seibold, Jr.  
A. B. SEIBOLD, Jr., Lieut. (jg), USNR.

- Continued on next page -

Approved:

Examined:

C. H. Ritchie  
C. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.



PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Sunday 17 October 1943.

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus 10 $\frac{1}{2}$

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	36° 42' 00" S	37° 15' 00" S	38° 36' S.
Long.	175° 00' 00" W	175° 45' 00" W	176° 55' W.

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

Continued:

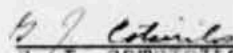
G.C.T. L.C.T. 18-20

Oct. 18  
0603 1933 Darkened ship.  
0608 1938 Sunset.

  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

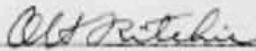
20-24

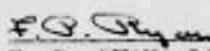
No remarks.

  
G. J. COTIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., *Commanding Officer.*

  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., *Navigator.*

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Monday 18 October 1943.  
(Day) (Month) (Year)

Zone description plus 10 1/2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat. 40 41' 05" S	41 07' 04" S	42 03' 00" S	
Long. 178 54' 00" W	180 00' 00" E	178 00' 00" E	

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Underway on base course 210°(T). Standard speed 13.8 knots, (75 R.P.M.). Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Able.

*J. C. Campbell*  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut., (jg), USNR.

04-08

1605 0535 General Quarters.  
1705 0635 Sunrise. Lighted ship. Set Condition II Mike Able.  
1726 0656 Changed base course to 238°(T). Changed standard speed to 15.2 knots, (83 R.P.M.).

*P. Goldschmidt*  
P. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut., (jg), USNR.

08-12

Oct. 18 Oct. 19  
2300 1200 Crossed International Date Line. Changed date to October 19, 1943. Automatically changed time to Zone minus 13 1/2.

*A. B. Seibold Jr.*  
A. B. SEIBOLD, JR., Lieut., (jg), USNR.

12-16

2300 1230 Changed course to 225°(T).  
2330 1300 Commenced zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #11. Changed speed to 14.9 knots, (81 R.P.M.).

*F. L. Roberts*  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

- continued on next page -

Approved: *O. H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., Commanding Officer.

Examined: *F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Monday 18 October 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus 10 1/2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	40° 41' 05" S	41° 07' 04" S	42° 03' 00" S
Long.	178° 54' 00" W	180° 00' 00" E	178° 00' 00" E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

Continued:

G.C.T. L.C.T. 16-18  
Oct. 18 Oct. 19

No remarks.

*G. J. Cotirilos*  
G. J. COTIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

0609 1959 18-20  
Darkened ship.

*F. L. Roberts*  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

0634 2004 20-24 Sunset.  
0703 2103 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 269° (T).  
0708 2108 Changed standard speed to 13.8 knots, (75 R.F.M.).  
Commenced Zig-Zag Plan #5.

*J. C. Campbell*  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut., (jg), USNR.

Approved: *C. H. Ritchie*  
C. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., Commanding Officer.

Examined: *F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

WEDNESDAY 20 OCTOBER 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description minus 13 $\frac{1}{2}$

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Underway on base course 269 $^{\circ}$ (T). Standard speed 13.8 knots (75 R.P.M.). Zig-zag Plan #5. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Able.  
1230 0200 Radar contact identified as Southeast coast of NORTH ISLAND, NEW ZEALAND, bearing 305 $^{\circ}$ (T), distance 62 miles.  
1414 0344 Changed base course to 302 $^{\circ}$ (T).

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (Jg), USNR.

04-08

1541 0511 Sighted ship bearing 273 $^{\circ}$ (T), distant four (4) miles.  
1544 0514 Ceased zig-zagging.  
1548 0518 Changed standard speed to 15 knots (81 R.P.M.).  
1549 0519 Passed ship to port on opposite course, distant two (2) miles. Resumed zig-zag.  
1603 0533 Sighted CAPE ELLISER Light bearing 319 $^{\circ}$ (T), distant twenty-one (21) miles.  
1617 0547 Ceased zig-zagging.  
1620 0550 General Quarters.  
1720 0650 Sunrise. Lighted ship. Set Condition II Mike Able.  
1732 0702 Changed base course to 313 $^{\circ}$ (T).  
1750 0720 Commenced zig-zag Plan #11.  
1817 0747 sighted BERING HEAD Light bearing 328 $^{\circ}$ (T), distant 16.8 miles.

*A. B. Seibold Jr.*  
A. B. SEIBOLD, Jr. Lieut. (Jg), USNR.

08-12

1843 0813 Ceased zig-zagging and changed base course to 307 $^{\circ}$ (T).  
1911 0841 On various courses and at various speeds conforming to channel into LAMBTON HARBOR, WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND.  
1925 0855 Made all preparations for coming to anchor.  
2017 0947 Pilot C.C. BULLOCK came aboard and took the Conn, with the Captain, Executive Officer, and Navigator on the bridge.  
2025 0955 Set all clocks back one hour and thirty minutes to Zone minus twelve (12) time.  
2046 0846 Anchored in LAMBTON HARBOR, WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND, in nine (9) fathoms of water with 75 fathoms of chain to the port anchor on the following bearings: RAILROAD TUNNEL 353  $\frac{3}{4}$  $^{\circ}$ (T), LEFT TANGENT SOMES ISLAND 071  $\frac{1}{4}$  $^{\circ}$ (T), RIGHT TANGENT SOMES ISLAND 082  $\frac{3}{4}$  $^{\circ}$ (T), STACK 012  $\frac{3}{4}$  $^{\circ}$ (T).

*G. J. Cottrill*  
G. J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., *Consulting Officer.*

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., *Navigator.*

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Wednesday 20 October 19 43.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description \_\_\_\_\_

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

Continued:

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 12-16

No remarks.

*F. X. LaMountain*  
F. X. LAMOUNTAIN, Ens., USNR.

16-20

0546 1846 Sunset.  
0001 1901 Darkened snip.

*G. W. Rives, Jr.*  
G. W. RIVES, JR., Ens., USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

*F. L. Roberts*  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Thursday 21 October 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description minus twelve

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Anchored in LAMBTON HARBOR, WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND in 9 fathoms of water with 75 fathoms of chain to the port anchor. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Able.

R. F. Monger  
R. F. MONGER, Ens., USNR.

04-08

1724 0524 Sunrise. Lighted ship.

W. T. Lightner  
W. T. LIGHTNER, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

08-12

No remarks.

F. X. LaMountain, Ens. USNR.  
F. X. LAMOUNTAIN, Ens., USNR.

12-16

No remarks.

R. E. Goodman, Ens. USNR.  
R. E. GOODMAN, Ens., USNR.

16-20

0642 1842 Sunset.  
0657 1857 Darkened ship.

G. S. Cotserilos  
G. S. COTSERILOS, Ens., USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

F. C. Campbell  
F. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

O. H. Ritchie  
O. H. RITCHIE, Capt., USNR., Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Friday 22 October 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description minus 13 1/2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Anchored in LAMBTON HARBOR, WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND, in nine fathoms of water with seventy-five fathoms of chain to the port anchor. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Able.

*J. J. Madden*  
J. J. MADDEN, Lieut. (JG), USNR.

04-08

1753 0523 Sunrise.  
1758 0528 Lighted snip.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (JG), USNR.

08-12

2100 0900 Pursuant to BuPers Order of October 12, 1943, Captain O.H. RITCHIE, USNR., Commanding, was detached from this vessel and ordered to duty as Commanding Officer of the U.S.S. J. FRANKLIN BELL. Commander C. A. JOANS, USNR., assumed command.

*M. S. Young*  
M. S. YOUNG, Ens., USNR.

12-16

No remarks.

*J. W. Rives*  
J. W. RIVES, Ens., USNR.

16-20

0518 1848 Sunset.  
0532 1902 Darkened ship.

*F. L. Roberts*  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

*R. F. Monger*  
R. F. MONGER, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*C. A. Joans*  
C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR., *Commanding Officer.*

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., *Navigator.*

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIXSaturday 23 October, 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)Zone description minus twelve

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Anchored in LAMBTON HARBOR, WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND, in nine fathoms of water with 75 fathoms of chain to the port anchor. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Able.

W. T. Lighter  
W. T. LIGHTER, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

04-08

1720 0520 Sunrise. Lighted ship.  
1845 0645 Made all preparations for getting underway.  
1915 0715 Pilot D. M. TODD came aboard.  
1930 0730 Underway on various courses and at various speeds with Pilot at the Conn, Captain, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge, proceeding to assigned berth. Standard speed 9.2 knots (50 R.P.M.).  
2000 0800 Moored port side to Berth #3 AOTEA QUAY, LAMBTON HARBOR, WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND.

F. X. Lacomtain  
F. X. LACOMTAIN, Ens., USNR.

08-12

2007 0807 Pilot left the ship.

G. W. Rives  
G. W. RIVES, Ens., USNR.

12-16

No remarks.

G. J. Cottrill  
G. J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

16-20

0650 1850 Sunset.  
0705 1905 Darkened ship locally.

G. C. Campbell  
G. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

J. J. Madden  
J. J. MADDEN, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

Approved:

C. A. Jones

C. A. JONES, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

Examined:

F. P. Ryan

F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.



PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Sunday 24 October, 19 43.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description minus twelve.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Moored port side to Berth #3, ACTEA QUAY, LAMBTON HARBOR, WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND. Ship in Condition II Mike Able.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (Jg), USNR.

04-08

1720 0520 Sunrise. Lighted ship.

M. S. Young  
M. S. YOUNG, Ens., USNR.

08-12

No remarks.

R. E. Goodman  
R. E. GOODMAN, Ens., USNR.

12-16

No remarks.

F. L. Roberts  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

16-20

0651 1851 Sunset.

R. F. Mongee  
R. F. MONGEE, Ens., USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

W. T. Lightner  
W. T. LIGHTNER, Lieut. (Jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

C. A. Joans  
C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

Page 349

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Monday 25 October, 1943.

(Day)

(Date)

(Month)

Zone description minus twelve

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Moored port side to Berth #3, ACTEA QUAY, LAMBTON HARBOR, WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND. Ship in Condition II Mike Able.

F. X. LaMountain Ens. USNR  
F. X. LAMOUNTAIN, Ens., USNR.

04-08

1720 0520 Sunrise.

G. W. Rives, Jr.  
G. W. RIVES, Jr., Ens., USNR.

08-12

No remarks.

F. L. Roberts  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

12-16

No remarks.

J. C. Campbell  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (Jg), USNR.

16-20

0652 1852 Sunset.

J. J. Madden  
J. J. MADDEN, Lieut. (Jg), USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (Jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

C. A. Joans  
C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR.,  
Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR.,  
Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Tuesday 26 October 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description minus twelve

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Moored port side to Berth #3, ACTEA QUAY, LAMBTON HARBOR, WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND. Ship in Condition II Mike Able.

M. E. Young  
N. E. YOUNG, Ens., USNR.

04-08

1717 0517 Sunrise.

R. E. Goodman  
R. E. GOODMAN, Ens., USNR.

08-12

No remarks.

G. J. Cotserilos  
G. J. COTSERILOS, Ens., USNR.

12-16

0130 1330 Made all preparations for getting underway.  
0150 1350 Pilot C.C. BULLOCK came aboard.  
0215 1415 Underway on various courses and at various speeds. Standard speed ten knots (54.5 R.P.M.). Pilot at the Conn, the Captain, Executive Officer, and Navigator on the bridge. Calibrating compasses while making runs on degaussing range.

R. F. Moxley  
R. F. MOXLEY, Ens., USNR.

16-20

0456 1656 Anchored in LAMBTON HARBOR, WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND in Berth #4, in 11 fathoms of water with 75 fathoms of chain to the port anchor on the following bearings: HALSWELL POINT 158 $\frac{1}{2}$  $^{\circ}$ (T); JERNINGHAM POINT 201 $\frac{1}{2}$  $^{\circ}$ (T); HOPE SHOAL 132 $\frac{1}{2}$  $^{\circ}$ (T); SOMES ISLAND LIGHT, 085  $\frac{3}{4}$  $^{\circ}$ (T).  
0658 1858 Sunset.  
0713 1913 Darkened ship locally.

W. T. Lightner  
W. T. LIGHTNER, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

F. X. Lamountain  
F. X. LAMOUNTAIN, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

C. A. Joane  
C. A. JOANE, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Wednesday 27 October, 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description minus twelve

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Anchored in LAMBTON HARBOR, WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND in Berth #4 with 75 fathoms of chain to the port anchor. Ship darkened locally and in Condition II Mike Able.

G. W. Rives Jr.  
G. W. RIVES, Jr., Lt., USNR.

04-08

1716 0510 Sunrise. Lighted snip.

F. L. Roberts  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

08-12

No remarks.

R. F. Monyer  
R. F. MONYER, Ens., USNR.

12-16

No remarks.

J. J. Madden  
J. J. MADDEN, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

16-20

0400 1600 Made all preparations for getting underway.  
0457 1657 Pilot D. W. TODD reported aboard.  
0503 1703 Underway at various speeds and on various courses proceeding to the Degaussing Station, SOMES ISLAND for calibration.  
0732 1932 Completed Degaussing Calibration.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

20-24

0802 2002 Anchored in LAMBTON HARBOR, WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND, in 11 fathoms of water with 75 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor on the following bearings: HALSWELL'S POINT 121.5° (T); SOMES ISLAND 071.25° (T); QUEENS WHARF 242 (T); TARAKI STREET WHARF 234° (T).

0910 2110 Pilot left the ship.

R. E. Goodman  
R. E. GOODMAN, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

C. A. Joans  
C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Thursday 28 October 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description \_\_\_\_\_

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Anchored in LAURENCE HARBOR, WELLINGTON NEW ZEALAND in 11 fathoms of water with 75 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor. Ship in Condition II Mike Able; darkened locally.

G. J. Cottrill  
G. J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

04-08

1714 0514 Sunrise. Lighted ship.

J. C. Campbell  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

08-12

No remarks.

J. J. Madden  
J. J. MADDEN, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

12-16

No remarks.

W. T. Lightner  
W. T. LIGHTNER, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

16-20

0656 1856 Sunset.  
0711 1911 Darkened ship.

F. X. Lamontain  
F. X. LAMONTAIN, Ens., USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

F. L. Roberts  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

C. A. Joans  
C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

Examined:

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Friday 29 October 1943.

Zone description minus twelve.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Anchored in LAMBTON HARBOR, WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND, in 11 fathoms of water with 75 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor. Ship darkened locally and in Condition II Mike Able.

R. F. MONGER  
R. F. MONGER, Ens., USNR.

04-08

1713 0513 Sunrise. Lighted ship.

W. T. Lightner  
W. T. LIGHTNER, Lieut. (Jg), USNR.

08-12

No remarks.

F. X. LaMountain Ens. USNR.  
F. X. LAMOUNTAIN, Ens., USNR.

12-16

No remarks.

R. E. Goodman  
R. E. GOODMAN, Ens., USNR.

16-20

0653 1853 Sunset.  
0713 1913 Darkened ship locally.

M. S. Young  
M. S. YOUNG, Ens., USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (Jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

C. A. JOHNS  
C. A. JOHNS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

F. P. RYAN  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut. USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Saturday 30 October 1943.

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description minus twelve.

Position 0800

1200

2000

Lat.

Long.

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Anchored in LAMBTON HARBOR, WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND, in 11 fathoms of water with 75 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor. Ship darkened locally and in Condition II Mike Able.

G. J. Cotirilos  
G. J. COTIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

04-08

1711 0511 Sunrise. Lighted ship.

J. J. Madden  
J. J. MADDEN, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

08-12

No remarks.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

12-16

No remarks.

G. W. Rives, Jr.  
G. W. RIVES, JR., Ens., USNR.

16-20

0658 1858 Sunset.  
0713 1913 Darkened ship locally.

P. L. Roberts  
P. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

R. F. Monger  
R. F. MONGER, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

C. A. Joans  
C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Sunday 31 October 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description minus twelve.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Anchored in LAMBTON HARBOR, WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND, in 11 fathoms of water with 75 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor. Ship darkened locally and in Condition II Mike Able.

W. T. Lightner  
W. T. LIGHTNER, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

04-08

1711 0511 Sunrise. Ligated snip.

F. X. LaMountain Esq. USNR.  
F. X. LAMOUNTAIN, Ens., USNR.

08-12

No remarks.

G. W. Rives Jr.  
G. W. RIVES, Ens., USNR.

12-16

No remarks.

M. S. Young  
M. S. YOUNG, Ens., USNR.

16-20

0659 1859 Sunset.  
0719 1919 Darkened snip locally.

R. E. Goodman  
R. E. GOODMAN, Ens., USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

G. J. Corsirilos  
G. J. CORSIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

C. A. Joans  
C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.



PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

Page No. 862 Page 356  
 SA No. 0120  
 Monday 1 November 1943

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Zone description minus twelve

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat		41 45' 00" S	41 36' 00" S
Long		175 17' 00" E	177 36' 00" E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Anchored in LAMBTON HARBOR, WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND, in 11 fathoms of water with 75 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor. Ship darkened locally and in Condition II Mike Able.

*J. S. Campbell*  
 J. S. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

04-08

1710 0510 Sunrise. Lighted ship.  
 1900 0700 Made all preparations for getting underway.

*J. J. Madden*  
 J. J. MADDEN, Lieut., (jg), USNR.

08-12

2054 0854 Underway on various courses and at various speeds conforming to the channel in accordance with Commander Transport Group's Operation Order No. 5-43 of 30 October 1943. Commander Task Force 53 in company.

DESIGNATION: Task Group 53.  
COMPOSITION: Transport Divisions, 18, 4 and 6 plus BAILEY, FRAZIER, GANSEVOORT, GRADE, RUSSELL and ANDERSON.  
NEXT HIGHER ECHELON: Fifth Amphibious Force.  
MAJOR FORCE TO WHICH ATTACHED: Central Pacific Force.

2124 0924 General Quarters.  
 2207 1007 With BARING HEAD LIGHT bearing 019°(T), and CAPE FALLISER LIGHT bearing 114°(T), took departure from swept channel and set course 130°(T). Standard speed 13.5 knots, (74 R.P.M.). Set Condition II Mike Sugar. Took position #35 in convoy.  
 2345 1145 Changed fleet axis to 131°(T).  
 1358 1158 Changed speed to 9 knots (49 R.P.M.).

*F. P. Ryan*  
 F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR.

61620

(Continued on next page)

1943 JAN 2 8 14  
 COMMANDER IN CHIEF  
 U.S. FLEET  
 RECEIVED

Approved: *C. A. Johns*  
 C. A. JOHNS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

Examined: *F. P. Ryan*  
 F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Monday 1 November 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description minus twelve.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.		41° 45' 00" S	41° 36' 00" S
Long.		175° 17' 00" E	177° 26' 00" E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

Continued:

G.C.T. L.C.T. 12-16

2004 1204 Changed standard speed to 14.5 knots (79 R.P.M.).  
2008 1208 Changed base course to 0840(T).  
0013 1213 Commenced zig-zag Plan #8.  
0303 1503 Submarine sound contact bearing 270°(T). Made emergency  
turn 40° to port to course 059°(T).  
0312 1512 Turned 40° to starboard to course 099°(T).  
0317 1517 Commenced zig-zag Plan #8.

*J.C. Campbell*  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut., (jg), USNR.

16-20

0642 1842 Darkened ship.  
0647 1847 Sunset.  
0711 1911 HARRY LEE reports underwater contact broad on her starboard  
bow, distance 420 yards.  
0718 1918 RUSSELL reports dropping depth charges.  
0724 1924 Made 40° emergency turn to port to course 014°(T).  
0725 1925 RUSSELL reports contact dead ahead distance 500 yards.  
0727 1927 RUSSELL dropped pattern of depth charges.  
0754 1954 Changed course to 084°(T). RUSSELL ordered to stand by  
last contact.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

20-24

1000 2200 Changed base course and fleet axis to 039°(T).

*A.B. Sibold Jr*  
A. B. SIBOLD, Jr, Lieut., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*C.A. Joans*  
C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Tuesday 2 November 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description minus twelve.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	39° 33' 45" S	38° 36' 30" S	36° 57' 45" S
Long.	179° 58' 00" E	179° 51' 30" E	179° 45' 20" E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Underway in convoy with Task Force 53.1 on fleet course 039°(T). Standard speed 14.5 knots (79 R.P.M.). This ship in position 35. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.

B. G. Cottrill  
G. G. COTTRILL, Ensign, USNR.

04-08

1615 0415 Commenced zig-zag Plan #8.  
1652 0452 Sunrise. Lighted ship.  
1940 0740 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 039°(T).

F. L. Roberts  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ensign, USNR.

08-12

2009 0809 Commenced zig-zag Plan #8.

J. C. Campbell  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (JG), USNR.

12-16

0103 1303 Made emergency turn 50° to starboard to course 065°(T).  
0113 1313 Resumed fleet course 000°(T).  
0120 1320 Made 40° turn to port to course 320°(T).  
0129 1329 Resumed fleet course 000°(T).  
0138 1338 Commenced zig-zag Plan #8 (Pac 10).  
0145 1345 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed fleet course 000°(T).  
0150 1350 Commenced zig-zag Plan #8.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (JG), USNR.

(Continued on next page)

Approved:

Examined:

C. A. Joans  
C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Tuesday 2 November 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description minus twelve.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	39° 33' 45" S	38° 36' 30" S	36° 57' 45" S
Long.	179° 58' 00" E	179° 51' 30" E	179° 45' 20" E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

Continued:

G.C.T. L.C.T. 16-20

0601 1801 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed fleet course. Changed speed to 11.5 knots (62.5 R.P.M.).  
0603 1803 Changed fleet course and axis to 3370(T).  
0609 1809 Changed speed to 14.5 knots (79 R.P.M.).  
0616 1816 Commenced zig-zag Plan #8.  
0634 1834 Sunset. Darkened ship.  
0720 1920 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed fleet course.

*A. B. Seibold, Jr.*  
A. B. SEIBOLD, Jr., Lieut., USNR.

20-24

0900 2100 Commenced screened speed light drill.  
1011 2211 Completed screened speed light drill.

*G. J. Cottrill*  
G. J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*C. A. J. Gans*  
C. A. J. GANS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Wednesday 3 November 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description minus twelve.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	31° 20' 00" S	33° 29' 00" S	31° 42' 00" S
Long.	178° 13' 00" E	177° 48' 00" E	177° 02' 00" E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Underway in convoy with Task Force 53.1 on fleet course and axis 337°(T), this ship in position #35. Standard speed 14.5 knots (79 R.P.M.). Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.

  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

04-08

Nov. 2  
1615 0415 Commenced zig-zag Plan #8.  
1704 0504 Sunrise. Lighted ship.

  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (Jg), USNR.

08-12

No remarks.

  
U. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (Jg), USNR.

12-16


Nov. 3  
0100 1300 Commenced maneuvering drill.  
0120 1320 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course.  
0122 1322 Emergency turn 40° relative to starboard.  
0130 1330 Commenced zig-zag Plan #8.  
0137 1337 Ceased zig-zagging.  
0146 1346 Changed course to 337°(T).  
0158 1358 Took formation in columns with div. guides on line of bearing 120° (T) relative from HARRIS.  
0159 1359 Changed speed to 11 knots.  
0215 1415 Resumed formation in columns with div. guides on line of bearing 90° relative from MCHROVIA.  
0224 1424 Changed speed to 14.5 knots (79 R.P.M.).  
0232 1432 Commenced zig-zag Plan #8.  
0234 1434 Completed maneuvering drill.

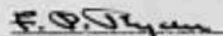
  
A. B. SEIBOLD, Jr., Lieut., USNR.

(Continued on next page)

Approved:

Examined:

  
C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

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PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Wednesday 3 November, 1943.

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description minus twelve.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	34° 20' 00" S	33° 29' 00" S	31° 42' 00" S
Long.	178° 13' 00" E	177° 48' 00" E	177° 02' 00" E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

Continued:

G.C.T. L.C.T. 16-20

0639 1839 Sunset. Darkened snip.  
0724 1924 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 337°(T).

G. J. Cottrill  
G. J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

F. L. Roberts  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

C. A. Joans  
C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Thursday 4 November 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description minus twelve.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	29° 05' 00" S	28° 15' 00" S	26° 40' 30" S
Long.	175° 40' 00" E	175° 21' 00" E	174° 32' 00" E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Underway in convoy with Task Group 53.1 on fleet course 039°(T). Standard speed 14.5 knots (79 R.P.M.). This ship in position 35. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.

*J. C. Campbell*  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

04-08

1630 0430 Commenced zig-zag Plan #8.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

08-12

No remarks.

*A. B. Seibold, Jr.*  
A. B. SEIBOLD, Jr., Lieut., USNR.

12-16

0113 1313 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 337°(T).  
0115 1315 Commenced exercising at tactical maneuvers on signal from O.T.C.. Formed on line of bearing 170°, relative from division guide.  
0132 1332 Made emergency turn 30° to port to course 307°(T).  
0137 1337 Made 30° turn to starboard to course 337°(T).  
0142 1342 Formed on a line of bearing 180°, relative from division guide.  
0150 1350 Made 90° turn to port to course 247°(T).  
0155 1355 Made 90° turn to starboard to course 337°(T).  
0203 1403 Commenced zig-zag Plan #8. Completed exercises.

*G. J. Cottrilos*  
G. J. COTTRILLOS, Ens., USNR.

(Continued on next page)

Approved:

*C. A. Joans*

C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR, Commanding Officer.

Examined:

*F. P. Ryan*

F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR, Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Thursday 4 November 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description minus twelve.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	29 05' 00" S	28 15' 00" S	26 40' 30" S
Long.	175 40' 00" E	175 21' 00" E	174 32' 00" E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

Continued:

G.C.T. L.C.T. 16-20

0640 1840 Sunset. Darkened ship.  
0730 1930 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course. Changed standard speed to 13.5 knots (74 R.P.M.).

  
P. L. ROBERTS, Sns., USNR.

20-24


No remarks.

  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (JG), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

  
C. A. SCANS, Comdr., USNR., *Commanding Officer.*

  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., *Navigator.*

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PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Friday 5 November 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description minus twelve.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	24° 09' 30" S	23° 14' 00" S	21° 49' 00" S
Long.	173° 19' 00" E	172° 53' 00" E	172° 09' 00" E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Underway in convoy with Task Group 53.1 on fleet and axis course 337°(T). Standard speed 13.5 knots (73.5 R.P.M.). This ship in position #35. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

04-08

1645 0445 Commenced zig-zag Plan #8. Changed standard speed to 14.5 kts.  
1736 0536 Sunrise. Lighted ship. (79 R.P.M.)

A. B. Sibold, Jr.  
A. B. SIBOLD, JR., Lieut., USNR.

08-12

2000 0800 adjusted fleet course to 338°(T).

G. J. Corsirilos  
G. J. CORSIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

12-16

0116 1318 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed fleet course proceeding on various courses and at various speeds in accordance with hoists in signals from O.T.C.  
0207 1407 Commenced zig-zag Plan #8, base course 338°(T).

F. L. Roberts  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

16-20

0647 1847 Sunset. Darkened ship.  
0708 1908 Adjusted fleet course to 342°(T).

J. C. Campbell  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

C. A. Joans  
C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

F. F. Ryan  
F. F. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

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PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Saturday 6 November 1943

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description minus twelve.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	19° 06' 00" S	18° 35' 00" S	18° 08' 00" S
Long.	171° 14' 00" E	170° 47' 00" E	168° 53' 00" E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Underway in convoy with Task Group 53.1 on fleet course 342°(T). Standard speed 14.5 knots (79 R.P.M.). This ship in position #35, zigzagging in accordance with plan #8. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.

1345 0145 Ceased zigzagging.

*A. B. Seibold Jr.*  
A. B. SEIBOLD, Jr., Lieut., USNR.

04-08

1700 0500 Commenced zig-zag Plan #8. Changed standard speed to 14 knots (76 R.P.M.).  
1751 0551 Sunrise. Lighted ship.

*G. J. Cottrill*  
G. J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

08-12

2225 1025 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 342°(T).  
2235 1035 Changed fleet course and axis to 296°(T) and reduced speed to 11.5 knots (62.5 R.P.M.).  
2250 1050 Changed speed to 14 knots (76 R.P.M.).  
2311 1111 Commenced zig-zag Plan #8.  
2317 1117 Changed standard speed to 9 knots (49 R.P.M.).

*F. L. Roberts*  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

12-16

0020 1220 Changed standard speed to 14 knots (76 R.P.M.).  
0029 1229 ANDERSON made sound contact bearing 270°(T) and dropped pattern of depth charges.  
0031 1231 Made emergency turn 90° to course 196°(T).  
0039 1239 Turned 90° to starboard to course 286°(T).  
0048 1248 Resumed fleet course 296°(T).  
0057 1257 Commenced zig-zag Plan #8.  
0158 1358 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed fleet course 296°(T).  
0210 1410 Changed fleet course to 256°(T).  
0231 1431 Changed fleet course to 301°(T).  
0300 1500 Set ship's clocks back one hour to zone minus eleven time.  
0331 1431 Commenced zig-zag Plan #8.

*J. C. Campbell*  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*C. A. Joans*  
C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR, Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Saturday 6 November 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description minus twelve.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	19° 06' 00" S	18° 35' 00" S	18° 08' 00" S
Long.	171° 14' 00" E	170° 47' 00" E	168° 53' 00" E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

Continued

G.C.T. L.C.T. 16-20

0505 1605 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed fleet course 301°(T).  
 0515 1615 Changed fleet course and axis to 270°(T).  
 0517 1617 Changed standard speed to 13.5 knots (73.5 R.P.M.).  
 0520 1620 Commenced zig-zag Plan #8.  
 0627 1727 Sighted EROMANGA ISLAND bearing 201°(T), distance 53 miles.  
 0651 1751 Sunset. Darkened ship.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
 C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

20-24

0917 2017 Changed standard speed to 11 knots (60 R.P.M.).  
 1200 2300 Changed standard speed to 13.5 knots (73.5 R.P.M.).  
 0100 2400 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course.

*A. B. Seibold Jr.*  
 A. B. SEIBOLD, Jr., Lieut., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*C. A. Joans*  
 C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
 F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Sunday 7 November 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description minus eleven

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	17° 43' 00" S		
Long.	168° 13' 00" E		

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Underway in convoy with Task Group 53.1 on fleet course and axis 270°(T). Standard speed 13.5 knots (73.5 R.P.M.). This ship in position #35. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.

1328 0028 Changed base course to 315°(T).  
 1345 0045 Changed base course to 000°(T).  
 1450 0150 Changed base course to 045°(T).  
 1507 0207 Changed base course to 090°(T).  
 1522 0222 Commenced forming approach formation. Ahead two-thirds.  
 1524 0224 Commenced using screen speed lights. Maneuvering in accordance with signals from C.T.C.  
 1600 0300 Set Condition I-A.

*G. J. Cotirilos*  
 G. J. COTIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

04-08

1716 0416 Transport Divisions 4 and 18 commenced landing exercises.  
 1810 0510 Sunrise. Lighted ship.  
 1818 0518 Set Condition II Mike Sugar.  
 1908 0708 Made preparations for entering port. Pilot W. R. GARRETT, Lt. (jg), USNR, reported aboard and took the Conn, proceeding to anchorage in FILA HARBOR.

*W. R. Garrett*  
 W. R. GARRETT, Lieut., USNR.

08-12

0217 0917 Anchored in Berta "Dog" FILA HARBOR, EPATE ISLAND, NEW HEBRIDES, in 12 fathoms of water with 60 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor, on the following bearings: Front Range 083½°(T); Beacon "A" 193½°(T); Beacon "I" 124½°(T); and Beacon "D" 033½°(T).  
 2300 1000 Pilot left the ship.

*F. F. Ryan*  
 F. F. RYAN, Lieut., USNR.

12-16

No remarks.

*F. L. Roberts*  
 F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*C. A. Joane*  
 C. A. JOANE, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F. F. Ryan*  
 F. F. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Sunday 7 November, 19 43.

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description minus eleven

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	17° 43' 00" S		
Long.	168° 13' 00" E		

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

Continued:

G.C.T. L.C.T. 16-20

0658 1758 Sunset. Darkened ship.

R. F. Honger  
R. F. HONGER, Ens., USNR.

20-26

No remarks.

W. T. Lightner  
W. T. LIGHTNER, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

C. A. Jones  
C. A. JONES, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

F. F. Ryan  
F. F. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Monday 8 November 1943.

Zone description minus eleven

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Anchored in Berth "Dog", FILA HARBOR, EPATE ISLAND, NEW HEBRIDES, in 12 fathoms of water with 60 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.

*J.J. Madden*  
J. J. MADDEN, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

04-08

1810 0510 Sunrise. Lighted ship.

*P.L. Roberts*  
P. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

08-12

2400 1100 Made all preparations for getting underway.  
0030 1130 Underway on various courses and at various speeds, standing out to Meli Bay.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR.

12-16

0100 1200 Lying to, loading boats.  
0235 1335 Last boat aboard. Took position astern of the THUBAN and proceeded to sea. O.T.C. in the HARRIS.  
0345 1445 Set course 350°(T).  
0358 1458 General quarters.  
0405 1505 Joined convoy taking position #35.  
0452 1552 Set Condition II Mike Sugar.  
0456 1556 Commenced zig-zag Plan #8.

*J.C. Campbell*  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut., (jg), USNR.

16-20

0513 1613 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed fleet course 030°(T).  
0518 1618 Changed fleet course and axis to course 064°(T).  
0533 1633 Changed fleet course and axis to course 098°(T).  
0550 1650 Commenced zig-zag Plan #8.  
0650 1750 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed fleet course 098°(T).  
0655 1755 Sunset. Darkened ship.  
0656 1756 Changed fleet course and axis to course 090°(T).  
0710 1810 Changed fleet course and axis to course 135°(T). Formed approach Disposition #20. ASHLAND took position #36.  
0803 1903 Changed fleet course and axis to course 180°(T).  
0850 1950 Commenced zig-zag Plan #8.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut., (jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*C.A. JCANE*  
C. A. JCANE, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Monday 8 November 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description minus eleven

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

Continued:

G.C.T. L.C.T. 20-24

1000	2100	Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course.
1010	2110	Changed fleet course and axis to 225 (T).
1035	2135	PELAND reported man overboard. Ship maneuvered to avoid him. Later reported picked up.
1045	2145	Changed fleet course and axis to 270 (T).
1146	2246	Commenced zig-zag Plan #8.

*A. B. Seibold, Jr.*  
A. B. SEIBOLD, Jr., Lieut., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*C. A. Joans*  
C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR, Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR, Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Tuesday 9 November 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description MINUS eleven

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Underway in convoy with Task Group 53.1 on fleet course and axis 270 (T). Standard speed 13.5 knots (73.5 R.P.M.). This ship in position #35. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.

1412 0112 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 270°(T).  
 1415 0115 Changed base course to 315°(T).  
 1425 0125 Changed base course to 000°(T).  
 1504 0204 Changed base course to 045°(T).  
 1603 0303 Commenced using screen speed lights. Maneuvering in accordance with signals from O.T.C.  
 1605 0305 Changed base course to 085°(T).  
 1631 0331 Secured screen speed lights.  
 1654 0351 Arrived on station in transport area off Meili Bay, EFATE, NEW HEBRIDES. Stopped.

G. J. Cotsirilos  
G. J. COTSIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

04-08

No remarks.

F. L. Roberts  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

08-12

2235 0935 Underway on various courses and at various speeds for "AA" firing practice.  
 2303 1003 Set Condition I-A.  
 2340 1040 Commenced "AA" Firing Practice.  
 2343 1043 Changed fleet course to 000°(T).  
 2344 1044 Commenced zig-zag Plan #6.  
 2353 1053 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed fleet course 000°(T).  
 2354 1054 Changed fleet course to 025°(T).  
 0019 1119 Completed "AA" Firing Practice. Ammunition expended 3"50--48 rounds; 20 m.m.--2,708 rounds.  
 0020 1120 Changed fleet course to 040°(T).  
 0021 1121 Set Condition II Mike Sugar.  
 0035 1135 Changed fleet course to 053°(T).  
 0038 1138 Changed fleet course to 090°(T).  
 0057 1157 Proceeding independently on various courses to assigned berth.

J. C. Campbell  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut., (jg), USNR.

(Continued on next page.)

Approved:

Examined:

C. A. Joane  
C. A. JOANE, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.



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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Tuesday 9 November 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description minus eleven

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

Continued:

G.C.T. L.C.T. 12-16

0248 1348 Moored in Berth #5, HAVANNAH HARBOR, EPATE ISLAND, NEW HEBRIDES.

W. T. Lightner  
W. T. LIGHTNER, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

16-20

0610 1710 THUBAN moored starboard side to.  
0656 1756 Sunset. Darkened snip.

F. X. La Montain  
F. X. LAMONTAIN, Ens., USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

J. C. Campbell  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

C. A. Johns  
C. A. JOHNS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Wednesday 10 November 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description minus eleven.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Moored starboard side to THUBAN (AKA-19), Berth "5", HAVANNAH HARBOR, SPATE ISLAND, NEW HEBRIDES. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.

F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

04-08

1805 0505 Sunrise. Lighted ship.

R. F. LONGER, Ens., USNR.

08-12

No remarks.

W. T. LIGHTNER, Lieut. (Jg), USNR.

12-16

No remarks.

R. E. GOODMAN, Ens., USNR.

16-20

0656 1756 Sunset. Darkened ship.

J. J. COSTRILLOS, Ens., USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

J. J. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (Jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Thursday 11 November 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Number)

Scene description minus eleven.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Moored port side to U.S.S. THUBAN (AKA-19), Berth #5, HAVANNAH HARBOR, EPATE ISLAND, NEW HEBRIDES. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.

*F. X. Lamountain, Ens., USNR.*  
F. X. LAMOUNTAIN, Ens., USNR.

04-08

1605 0505 Sunrise. Lighted ship.

*M. S. Young*  
M. S. YOUNG, Ens., USNR.

08-12

No remarks.

*R. E. Goodman*  
R. E. GOODMAN, Ens., USNR.

12-16

No remarks.

*F. X. Lamountain, Ens., USNR.*  
F. X. LAMOUNTAIN, Ens., USNR.

16-20

0657 1757 Sunset. Darkened ship.

*G. W. Rives, Jr.*  
G. W. RIVES, Ens., USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

*F. L. Roberts, Ens., USNR.*  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

*C. A. Joane*  
C. A. JOANE, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

Examined:

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

PART III  
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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Friday 12 November 19 43

Zone description minus eleven.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Moored port side to THUBAN (AKA-19), in Berth #5, HAVANNAH HARBOR, EPATE ISLAND, NEW HEBRIDES. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.

R. F. MONGER  
R. F. MONGER, Ens., USNR.

04-08

1804 0504 Sunrise. Lighted ship.

W. T. LIGHTNER  
W. T. LIGHTNER, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

08-12

No remarks.

F. X. LAMOUNTAIN  
F. X. LAMOUNTAIN, Ens., USNR.

12-16

No remarks.

G. J. COTRILLO  
G. J. COTRILLO, Ens., USNR.

16-20

0658 1758 Sunset. Darkened ship.

J. C. CAMPBELL  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

J. J. MADDEN  
J. J. MADDEN, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

C. A. JOANE  
C. A. JOANE, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

F. P. RYAN  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Saturday 13 November 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description minus eleven

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			17° 20' 00" S
Long.			168° 56' 00" E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Moored to port side of THUBAN (AKA-19), in Berth #5, HAVANAH HARBOR, EPATE ISLAND, NEW HEBRIDES. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

04-08

1604 0504 Sunrise. Lighted ship.

M. S. Young  
M. S. YOUNG, Ens., USNR.

08-12

No remarks.

R. E. Goodman  
R. E. GOODMAN, Ens., USNR.

12-16

0100 1200 Made all preparations for getting underway.  
0144 1244 Underway on various courses and at various speeds conforming to the channel with the Captain at the Conn, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge, in accordance with Commander Task Force 53's Movement Order #A103-43.

DESIGNATION: TASK GROUP 53.1

COMPOSITION: TRANSDIV 4, 18, and 6 plus screen.

NEXT HIGHER ECHELON: FIFTH AMPHIBIOUS FORCE.

MAJOR FORCE TO WHICH ATTACHED: CENTRAL PACIFIC FORCE.

0254 1354 Set Condition 1-A.  
0322 1422 Ahead standard speed, 13.5 knots (74 R.P.M.).  
0328 1428 With right tangent ERRADAKA ISLAND bearing 180°(T), distant 1,000 yards, took departure and set course 270°(T).  
0334 1434 Set Condition II Mike Sugar.  
0348 1448 Changed fleet axis and fleet course to 315°(T).  
0357 1457 Changed fleet axis and fleet course to 000°(T). Took position #35 in cruising disposition.  
0430 1530 Changed fleet axis and fleet course to 045°(T).  
0438 1538 Commenced zig-zag Plan No. 8.

J. P. Campbell  
J. P. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

G. A. Joans  
G. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Saturday 13 November 1943

Zone description minus eleven

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			17° 20' 00" S
Long.			168° 56' 00" E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)Continued:G.C.T. L.C.T. 16-18

0525	1625	Ceased zig-zagging and resumed fleet course 045°(T).
0528	1628	Changed fleet course and axis to 090°(T).
0549	1649	Commenced zig-zag Plan No. 8.
0620	1720	Ceased zig-zagging and resumed fleet course 090°(T).
0624	1724	Changed fleet course and axis to 110°(T).
0653	1753	Sunset. Darkened ship.
0658	1758	Changed fleet course and axis to 090°(T).
0659	1759	Increased interval between columns to 1500 yards.

*C. Goltschmidt*  
C. GOLTSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

18-20

No remarks.

*S. J. Cottrill*  
S. J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

20-24

1010 2110 Changed fleet course and fleet axis to 045°(T).

*F. L. Roberts*  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*C. A. Joane*  
C. A. JOANE, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Sunday 14 November 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description minus eleven.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	15 42' 30" S	15 00' 00" S	13 49' 00" S
Long.	170 43' 00" E	171 20' 00" E	173 01' 00" E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Underway in convoy with Task Group 53.1 on fleet course 045 (T). Standard speed 13.5 knots (74 R.P.M.). This ship in position #35. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.

*J. C. Campbell*  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

04-08

1805	0505	Sunrise. Lighted ship.
1921	0521	Changed fleet course and axis to 000°(T).
1933	0533	Commenced zig-zag Plan #14.
2005	0605	Ceased zig-zagging and resumed fleet course 000°(T).
2021	0621	Changed fleet course and axis to 043°(T).
2025	0625	Commenced zig-zag Plan #14.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

08-12

2224	0924	RUSSELL reported possible sound contact. Made emergency turn 40° to starboard to course 090°(T).
2228	0928	RUSSELL dropped depth charge pattern.
2229	0929	Made emergency turn 40° to starboard to course 130°(T).
2238	0938	Resumed base course 050°(T).
2243	0943	Commenced zig-zag Plan #14.

*G. A. Cotirilos*  
G. A. COTIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

12-16

0255	1355	Ceased zig-zagging.
0323	1423	Changed fleet course and axis to 005°(T).
0350	1450	Changed fleet course and axis to 050°(T).
0415	1515	Commenced zig-zag Plan #14.

*F. L. Roberts*  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

*C. A. Johns*  
C. A. JOHNS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

Examined:

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Sunday 14 November, 1943.

Zone description minus eleven.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	15° 43' 30" S	15° 00' 00" S	13° 49' 00" S
Long.	170° 41' 00" E	171° 20' 00" E	173° 01' 00" E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

Continued:

G.C.T. L.C.T. 16-18

0537 1637 Made emergency turn 70° to port to course 010°(T).  
0546 1646 Resumed fleet course 050°(T).  
0638 1738 Sunset. Darkened ship. General quarters.

J. C. Campbell  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

18-20

0720 1820 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed fleet course 050°(T).  
0725 1825 Set Condition II Mike Sugar.  
0738 1838 Changed course to 090°(T).

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

20-24

0905 2005 Commenced zig-zag Plan #14.

G. J. Cotirilos  
G. J. COTIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

C. A. Joane  
C. A. JOANE, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.



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(Crossed International Date Line)

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Sunday 14 November 1943.

Zone description minus eleven

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	13° 44' 00" S	13° 13' 00" S	12° 15' 00" S
Long.	174° 38' 30" E	175° 04' 00" E	175° 57' 00" E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Underway in convoy with Task Group 53.1 on fleet course 090 (T). Standard speed 13.5 knots (73 R.F.M.). Zig-zag Plan #14. This ship in position #35. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.  
1500 0200 Set ship's clocks ahead one hour to zone plus 12 time.

*[Signature]*  
P. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

04-08

1645 0445 General Quarters.  
1744 0544 Sunrise. Lighted ship. Set Condition II Mike Sugar.  
1753 0553 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed fleet course 090°(T).  
1759 0559 Changed fleet course and fleet axis to 045°(T).  
1815 0615 Commenced zig-zag Plan #14.

*[Signature]*  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

08-12

2050 0650 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed fleet course 045°(T).  
2107 0907 Changed fleet course and axis to 035°(T).  
2125 0925 Commenced zig-zag Plan #14.

*[Signature]*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

12-16

0134 1334 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 035°(T).  
0148 1348 Changed fleet course to 065°(T).  
0202 1402 Changed fleet course to 015°(T).  
0211 1411 General Quarters.  
0223 1423 Made emergency turn 50° to starboard to course 065°(T).  
0226 1426 Made emergency turn 50° to port to course 015°(T).  
0235 1435 Changed fleet course to 040°(T).  
0237 1437 Changed fleet axis to 040°(T).  
0247 1447 Commenced zig-zag Plan #14.  
0253 1453 Made emergency turn 60° to port to course 340°(T).  
0256 1456 Made emergency turn 30° to port to course 310°(T).  
0258 1458 Made emergency turn 50° to port to course 260°(T).  
0304 1504 Made turn 70° to starboard to course 330°(T).  
0308 1508 Made turn 70° to starboard to fleet course 040°(T).  
0314 1514 Commenced zig-zag Plan #14.

(Continued on next page)

Approved:

Examined:

*[Signature]*  
C. A. JOHNS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*[Signature]*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

(Crossed International Date Line)  
UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Sunday 14 November 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description minus eleven

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	13° 44' 00" S	13° 13' 00" S	12° 15' 00" S
Long.	174° 38' 30" E	175° 04' 00" E	175° 57' 00" E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

Continued:

G.C.T. L.C.T. 12-16 (Continued)

0340 1540 Made emergency turn 50° to starboard to course 120°(T).  
RINGOLD reported possible submarine contact.  
0344 1544 Made emergency turn 70° to starboard to course 190°(T).  
0349 1549 Made emergency turn 80° to starboard to course 270°(T).  
0359 1559 Made turn 60° to starboard to course 330°(T).

G. J. Cottrill  
G. J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

16-18

0412 1612 Resumed fleet course 040°(T).  
0419 1619 Changed fleet course and axis to 065°(T).  
0430 1630 Commenced zig-zag Plan #14.  
0530 1730 General Quarters.  
0537 1737 Set Condition II Mike Sugar.

F. L. Roberts  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

18-20

0625 1825 sunset. Darkened ship.  
0650 1850 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed fleet course 065°(T).

J. C. Campbell  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

20-24

0920 2120 Commenced zig-zag Plan #14.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

C. A. Joans  
C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

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CONFIDENTIAL

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Monday 15 November 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)Zone description plus twelve.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	10 52' 30" S	9 49' 00" S	09 55' 00" S
Long.	177 50' 00" E	178 12' 30" E	179 39' 00" E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Underway in convoy with Task Group 53.1 on fleet course 065 (T). Standard speed 13.5 knots (74 K.P.M.). Zig-Zag Plan #14. This ship in position #35. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.

*E. J. Corbilo*  
E. J. CORBILO, Ens., USNR.

04-08

1732	0532	Sunrise. Lighted ship.
1744	0544	Ceased zig-zagging.
1747	0547	Changed fleet course and fleet axis to 0200(T).
1757	0557	Commenced Zig-zag Plan No. 14.
1842	0642	Ceased zig-zagging in favor of emergency turn.
1915	0715	Resumed base course and commenced Zig-zag Plan No. 14.

*F. L. Roberts*  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

08-12

2350	1150	Ceased zig-zagging and resumed fleet course.
------	------	--

*J. G. Campbell*  
J. G. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

12-16

0008	1208	Changed fleet course and axis to 065°(T).
0010	1210	Commenced zig-zag Plan No. 14.
0134	1334	Commenced tactical maneuvering exercises.
0138	1338	General Quarters.
0152	1352	Made emergency turn 60 degrees to port to course 005°(T).
0156	1356	Made emergency turn 60 degrees to starboard to course 065°(T).
0209	1909	Changed fleet course and axis to 090°(T).
0213	1413	Commenced zig-zag Plan No. 14.
0231	1431	Secured from tactical maneuvering exercises. Set Condition II Mike Sugar.

*G. Goldschmidt*  
G. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*C. A. Joans*  
C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Monday 15 November 1943.

Zone description plus twelve.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	100 52' 00" S	90 49' 00" S	090 55' 00" S
Long.	1770 50' 00" E	1760 12' 30" E	1790 39' 00" E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. CONTINUED:

16-18

No remarks.

*G. J. Cotirilos*  
G. J. COTIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

18-20

0602 1802 Sunset. Darkened ship.  
0645 1845 Ceased zig-zagging and remained on fleet course 090°(T).

*F. L. Roberts*  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

20-24

1042 2242 Commenced zig-zag Plan No. 14.

*J. Campbell*  
J. J. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*C. A. Joane*  
C. A. JOANE, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Tuesday 16 November 1943.

Zone description plus twelve.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	8° 56' 00" S	8° 38' 00" S	7° 48' 00" S
Long.	178° 43' 00" E	178° 16' 00" W	178° 24' 00" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Underway in convoy as part of Task Group 53.1 on fleet course 090 (T). Standard speed 13.5 knots (74 r.p.m.). In cruising formation #20. This ship in position #35; zig-zag Plan #14. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Sugar.

1250	0050	Ceased zig-zagging and resumed fleet course 090°(T).
1300	0100	Changed fleet axis and course to 050°(T).
1310	0110	Commenced zig-zag Plan #14.
1350	0150	Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 050°(T).
1400	0200	Changed fleet axis and course to 015°(T).
1410	0210	Commenced zig-zag Plan #14.

*P. Goldschmidt*  
P. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

04-08

1630	0430	General Quarters.
1652	0452	Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base 015°(T).
1703	0503	Changed base course to 060°(T).
1709	0509	Commenced zig-zag Plan #14.
1710	0510	Commenced fueling plan. Changed speed to 10 knots (54.5 r.p.m.)
1728	0528	Sunrise. Lighted ship. Set Condition II Mike Able.
1834	0634	MARYLAND took fleet guide.
1840	0640	Made 30° turn to starboard to course 120°(T).
1843	0643	Made 30° turn to port to course 090°(T).
1848	0648	Commenced zig-zag Plan #14. Fleet course and axis 060°(T).
1853	0653	Changed standard speed to 8 knots (43.5 r.p.m.).
1952	0752	TENNESSEE took fleet guide.

*S.J. Cotsirilos*  
S.J. COTSIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

08-12

2034	0834	Commenced test firing 20 m.m. guns.
2103	0903	Completed test firing. Expended 120 rounds 20 m.m. ammunition.

*F. L. Roberts*  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*C.A. Joans*  
C.A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Tuesday 16 November 1943.

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus twelve.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	8° 56' 00" S	8° 38' 00" S	7° 48' 00" S
Long.	178° 43' 00" W	178° 16' 00" W	178° 24' 00" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 12-16

0200 1400 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed fleet course 060°(T).  
 0215 1415 Changed fleet course and fleet axis to 0150°(T).  
 0216 1416 Commenced zig-zag Plan #14.  
 0235 1435 Changed speed to 13 knots (70.5 r.p.m.).  
 0236 1436 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed fleet course 0150°(T).  
 0248 1448 Changed fleet course and fleet axis to 330°(T).  
 0250 1450 Commenced zig-zag Plan #14.  
 0258 1458 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed fleet course 330°(T).  
 0314 1514 Changed fleet course and fleet axis to 285°(T).  
 0316 1516 Commenced zig-zag Plan #14.

J. C. CAMPBELL  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

16-18

0520 1720 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed fleet course 285°(T).  
 0530 1730 Changed fleet course and axis to 330°(T).  
 0540 1740 Commenced zig-zag Plan #14.  
 0550 1750 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed fleet course 330°(T).  
 0553 1753 Sunset. Darkened ship.  
 0600 1800 Changed fleet course and axis to 015°(T).

G. GOLDSCHMIDT  
G. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

18-20

0610 1810 Commenced zig-zag Plan #14.  
 0620 1820 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed fleet course 015°(T).  
 0640 1840 Changed fleet course and axis to 045°(T).

G. J. COSMILLOS  
G. J. COSMILLOS, Ens., USNR.

20-24

1040 2240 Commenced zig-zag Plan #14.  
 1200 2400 Set Condition II Mike Able.

F. L. ROBERTS  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

C. A. JOANS  
C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR., *Commanding Officer.*

F. P. RYAN  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., *Navigator.*

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Wednesday 17 November 1943.

Zone description plus twelve.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	6° 12' 00" S	6° 15' 00" S	5° 38' 00" S
Long.	177° 35' 00" W	178° 22' 00" W	179° 22' 00" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Underway in convoy with Task Group 53.1 on fleet course 045 (T). Standard speed 13.5 knots (74 R.P.M.). Zig-zag Plan No. 14. This ships in position No. 35. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Able.

*J. C. Campbell*  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

04-08

1630	0430	General Quarters.
1715	0515	Ceased zig-zagging and resumed fleet course 045 (T).
1730	0530	Sunrise. Lighted ship. Set Condition II Mike Able.
1736	0536	Changed fleet course and axis to 000 (T).
1740	0540	Commenced zig-zag Plan No. 14.
1745	0545	Ceased zig-zagging and resumed fleet course 000 (T).
1809	0609	Changed fleet course and axis to 315 (T).
1810	0610	Commenced zig-zag Plan #14.
1838	0638	Changed fleet course and axis to 270 (T).
1840	0640	Commenced zig-zag Plan #14.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

08-12

No remarks.

*G. J. Cotirilos*  
G. J. COTIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

12-16

0137	1337	Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 270 (T).
0137	1337	Commenced maneuvering drills.
0234	1434	Changed fleet course and axis to 225 (T).
0300	1500	Changed fleet course and axis to 270 (T).
0337	1537	Secured from maneuvering drills.
0342	1542	Commenced zig-zag Plan #14.

*F. L. Roberts*  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*C. A. Jones*  
C. A. JONES, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP

BELLATRIX

Wednesday 17 November

1943

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	6° 12' 00" S	6° 15' 00" S	5° 38' 00" S
Long.	177° 35' 00" W	178° 22' 00" W	179° 22' 00" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 16-18

0400 1600 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed fleet course 270° (T).  
 0413 1613 Changed fleet course and fleet axis to 315° (T).  
 0427 1627 Changed fleet course and fleet axis to 000° (T).  
 0437 1637 Commenced zig-zag Plan No. 4.  
 0452 1652 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed fleet course 000° (T).  
 0500 1700 Changed fleet course and fleet axis to 010° (T).  
 0507 1707 Commenced zig-zag Plan No. 14.

J. J. Campbell  
J. J. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

18-20

0630 1830 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed fleet course 010° (T).

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

20-24

1130 2330 Commenced zig-zag Plan No. 14.

G. J. Cotterillo  
G. J. COTTERILLO, ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

C. A. Jones  
C. A. JONES, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.



PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Thursday 18 November 1943.

Zone description plus twelve.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	3° 29' 00" S	3° 01' 30" S	01° 47' 00" S
Long.	179° 58' 00" E	179° 28' 15" E	177° 59' 00" E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Underway in convoy as part of Task Group 53.1. This ship in position #35, on fleet course and fleet axis 010°(T). Standard speed 13.5 knots (74 R.P.M.), zig-zagging according to Plan No. 14. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Able.

1420 0220 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course.  
 1430 0230 Changed fleet course and fleet axis to 340°(T).  
 1440 0240 Commenced zig-zag Plan No. 14.  
 1450 0250 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course.  
 1500 0300 Changed fleet course and fleet axis to 312°(T).  
 1510 0310 Commenced zig-zag Plan #14.  
 1530 0330 Changed standard speed to 14 knots (76 R.P.M.).

*F. L. Roberts*  
F. L. ROBERTS, Eng., USNR.

04-08

1640 0440 General Quarters.  
 1733 0533 Sunrise. Lighted ship. Set Condition II Mike Able.  
 1749 0549 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed fleet course 312°(T).  
 1801 0601 Commenced zig-zag Plan #6.  
 1823 0623 Adjusted fleet course and fleet axis to 315°(T).

*J. C. Campbell*  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

08-12

No remarks.

*U. Goldschmidt*  
U. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

12-16

0020 1220 Changed standard speed to 14.5 knots (79 R.P.M.). Changed fleet course and axis to 320°(T).  
 0150 1350 CVE's NASSAU and BARNES with INDIANAPOLIS joined formation.

*G. J. Cottrill*  
G. J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*C. A. Jones*  
C. A. JONES, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

PART III  
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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Thursday 18 November 1943

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus twelve.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	3° 29' 00" S	3° 01' 30" S	01° 47' 00" S
Long.	179° 58' 00" E	179° 28' 15" E	177° 59' 00" E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

CONTINUED:

G.C.T. L.C.T. 16-18

0558 1758 Sunset. Darkened ship.

*F. L. Roberts*  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

18-20

0630 1830 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed fleet course and axis 320°(T).  
0759 1959 Made emergency turn 50 degrees to port to course 270°(T).

*J. C. Campbell*  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

20-24

0813 2013 Made 50 degree turn to starboard and resumed fleet course 320°(T).  
1026 2226 SWANNEE reports radar contact bearing 305°(T), distant 27 miles.  
1118 2318 COLORADO reports several radar contacts bearing 001°(T), distant 23 miles.  
1124 2324 C.T.F. 53 reports that radar contacts appear to be Task Force 52.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*C. A. Joans*  
C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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CONFIDENTIAL

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Friday 19 November 1943.  
(Port) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus twelve.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	0° 14' 30" N	01° 05' 00" N	01° 05' 30" N
Long.	176° 01' 30" E	175° 23' 00" E	173° 43' 00" E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Underway in convoy with Task Group 53.1 on fleet course 320°(T). Standard speed 14 knots (76 R.P.M.). This ship in position #35. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Able. Commenced zig-zag Plan #6.

1230 0030

*B. J. Corbin*  
 B. J. CORBIN, ens., USNR.

04-08

1640 0440 Adjusted fleet course and axis to 315°(T).  
 1647 0457 General Quarters.  
 1757 0557 Sunrise. Lighted ship. Set Condition II Mike Able.  
 1837 0637 Altered fleet course and axis to 310°(T).

*F. L. Roberts*  
 F. L. ROBERTS, ens., USNR.

08-12

2230 1030 Made emergency turn 50 degrees to starboard to course 020°(T).  
 2244 1044 Resumed course 330°(T).  
 2256 1056 Commenced zig-zag Plan #6.

*J. C. Campbell*  
 J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (Jg), USNR.

12-16

0006 1206 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed fleet course 310°(T).  
 0015 1215 Changed fleet course and fleet axis to 300°(T).  
 0018 1218 Commenced zig-zag Plan #6.  
 0120 1320 COLORADO reports enemy planes as bearing 325°(T), distance 116 miles, and 285°(T), distance 135 miles.  
 0121 1321 General Quarters.  
 0124 1324 Changed cruising disposition to #32. Ceased zig-zagging and resumed fleet course 300°(T).  
 0134 1334 Commenced zig-zag Plan #6.  
 0217 1417 Changed cruising disposition to #21. Ceased zig-zagging.  
 0224 1424 COLORADO reports all planes friendly. Set Condition II Mike Able. Commenced zig-zag Plan #6.  
 0240 1440 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed fleet course 300°(T).  
 0259 1459 Changed fleet course and fleet axis to 270°(T).  
 0300 1500 Commenced zig-zag Plan #6.

(Continued on next page.)

Approved:

Examined:

*C. A. Jones*  
 C. A. JONES, Condr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
 F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Friday 19 November 1943.

Zone description plus twelve.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	0° 14' 30" N	01° 05' 00" N	01° 05' 30" N
Long.	176° 01' 30" E	175° 23' 00" E	173° 43' 00" E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

Continued:

G.C.T. L.C.T. 12-16  
 0325 1525 COLCARGO reports two groups of aircraft bearing 000°(T), speed 140.  
 0330 1530 General Quarters.  
 0336 1536 CTG 52.3 reports planes are friendly.  
 0341 1541 Set Condition II Mike Able.

*O. G. G. Schmidt*  
 O. G. G. SCHMIDT, Lieut. (Jg), USNR.

16-18

0401 1601 Changed speed to 12 knots (65 R.P.M.).  
 0500 1700 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed fleet course 270°(T).  
 0501 1701 Commenced forming approach disposition 20.  
 0532 1732 Commenced zig-zag Plan #6.

*G. J. Cottrill*  
 G. J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

18-20

0611 1811 Sunset. Darkened ship.  
 0622 1822 Changed speed to 11 knots (59 R.P.M.).  
 0640 1840 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed fleet course 270°(T).  
 0730 1930 Changed speed to 10 knots (54.5 R.P.M.).

*F. L. Roberts*  
 F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

20-24

0819 2019 Changed fleet course to 280°(T). Changed speed to 9 knots (49 R.P.M.).  
 1043 2243 MONROVIA passed through point ITEM.  
 1048 2248 Changed fleet course to 270°(T).

*J. C. Campbell*  
 J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (Jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*G. A. Joans*  
 G. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
 F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Saturday 20 November 1943.

Zone description plus twelve.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	10° 27' 00" N	10° 25' 00" N	010° 24' 30" N
Long.	172° 53' 30" E	172° 53' 45" E	172° 53' 45" E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

OBSERVATION OF GALVANIC OPERATION ABOARD

Time 00-04

Underway with Task Group 53.1 in approach disposition #20 on fleet course and fleet axis 270°(T), at nine knots (49 r.p.m.). Standard speed fourteen knots (76 r.p.m.). This ship in position #35. Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Able.

0034 Changed fleet course and axis to 315°(T).  
 0108 Changed fleet course and axis to 335°(T).  
 0124 Changed fleet course and axis to 000°(T).  
 0155 Changed fleet course and axis to 045°(T).  
 0158 RINGGOLD near station in Transport Area, "ABLE".  
 0209 Changed fleet course and axis to 090°(T).  
 0250 General Quarters.  
 0347 Changed fleet course and axis to 070°(T).  
 0356 Arrived in position in Transport Area "ABLE" off HELEN, TARAWA ATOLL, GILBERT ISLANDS, right tangent bearing 150°(T), distant 7.5 miles.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR.

04-08

0440 MARYLAND reported red star cluster showing on south shore of HELEN, TARAWA ATOLL, evidently fired by enemy. Observed from this vessel.  
 0509 Beach batteries commenced firing on the transports.  
 0510 COLORADO, TENNESSEE, and MARYLAND commenced a heavy barrage of fire on the beach.  
 0522 Two echelons of friendly airplanes passed over head.  
 0524 Observed our airplanes bombing the beach.  
 0532 Large fire observed on beach as result of battleship, cruiser and plane bombardment.  
 0542 Battleships and cruisers ceased firing.  
 0551 TRUBAN reported over TBS that a shell landed between her and DOYEN. Observed from this vessel.  
 0553 VIRGO reported shell landed 100 feet ahead of her. Observed from this vessel.  
 0556 Proceeded at two-thirds speed on course 000°(T), maneuvering out of firing range of shore batteries.  
 0559 HEERMAN reported small craft near beach and requested permission to open fire.  
 0602 HEERMAN commenced shelling small craft near beach.  
 0609 MEADE reported unidentified plane over head and opened fire.  
 0610 Small craft beached as result of attack by HEERMAN.  
 0611 VIRGO, LA SALLE and WILLIAM F. BIDDLE reported near hits ranging from 25 feet to 100 yards. Observed from this vessel.  
 0612 Sunrise. Lighted ship.  
 0616 Proceeding at two-thirds speed, course 000°(T), maneuvering out of fire range of shore batteries.

- Continued on next page -

Approved:

Examined:

*C. A. Jones*  
C. A. JONES, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Saturday 20 November 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus twelve.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	10 27' 00" N	10 25' 00" N	01 24' 30" N
Long.	172 53' 30" E	172 53' 45" E	172 53' 45" E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

Continued:

04-08

- 0620 Message received from OTC via TBS: "This is the zero hour, give 'em hell."
- 0621 Observed battleships, cruisers, and destroyers opening fire all along the island.
- 0625 Observed dive bombers blasting the island.
- 0635 Observed intense anti-aircraft fire from the beach.
- 0647 OTC reported unidentified aircraft bearing 250°(T), distant 83 miles.
- 0648 OTC reported unidentified aircraft bearing 350°(T), distant 124 miles.
- 0650 OTC reported unidentified aircraft bearing 350°(T), distant 114 miles.
- 0654 OTC reported all unidentified aircraft previously reported are friendly.
- 0659 Minesweeper REQUISITE reported being fired upon by shore batteries.
- 0714 COLORADO reported one unidentified aircraft bearing 235°(T), distant 45 miles.
- 0720 COLORADO reported one unidentified aircraft bearing 332°(T), distant 32 miles.
- 0746 COLORADO reported several unidentified aircraft bearing 270°(T), distant 49 miles.
- 0755 Previously reported unidentified aircraft found to be friendly.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (JG), USNR.

08-12

- 0804 "HOW" hour designated at "0845" by OTC.
- 0820 MCKEE (DD on our starboard bow) reported sound contact and laid a pattern of depth charges.
- 0824 0900 designated as "HOW" hour by OTC.
- 0825 First wave left line of departure for beach.
- 0827 Battleships and cruisers commenced heavy barrage on west shore 8" coastal defense guns. Coastal guns returned barrage.
- 0832 Set Condition II Mike Able.
- 0900 "HOW" hour.
- 0907 PURSUIT reported first wave will be on beach at 0910.
- 0913 PURSUIT reported first wave landed on beach.
- 0933 RINGGOLD commenced interdiction firing on beach.
- 1035 OTC 53.4 ordered by MARYLAND to have RUSSELL and ANDERSON shell area 207 and eastward for 20 minutes.
- 1041 Unknown station reported first five waves on beach, sixth wave at beach but have not landed tanks.
- 1043 Unknown station reported tanks have landed on RED Beach #1, but have not advanced due to enemy resistance.

(Continued on next page.)

Approved:

Examined:

*C. A. Joans*  
C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

30

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Saturday 20 November 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)Zone description plus twelve.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	1° 27' 00" N	1° 25' 00" N	01° 24' 30" N
Long.	172° 53' 30" E	172° 53' 45" E	172° 53' 45" E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)Continued: 08-12

1115 Unidentified plane reported bearing 063°(T), distant 7 miles.  
1125 DASHIEL commenced fire on area 209.  
1150 All LST's were ordered to close in.

  
 F. L. ROBERTS, ENS., USNR.
12-16

1203 PURSUIT reported several casualties aboard, requested DASHIEL send medical assistance.  
1249 CTG 53.1 ordered this ship to send all boats to MONROVIA for further assignment to TRANSDEV #4.  
1250 Set Condition "I-A" and commenced unloading boats.  
1258 First boat put in water.  
1340 Several tremendous explosions were observed on HELEN ISLAND, TARAWA ATOLL. They were apparently explosions of land mines.  
1355 Completed unloading fourteen (14) boats. Boat Pool Boats retained on board.  
1400 Intensive dive bombing attack commenced on the beach in waves of four (4) to eight (8) planes.  
1530 Dive bombing of beach with huge clouds of smoke rising from bombs.  
1534 Set Condition II Mike Able.


  
 F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR.
16-18

1617 SANTA FE reported two groups of unidentified aircraft. Raid #1 bearing 270°(T), distant 21 miles. Raid #2, bearing 279°(T), distant 25 miles.  
1618 Set Condition "I-A".  
1625 Planes previously reported unidentified are friendly.  
1628 Set Condition II Mike Able.  
1630 Planes continually bombing and strafing beach.

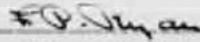
  
 C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut., (Jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

  
 C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR.,

Commanding Officer.

  
 F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR.,

Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Saturday 20 November 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus twelve.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

18-20

- 1809 Unknown station reported enemy planes identified as BETTYS are in area.
- 1811 Set Condition "1-A". Anti-aircraft fire observed to westward of Transport Area.
- 1812 Unknown station reported three BETTYS low on water bearing 310°(T).
- 1815 CTC ordered all ships to prepare to repel air attack.
- 1822 Sunset. Darkened ship.
- 1830 Underway on course 270°(T). Standard speed 14 knots.
- 1838 MARYLAND opened anti-aircraft fire across our bow on BETTY flying at low altitude. This ship commenced fire without orders from the Captain or Gunnery Officer. Gunnery Officer stated plane was not observed by anyone on housetop.
- 1840 Ceased firing. Ammunition expended: 770 rounds - 20 m.m.; 6 rounds 3"/50 cal.
- 1844 Changed standard speed to 10 knots (55 r.p.m.).
- 1853 Took station in column astern of PELOND as second ship in starboard column of formation.
- 1854 Formation closing up. Heavy ships to port of transports, medium ships to starboard. Destroyers forming anti-submarine screen around formation.
- 1909 Made 40° turn to port to course 230°(T).
- 1917 Made 40° turn to port to course 190°(T).
- 1921 Made 40° turn to port to course 150°(T).
- 1926 Made 40° turn to port to course 110°(T).
- 1935 Set Condition II Mike Able.
- 1956 Made 30° turn to port to course 080°(T).

*G. J. Cotbiriilos*  
G. J. COTBIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

20-24

- 2003 Made 30° turn to port to course 050°(T).
- 2010 Made 35° turn to port to course 015°(T).
- 2029 Made 45° turn to starboard to course 060°(T).
- 2042 Made 30° turn to starboard to course 090°(T).
- 2045 Returned on station to transport area.
- 2351 Observed heavy firing on beach RED I.

*F. L. Reblars*  
F. L. REBLARS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*C. A. Jones*  
C. A. JONES, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.



PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Sunday 21 November

1943.

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus twelve.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	1° 24' 15" N	1° 24' 30" N	0° 56' 30" N
Long.	172° 54' 00" E	172° 54' 15" E	172° 45' 30" E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

Time 00-04

Lying to in Transport Area "ABLE" off HELEN ISLAND, TARAKA ATOLL, GILBERT ISLANDS. Snip completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Able.

04-08

- 0401 Unidentified aircraft Raid #1, bearing 340°(T), distant 40 miles; and Raid #2 bearing 350°(T), distant 10 miles.
- 0410 Set Condition "1-A".
- 0415 CTF 53 reported 3 unidentified aircraft on Radar Screen to Northwest (1) distant 12 miles, (2) distant 30 miles, (3) distant 80 miles, respectively.
- 0440 DASHIEL reported large unidentified aircraft circling her at Picket Station #3.
- 0445 Large white flare observed bearing 242°(T).
- 0503 Ahead one-third. Heading into moon to reduce silhouette.
- 0510 Observed short burst of AA fire bearing 000°(T).
- 0515 Observed rapid firing in vicinity of beach area.
- 0521 One plane, from bearing 135°(T), identified as BETTY made torpedo run on this ship apparently dropping torpedo.
- 0526 BETTY passed through convoy unmolested at altitude of 100 feet passing ahead of this ship from North to South.
- 0540 DASHIEL reported BETTY dropped one torpedo. Torpedo did not strike target.
- 0544 Observed heavy AA fire bearing 240°(T).
- 0555 Several friendly fighter planes passed overhead.
- 0614 Sunrise. Set Condition II Mike Able. Lighted ship.
- 0630 Destroyers moving in close to shell the beach.
- 0645 Destroyers commenced barrage on beach.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (Jr.), USNR.

08-12

- 0845 TENNESSEE and INDIANAPOLIS commence barrage on beach.
- 0850 Observed island undergoing bombing and strafing attack by our planes.
- 0859 TENNESSEE and INDIANAPOLIS continue blasting of island.
- 0905 Observation plane flying at tree top altitude over the island.
- 0910 Can barely see the island due to the smoke caused by the continued dive bombing by planes and blasting by the TENNESSEE and INDIANAPOLIS.
- 0915 Reconnaissance plane flew over the island after each dive bombing attack to survey damage.

- continued on next page -

Approved:

Examined:

*J.A. Jones*  
J.A. JONES, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F.P. Ryan*  
F.P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Sunday 21 November, 19 43  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus twelve.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	1° 24' 15" N	1° 24' 30" N	0° 50' 30" N
Long.	172° 54' 00" E	172° 54' 15" E	172° 45' 30" E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

Continued: 08-12

- 0918 INDIANAPOLIS ceased firing. TENNESSEE continued barrage on area 228.
- 1025 Nine L.S.T.'s approaching Transport Area from bearing 245°(T), distant 6 miles.
- 1115 Secured degaussing gear. Cruiser and destroyer commenced heavy shelling of beach area 228.

*G. J. Cotsiriolos*  
G. J. COTSIRIOLOS, Ens., USNR.

12-16

- 1215 THUBAN reported possible periscope on her port bow.
- 1216 THUBAN ordered to fly emergency signal and maneuver to avoid possible torpedo.
- 1217 This ship felt many explosions which seemed to be depth charges.
- 1231 Maneuvered to avoid possible submarine.
- 1232 Unknown "DD" reported possible submarine contact on her port beam in the Transport Area.
- 1232 Possible submarine periscope proved to be large bottle neck.
- 1304 LCVP #12 hoisted aboard with fouled screw and damaged starter.
- 1337 FRAZIER, HERRMAN and ANDERSON ordered by CTG 53 to commence heavy fire on target area 201, 202 and 203 as soon as planes have completed bombing and strafing.
- 1347 Observed many dive bombers bombing target areas 201, 202, and 203 and shelling of same areas by DD's.
- 1400 Battleships and Cruisers bombarding, with planes bombing and strafing eastern tip of island and sandbar between HELEN and CORA.
- 1415 Island covered with smoke from fires apparently started by bombing by planes and bombardment by battleships and cruisers.
- 1421 This ship ordered by CTG to hoist out remaining boats.
- 1432 First boat put in water.
- 1441 Completed hoisting out all boats; ordered them to report to OTD6.
- 1514 Observed many heavy bomb hits on island in target areas 201, 202, and 203.

16-18

- 1600 T.G. 53 ordered by CTG 53 with exception of ASHLAND, BOYEN, LA-SALLE and SHERIDAN to be prepared to get underway at 1630.
- 1630 Underway with Retirement Group One as Task Unit 53.10.1, maneuvered for position on various courses and speeds. Fleet Guide in MONROVIA. Course and axis of Fleet Guide 270°(T).
- 1735 Changed fleet course and fleet axis to 225°(T).
- 1750 On station in Position #33.
- 1758 Changed fleet course and fleet axis to 180°(T).
- 1759 Set standard speed to 13.5 knots (73.5 r.p.m.).

*J. C. Campbell*  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (JG), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*C. A. Joans*  
C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

Page 396

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Sunday 21 November 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Year)Zone description plus twelve

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	1° 24' 15" N	1° 24' 30" N	0° 56' 30" N
Long.	172° 54' 00" E	172° 54' 15" E	172° 45' 30" E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)Time 18-20

1813 Commenced zig-zag Plan #14.  
 1816 Sunset. Darkened ship.  
 1840 Observed tracer fire from beach area. Report by TBS verified that it was AA fire from beach.  
 1900 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 180°(T).

*C. Goldschmidt*  
 C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

20-24

2305 Changed fleet course and axis to 225°(T).  
 2334 Changed fleet course and axis to 270°(T).  
 2400 Changed fleet course and axis to 315°(T).

*G. J. Cotirilos*  
 G. J. COTIRILOS, Ensign, USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*C. A. Joans*  
 C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
 F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Monday 22 November 1943.

Zero description plus twelve.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	1 16' 30" N	01 24' 00" N	01 09' 00" N
Long.	172 17' 30" E	172 48' 00" E	172 45' 30" E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

Time 00-04

Steaming in formation with section of Task Group 53.1, Fleet axis and course 315°(T). Standard speed 13.5 knots (73.5 r.p.m.). This ship in Position #33, completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Able. No moonlight with visibility approximately 8,000 yards.

0330 Commenced zig-zag Plan #14. Visibility increased to 10,000 yards.

*[Signature]*  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

04-08

0417 ASHLAND and HEYWOOD had near collision as result of wrong turn made in zig-zag by ZEILIN. Stopped engines.

0420 Formation ceased zig-zagging, resumed fleet course 000°(T).

0430 Changed fleet course to 045°(T).

0440 Commenced zig-zag Plan #14.

0447 Started Engines and maneuvered into position.

0459 Changed course to 175°(T).

0515 Set Condition "1-A".

0534 Convoy changed fleet course to 225°(T).

0550 Changed course to 315°(T).

0555 Commenced zig-zag Plan #14.

0613 Set Condition II Mike Able.

0647 Changed fleet speed to 14.5 knots (79 r.p.m.).

0650 Changed fleet axis and fleet course to 030°(T).

0657 Changed fleet axis and fleet course to 060°(T).

0707 Commenced zig-zag Plan #14.

*[Signature]*  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

08-12

0834 ARTHUR MIDDLETON reported unidentified aircraft. Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 060°(T).

0835 Set Condition "1-A".

0840 Commenced zig-zag Plan #6.

0845 Set Condition II Mike Able.

0952 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 060°(T).

0959 Changed fleet axis and fleet course to 075°(T).

1007 MONROVIA reported enemy aircraft expected to be sighted.

1045 Changed fleet axis and fleet course to 090°(T).

1106 Changed fleet axis and fleet course to 100°(T).

1108 Destroyers screening this disposition proceeding to outer screen off HELLEN, TARAWA ATOLL, GILBERT ISLANDS, as we approach the Transport Area.

1115 Made 20 turn to starboard to course 130°(T).

1126 Arrived in Transport Area. Stopped and killed all headway.

*[Signature]*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*[Signature]*  
C. A. JOANS, Commr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*[Signature]*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

Page 398

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Monday 22 November 1943.Zone description plus twelve.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	1° 16' 30" N	01° 24' 00" N	01° 09' 00" N
Long.	172° 17' 30" E	172° 48' 00" E	172° 45' 30" E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)Time 12-16

- 1248 Unknown destroyer firing on beach targets as directed by shore fire control.
- 1249 Commenced fueling boats along side to port at #4 hold.
- 1338 Completed fueling boats #11, 12 and 18.
- 1400 Observed our planes dive bombing and strafing beach.
- 1420 Sent the following message: "We have repaired and fueled seven (7) LCVF's. They are without orders."
- 1445 Fires observed on beach apparently started by dive bombers.
- 1515 Sent six LCVF's to MONROVIA. Commenced fueling #19 at port side #4 hold.
- 1528 Completed fueling #19. Boat sent to MONROVIA.

*G. J. Cottrill*  
G. J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

16-18

- 1628 Sent the following message to COMTRANSDIV 6: "WREST PIN BEARING OF NUMBER EIGHT (8) CYLINDER PORT HAS WIPED AND IS STARTING TO FOUND OUT. IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO CUT THREE CYLINDERS WHICH WILL REDUCE OUR MAXIMUM SPEED TO ABOUT THIRTEEN POINT FIVE (13.5) KNOTS, EXCEPT IN CASE OF EMERGENCY WHEN FIFTEEN (15) KNOTS CAN THEN BE MADE TEMPORARILY."
- 1642 Supplied stretchers and blankets to boat #28 from MONROVIA.
- 1720 Large number of boats appear to be stranded on coral reef.

*F. L. Roberts*  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

18-20

- 1826 Uncontrolled firing observed from beach apparently ammunition dump has been hit.
- 1830 Second message requesting permission to cut out cylinders as suggested in our 230355.
- 1840 Uncontrolled firing continues on the beach.
- 1845 Four large fires observed blazing along beach. Destroyer blasting island with anti-personnel snells.
- 1850 Received orders to retire for the night with T.G. 53.8.
- 1853 Underway on various courses and at various speeds from Transport Area as part of T.G. 53.8.
- 1915 Destroyer continued to blast island.
- 1925 Assumed position #23 in cruising disposition #21, with ZELIN as column leader followed by HARRY LEE and BELLATRIX. Fleet Guide in HARRIS. Fleet course and fleet axis 180°(T). Standard speed 12 knots.
- 1930 Destroyer continued anti-personnel snell attack on island.
- 1950 Changed fleet axis and fleet course to 150°(T).

*J. J. Campbell*  
J. J. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (JG), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*C. A. Joann*  
C. A. JOANN, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIALPage 327UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Monday 22 November 1943.

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zero description plus twelve.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	1° 16' 30" N	01° 24' 00" N	01° 09' 00" N
Long.	172° 17' 30" E	172° 48' 00" E	172° 45' 30" E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)Time 20-24

- 2021 Changed fleet axis and fleet course to 090°(T).  
 2040 Ordered by CTD #6 to take position #13.  
 2045 Assumed position #13 in convoy.  
 2228 BAILEY reported radar contact with six surface vessels bearing 070°(T), distant 8 miles.  
 2252 BAILEY reported contacts are friendly.  
 2258 Made 30 turn to starboard to course 120°(T).  
 2307 Made 30 turn to port to course 090°(T).  
 2338 COLORADO reported radar contact bearing 161°(T), distant 13 miles.

C. Goldschmidt  
 C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (Jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

C. A. Joans  
 C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR., *Commanding Officer.*

F. P. Ryan  
 F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., *Navigator.*

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Tuesday 23 November 1943

Zone description plus twelve.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	01° 01' 00" N	01° 36' 00" N	01° 22' 30" N
Long.	173° 41' 00" E	174° 09' 15" E	173° 35' 00" E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

Time 00-04

- Underway in convoy with Task Group 53.8 Fleet course and axis 090°(T). Standard speed 12 knots (64 r.p.m.). This ship in position #13, completely darkened, and in Condition II Mike Able.
- 0130 Observed glare from terrific explosion bearing 285°(T) over horizon, probably on or in vicinity of BETIO ISLAND.
- 0230 As previously ordered, WILLIAM F. BIDDLE and GANSEVOORT left formation and proceeded on duty assigned.
- 0234 MEADE reported she is rejoining.
- 0317 Changed fleet course and axis to 045°(T).
- 0334 Changed fleet course and axis to 000°(T).
- 0350 Changed fleet course and axis to 315°(T).
- 0351 MEADE resumed station in screen.

*G. J. Gotsirilos*  
G. J. GOTSIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

04-08

- 0404 Changed fleet course and axis to 270°(T).
- 0515 Set Condition "1-A".
- 0544 Changed standard speed to 14 knots (76 r.p.m.). Commenced Zig-zag Plan #6.
- 0612 Ceased zig-zagging. Resumed fleet course 225°(T).
- 0615 Secured from Condition "1-A", set Condition II Mike Able.
- 0615 Sighted friendly task force bearing 100 (T), distant 8 miles.
- 0650 The following message was received from CTD 6:  
"PARDON THE SEEMING DISCOURTESY OF NOT REPLYING YOUR ENGINEERING REQUEST AAA AS IT AFFECTS FLEET SPEED BY PLAN NOT AUTHORIZE IT AND HAVE REFERRED IT UP THE LINE AAA IF FURTHER DAMAGES WILL RESULT BEING UNDERWAY NOW HEREBY AUTHORIZED AAA CAN YOU CUT CYLINDERS OUT UNDERWAY AAA ADVISE STATUS".
- 0715 Changed fleet course and axis to 045°(T).
- 0730 Changed fleet axis and fleet course to 080°(T).
- 0730 CTG 53.1.3 reported to CTG 53.8 that this ship has had engineering casualty with maximum speed thirteen point five (13.5) knots.
- 0745 Carrying out rendezvous as directed with T.G. 53.6. Carrying out fueling plan.
- 0750 Changed speed to 10 knots (55 r.p.m.).
- 0755 Changed fleet axis and fleet course to 060°(T).

*F. L. Roberts*  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

-Continued on next page-

Approved:

Examined:

*C. A. Joane*  
C. A. JOANE, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP. BELLATRIX

Tuesday 23 November 1943.

Zone description plus twelve.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	01° 01' 00" N	01° 30' 00" N	01° 22' 30" N
Long.	173° 41' 00" E	174° 09' 15" E	173° 35' 00" E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

Continued:

08-12

0814 Designated ships of Task Group 53.8 commenced fueling ships of Task Group 53.6.  
 0833 Commenced zig-zag Plan #14.  
 0850 Changed fleet speed to 11 knots (59 r.p.m.).  
 0923 Changed fleet speed to 10 knots (55 r.p.m.).  
 0931 Changed fleet speed to 9 knots (49 r.p.m.).  
 0958 Changed fleet speed to 10 knots (55 r.p.m.).  
 1025 Changed fleet speed to 10.5 knots (57 r.p.m.).  
 1105 Ceased zig-zagging. Resumed fleet course and axis 060°(T).  
 1107 Made 30° turn to port to course 030°(T).  
 1115 Made 30° turn to port to course 000°(T).  
 1118 Changed fleet speed to 10 knots (55 r.p.m.).  
 1130 Ships of Task Group 53.6 completed fueling.  
 1131 Made 60° turn to starboard to course 060°(T).  
 1158 Made 30° turn to starboard to course 090°(T).

*J. J. Campbell*  
 J. J. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (Jg), USNR.

12-16

1204 Made 30° turn to port to course 060°(T).  
 1207 Changed fleet speed to 12 knots (64 r.p.m.).  
 1213 Changed fleet course and fleet axis to 090°(T).  
 1220 Countermarched to the right to course 270°(T).  
 1225 This vessel exchanged position with HARRY LEE.  
 1236 Formed cruising disposition #21. Turned to right to close interval on fleet guide.  
 1252 Commenced zig-zag Plan #14.  
 1326 SALT LAKE CITY reported radar contact with surface vessel bearing 289 (T), distant 21 miles.  
 1356 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed fleet course.  
 1400 COLORADO reported unidentified aircraft bearing 140°(T), distant 49 miles.  
 1404 Changed fleet course and fleet axis to 225°(T).  
 1417 Commenced zig-zag Plan #14.  
 1446 SALT LAKE CITY reported radar contact with aircraft bearing 284°(T).  
 1455 Aircraft contact reported as friendly.  
 1555 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed fleet course 225°(T).

*C. Goldschmidt*  
 C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (Jg), USNR.

- Continued on next page -

Approved:

Examined:

*C. A. Jones*  
 C. A. JONES, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
 F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

48



PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Tuesday 23 November 1943.

Zone description plus twelve.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	01° 01' 00" N	01° 36' 00" N	01° 22' 30" N
Long.	173° 41' 00" E	174° 09' 15" E	173° 35' 00" E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

Continued:

16-18

- 1604 Changed fleet course and axis to 270°(T).
- 1618 Commenced zig-zag Plan #14.
- 1650 Sighted TARAWA ATOLL bearing 287°(T), distant 21 miles.
- 1658 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed fleet course 270°(T).
- 1704 Changed fleet course and axis to 315°(T).
- 1718 Changed fleet course and axis to 000°(T).
- 1730 Changed fleet course and axis to 045°(T).
- 1745 Changed fleet course and axis to 090°(T).

G. J. Cottrill  
G. J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

18-20

- 1801 Commenced zig-zag Plan #14.
- 1900 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 090°(T).

F. L. Roberts  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

J. Cassinelli  
J. CASSINELLI, Lieut. (Jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

C. A. Jones  
C. A. JONES, Comdr., USNR., *Commanding Officer.*

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., *Navigator.*

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Wednesday 24 November 1943.

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus twelve.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	00° 45' 00" N	00° 29' 00" N	00° 39' 00" N
Long.	173° 39' 00" E	173° 44' 00" E	173° 00' 00" E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

Time 00-04

Underway in convoy as part of Task Group 53.8. Fleet axis and fleet course 090 (T). Cruising at standard speed 12 knots (65 r.p.m.) Convoy in formation #21, this ship in Position #23, completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Able.

0020 Changed fleet axis and fleet course to 135°(T).  
0034 Changed fleet axis and fleet course to 180°(T).  
0119 Changed fleet axis and fleet course to 225°(T).  
0134 Changed fleet axis and fleet course to 270°(T).  
0217 BAILLY reported radar contact bearing 350°(T).

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (JG), USNR.

04-08

0433 Commenced zig-zag Plan #14.  
0515 Set Condition "I-A".  
0520 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed fleet course 270°(T).  
0527 Changed fleet course and axis to 215°(T).  
0541 Changed fleet course and axis to 180°(T).  
0548 Sighted several ships bearing 111°(T).  
0552 Changed fleet course and axis to 155°(T).  
0600 Commenced zig-zag Plan #14.  
0611 Set Condition II Mike Able.  
0627 Changed fleet course and axis to 160°(T).

*G. J. Cotterill*  
G. J. COTTERILL, Ensign, USNR.

08-12

0823 Sighted APAMAMA ATOLL, GILBERT ISLANDS, bearing 146°(T), distant 15 miles.  
0905 Adjusted fleet axis and course to 165°(T).  
0923 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 165°(T).  
0926 Changed fleet axis and course to 180°(T).  
0927 Aircraft reported sighting friendly submarine close aboard to friendly hospital ship on opposite side of APAMAMA ATOLL from this convoy.  
0943 Sighted friendly hospital ship bearing 150°(T), distant 9 miles.  
0949 Sighted several friendly ships bearing 195°(T), distant approximately 14 miles.  
0950 Ships sighted at 195°(T), proved to be section of APAMAMA ATOLL.  
1001 Commenced countermarch to course 000°(T).  
1020 Ships of this formation took position to transfer hospital patients to hospital ship SOLACE.  
1045 Lying to off APAMAMA ATOLL. Maneuvering as necessary to maintain station in rendezvous area.  
1110 LCVP #13 hoisted over side for transfer duty to SOLACE.

*F. L. Roberts*  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ensign, USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*C. A. Joans*  
C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F. F. Ryan*  
F. F. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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**PART III  
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**UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX**

Wednesday 24 November 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus twelve.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	00° 45' 00" N	00° 29' 00" N	00° 39' 00" N
Long.	173° 39' 00" E	173° 44' 00" E	173° 00' 00" E

**OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)**

Continued 12-16

1407 All casualty transfers completed.  
1410 Commenced closing in on HARRIS to utilize screen.  
1505 LCVF #13 hoisted aboard No. 1 hold.  
1510 The following message was sent to CTD #6:

"CRITICAL SPEED OF THIS VESSEL RANGES THROUGH TEN POINT EIGHT TO THIRTEEN POINT TWO KNOTS NECESSITY OF OSCILLATING THROUGH THIS CRITICAL RANGE TO MAINTAIN STATION HAS CAUSED ENGINEERING CASUALTIES AAA INSPECTION WHILE LYING TO IN THIS AREA HAS SHOWN THAT THE WRIST PIN BEARING OF NUMBER EIGHT CYLINDER PORT ENGINE HAS COMPLETELY POUNDED OUT AAA CONTINUED USE OF THE PORT ENGINE AND OSCILLATION THROUGH THE CRITICAL RANGE WILL NO DOUBT SOON AND RUIN THE WRIST PIN OF WHICH THERE ARE NO SPARES AND WILL PROBABLY RESULT IN THE POUNDING OUT OF OTHER BEARING IN EITHER ENGINE AAA TO MAKE REPAIRS IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO DISABLE THE PORT ENGINE FOR FROM FORTY EIGHT TO SIXTY HOURS AAA POWER AVAILABLE DURING REPAIRS TEN POINT FIVE KNOTS".

1525 RELIEF arrived at rendezvous area.  
1537 Ahead two-thirds. Commenced forming cruising disposition #21.

*J. Campbell*  
J. CAMPBELL, Lieut., (JG), USNR.

16-18

1612 Commenced zig-zag Plan #14.  
1702 Changed fleet speed to 10.5 knots (57 r.p.m.).  
1708 Message from COMTASKGROUP 53.8:  
"HAVE REDUCED SPEED OF DISPOSITION TO 10.5 KNOTS BECAUSE OF CASUALTY TO BELLATRIX'S PORT ENGINE".  
1730 Secured port engine. Maximum speed possible 61 r.p.m. Port Engine in Condition of readiness.  
1745 The following message was sent from this vessel to CTD #6:

"MAY WE PROCEED WITH REPAIRS ON HOLD THE PORT ENGINE IN A STANDBY STATUS FOR EMERGENCY".

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (JG), USNR.

18-20

1825 Message from CTD 6 to CTG 53.8 Information BELLATRIX:  
"BELLATRIX HOLD PORT ENGINE IN STANDBY STATUS TONIGHT FOR EMERGENCY CASUALTY WILL BE REPORTED TO RUGBY FOR ACTION TOMORROW THURSDAY MORNING".  
1850 COLORADO reported unidentified planes bearing 317°(T), distant

Approved:

Examined:

*C.A. Jones*  
C.A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR., *Commanding Officer.*

*F.P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., *Navigator.*

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Wednesday 24 November 1943.

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus twelve.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	00° 45' 00" N	00° 29' 00" N	00° 39' 00" N
Long.	173° 39' 00" E	173° 44' 00" E	173° 00' 00" E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

Continued: 18-20

- 1854 COLORADO reported unidentified plane bearing 313°(T), distant 25 miles.
- 1856 Unidentified plane bearing 297°(T), distant 18 miles, course 160°(T) speed 190 knots.
- 1900 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed fleet axis and course 285°(T).
- 1904 Unidentified planes bearing 297°(T), distant 13 miles, same course and speed.

B. J. Cotirilos  
B. J. COTIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

20-24

- 2040 COLORADO reported surface vessel bearing 010°(T), distant 13 miles.
- 2100 Changed fleet axis and fleet course to 270°(T).
- 2130 Previously reported surface vessel bearing 010°(T), found to be friendly.
- 2135 DD BAILEY reported several surface vessels bearing 355°(T), distant 15 miles.
- 2137 COLORADO reported several surface vessels bearing 352°(T), distant 10 miles.
- 2210 CT 53.8 had radar surface contact bearing 250°(T), distant 23 miles, believed to be DD COGHLAN returning to screen.
- 2223 DD COGHLAN returned to screen.
- 2400 Changed fleet course and fleet axis to 225°(T).

F. L. Roberts  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

C. A. J. Cans  
C. A. J. CANS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Thursday 25 November 19 43.

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus twelve.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	00° 21' 00" N	00° 54' 00" N	01° 12' 00" N
Long.	172° 32' 00" E	172° 41' 00" E	172° 58' 00" E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

Time 00-04

Underway in convoy as part of Task Group 53.8 on fleet axis and fleet course 215°(T). Standard speed 12 knots (64 r.p.m.). Cruising at 10.5 knots (57 r.p.m.). This ship in Position #13, completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Able. Port engine secured but in standby status.

- 0015 Changed fleet axis and fleet course to 180°(T).
- 0305 Changed fleet axis and fleet course to 135°(T).
- 0320 Changed fleet axis and fleet course to 090°(T).

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

04-08

- 0430 Commenced zig-zag Plan #14.
- 0515 Set Condition I-A.
- 0522 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed fleet course 090°(T).
- 0528 Changed fleet axis and fleet course to 045°(T).
- 0534 Changed fleet axis and fleet course to 015°(T).
- 0540 Commenced zig-zag Plan #14.
- 0615 Set Condition II Mike Able.
- 0631 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed fleet course 015°(T).
- 0639 Changed fleet axis and fleet course to 038°(T).
- 0650 Commenced zig-zag Plan #6.
- 0725 CTG 53.8 recommends to CTF 53 that this vessel be detached to make repairs.

*G. J. Cottrilos*  
G. J. COTTRILLOS, Ens., USNR.

08-12

- 0935 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed fleet course 038°(T).
- 0953 BELL and CROSBY joining formation.
- 1018 Commenced zig-zag Plan #6. Formation now disposed as follows: Left Column - ZEILIN, MIDDLETON, HARRY LEE; Right Column - FELAND, BELL, CROSBY, and BELLATRIX.

*F. L. Roberts*  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*C. A. Joans*  
C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

PART III  
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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Thursday 25 November 1943.

Zone description plus twelve.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	00° 21' 00" N	00° 54' 00" N	01° 12' 00" N
Long.	172° 32' 00" E	172° 41' 00" E	172° 58' 00" E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

Continued: 12-16

- 1334 Sighted MAIANA ISLAND, GILBERT ISLANDS bearing 103°(T), distant 12 miles.
- 1352 MIDDLETON and DD MURRAY left formation on orders from CTG 53.8 to proceed to HELEN at their best speed.
- 1407 Sighted four (4) ships bearing 023°(T), distant 12 miles.
- 1409 Sighted BETIC (HELEN) ISLAND, TARAWA ATOLL, GILBERT ISLANDS, bearing 038°(T), distant approximately 12 miles.
- 1438 Changed fleet axis and fleet course to 035°(T).
- 1459 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 035°(T).
- 1503 Changed course to 005°(T).
- 1509 Changed fleet axis and fleet course to 035°(T).
- 1512 Received the following message from CTF 53 to CTG 53.8:

"DIRECT BELLATRIX PROCEED FUNAFUTI FOR REPAIRS. PROVIDE ESCORT UNTIL DARK TODAY. INFORM COMCENTPAC OF ROUTING. COMTASKFORCE 57 WILL PROVIDE ESCORT ON APPROACH FUNAFUTI. CTF 53 SENDS ACTION TO CTG 53.8 INFORMATION TO COMCENTPAC".

1530 Received following message from CTG 53.8:

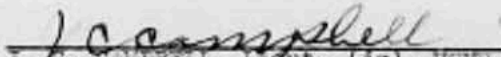
"WHEN UNLOADING REQUIRED AT HELEN IS COMPLETED BELLATRIX PROCEED FUNAFUTI FOR REPAIRS VIA ROUTE YODEL. COMDEBROM 14 PROVIDE ONE ESCORT UNTIL DARK".

- 1535 Slowed to one-third ahead. Changed fleet speed to 6 knots (33 r.p.m.).
- 1545 Proceeded on various courses and speeds to transport area "BAKER".

  
F. L. ROBERTS, ens., USNR.


16-18


- 1625 Lying to in transport area BAKER.
- 1650 Received orders from CTG 53.8 to transfer Divisional Ordnance TROOPS and Company "H" Third Bat., Eighteenth Marines.
- 1730 Debarkation of troops completed. Prepared for getting underway.
- 1730 Sent following message by TBS to CTF 51 Information CTG 53.8:  
  
EXAMINATION INDICATES SOME INJURY TO STARBOARD ENGINE ALSO. BELIEVE ADVISABLE TO PROCEED AT EIGHT POINT FIVE (8.5) KNOTS. Underway on base course 180 (T) proceeding independently in accordance with CTG 53.8 orders of 26 November 1943. Destroyer MURRAY as escort.

  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

  
C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

  
F. F. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Thursday 25 November 1943.

Zone description plus twelve.

Position	0800	1300	2000
Lat.	00° 21' 00" N	00° 54' 00" N	01° 12' 00" N
Long.	172° 32' 00" E	172° 41' 00" E	172° 58' 00" E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

Continued: 18-20

1910 Changed base course to 106°(T).

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (JG), USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

G. J. Cotsioulos  
G. J. COTSILOUS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

C. G. Jones  
C. A. JOHNS, Comdr., USNR. *Commanding Officer.*

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR. *Navigator.*

55

PART III  
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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Friday 26 November 1943.

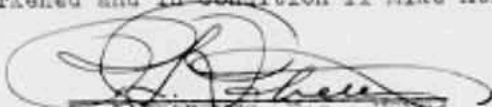
Zone description plus twelve.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	00 43' 30" N	00 37' 00" N	00 27' 00" N
Long.	174 05' 30" E	174 25' 00" E	175 20' 00" E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

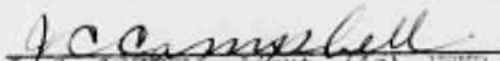
G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Underway with MURRAY (DD576) as escort on base course 106°(T). Standard speed 8.5 knots (45 r.p.m.). Ship completely darkened and in Condition II Mike Able.

  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

04-08

1710 0510 Set Condition "1-A". Commenced zig-zag Plan #6.  
1810 0610 Sunrise. Lighted ship. Set Condition II Mike Able.  
1815 0615 Changed base course to 102°(T).  
1958 0758 The following message was sent from this vessel to CTG 53.8 via MURRAY: "SPEED OF ADVANCE EIGHT KNOTS ETA 0800 30 ZEBRA 261958".

  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

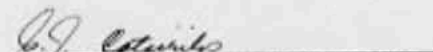
08-12

2000 0800 MURRAY parted company, proceeding on duty assigned.

  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.


12-16

No remarks.

  
G. S. CORBILLO, Ens., USNR.

16-18


0511 1711 Changed base course to 110°(T).

  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

  
C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

  
F. F. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.



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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Friday 26 November 1943.

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus twelve.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	00° 43' 30" N	00° 37' 00" N	00° 27' 00" N
Long.	174° 00' 30" E	174° 25' 00" E	175° 20' 00" E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)Continued: 18-20

0611 1811 Sunset. Darkened ship.  
0715 1915 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 110°(T).  
0800 2000 Changed base course to 130°(T).

*J. C. Campbell*  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

20-24

0943 2143 Radar contact on three snips bearing 120°(T), distance 15,000 yards.  
0947 2147 Changed course 140°(T).  
0951 2151 Changed course to 150°(T).  
0954 2154 Changed course to 180°(T).  
1002 2202 Resumed base course 130°(T).  
1004 2204 Snips identified as the NEOSHO, NECHES AND escorting destroyer.  
1025 2225 Radar contact bearing 348°(T), distant 10,350 yards closing.

*C. A. Joans*  
C. A. JOANS, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*C. A. Joans*  
C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Saturday 27 November, 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)Zone description plus twelve.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	00 27' 00" S	00 48' 00" S	00 27' 00" S
Long.	176° 17' 45" E	176° 38' 30" E	176° 17' 45" E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Underway independently on course 130°(T), standard speed 8.5 knots (46 r.p.m.). Ship in Condition II Mike Able.

1212 0012 Radar contact with unidentified surface ship bearing 034°(T), distance 8,550 yards closing.

1217 0017 Contact bearing 032°(T), distance 6,940 yards.

1218 0018 Set Condition "1-A".

1221 0021 Brought all guns to bear on target.

1223 0023 Dark outline of ship visible bearing 054°(T), distance 5,700 yards.

1231 0031 Ship drawing away, bearing 060°(T), distance 7,590 yards.

1242 0042 Set Condition II Mike Able.

*G. J. Cottrill*  
G. J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

04-08

1700 0500 Commenced zig-zag; Plan #6.  
1759 0559 Sunrise. Lighted ship.

*E. L. Roberts*  
E. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

08-12

0934 2134 Commenced test firing the five inch fifty one gun.  
0945 2145 Ceased test firing five inch fifty one gun. Ammunition expended: three rounds.

*R. F. Monger*  
R. F. MONGER, Ens., USNR.

12-16

0220 1420 Changed base course to 158°(T).

*J. C. Campbell*  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

- Continued on next page -

Approved:

Examined:

*C. A. Joans*  
C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Saturday 27 November 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus twelve.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	0° 27' 00" S	0° 40' 00" S	0° 27' 00" S
Long.	176° 17' 45" E	176° 38' 30" E	176° 17' 45" E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 16-20

0605 1805 Sunset. Darkened ship.  
 0703 1903 Ceased zig-zagging. Changed base course to 150°(T).

C. Goldschmidt  
 C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (Jg), USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

G. J. Cotirilos  
 G. J. COTIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

C. A. Joans  
 C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
 F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
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UNITED STATES SHIP BRILATRIX Sunday 28 November 1943.

Zone description plus twelve.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	30 14' 00" S	30 22' 00" S	40 25' 00" S
Long.	177° 26' 30" E	177° 33' 00" E	177° 56' 00" E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

00-04

Underway independently on course 150°(T). Standard speed 8.5 knots (45 r.p.m.). Ship in Condition II Mike Able.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

04-08

1650 0450 Set Condition "1-A".  
1751 0551 Set Condition II Mike Able.

J. C. Campbell  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

08-12

No remarks.

R. F. Monger  
R. F. MONGER, Ens., USNR.

12-16

No remarks.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

16-20

0600 1800 Changed base course to 158°(T).  
0700 1900 Adjusted base course to 155°(T).  
0707 1907 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 155°(T).

G. J. Cotsirilos  
G. J. COTSIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

F. L. Richards  
F. L. RICHARDS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

C. A. Joans  
C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

PART III  
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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Monday 29 November, 1943.

Zone description plus twelve.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	5° 51' 30" S	6° 08' 30" S	7° 12' 30" S
Long.	178° 31' 00" E	178° 38' 00" E	178° 57' 00" E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Underway independently on base course 155°(T). Standard speed 8.5 knots (46 r.p.m.). Ship in Condition II Mike Able.

J. C. Campbell  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (Jg), USNR.

04-08

1645 0445 Set Condition "1-A".  
1647 0447 Commenced zig-zag Plan #6.  
1743 0543 Set Condition II Mike Able.  
1746 0546 Changed base course to 158°(T).

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (Jg), USNR.

08-12

0820 2020 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 158°(T).  
0833 2033 Commenced zig-zagging using zig-zag clock Cam #6.  
0910 2110 Commenced zig-zag Plan #6.

R. F. Monger  
R. F. MONGER, Ens., USNR.

12-16

0255 1455 Radar aircraft contact bearing 243°(T), distance 17 miles.  
0257 1457 Plane reported friendly. Identified as FBY-Catalina.

G. J. Cottrilos  
G. J. COTTRILLOS, Ens., USNR.

16-20

0540 1740 Sighted mast on horizon which proved to be SC 994 ordered to act as escort for this vessel.

F. L. Roberts  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

20-24

0934 2134 Ceased zig-zagging and resumed base course 158°(T).

J. C. Campbell  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (Jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

C. A. Joans  
C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Monday 30 November 1943  
(Ship) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus twelve.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	8° 37' 00" S		
Long.	179° 14' 15" E		

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

G.C.T. L.C.T. 00-04

Underway with SC #994 as escort on course 158°(T). Standard speed 8.5 knots (46 r.p.m.). Ship in condition II Mike Able.  
 1455 0255 Sighted glow from beacon on FUNAFUTI ATOLL, ELLICE ISLANDS, bearing 190°(T), distance 30 miles.

C. Goldschmidt  
 C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (JG), USNR.

04-08

1630 0430 Commenced zig-zag Plan #6.  
 1640 0440 Set Condition "I-A".  
 1708 0508 Adjusted base course to 200°(T).  
 1738 0538 Set Condition II Mike Able.  
 1740 0540 Adjusted base course to 220°(T).  
 1755 0555 Sighted FUNAFUTI ISLAND bearing 265°(T), distance 14 miles.

G. J. Cottrill  
 G. J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

08-12

2018 0818 Changed base course to 250°(T).  
 2040 0840 Ceased zig-zagging. Changed base course to 277°(T).  
 2115 0915 Changed base course to 330°(T).  
 2155 0955 Made preparations for entering port.  
 2157 0957 Pilot E. L. McLANUS came aboard.  
 2215 1015 Proceeding on various courses and at various speeds into FUNAFUTI HARBOR. Pilot at the Conn, Captain, Executive Officer, and Navigator on the bridge.

R. F. Monger  
 R. F. MONGER, Ens., USNR.

12-16

0035 1235 Moored starboard side to port side of CASCADE in Berth 7, FUNAFUTI, ELLICE ISLANDS.  
 0040 1240 Pilot left the ship.

G. J. Cottrill  
 G. J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

C. A. Jones  
 C. A. JONES, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

F. F. Ryan  
 F. F. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Monday 30 November 1943.

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus twelve.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	80 37' 00" S		
Long.	179° 14' 15" E		

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)G.C.T. L.C.T. 16-20

No remarks.

*J. J. Campbell*  
J. J. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (Jg), USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (Jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*C. A. Joans*  
C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

MAR 20 1944

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S.S. No. 01384

015750

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Wednesday 1 December, 1943. (NR+L)

Zone description plus twelve.

F-48

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)00-04

Moored starboard side to port side of CASCADE in Berth C-17, YUNAPUTI, ELLICE ISLANDS, and in Condition II Mike Able.

COMPOSITION: Acting singly.  
 NEXT HIGHER COMBONUM: Fifth Amphibious Force  
 MAJOR FORCE TO WHICH ATTACHED: Central Pacific Force

M. J. Young, Ens. USNR.  
 M. J. YOUNG, Ens., USNR.

04-08

No remarks.

R. E. Goodman, Ens. USNR.  
 R. E. GOODMAN, Ens., USNR.

08-12

0800 advanced clocks one (1) hour to zone plus eleven time.

G. J. Gotschke, Ens. USNR.  
 G. J. GOTSCHKE, Ens., USNR.

12-16

No remarks.

G. W. River, Ens. USNR.  
 G. W. RIVER, Ens., USNR.

16-20

No remarks.

F. P. Roberts, Ens. USNR.  
 F. P. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

R. F. Menger, Ens. USNR.  
 R. F. MENGER, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

C. A. Joans, USNR.  
 C. A. JOANS, USNR., Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan, USNR.  
 F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Thursday 2 December, 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus eleven.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

00-04

Moored starboard side to port side of CASCADE in Berth C-17, FUNAFUTI, ELLICE ISLANDS, and in Condition II Mike Able.

F. A. LAMBERTSON, ENS., USNR.

04-08

No remarks.

G. W. RIVES, ENS., USNR.

08-12

No remarks.

F. L. ROBERTS, ENS., USNR.

12-16

No remarks.

C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (JG), USNR.

16-20

No remarks.

H. S. YOUNG, ENS., USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

R. S. GOODMAN, ENS., USNR.

Approved:

C. A. JOHNS

C. A. JOHNS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

Examined:

F. P. RYAN

F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BALLETINFriday 3 December 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)Zone description plus eleven

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)00-04

Moored starboard side to port side of CASCADE in Berth C-17, FUGAPUTI, SILECE ISLANDS, and in Condition II Mike Able.

B. J. Cottrill  
B. J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

04-08

No remarks.

C. Balbachmidt  
C. BALBACHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

08-12

No remarks.

M. S. Young, Ens. USNR  
M. S. YOUNG, Ens., USNR.

12-16

No remarks.

R. F. Moyer  
R. F. MOYER, Ens., USNR.

16-20

No remarks.

F. X. LaMountain, Ens. USNR  
F. X. LAMOUNTAIN, Ens., USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

J. W. Rives  
J. W. RIVES, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

C. A. Joans

C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

Examined:

F. P. Ryan

F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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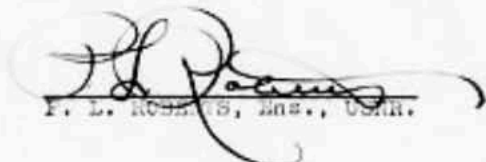
Page 420

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Saturday 4 November, 19 43.Base description plus eleven.

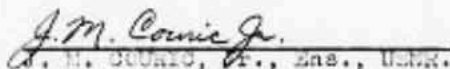
Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)00-04

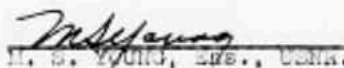
Moored starboard side to port side of CASCADE in Berth C-17, FUKAFOFI, ELlice ISLANDS, and in Condition II Mike Able.

  
 F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.
04-08

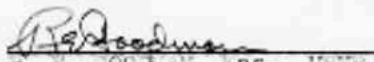
No remarks.

  
 J. M. COCHRAN, P., Ens., USNR.
08-12

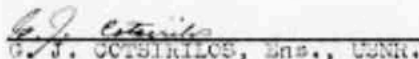
No remarks.

  
 H. S. YOUNG, Ens., USNR.
12-16

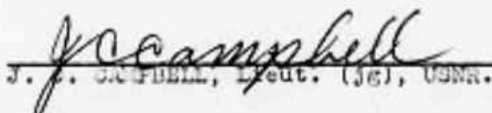
No remarks.

  
 R. E. GOODMAN, Ens., USNR.
16-20

No remarks.

  
 G. J. COSTERLOS, Ens., USNR.
20-24

No remarks.

  
 J. J. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (JG), USNR.

Approved:

  
 C. A. JOHNS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

Examined:

  
 F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIXSunday5December1943.Zone description plus eleven

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)00-04

Moored starboard side to port side of CASCADE in Berth C-17, PUNAFUTI, ELLICE ISLANDS and in Condition II Mike Able.

J. M. Couric Jr  
J. M. COURIC, JR., ENS., USNR.

04-08

No remarks.

M. S. Young  
M. S. YOUNG, ENS., USNR.

08-12

No remarks.

R. E. Gochen  
R. E. GOCHEN, ENS., USNR.

12-16

No remarks.

F. X. Laskowski  
F. X. LASKOWSKI, ENS., USNR.

16-20

No remarks.

G. W. Rives Jr  
G. W. RIVES, JR., ENS., USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

F. L. Roberts  
F. L. ROBERTS, ENS., USNR.

Approved:

C. A. Johns  
C. A. JOHNS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

Examined:

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Monday

6

December

1943.

(Day)

(Date)

(Month)

Zone description plus eleven

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)00-04

Moored starboard side to port side of CASCADE in Berth C-17, PUNAPUTI, ELLICE ISLANDS and in Condition II Mike Able.

J. M. Couric, Jr.  
J. M. COURIC, Jr., Ens., USNR.

04-08

No remarks.

R. F. Monger  
R. F. MONGER, Ens., USNR.

08-12

0800 Pilot E. L. McMANUS came aboard.  
0830 Made all preparations for getting underway.  
0853 Underway on various courses and at various speeds proceeding to sea. Pilot E. L. McMANUS at the Conn, Captain, Executive Officer, and Navigator on the Bridge. Standard speed 13.5 knots.  
0940 Delayed sailing due to probable change in destination.  
1015 Anchored in FORSAPOLI ANCHORAGE, PUNAPUTI, ELLICE ISLANDS, in Berth B-10, in twenty-one (21) fathoms of water with seventy-five (75) fathoms of chain to the port anchor.  
1024 Set Condition II Mike Able.

F. A. Lamontain  
F. A. LAMONTAIN, Ens., USNR.

12-16

1300 Pilot left the ship.  
1330 Veered chain to 90 fathoms.

G. J. Cottrill  
G. J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

16-20

No remarks.

J. C. Campbell  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

C. A. Joans  
C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Tuesday 7 December 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus eleven

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.		7° 59' 00" S	6° 29' 00" S
Long.		179° 04' 30" E	179° 27' 00" E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)00-04

Anchored in PONGAPALE ANCHORAGE, FURUAPUTE, ELLICE ISLANDS, in Berta S-10, in twenty-one (21) fathoms of water with ninety (90) fathoms of chain to the port anchor.

*M. S. Young*  
 M. S. YOUNG, Ens., USNR.

04-08

0641 Pilot E. L. McMANUS, Lt. Comdr., USNR, came aboard.  
 0700 Made all preparations for getting underway.

*R. E. Goodman*  
 R. E. GOODMAN, Ens., USNR.

08-12

0800 Underway on various courses and at various speeds conforming to the channel standing out to sea with the Pilot at the Conn, the Captain, Executive Officer, and Navigator on the bridge, in accordance with Assistant Port Director's Orders of 7 December 1943, proceeding to FRANK HARBOR, T.H. Standard speed 13.5 knots.  
 0913 Pilot left the ship. Ahead standard speed.  
 0913 With white beacon, VASAUA ISLAND, bearing 123°(T), distant 1.0 miles, took departure and set course 330°(T).  
 0916 Set Condition "1-A".  
 0927 Changed course to 012°(T).  
 0930 WILHELM (DE22) took position as escort.  
 0936 Set Condition 11 Mike Able.  
 1000 Commenced zig-zag Plan #6.

*F. L. Roberts*  
 F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

12-16

No remarks.

*J. C. Campbell*  
 J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (Jr), USNR.

16-20

1618 Changed standard speed to 14 knots.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
 C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (Jr), USNR.

Approved:

*C. A. Jones*  
 C. A. JONES, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

Examined:

*F. P. Ryan*  
 F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Tuesday 7 December, 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)Zone description plus eleven

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.		7° 59' 00" S	6° 29' 00" S
Long.		179° 04' 30" E	179° 27' 00" E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

Continued:

20-24

2250 Changed base course to 032°(T).

*G. J. Conrillo*  
G. J. CONRILLO, Mas., USNR.

Approved:

*C. A. Joans*C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR.,  
Commanding Officer.

Examined:

*F. P. Ryan*F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR.,  
Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Wednesday 8 December 1943.

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus eleven

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	4° 11' 30" S	3° 26' 00" S	2° 11' 00" S
Long.	179° 23' 00" W	178° 59' 00" W	177° 58' 00" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)00-04

Underway independently with WILEMAN as escort on base course 032° (T).  
Standard speed 14 knots. Ship in condition II Mike Able.  
0304 WILEMAN left as previously directed.

*R. F. Monger*  
R. F. MONGER, Ens., USNR.

04-08

0538 Set Condition "1-A".  
0638 Set Condition II Mike Able.

*P. L. Roberts*  
P. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

08-12

No remarks.

*J. C. Campbell*  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

12-16

1203 Changed base course to 038° (T).

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

16-20

No remarks.

*G. J. Cotirilos*  
G. J. COTIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

*R. F. Monger*  
R. F. MONGER, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*C. A. Joans*  
C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR., *Commanding Officer.*

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., *Navigator.*

To be forwarded direct to the Commandant in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.



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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Thursday 9 December 1943.

Zone description plus eleven

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	0° 15' 00" S	0° 25' 30" N	1° 44' 00" N
Long.	176° 38' 00" W	176° 15' 00" W	175° 27' 00" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)00-04

Underway independently on base course 038°(T). Standard speed 14 knots. Zig-zag Plan #6. Ship in Condition II Mike Able.

  
 F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.
04-08
 0535 Set Condition "1-A".  
 0635 Set Condition II Mike Able.


  
 J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (JG), USNR.
08-12
 0924 Sighted BAKER ISLAND bearing 359½°(T), distance 11 miles.  
 1015 Changed base course to 035°(T).

  
 U. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (JG), USNR.
12-16

No remarks.

  
 G. J. COISNILOS, Ens., USNR.
16-20

No remarks.


  
 R. F. MONGER, Ens., USNR.
20-24

No remarks.

  
 F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

  
 C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

  
 F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Friday 10 December 1943.

Zone description plus eleven

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	30° 45' 30" N	40° 33' 00" N	60° 02' 00" N
Long.	174° 14' 00" W	173° 56' 00" W	173° 06' 00" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)00-04

Underway independently on base course 0350(T). Standard speed 14 knots; zig-zag Plan #6. Ship in Condition II Mike Able.

*J. C. Campbell*  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (Jg), USNR.

04-08

0530 Set Condition "1-A".  
0630 Set Condition II Mike Able.

*C. G. Schmidt*  
C. G. SCHMIDT, Lieut. (Jg), USNR.

08-12

0905 Commenced structural test firing of 20 m.m. guns.  
1000 Completed structural test firing. Ammunition expended: 429 rds.  
20 m.m.

*G. J. Cottrill*  
G. J. COTTRILL, Ensign, USNR.

12-16

No remarks.

*R. F. Monger*  
R. F. MONGER, Ensign, USNR.

16-20

2000 Changed base course to 0400(T).

*F. L. Roberts*  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ensign, USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

*J. C. Campbell*  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (Jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*C. A. Joans*  
C. A. JOANS, Commander, USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIALPage 222UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Saturday 11 December 1943.

Zone description plus eleven

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	7° 37' 00" N	8° 15' 30" N	9° 37' 00" N
Long.	171° 30' 00" W	171° 08' 00" W	170° 20' 00" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)00-04

Underway independently on base course 040°(T). Standard speed 14 knots; zig-zag Plan #6. Ship in condition II Mike Able.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

04-08

0530 Set Condition "1-A".  
0630 Set Condition II Mike Able.  
0645 Changed base course to 030°(T).

G. A. Conkling  
G. A. CONKLING, Ens., USNR.

08-12

No remarks.

R. F. Monger  
R. F. MONGER, Ens., USNR.

12-16

No remarks.

F. L. Roberts  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

16-20

2000 Changed base course to 050°(T).

J. C. Campbell  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

C. A. Joams  
C. A. JOAMS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIALPage 1UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Sunday 12 December, 1943.

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus eleven.

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	11° 18' 00" N	11° 40' 00" N	12° 39' 00" N
Long.	168° 31' 00" W	168° 02' 00" W	166° 51' 00" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)L.C.T. 00-04

Underway independently on base course 050°(T). Standard speed 14 knots; zig-zag Plan #6. Ship in Condition II Mike Able.  
0200 Set all ship's clocks ahead 30 minutes to zone plus ten and one-half time.

G. J. Cotirilos  
G. J. COTIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

04-08

No remarks.

R. F. Monger  
R. F. MONGER, Ens., USNR.

08-12

No remarks.

F. L. Roberts  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

12-16

1510 Changed base course to 046°(T).

J. C. Campbell  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

16-20

1907 Ceased zig-zagging and changed base course to 062°(T). Destination changed to HILO, HAWAII.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

G. J. Cotirilos  
G. J. COTIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

C. A. Joans  
C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

Examined:

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIALPage 43UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Monday 13 December, 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)Zone description plus 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ 

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	13° 51' 00" N	14° 19' 00" N	15° 02' 00" N
Long.	164° 30' 00" W	163° 44' 00" W	162° 15' 00" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)L.C.T. 00-04

Underway independently on base course 062°(T). Standard speed 14 knots. Ship in Condition II Mike Able.

R. F. MONGER  
R. F. MONGER, Ens., USNR.

04-08

No remarks.

F. L. ROBERTS  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

08-12

No remarks.

J. C. CAMPBELL  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

12-16

No remarks.

G. GOLDSCHMIDT  
G. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

16-20

No remarks.

G. J. COTSIRILCS  
G. J. COTSIRILCS, Ens., USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

R. F. MONGER  
R. F. MONGER, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

C. A. JOANS  
C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR.,  
Commanding Officer.

Examined:

F. P. RYAN  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR.,  
Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Tuesday 14 December, 19 43.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)Zone description plus 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ 

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	16° 11' 00" N	16° 40' 00" N	17° 22' 00" N
Long.	160° 06' 00" W	159° 18' 00" W	157° 55' 00" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)L.C.T. 00-04

Underway independently on base course 062°(T). Standard speed 14 knots. Ship in Condition II Mike Able.

  
P. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.
04-08

No remarks.

  
J. S. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.
08-12

No remarks.

  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.
12-16

No remarks.

  
G. J. COSTRILLOS, Ens., USNR.
16-20

No remarks.

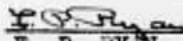
  
R. F. MONGER, Ens., USNR.
20-24

No remarks.

  
P. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

  
C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.
  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Wednesday 15 December, 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus 10½

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	18° 47' 00" N	19° 17' 15" N	
Long.	155° 28' 00" W	155° 02' 45" W	

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)L.O.T. 00-04

Underway independently on base course 062°(T). Standard speed 14 knots. Ship in Condition II Mike Able.

0043 Radar contact on Island of HAWAII, bearing 035°(T), distant 113 miles.

*J. G. Campbell*  
 J. G. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

04-08

0520 Set Condition "I-A".

0610 Sighted KAVNA POINT, ISLAND OF HAWAII, bearing 349°(T), distant 30 miles.

0618 Set Condition II Mike Able.

0630 Changed base course to 048°(T).

0740 Changed base course to 044°(T).

0750 Changed base course to 032°(T).

*C. Goldschmidt*  
 C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

08-12

0845 Changed course to 044°(T).

0900 Set all ship's clocks ahead one (1) hour to zone plus nine and one-half (9½) time.

1111 Changed course to 050°(T).

*G. J. Cotarikos*  
 G. J. COTARIKOS, Ensign, USNR.

12-16

1312 Changed course to 021°(T).

1328 Changed course to 320°(T).

1405 Changed course to 325°(T).

1454 Changed course to 314°(T).

1500 Made preparations for entering port.

1510 Changed course to 216°(T).

1550 Anchored in Berth #5, HILO BAY, ISLAND OF HAWAII, in seven (7) fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to the port anchor.

*R. F. Monger*  
 R. F. MONGER, Ensign, USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*C. A. Joane*  
 C. A. JOANE, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
 F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Wednesday 15 December, 19 43.

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus 10 1/2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	18° 47' 00" N	19° 17' 15" N	
Long.	155° 28' 00" W	155° 02' 45" W	

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)Continued:L.C.T. 16-20

1740 Pilot C. L. BROCCAS came aboard.  
 1745 Underway standing in to Pier #2.  
 1808 Moored port side to west side of Pier #2, HILO, ISLAND OF HAWAII.  
 Pilot left the ship.

  
 G. W. RIVES, JR., Ens., USNR.
20-24

No remarks.

  
 F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

  
 C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

  
 F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.



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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Thursday 16 December 1943.

Zone description plus 9 1/2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

L.C.T. 00-04

Moored port side to west side of Pier #2, HILO, ISLAND OF HAWAII,  
T. H. Ship in Condition II Mike Able.

J. M. Couric Jr  
J. M. COURIC, Jr., Ens., USNR.

04-08

No remarks.

R. F. Monger  
R. F. MONGER, Ens., USNR.

08-12

No remarks.

F. X. LaMountain, Ens. USNR  
F. X. LAMOUNTAIN, Ens., USNR.

12-16

No remarks.

G. W. Rives Jr  
G. W. RIVES, JR., Ens., USNR.

16-20

No remarks.

F. L. Roberts  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

J. M. Couric Jr  
J. M. COURIC, Jr., Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

C. A. Joans  
C. A. JOANS, Cmdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

F. F. Ryan  
F. F. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Friday 17 December , 19 43

Zone description plus 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ 

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)L.C.T. 00-04

Moored port side to west side of Pier #2, HILO BAY, ISLAND OF HAWAII, T.H. Ship in Condition II Mike Able.

R. F. Moyer  
R. F. MONYER, Ens., USNR.

04-08

No remarks.

F. X. LAMOUNTAIN, Ens., USNR.  
F. X. LAMOUNTAIN, Ens., USNR.

08-12

No remarks.

G. W. RIVES, JR., Ens., USNR.  
G. W. RIVES, JR., Ens., USNR.

12-16

No remarks.

J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (JG), USNR.  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (JG), USNR.

16-20

No remarks.

C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (JG), USNR.  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (JG), USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

M. S. YOUNG, Ens., USNR.  
M. S. YOUNG, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

C. A. JoansC. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer,

Examined:

F. P. RyanF. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator,

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIALPage 235UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Saturday 18 December 19 43

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus 9 1/2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)L.S.T. 00-04

Moored port side to west side of Pier #2, HILO BAY, ISLAND OF HAWAII, T. H. Ship in Condition II Mike Able.

R. E. Goodman  
R. E. GOODMAN, Ens., USNR.

04-08

No remarks.

G. J. Cotirilos  
G. J. COTIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

08-12

No remarks.

J. C. Campbell  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

12-16

No remarks.

F. L. Roberts  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

16-20

No remarks.

J. M. Couric Jr  
J. M. COURIC, Jr., Ens., USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

R. F. Mongin  
R. F. MONGIN, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

C. A. Joans  
C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Sunday 19 December, 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)Zone description plus 9 1/2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)L.C.T. 00-04

Moored port side to west side of Pier #2, HILO BAY, ISLAND OF HAWAII, T.H. Ship in Condition II Mike Able.

*F. X. Lamountain*  
F. X. LAMOUNTAIN, Ens., USNR.04-08

No remarks.

*G. W. Rives, Jr.*  
G. W. RIVES, Jr., Ens., USNR.08-12

No remarks.

*F. L. Roberts*  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.12-16

1430 Made all preparations for getting underway.  
 1450 Pilot C. L. BROGAS came aboard.  
 1456 Underway from Pier #2, HILO, ISLAND OF HAWAII, T.H., on various courses and at various speeds proceeding to sea, with the Pilot at the Conn, Captain, Executive Officer, and Navigator on the bridge. Standard speed 14 knots.  
 1518 Pilot C. L. BROGAS left the ship.  
 1526 Took departure with FAUKAA LIGHT bearing 254<sup>1/2</sup>(T), distant 1.2 miles and set course 025<sup>1/2</sup>(T). Cruising at standard speed 14 knots.  
 1535 Set Condition "1-A".  
 1556 Set Condition II Mike Able.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.16-20

1730 Changed course to 313<sup>0</sup>(T).  
 1843 Changed course to 315<sup>0</sup>(T).

*F. L. Roberts*  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*C. A. Joane*  
C. A. JOANE, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.*F. P. Ryan*  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Sunday 19 December, 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus 9½

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

L.C.T. 20-24

No remarks.

J. C. Campbell  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

C. A. Joans  
C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer,

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIALPage 438UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Monday 20 December 1943

Zone description plus 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ 

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)L.C.T. 00-04

Underway independently on course 315 $^{\circ}$ (T). Standard speed 14 knots.  
Ship in Condition II like able.  
0120 Changed course to 270 $^{\circ}$ (T).

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

04-08

0450 Changed course to 240 $^{\circ}$ (T).  
0518 Sighted aviation beacon on OAHU ISLAND, bearing 268 $^{\circ}$ (T).  
0700 Sighted MAKAPUU POINT, bearing 286 $^{\circ}$ (T), distance 6.5 miles.  
0755 Changed course to 240 $^{\circ}$ (T).

G. J. Corsikilos  
G. J. CORSIKILOS, Ens., USNR.

08-12

0815 Sighted DIAMOND HEAD LIGHT bearing 290 $^{\circ}$ (T).  
0859 Changed base course to 290 $^{\circ}$ (T).  
0948 Changed base course to 292 $^{\circ}$ (T).  
1004 Made preparations for entering port.  
1017 Pilot M. HANNUS came aboard.  
1115 Moored starboard side to north side of Berth "K-8", PEARL HARBOR, OAHU, T.H.  
1146 Pilot M. HANNUS left the ship.

R. F. Monger  
R. F. MONGER, Ens., USNR.

12-16

1330 Made preparations for getting underway.

J. M. Curcio, Jr.  
J. M. CURCIO, JR., Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

C. A. J. Jones  
C. A. JONES, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIALPage 439UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Monday 20 December, 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)Sons description plus 9 1/2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)L.C.T. 16-20

1756 Lt. Comdr., B. RYE, Pilot, came aboard.  
1805 Underway on various courses and at various speeds proceeding to assigned berth. Pilot at the Conn, the Captain, Executive Officer, and Navigator on the bridge. Standard speed 14 knots.  
1848 Moored port side to Coal Dock, PEARL HARBOR, OAHU, T.H.  
1920 The Pilot left the ship.

R. F. MONGER  
R. F. MONGER, Ens., USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

F. X. LAMOUNTAIN  
F. X. LAMOUNTAIN, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

C. A. JOANS  
C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

F. P. RYAN  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIALPage 2 of 2UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Tuesday 21 December 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)Zone description plus 9 1/2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)L.C.T. 00-04

Moored port side to Coal Dock, PEARL HARBOR, OAHU, T.H. Ship in Condition II Mike Able.

  
J. W. RIVES, Jr., Ens., USNR.
04-08

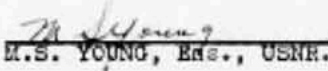
No remarks.

  
P. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.
08-12

No remarks.

  
J. M. CONNER, Jr., Ens., USNR.
12-16

No remarks.

  
M. S. YOUNG, Ens., USNR.
16-20

No remarks.


  
R. E. GOODMAN, Ens., USNR.
20-24

No remarks.

  
G. J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

  
C. A. JOANE, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.



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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Wednesday 22 December, 1943.

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus 9 1/2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)L.C.T. 00-04

Moored port side to Coal Dock, PEARL HARBOR, OAHU, T.H. Ship in Condition II Mike Able.

J. C. Campbell  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (Jg), USNR.

04-08

No remarks.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (Jg), USNR.

08-12

No remarks.

M. S. Young  
M. S. YOUNG, Ens., USNR.

12-16

No remarks.

R. E. Goodman  
R. E. GOODMAN, Ens., USNR.

16-20

No remarks.

G. J. Cottrill  
G. J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

J. C. Campbell  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (Jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

C. A. Joans  
C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR., Commodore Officer

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
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Thursday 23 December 1943

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus 9½

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)L.C.T. 00-04

Moored port side to Coal Dock, PEARL HARBOR, OAHU, T. H. Ship in Condition II Mike Able.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

04-08

No remarks.

M. S. Young  
M. S. YOUNG, Ens., USNR.

08-12

No remarks.

R. E. Gooden  
R. E. GOODEN, Ens., USNR.

12-16

No remarks.

R. F. Menger  
R. F. MONGER, Ens., USNR.

16-20

No remarks.

F. X. LaMountain  
F. X. LAMOUNTAIN, Ens., USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

O. W. Rives, Jr.  
O. W. RIVES, Jr., Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

C. A. Joane  
C. A. JOANE, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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Friday 24 December, 1943.

(Day) (Day) (Month)

Zone description plus 9 1/2

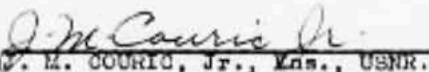
Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)L.C.T. 00-04

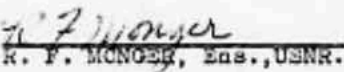
Moored port side to Coal Dock, PEARL HARBOR, OAHU, T.H. Ship in Condition II Mike Able.

  
 F. I. ROBERG, Ens., USNR.
04-08

No remarks.

  
 F. M. COURIC, JR., Ens., USNR.
08-12

No remarks.

  
 R. F. MCNEER, Ens., USNR.
12-16

1530 Made all preparations for getting underway.  
 1541 Pilot G. L. CARTER came aboard.  
 1550 Underway in accordance with ComHawSeaFron's Maillogram 230014 of December 1943, with the Pilot at the Conn, Captain, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge. Standard speed 14 knots. Standing out to sea on various courses and at various speeds conforming to the channel.

  
 G. J. COTSIRILOS, Ens., USNR.
16-20

Underway as before standing out of PEARL HARBOR.  
 1610 Passed through anti-submarine net.  
 1627 The Pilot left the ship.  
 1632 Set Condition II Mike Sugar.  
 1639 Cleared swept channel and set course 115°(t). Standard speed 14 knots.  
 1700 HAWKINSPOINT took position 600 yards astern, PC1079 patrolling as A/S Screen.

(Continued on next page)

Approved:

Examined:

  
 C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

  
 F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

PART III  
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Friday 24 December, 1943

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus 9½

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)Continued:L.C.T. 16-20

1726 With DIAMOND HEAD LIGHT bearing 000°(t), distant 2.3 miles, changed course to 090°(t).  
 1749 With DIAMOND HEAD LIGHT bearing 297°(t), and RT. TAN. MUAFOA POINT bearing 038°(t), took departure and set course 056°(t).  
 1808 HAZARDSPORT took position 1200 yards on starboard beam.  
 1906 HAZARDSPORT proceeded independently on duty assigned.  
 1920 Escort detached and returning to base.

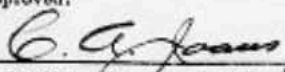
  
 F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.
20-24

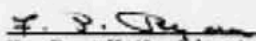
No remarks.

  
 J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

  
 G. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

  
 F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Saturday 25 December 1943

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus 9 1/2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	23° 06' 00" N	23° 36' 00" N	24° 23' 00" N
Long.	154° 50' 00" W	154° 01' 00" W	152° 19' 00" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)L. C. T. 00-04Underway independently on course 056°(t). Standard speed 14 knots. Ship in Condition II M<sub>1</sub>ke Sugar.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (Jg), USNR.

04-08

0800 Changed course to 059°(t).

*G. J. Cottrill*  
G. J. COTTRILL, ens., USNR.

08-12

No remarks.

*M. S. Young*  
M. S. YOUNG, ens., USNR.

12-16

No remarks.

*R. F. Menger*  
R. F. MENGER, ens., USNR.

16-18

No remarks.

*F. L. Roberts*  
F. L. ROBERTS, ens., USNR.

18-20

1900 Changed base course to 061°(t).

*J. C. Campbell*  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (Jg), USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

*C. Goldschmidt*  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (Jg), USNR.

Approved:

*C. A. Joans*

C. A. JOANS, Commandr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

Examined:

*F. P. Ryan*

F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIALPage 227UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Sunday 26 December 19 43  
(Day) (Date) (Month)Zone description plus 9 1/2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	26° 51' 00" N	26° 13' 00" N	27° 19' 00" N
Long.	149° 44' 00" W	148° 50' 00" W	147° 20' 00" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)L.C.T. 00-04Cruising independently on course 061°(t). Standard speed 14 knots.  
Ship in Condition II Mike Sugar.G. J. Cottrill  
G. J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.04-08

No remarks.

M. S. Young  
M. S. YOUNG, Ens., USNR.08-12

No remarks.

H. F. Ronger  
H. F. RONGER, Ens., USNR.12-16

1300 Changed course to 053 (t).

F. L. Roberts  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.16-18

No remarks.

J. C. Campbell  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.18-20

No remarks.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.20-24

No remarks.

G. J. Cottrill  
G. J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

C. A. Joans  
C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

Examined:

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

16-50270-4 U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1943

PART III  
CONFIDENTIALPage 28UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Monday 27 December, 1943.  
(Day) (Date) (Month)Zone description plus 9 1/2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	28° 34' 00" N	28° 56' 00" N	29° 45' 00" N
Long.	144° 53' 00" W	144° 10' 00" W	142° 33' 00" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)L.C.T. 00-04

Cruising independently on course 053°(t). Standard speed 14 knots. Ship in Condition II Mike Able.

M. S. Young  
M. S. YOUNG, Ensign, USNR.

04-08

No remarks.

R. F. Menger  
R. F. Menger, Ensign, USNR.

08-12

No remarks.

F. L. Roberts  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ensign, USNR.

12-16

1503 Secured starboard engine and reduced speed to 10.5 knots.  
1551 Starboard engine out in, increased speed to 14 knots. Engineering casualty to starboard engine was cleared.

J. V. Campbell  
J. V. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

16-18

No remarks.

C. Goldschmidt  
C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

18-20

No remarks.

G. J. Cottrill  
G. J. COTTRILL, Ensign, USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

M. S. Young  
M. S. YOUNG, Ensign, USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

C. A. Joans  
C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIALPage 249UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Tuesday 28 December, 1943.

Zone description plus nine

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	31° 03' 30" N	31° 32' 00" N	32° 22' 00" N
Long.	138° 52' 30" W	139° 02' 00" W	137° 18' 00" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)L.C.T. 00-04

Underway independently on course 057°(t). Standard speed 14 knots. Ship in Condition II Mike Sugar.

R. F. Moyer  
R. F. MOYER, Ens., USNR.

04-08

0700 Changed course to 059°(t).

F. L. Roberts  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

08-12

No remarks.

J. C. Campbell  
J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

12-16

1300 Changed base course to 061°(t).

G. Goldschmidt  
G. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

16-18

No remarks.

J. J. Cottrill  
J. J. COTTRILL, Ens., USNR.

18-20

No remarks.

M. S. Young  
M. S. YOUNG, Ens., USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

R. F. Moyer  
R. F. MOYER, ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

C. A. Joans  
C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

F. P. Ryan  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.



PART III  
CONFIDENTIALPage 450

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Wednesday 29 December 1943.  
(Day) (Week) (Month)  
 Zone description plus 8½

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	33° 25' 00" N	33° 50' 00" N	34° 27' 00" N
Long.	134° 25' 00" W	133° 24' 00" W	131° 26' 00" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)L.C.T. 00-04

Underway independently on base course 001°(t). Standard speed 14 knots. Ship in Condition II Mike Sugar.

0100 Changed all ship's clocks to conform to zone plus eight and one-half (8½) time.

F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

04-08

No remarks.

J. C. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (Jg), USNR.

08-12

No remarks.

C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (Jg), USNR.

12-16

No remarks.

G. J. COCHRAN, Ens., USNR.

16-18

No remarks.

M. S. YOUNG, Ens., USNR.

18-20

No remarks.

R. F. LONG, Ens., USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

C. A. JOHNS  
C. A. JOHNS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

Examined:

F. P. RYAN  
F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

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UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Thursday 30 December 1943.Scene description plus 8 1/2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	34° 24' 00" N	30° 04' 00" N	30° 29' 00" N
Long.	128° 34' 00" W	127° 35' 00" W	125° 23' 00" W

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)L.C.T. 00-04

Underway independently on base course 061°(t). Standard speed 14 knots. Ship in Condition II Mike Able.  
0100 Set ship's clocks ahead one-half hour to zone plus eight time.

J. Campbell  
J. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

04-08

No remarks.

J. J. Schmidt  
J. J. SCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

08-12

No remarks.

G. J. Cotsiriolos  
G. J. COTSIRILOS, Ens., USNR.

12-16

1250 Changed course to 070°(t).

M. S. Young  
M. S. YOUNG, Ens., USNR.

16-18

No remarks.

H. F. Konger  
H. F. KONGER, Ens., USNR.

18-20

2000 Changed course to 057°(t).

F. L. Roberts  
F. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

J. Campbell  
J. CAMPBELL, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

C. A. Joans  
C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

P. F. Ryan  
P. F. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIAL

Page 2

UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX

Friday 31 December 1943

(Day) (Date) (Month)

Zone description plus 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ 

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)

L.C.T. 00-04

Underway independently on base course 057 $^{\circ}$ (t). Standard speed 14 knots. Ship in Condition II Mike Sugar.  
 0304 Sighted FARALLON ISLAND LIGHT bearing 064 $^{\circ}$ (t), distance 45 miles.  
 0349 Changed course to 070 $^{\circ}$ (t).

*C. Goldschmidt*  
 C. GOLDSCHMIDT, Lieut. (jg), USNR.

04-08

0428 Changed course to 000 $^{\circ}$ (t).  
 0507 Changed course to 110 $^{\circ}$ (t).  
 0615 Changed course to 070 $^{\circ}$ (t).  
 0630 FARALLON ISLAND LIGHT abeam to port, distance 2.5 miles.  
 0635 Buoy "A" abeam to port, distance 1200 yards. Entered main ship channel on various courses and various speeds conforming to the channel.  
 0733 Stopped. Pilot K. M. GRAHAM, Lieut. Comdr., USCG, came aboard.  
 0735 Buoy "K" abeam to port distance 100 yards.  
 0800 Set all clocks ahead one hour to zone plus seven time.

*G. J. Cottrillo*  
 G. J. COTTRILLO, Ens., USNR.

08-12

1010 Passed under GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE. Entered SAN FRANCISCO BAY.  
 1017 Passed through anti-submarine net.  
 1113 Moored starboard side to Berth "B-48", SAN FRANCISCO HARBOR, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.  
 1150 Pilot left the ship.

*M. S. Young*  
 M. S. YOUNG, Ens., USNR.

12-16

No remarks.

*F. X. LaMountain*  
 F. X. LAMOUNTAIN, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*C. A. Joans*  
 C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F. P. Ryan*  
 F. P. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

PART III  
CONFIDENTIALPage 433UNITED STATES SHIP BELLATRIX Friday 31 December, 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)Zone description plus 8 1/2

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.			
Long.			

OPERATIONAL REMARKS  
(WAR DIARY)L.C.T. 16-18

No remarks.

*G. W. Rives, Jr.*  
G. W. RIVES, JR., Ens., USNR.

18-20

No remarks.

*R. F. Monger*  
R. F. MONGER, ens., USNR.

20-24

No remarks.

*P. L. Roberts*  
P. L. ROBERTS, Ens., USNR.

Approved:

Examined:

*C. A. J. Kane*  
C. A. J. KANE, Comdr., USNR., Commanding Officer.

*F. F. Ryan*  
F. F. RYAN, Lieut., USNR., Navigator.

To be forwarded direct to the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, either at end of an operation or at the end of the calendar month.

F48  
U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

Eng. No. 03989 (CNO'S.)  
05519  
L.S. No. ....

CONFIDENTIAL

WAR DIARY

JANUARY 1944

Zone Description plus seven

January 1 L.C.T. Moored starboard side to Pier #48, Berth "BAKER", San Francisco, California.

Designation: AKA3  
Composition: Independently  
Next Higher Echelon: Fifth Amphibious Force  
Major Force to Which Attached: Central Pacific

January 2 Moored as before.

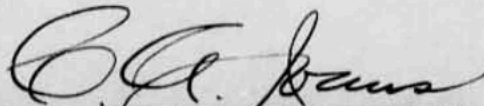
January 3 0700 Made all preparations for getting underway.  
0814 Pilot E. JACOBSON reported aboard.  
0818 Underway with pilot at the Conn, Captain, Executive Officer, and Navigator on the bridge, on various courses and at various speeds conforming to the channel. Standard speed 14 knots, (76 r.p.m.).  
0854 Moored starboard side to Pier #7, Berth 20, Bethlehem Shipbuilding Company, San Francisco, California for overhaul and repairs.  
0903 Pilot left the ship.

January 4 Moored as before.

January 5 Moored as before.

January 6 1136 Pilot E. JACOBSON reported aboard.  
1139 Shifted ahead to Berth #21, assisted by tug, with pilot at the Conn.  
1156 Pilot left the ship.

January 7 to  
January 31 inclusive Moored as before.

  
C. A. JOANS, Comdr., USNR,  
Commanding

63995

CONFIDENTIAL

F. 48  
U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

Doc. No.	02576
R.I. No.	09569

WAR DIARY

FEBRUARY 1944

Zone Description plus seven.

L.C.T.

February 1 to 7 inc. Moored starboard side to Pier #7, Berth #21, Bethlehem Shipbuilding Company, San Francisco, California, for overhaul and repairs.

Designation: AKA3  
COMPOSITION: Independently  
NEXT HIGHER ECHELON: Fifth Amphibious Force  
MAJOR FORCE TO WHICH ATTACHED: Central Pacific

February 8 1400 Commander C. A. Joans, D-V(G), USNR, was relieved this date by Commander E. J. Anderson, D-M, USNR, pursuant to BuPers Dispatch No. 010119 of January 1944.

1430 Commander E. J. Anderson, D-M, USNR, Commanding, left the ship on leave. Lieutenant-Commander F. H. Spring, D-M, USNR, assumed command.

February 9 to 15 inc. Moored as before.

February 16 0805 Pilot E. Edwards reported aboard.  
0815 Underway from Berth #21 proceeding to Floating Dry Dock.  
0855 Entered Bethlehem Shipbuilding Company's Floating Dry Dock #55, San Francisco, California.  
0915 Pilot left the ship.  
0921 Commenced pumping dry dock.  
1000 Ship commenced settling on keel blocks.  
1005 Ship on keel blocks.

February 17 to 20 inc. In Dry Dock as before.

February 21 0815 Commenced flooding dry dock.  
1025 Pilot T.A. Tietson reported aboard.  
1032 Underway from dry dock proceeding to Pier #5, Berth #11.  
1049 Moored starboard side to Pier #5, Berth #11, Bethlehem Shipbuilding Company. Pilot left the ship.

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U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

WAR DIARY

FEBRUARY 1944

L.C.T.

February  
22 to 27  
inc.

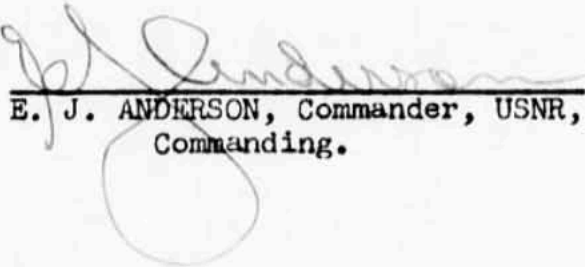
Moored as before.

February  
28 1450

Commander E. J. Anderson, D-M, USNR, returned aboard from leave and assumed command relieving Lieut-Comdr. F. H. Spring, D-M, USNR.

February  
29

Moored as before.

  
E. J. ANDERSON, Commander, USNR,  
Commanding.



F-43

CINCPAC

Initial

Cincpac 25929 53

69019

U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

WAR DIARY

MARCH 1944

Zone Description plus seven

DESIGNATION: AKA3  
COMPOSITION: Independently  
NEXT HIGHER ECHELON: Fifth Amphibious Force  
MAJOR FORCE TO WHICH ATTACHED: Central Pacific

- March 1 to 3 Inc. Moored starboard side to Bethlehem Shipbuilding Company, Pier 5, Berth 11, San Francisco, California, for overhaul and repairs.
- March 4 to 8 Inc. Underway, with pilot aboard, at 0840 for dry docking. Ship settled on blocks in Floating Dry Dock 1, Bethlehem Shipbuilding Company, San Francisco, California, at 1000 on March 4. Underway, with pilot aboard, from Floating Dry Dock 1, at 1011 on March 8. Moored port side to Pier 7, Berth 19, at 1020 on March 8.
- March 9 Underway, with pilot aboard, on various courses and speeds at 1102. Anchored in Berth 8, San Francisco Bay, California, at 1645, after running degaussing range and completing runs on measured mile off Treasure Island, San Francisco, California.
- March 10 Underway, with pilot aboard, from Berth 8, San Francisco Bay, California, at 0925, on various courses and speeds. Anchored in Berth 8, San Francisco Bay, California, at 1259 after completing runs for compensating magnetic compasses. Underway at 1327 from Berth 8, San Francisco Bay, California on various courses and at various speeds and completed calibration runs for Radio Direction Finder at 1533. Anchored at Berth 8, San Francisco Bay, California at 1605.
- March 11 to 16 Inc. Underway, with pilot aboard, from Berth 8, San Francisco Bay, California, at 1158 and moored port side to Pier 50-A, at 1223 on March 11, for purpose of loading ship.
- March 17 Underway independently at 0945 for Pearl Harbor, Territory of Hawaii, in obedience to Com Twelve's Voyage Order No. 218-44 of 15 March 1944 with Lieutenant Commander G.F. Parker, USCG pilot at the conn through the bay area. Ship went into Condition of Readiness II at 1040.

69019



# U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

## WAR DIARY

MARCH 1944

- March 18 General quarters drill held at 0900. Reduced speed temporarily from 15 knots to 10.3 knots at various times during the day to repair reported fuel leaks in the starboard engine. All ship's clocks set back one half hour at 1900 to zone plus eight time.
- March 19 and 20 Zone plus eight time.  
General quarters drill was held each morning. Gunnery practice was held each morning during general quarters drill on 5", 3" and 20 M.M. guns.  
Ammunition expended:  
5" - 4 rounds  
3" - 110 rounds  
20 M.M. - 2635 rounds  
All ship's clocks set back one half hour on the 20th at 1900 to zone plus eight and one half time.
- March 21 Zone plus eight and one half time.  
Gunnery practice was held during general quarters drill and ammunition expended was 15 rounds of 5" 38.  
All ship's clocks set back one half hour to zone plus nine time at 1900.
- March 22 Zone plus nine time.  
Gunnery practice was held during general quarters drill on 20 M.M. and 3" guns. Ammunition expended was 1,265 rounds of 20 M.M. and 40 rounds of 3" 50. At 1845 all ships clocks set back one half hour to zone plus nine and one half time.
- March 23 Zone plus nine and one half time.  
At 0813 sighted land bearing 182 1/2 degrees true, distant 60 miles. PC753 reported as our escort at 1110. Entered channel to Pearl Harbor at 1455. With pilot at the Conn, moored starboard side to Berth K-8, Pearl Harbor, T.H., at 1603, for purpose of unloading.
- March 24 to 26 Inoa Moored as before.

**U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-9)**

WAR DIARY


MARCH 1944

March 27 Underway at 1614, with pilot aboard, from Berth K-8, Pearl Harbor, T.H. With pilot aboard, moored to starboard side to Berth 28, Honolulu, T.H., at 1810, for purpose of completing unloading.

March 28 and 29 Moored as before.

March 30 Moored as before. Tested starboard engine from 1520 to 1630.

March 31 Moored as before.

  
E. J. ANDERSON,  
Commander, USNR.  
Commanding.

Reg. No. 991  
R.S. No. 022914

AKA3/A12(0234)

U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

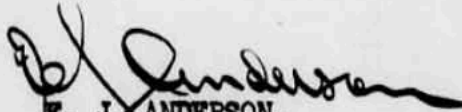

CONFIDENTIAL

6 May 1944.

E-48

From: Commanding Officer.  
To: ✓ Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet. #  
Subject: War Diary - Substitution of.  
References: (a) C.O., U.S.S. BELLATRIX, War Diary for month of April, 1944.  
(b) Pacific Fleet Confidential Letter 201-44.  
Enclosure: ✓ (A) C.O., U.S.S. BELLATRIX, War Diary for month of April, 1944.

1. It is noted in paragraph 10 of reference (b) that War Diaries shall be submitted on 8 X 10 1/2 paper.
2. Reference (a) was submitted on 8 X 13 paper.
3. It is requested that enclosure (A) be substituted for reference (a).

  
E. J. ANDERSON.  


X  
72559  
1

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U.S.S. BELLATRIX

WAR DIARY

APRIL 1944

Zone Description plus nine and one half time

DESIGNATION: Task Group 55.1.1 (Rear Admiral Blandy)  
COMPOSITION: Transport Division 32 (Captain Carlson)  
U.S.S. CAVALIER (F)  
U.S.S. O'HARA  
U.S.S. FUNSTON  
U.S.S. CUSTER  
U.S.S. BELLATRIX

NEXT HIGHER  
ECHELON: Fifth Amphibious Force

MAJOR FORCE TO  
WHICH ATTACHED: Central Pacific

COMMANDER FIFTH AMPHIBIOUS FORCE TRAINING ORDER 44-44

April 1 Moored starboard side to Pier 28, Honolulu, T.H.  
April 2 Moored as before.  
April 3 Moored as before. At 1725 shifted berth to berth 29A from berth 28, using ship's boats in lieu of tugs, the Executive Officer at the conn. At 1813 moored starboard side to berth 29A, Honolulu, T.H.  
April 4 Moored as before.  
April 5 Moored as before. At 1006 moored port side to Pier 29, Honolulu, T.H.  
April 6 Moored as before. At 0915 commenced loading. Secured from Loading combat load at 1845.  
April 7 Moored as before. Two (2) naval officers and troops of the 105th Infantry Regiment, 27th Division, U.S. Army reported on board as passengers to participate and observe in training exercise. Underway as part of Transport Division 32 at 1714, on various courses and speeds for training exercise period.  
POSITION: 2000 20-52-15-North  
158-02-30-West



CONFIDENTIAL

U.S.S. BELLATRIX

WAR DIARY

APRIL 1944

April 9

In accordance with boat allocation plan boats assigned to the U.S.S. O'HARA assembled port side of the bow. Boats assigned to the U.S.S. CUSTER assembled off port beam. Boats assigned to the U.S.S. FUNSTON were assembled off port quarter. Boats not allocated to other transports assembled off starboard quarter. Disembarked troops at 0745 into seven (7) LCVP boats which made a simulated landing at Green Beach, returned to the ship at 0920 with all troops aboard by 0938. Disembarking was slow due to unsettled sea but accomplished without mishap. Underway from transport area X-Ray at 1240 arriving at area Zebra at 1259. Troops disembarked at 1350 for purpose of actual boat landing exercise at Green Beach. Eight (8) boats were beached of which four (4) had to call for assistance to get off due to the inexperience of the coxswains. Junior Medical Officer with two pharmacist mates participated in boat landing exercise, simulating various casualty cases. Use of salmon board to hoist casualties aboard proved efficient and successful. All troops embarked by 1510, commenced hoisting boats aboard at 1513 and completed at 1645. Moved from transport area Zebra to berth A-5 in Maalaea Bay, off Maui Island, T.H., dropping anchor at 1712.

April 10

Ship set in condition 1-A with hoisting of boats commenced at 0336 and completed at 0500. Designated boats were dispatched to U.S.S. FUNSTON, U.S.S. CAVALIER, AND U.S.S. O'HARA at 0500 to deliver initial wave to beach. Deck crews managed hoisting of boats with more confidence and less errors in manipulating steadying lines than previous morning. LCM was loaded with bulldozer and blade and dispatched to U.S.S. FUNSTON at 0630. Moved to anchorage off Beach Red at 0930. Commenced at 1015 to load LCT 985 with four (4) D-7 tractors and four D-7 blades from number 3 hold and dispatched to Yellow Beach two (2) at 1130. Averaging between ten minutes each, unloaded two self propelled mounts from number 5 hold into LCMs and dispatched to Yello Beach two (2).

CONFIDENTIAL

U.S.S. BELLATRIX

WAR DIARY

APRIL 1944

April 10

Following is a table of unloading of the remaining cargo in number 3 hold.

Cargo	Type of Conveyance into which loaded	Start	Dispatched to Designated Beach	Total Time
1 Tractor 1 Blade	LCM	1147	1203	16 Min.
1 quarter ton truck	LCVP	1203	1217	14 Min.
1 tractor 1 blade	LCM	1217	1252	35 Min. *
*Delayed by lack of boat to receive cargo				
1 tractor 1 blade	LCM	1252	1307	15 Min.
1 crane	LCM	1307	1333	26 Min*
*Necessary to completely uncover hatch to reach crane				
1 crane	LCM	1333	1345	13 Min.
1 crane	LCM	1345	1356	11 Min.

All of above boats were dispatched immediately to designated beach when loaded. Forty five per cent (45%) of total cargo was unloaded by 1356, consuming 3 hours and 45 minutes. Table indicates that unloading was handled in a expeditious manner with deck crews performing efficiently.

Boats were hoisted aboard as they returned to the ship commencing at 1410 and completed hoisting of all boats by 1710. General quarters was set at 2125 due to unidentified underwater sound contact reported by patrol craft between Nukele Point and Molokini Island. Underway on orders from U.S.S. CAVALIER, acting independently at 2134. Returned to anchorage at 2310, and secured from general quarters after thorough search by patrol craft of reported sound contact area.

CONFIDENTIAL

U.S.S. BELLATRIX

WAR DIARY

APRIL 1944

April 11

LCT 985 reported from U.S.S. FUNSTON at 0545 detailed to assist in reloading ship. LCT 985 dispatched to Yellow Beach Two (2) to procure cargo placed on beach previous day. At 0812 commenced hoisting boats out and dispatched to the U.S.S. CUSTER as requested by visual message. At 1000 numerous LCMs were sent to various beaches to aid in procuring our cargo. Cargo was reloaded as boats returned to the ship. Secured starboard engine between 1320 and 1345 for minor repairs.

Commenced hoisting aboard boats at 1500 as they returned to the ship.

LCT 985 due to being broached at the beach plus screw trouble was unable to return to ship with cargo until 1600 for discharging. Discharging of cargo completed at 1745.

Ship's force made minor overhaul to boats which had been damaged in previous day's operations.

Underway proceeding to anchorage A-5 at 1833 and dropped the anchor at 1928.

April 12

Two LCM boats in charge of Ensign Rives dispatched to Komale Pier at 0345. Commenced hoisting out boats at 0620, completed task at 0730. Dispatched four (4) LCVP boats at 0930 to participate in gunnery exercise with a complement of ten (10) men per boat. Six (6) boats made simulated beach landing and proceeded to gunnery practice at 1030. Gunner Mates accompanied each boat to assist and instruct boat crews. All boats returned to the ship at 1430 and hoisted aboard. Boat officers mentioned the need of larger craft to control firing, too many boats, too few targets, targets too close together not allowing both boat machine guns to fire simultaneously. Gunnery officer commented the boat crews' performance during the practice showed that they had benefited from small arm training received at Anti-Aircraft Training Center, Point Montare, California.

Ammunition expended during boat machine gun drills was 2,020 rounds of 30 calibre.

Underway at 2200 astern of U.S.S. FUNSTON in position five.

April 13

Underway as part of Transport Unit 55.1.1 enroute to transport area Yoke. Set condition 1-A at 0330. Commenced to hoist out all boats at 0425 and finished with last boat in water at 0515 while lying to in transport area Yoke. Boats dispatched to designated ships to participate in regimental landing exercise. Weather conditions were good.



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U.S.S. BELLATRIX

WAR DIARY

APRIL 1944

April 13

Underway proceeding to berth A-5, dropping anchor at 1155. Underway from anchorage in berth A-5 at 1218, dropping anchor in berth A-6 at 1235. Commenced unloading cargo at 1220. Simulated air attack planes reported at 1410, distant 60 miles, speed 150 miles per hour, and condition 1-A was set immediately. Utilized smoke pots forward and aft plus those on one boat circling port side of ship in an attempt to lay down smoke screen. Destroyer laid down heavy black smoke screen on port side of transport area. Within five minutes the sight of other ships was lost due to density of the smoke screen with wind moving smoke toward beach almost concealing view of island.

Smoke screen did not conceal this ship sufficiently and was picked by six (6) planes at 1427 for torpedo attacks on port and starboard beams coming through holidays in smoke screen. Low level dive bombers and strafing planes made runs from both the quarter and bow on port and starboard sides.

Number of types of runs approximately as follows:

7 torpedo attack runs

10 low dive bombing and strafing runs

Gun crews trained sights on planes as each wave of planes attacked this ship or other members of the transport division. Our smoke screen reached its height of efficiency at 1439 although it would not have had a ship to screen if attacks had been real. Smoke screens depend so much on weather conditions that its value is questioned as it certainly hampers gun crews in establishing proper sight and range. Ordered to stop making smoke at 1440 and secured from condition 1-A at 1445. Two (2) members of the crew developed bronchitis from chemical irritation due to gases utilized in smoke screen maneuver.

April 14

Anchored in berth A-6 as condition 1-A was set at 0545. Commenced unloading boats at 0600 with eighteen (18) boats on the way to the beach by 0645 to assist in reembarking of troops and cargo. All boats were pooled for the purpose of reloading ships in the division.

The allocation of equipment was handled in an efficient manner by beach parties in reloading of boats. The boat crews handled the boats, personnel and cargo in a satisfactory manner in the shore to ship movement.

LCT 358 was utilized to reload our cargo beginning at 1320. Completed reloading cargo at 1600 and all boats were hoisted aboard by 1900.

Underway for Honolulu, T.H. at 2143.

CONFIDENTIAL

U.S.S. BELLATRIX

WAR DIARY

APRIL 1944

April 15

Underway in convoy as part of transport unit 55.1.1 less U.S.S. CAVALIER, U.S.S. CUSTER reported engine casualty at 0500, standard speed reduced until U.S.S. CUSTER regained convoy at 0520.

Set condition 1-A at 0750 in preparation for gunnery practice. Commenced firing starboard guns at sleeve behind plane at 0805. Port guns fired at target at 0809. Plane came low over bow from starboard side with 3" forward and 20 MM on starboard side firing on target at 0811. At 0814 plane flew over port bow with 3" forward and 5" aft and 20 MM on port side firing on target. Plane made run over starboard bow with starboard 20 MM and 3" and 5" guns firing at 0818. At 0856 and 0900 plane made port and starboard run with 20 MM port and starboard plus 3" and 5" guns firing respectively. Secured from condition 1-A at 0912.

Ammunition expended:

3" 50	38 rounds
5" 38	10 rounds
20 MM	1,338 rounds

Set condition 1-A at 1125. Short range firing practice for 3" and 5" guns commenced at 1230 and completed with one port and starboard run at 1345.

Ammunition expended:

3" 50	36 rounds
5" 38	8 rounds

The firing in comparison with the other ships of the convoy was above average but it showed a great need for more gunnery practice for all hands.

Stopped starboard engine at 1443 due to loss of suction in fresh water system. Stopped port engine at 1445 because of a failure in cooling system. Engines reported repaired at 1506 and proceeded to join convoy at 1540 and proceeded to enter port.

With pilot aboard entered swept channel to Honolulu Harbor at 1612 and moored port side to pier 29, Honolulu Harbor, at 1724.

POSITION:	0800	20-50-50-North 157-40-20-West
	1200	20-49-00-North 157-41-35-West

April 16

Moored to port side to pier 29, Honolulu Harbor. At 0855 Commenced discharging cargo to the dock and completed at 1200. Commenced combat loading at 1300. Troops of the 156th Infantry Regiment, 27th Division, reported aboard as passengers.

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CONFIDENTIAL

U.S.S. BELLATRIX

WAR DIARY

APRIL 1944

- April 17                   Moored as before. Combat loading completed at 2240.
- April 18                   Troops of the 27th Division, U.S. Army received on board as passengers and for training exercises. Underway with pilot aboard from berth 29, Honolulu Harbor, T.H., pursuant to Administrative Command Fifth Amphibious Training Attack Order 252-44 at 1718. Ships on station in convoy column as follows:  
U.S.S. CAVALIER  
U.S.S. FUNSTON  
U.S.S. O'HARA  
U.S.S. CUSTER  
U.S.S. BELLATRIX
- |          |      |                                  |
|----------|------|----------------------------------|
| POSITION | 2000 | 21-01-30-North<br>158-00-00-West |
|----------|------|----------------------------------|
- April 19                   Underway in convoy as part of transport unit 55.1.1 enroute to Maalaea Bay. Anchored in berth A-6, in Maalaea Bay, Maui Island, T.H. at 0723. Condition 1-A set at 0801. Commenced hoisting out boats at 0810 and completed at 0851. Boats were dispatched to designated ships to assist in beach landing attack in accordance with operation order. Fire drill was held at 1300 with all equipment carefully inspected by the Executive Officer. Set condition 1-A at 1332. Commenced disembarking troops at 1341 and completed at 1353. Troops returned at 1410 and all were aboard by 1421. Commenced hoisting boats aboard at 1431 and completed at 1525. Abandon ship drill held at 1600.
- April 20                   Underway at 0757 from anchorage in berth A-6 in Maalaea Bay, Maui Island, T.H. on various courses and speeds. Set condition 1-A at 0845 and arrived in transport area Sugar at 0854. Commenced hoisting out boats at 0856 and completed at 0945. Boats proceeded to U.S.S. CUSTER, U.S.S. FUNSTON and U.S.S. O'HARA in accordance with operation order. At 1154 disembarked troops attached to this vessel for beach landing exercise. Planes began a practice bombing exercise of Molokini Island at 1210 and continued throughout the afternoon with occasional simulated torpedo attacks on ships of this disposition. Completed reembarking of troops and commenced hoisting boats aboard at 1435. Underway at 1514 to berth A-6 in which this ship anchored at 1532. At 1653 completed loading all boats.

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U.S.S. BELLATRIX

WAR DIARYAPRIL 1944

April 21

Underway from berth A-6 at 0103 proceeding on various courses and speeds to transport area berth Sugar 53. Set condition 1-A at 0130. Lying to in berth Sugar 53 at 0133 and commenced hoisting out boats. Boats dispatched to designated ships to assist in unloading of cargo as placed in water. Completed hoisting out of all boats at 0225. Commenced at 0845 discharging cargo into our boats. Five (5) man crew from LCM 2 which capsized and sunk near U.S.S. CUSTER at 0230 reported aboard at 1017. Completed discharging approximately 40% of cargo at 1408. The deck crew exhibited a growing ability in more efficient handling of the boats and cargo. Many errors in seamanship of first operation were conspicuous by their absence. All boats hoisted aboard by 1651.

April 22

Anchored off beaches Red 2 and Purple in Maalaea Bay. At 0800 set condition 1-A and commenced hoisting out boats. At 0840 completed hoisting out boats and secured from condition 1-A. Boats dispatched to designated beaches to reload cargo for the ship which had been placed on the beaches 21 April. At 1030 commenced reloading cargo and completed task at 1330. All boats hoisted aboard by 1405. At 1937 underway for berth A-5 in Maalaea Bay arriving at 2000.

April 23

Anchored in berth A-5, Maalaea Bay off Maui Island, T.H., with transport unit 55.1.1. At 0625 condition 1-A was set. Commenced hoisting out boats at 0632. At 0651 while hoisting LCM 6 off number 2 hatch, the two after pad eyes became loose and boat fell approximately 6 feet to the deck. Damage was slight and no one injured. Secured from condition 1-A at 0714 when last boat reached the water. Boats were dispatched to designated ships in accordance with operation order for simulated beach landing. At 1040 set condition 1-A for purpose of disembarking troops. Secured from condition 1-A at 1104 and commenced hoisting LCM boats aboard. Completed reembarking troops at 1200 after simulated beach landing exercise. All boats hoisted aboard by 1410. At 1715 while preparing smoke pots for tomorrow's exercise, four (4) accidentally ignited. Smoke pots were thrown overboard and sunk. No damage suffered. Underway from berth A-5 at 2138, in accordance with operation order proceeding to sea on various courses and speeds following maneuvers of officer in tactical command of transport unit 55.1.1 in area Charlie 5 for training in convoy approach to the beach.

U.S.S. BELLATRIX

WAR DIARYAPRIL 1944

April 24

Underway with officer in tactical command of transport unit 55.1 enroute to transport area Sugar. At 0106 U.S.S. CUSTER assumed tactical command of second section of transport unit 55.1.1 of which this ship is a unit.

At 0330 set condition 1-A. Ship arrived on station in transport area Sugar at 0442. The following boats were dispatched in accordance with operation plan to U.S.S. CUSTER, U.S.S. FUNSTON, and U.S.S. O'HARA, LCC 71, three (3) LCM; three (3) LCM, respectively. Completed hoisting out boats at 0538 and secured for a time from condition 1-A.

At 0946 proceeded to anchorage, berth A-5, in Maalaea Bay, off Maui Island where ship dropped anchor at 1011.

Commenced discharging cargo at 1059. At 1323, officer in tactical command reported via TBS that planes were approaching on bearing 240° T, distant 45 miles and ordered ships to set general quarters and make smoke screen. Set condition 1-A at 1324 and commenced making smoke with Bessler fog generators. Boats (four LCVP) commenced laying down smoke screen with HC smoke pots to windward of this vessel.

At 1404 eight Avengers (TBF) and Hellcats (F6F) made simulated torpedo attacks on port side of this ship.

Ordered to cease making smoke at 1405 and secured from condition 1-A. As in previous operation the smoke screen failed to conceal this ship or other ships of transport unit from view of the attacking planes. Use of smoke screen as a protection against air attack has not proved satisfactory due to inability to control element factors.

April 25

Anchored in berth A-5, Maalaea Bay, as part of Transport Unit 55.1.1.

Set condition 1-A at 0630 and commenced hoisting out boats. Completed hoisting out boats at 0710 and secured from condition 1-A. Boats were dispatched to designated beaches to assist in reloading cargo. Commenced reloading cargo at 0903.

Forty four men and one officer reported aboard for passage to Honolulu at 1645. Completed loading number 1 hold and hoisted four (4) LCVPs aboard at 1820 and completed at 1920 except for boats on number 3 hold which were held up until one crane was hoisted aboard at 2317. All boats aboard by 2336.

April 26

Underway from berth A-5, Maalaea Bay at 0028 on various courses and at various speeds to join formation to Honolulu. Set condition 1-A at 0745 in preparation for gunnery exercise.



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U. S. No.	29 JUN 1944

U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

WAR DIARY

MAY 1944

Zone Description plus nine and one half time

DESIGNATION: Task Group 52.16  
COMPOSITION: Transport Divisions 20, 26, and 30  
(Vice Admiral Turner)

NEXT HIGHER  
ECHELON: Fifth Amphibious Force

MAJOR FORCE TO  
WHICH ATTACHED: Central Pacific

IDENTIFYING  
ORDER: Fifth Amphibious Force Training Order 4-44

May 1

Moored port side to Berth 29, Honolulu, T.H. Underway at 0700 in obedience to Commander Task Unit 55.1.19, Movement Order 1-44 of 30 April 1944. Set Condition 1-A at 0710, and secured at 0730. Maneuvered on various courses and at various speeds to join formation. Took station astern of U.S.S. ALMAACK at 0925 after setting condition 1-A at 0920 in preparation for anti-aircraft practice. All guns fired at sleeve towed by airplane. Secured from gunnery practice and Condition 1-A at 1117.

Ammunition expended:

5" 38	16 rounds
3" 50	36 rounds
20MM	3,854 rounds

POSITIONS: 1200 21-59-30 North  
157-33-00 West

At 1711 moored port side to Pier 1, Kahului Harbor, Maui Island, T.H. At 1737 commenced hoisting out all boats and completed task at 1900. At 2030 commenced discharging cargo to dock.

May 2

Moored as before. At 0945 commenced loading cargo. At 1100 troops and one officer of the 2nd Platoon, 4th Service Battalion, USMC, reported aboard as passengers.

May 3

Moored as before.

May 4

Moored as before. At 1530 completed loading cargo. Troops and officers of the 4th Marine Division came aboard as passengers at 1630.

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CONFIDENTIAL

U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

WAR DIARY

MAY 1944

- May 5 Moored as before. At 0635 with pilot at the conn, underway from Kahului Harbor, Maui Island, T.H., in accordance with Commander Task Unit 55.1.19 Movement Order No. 1-44 of 30 April 1944. At 0715 took station 600 yards astern U.S.S. ALMAACK. Ships in column in the following order:  
U.S.S. ALMAACK  
U.S.S. BELLATRIX  
U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
At 1400 ordered to proceed independently by Commander Task Unit. With pilot aboard moored starboard side between Dolphine "B" and "C" of Sand Island, Honolulu Harbor, T.H., at 1543.  
POSITIONS:           0800                   21-03-40 North  
  156-34-00 West  
  
  1200                   21-03-00 North  
  157-18-30 West
- May 6 Moored as before.  
and 7
- May 8 Moored as before. At 0900 shifted berth and moored port side to Pier 27, Honolulu, T.H., at 0923. Commenced loading cargo in No. 4 and No. 5 holds at 1240 and completed task at 1820.
- May 9 Moored as before. Shifted berth and moored starboard side to Dolphine "B" and "C" off Sand Island, Honolulu Harbor, T.H. at 0904.
- May 10 Moored as before. At 1050 three barges adrift in channel crashed into our port gangway and carried it away. Damage to gangway and platform was slight. No damage to this vessel.
- May 11 Moored as before.  
to 13 inc.
- May 14 Moored as before. At 0911 underway from berth off Sand Island, Honolulu Harbor, T.H., for Lahaina Roads, Maui Island, T.H., in obedience to Commander Task Force 52, Training Order A13-44. At 0929 set General Quarters and secured at 0955 and went into Condition of Readiness II. At 1022 took position 1.5 in convoy, 600 yards astern U.S.S. JOHN LAND. Friendly planes commenced practice of bombing and torpedo attack runs on convoy at 1245 and completed at 1315.



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U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

WAR DIARY

MAY 1944

- May 14 At 1527 proceeded independently to assigned anchorage upon orders of Commander Task Unit 52.15. At 1636 anchored in Lahaina Roads Berth E-15, Maui Island, T.H. At 1855 hoisted out LCVP 15 and dispatched to the U.S.S. KNOX. At 2045 LCVP hoisted to the starboard rail of #3 hold after return.  
POSITION: 1200 21-07-00 North  
157-33-00 West
- May 15 Anchored as before. At 1051 set Condition 1-A. Hoisted out all boats and secured from Condition 1-A at 1125. At 1345 commenced debarking troops for practice in climbing down nets and reembarked the troops by 1428. At 1625 commenced hoisting in all boats and completed task at 1700.
- May 16 At 0550 underway in obedience to orders of Commander Transport Division 30, proceeding to Transport Area 2, arriving at 0707. At 0918 hoisted out all boats for training exercises. Dispatched five (5) LCVP boats to the U.S.S. CALVERT and four (4) LCVP boats to the U.S.S. FULLER for duty. At 1550 commenced hoisting in boats as they returned from exercises and completed at 1730. At 1825 underway proceeding to anchorage and anchored at 1952 in Berth E-15, Lahaina Roads, Maui Island, T.H.
- May 17 Underway at 0532, proceeding to Transport Area 2, in obedience to orders of Commander Transport Division 30, to partake in training exercises. At 0702 commenced hoisting out boats and finished at 0727. Condition 1-A was set at 0640 and secured at 0727. Nine (9) LCVP and two (2) LCM boats were dispatched to U.S.S. FULLER and U.S.S. O'HARA respectively. Smoke screen exercise was held between 0918 and 0932. At 1044 underway from Transport Area 2 to Transport Area 3 and arrived at 1100. Hoisted out LCVP #9 and dispatched to U.S.S. JOHN LAND at 1723. At 1738 commenced hoisting all boats aboard and completed at 1835. Underway from Transport Area 3 at 1836 and anchored in Maalaea Bay, Maui Island, T.H., in Berth E-5 at 1946.
- May 18 Repeated exercises getting underway at 0536 and returning to Anchorage E-5 at 0940. Dispatched six (6) LCVP boats to Beach Blue 2 for duty at 0655. All boats returned and hoisted aboard by 1021. At 1742 underway in accordance with Training Orders 1-44, proceeding seaward with Task Group 52.15  
POSITION 2000 20-33-30 North  
156-46-45 West

CONFIDENTIAL

U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

WAR DIARY

MAY 1944

May 19

At 0630 set Condition 1-A. Entered Transport Area 2 at 0634 and lying off Kahoolawe Island, T.H. At 0645 commenced hoisting out all boats and completed task at 0715. Secured from Condition 1-A at 0716. Planes commenced dive bombing attack on Kahoolawe Island and laying down smoke screen along the beach at 0720. At 0843 dispatched nine (9) LCVP boats to U.S.S. FULLER and two (2) LCM boats to the U.S.S. O'HARA. Battleships and destroyers commenced shelling the beach at 0852 and planes laid down a smoke screen on the beach at 0910 to conceal the ships. Commenced disembarking troops at 1022 and reembarked at 1105 for practice in climbing up and down debarkation nets. In accordance with training orders proceeded to Transport Area 3 at 1107. All boats were hoisted aboard by 1315. At 1455 proceeded to station 34 in cruising disposition 6-S. Completed maneuvering exercises at 1730 and commenced emergency turns. At 1801 commenced zig-zag exercises and completed at 1956.

POSITION: 2000 19-56-30 North  
157-08-45 West

May 20

Underway as before in convoy enroute to Pearl Harbor, T.H., as part of Task Group 52.15. At 1023 moored to buoys in Berth X-8, Pearl Harbor, T.H.

May 21 to  
28 Inc.

Moored as before.

DESIGNATION: Task Group 52.15 (Vice Admiral Turner)

COMPOSITION: Transport Divisions 10,18,20,26,30 and  
Screen Task Force 58

NEXT HIGHER

ECHELON: Fifth Amphibious Force

MAJOR FORCE TO

WHICH ATTACHED: Central Pacific

IDENTIFYING

ORDER: Commander Task Force 52 Attack Order A-11-44  
of 22 May 1944.

## U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

WAR DIARYMAY 1944

May 29

Underway at 0929, from Berth X-8, Pearl Harbor, T.H. At 1044 set General Quarters and secured at 1113, setting Condition of Readiness II. At 1132 took position in convoy 600 yards astern of the U.S.S. JOHN LAND. General drill exercises were held during the afternoon.

POSITIONS:	1200	21-05-00 North
		157-51-30 West
	2000	19-43-00 North
		158-07-00 West

May 30


Underway as before. From 1433 to 1535 test fired all 20MM guns and expended 120 rounds of 20MM ammunition. Set all ship's clocks back one half hour to zone plus ten (10) time at 1700.

POSITIONS:	0800	18-53-30 North
		160-21-30 West
	1200	18-37-30 North
		160-54-30 West
	2000	17-54-30 North
		162-20-30 West

May 31

Zone Description plus ten time  
Underway as before.

POSITIONS:	0800	16-50-00 North
		164-28-00 West
	1200	16-30-30 North
		164-54-30 West
	2000	15-56-00 North
		166-20-00 West

  
E. J. ANDERSON.



WAR DIARYJUNE 1944

June 5	ZONE DESCRIPTION: Minus twelve time. Underway as before.		
	POSITIONS:	0800	09°14'00" North 176°17'00" East
		1200	08°54'00" North 175°31'00" East
		2000	08°13'00" North 174°17'00" East
June 6	Underway as before.		
	POSITIONS:	0800	07°38'00" North 171°53'00" East
		1200	07°41'00" North 171°05'00" East
		2000	08°04'00" North 169°30'00" East
June 7	Underway as before.		
	POSITIONS:	0800	08°45'00" North 167°02'00" East
		1200	09°07'00" North 166°24'00" East
		2000	10°00'00" North 164°54'00" East
June 8	Underway as before. At 0900 set ship's clocks back one hour to conform with zone minus eleven time. At 0940 anchored in Eniwetok Atoll, Marshall Islands.		
	POSITIONS:	0800	11°16'00" North 162°41'00" East
		1200	Anchored in Eniwetok Atoll.
		2000	Anchored in Eniwetok Atoll.
June 9	ZONE DESCRIPTION: Minus eleven time. Anchored as before.		
June 10	Anchored as before.		

WAR DIARYJUNE 1944

June 11 Anchored as before. At 0705 underway from Eniwetok Atoll, Marshall Islands in convoy with Task Group 52.15. From 1519 to 1530 test fired all automatic weapons with the following ammunition expended: 50 cal. 153 rounds.  
20 MM 180 rounds.  
30 cal. 103 rounds.

POSITIONS: 0800 Anchored in Eniwetok Atoll.

1200 11°16'00" North  
161°50'00" East

2000 11°39'00" North  
160°38'00" East

June 12 Underway as before.

POSITIONS: 0800 12°30'30" North  
158°06'00" East

1200 12°42'00" North  
157°23'30" East

2000 13°19'00" North  
155°51'00" East

June 13 Underway as before. At 1345 while cleaning 50 cal. machine gun which was cocked it was accidentally fired - no casualties. At 1400 set all ship's clocks back one hour to conform with zone minus ten time.

POSITIONS: 0800 14°12'00" North  
153°20'00" East

1200 14°21'30" North  
152°40'00" East

2000 14°25'30" North  
151°17'00" East

June 14 ZONE DESCRIPTION: Minus ten time.  
Underway as before. At 1325 ships of TransDiv 10 and TransDiv 30, upon forming cruising disposition "3 Able Love 3" became a part of Task Group 52.9. At 2145 observed white flashes bearing 320°(T), apparently gun fire from advanced Task Group bombarding Saipan Island.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

WAR DIARY

JUNE 1944

June 14 (cont'd)

POSITIONS:	0800	14°40'30" North 148°53'30" East
	1200	14°55'00" North 148°07'00" East
	2000	15°20'00" North 146°47'30" East

June 15 Underway as before. At 0519 sighted land bearing 130°(T), distance about 10 miles. At 0625 commenced hoisting boats to the rail. At 0649 first boat hit the water. At 0710 completed hoisting out eight (8) LCVP's. At 0712 eight (8) LCVP's left for assembly area. At 0728 observed dive bombing attack on Japanese ships in Saipan Harbor, one direct hit. At 0730 observed sinking of Japanese ship in Saipan Harbor. At 0754 LCVP's began feint attack on northern end of Saipan Island. 0836 all of our eight (8) LCVP's returned to ship after making feint attack on northern end of island, hoisted in all boats. 0840 "H" hour. At 0930 underway for transport area "3". At 1100 arrived in transport area "3". At 1107 commenced hoisting out all boats. At 1818 Commander Task Group 52.14 reports under enemy air attack. At 1830 made all preparations for getting underway from transport area "3". At 1831 received word to prepare for enemy air attack. At 1832 set General Quarters and manned all guns. At 1841 underway - ships forming into transport divisions. At 1847 enemy planes were reported bearing 220°(T), distant 20 miles. At 1848 received orders to open fire on enemy aircraft. At 1949 four (4) enemy aircraft were sighted bearing 270°(T) coming in low. At 1851 ships commenced firing on enemy planes (this ship did not open fire on enemy aircraft). At 1954 secured from General Quarters and set Condition of Readiness two.

POSITIONS:	0800	Lying to off Saipan Island in Transport Area "6".
	1200	Lying to off Saipan Island in Transport Area "3".
	2000	Underway on night retirement plan from Saipan Island.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

WAR DIARY

JUNE 1944

June 16 Underway in convoy with Task Group 52.15 on night retirement route "Blue". At 0312 received word to prepare for air attack. At 0319 set General Quarters. At 0340 unidentified aircraft were reported bearing 175°(T), distant 15 miles. Unidentified aircraft bearings coming in continuous. At 0525 observed heavy anti-aircraft fire broad on our port bow. At 0542 O.T.C. signalled "Flash White". At 0543 secured from General Quarters and set Condition of Readiness two. At 0730 entered transport area "3" off Saipan Island. At 0735 anchored in transport area "3" off Saipan Island. At 0816 Commenced hoisting out cargo from number one hold. At 0933 ship's LCM #7 was reported abandoned on blue beach and LCM #1 was reported drifting five miles seaward with crew. At 1130 the crew of LCVP #17 returned aboard ship and reported that their boat had been sunk last night after being hit by an LVP. There were no casualties. At 1944 commenced unloading cargo into boats for yellow beach.

POSITIONS:	0800	Anchored in Transport Area "3" off Saipan Island.
	1200	Anchored in Transport Area "3" off Saipan Island.
	2000	Anchored in Transport Area "3" off Saipan Island.

June 17 Anchored as before. Unloading of cargo continued. At 0425 Received orders by C.T.G. 52.2 to get underway. 0436 underway, lying to in present berth. At 0636 LCM #7 which was abandoned on blue beach was salvaged and returned to the ship and hoisted aboard for repairs. At 1725 LCM #1 with crew which was reported drifting seaward returned to the ship and was hoisted aboard. At 1757 received orders from O.T.C. to prepare for air attack. At 1804 received orders to get underway as soon as possible. At 1804 ship set at General Quarters. At 1805 underway. At 1812 maneuvering to get in position in convoy. Repeated reports were received over TBS on enemy aircraft on different bearings and distances. At 1849 observed anti-aircraft fire bearing 110° relative. At 1854 received orders from C.T.G. 52.15 not to open fire on enemy planes until they are within range. Repeated anti-aircraft fire observed at different bearings. At 1937 received "Flash White" from C.T.G. 52. At 1939 secured from General Quarters and set Condition of Readiness II.



C O N F I D E N T I A LWAR DIARYJUNE 1944

June 17 (cont'd)

POSITIONS:	0800	Lying to in Transport Area "3"
	1200	Lying to in Transport Area "3"
	2000	Underway from Saipan Island.

June 18 Underway in convoy as part of Task Group 52.15.

POSITIONS:	0800	16°03'30" North 147°40'30" East
	1200	16°05'00" North 148°29'30" East
	2000	16°20'00" North 147°40'00" East

June 19 Underway as before. 0415 received orders from C.T.G. 52.4 to proceed by point "Abalone" to Saipan Island and report to C.T.G. 52.2. At 0425 left convoy and turned to course 250°(T). At 0844 anchored in Saipan Harbor, Saipan Island, Marianas. At 0850 hoisted out boats. At 0855 Commenced unloading cargo.

POSITIONS:	0800	Underway off Saipan Island.
	1200	Anchored in Saipan Harbor.
	2000	Anchored in Saipan Harbor.

June 20 Anchored as before. Ship unloading cargo.

POSITIONS:	0800	Anchored in Saipan Harbor.
	1200	Anchored in Saipan Harbor.
	2000	Anchored in Saipan Harbor.

June 21 Anchored as before. Ship unloading cargo. At 1316 - 100% unloaded. Reported to C.T.G. 52.2 & C.T.G. 52.6. At 1740 received orders from C.T.G. 51.18 to prepare to get underway at 1800. At 1755 all ships boats and crews with the exception of LCVP #19 were cast off to report to the beach and C.T.G. 52.6 for duty. At 1822 underway from anchorage off Saipan Island. At 1939 forming in column as part of Task Unit 51.18.18.

CONFIDENTIALWAR DIARYJUNE 1944

June 21 (cont'd)

POSITION: 0800 Anchored in Saipan Harbor.  
1200 Anchored in Saipan Harbor.  
2000 Underway.

June 22 Underway as before. At 0943 detached from convoy to join group under C.T.G. 52.4/

POSITIONS: 0800 16°07'00" North  
147°16'00" East  
1200 16°12'00" North  
147°27'00" East  
2000 15°33'30" North  
145°51'00" East

June 23 Underway as before. At 1900 set all ships clocks ahead  $\frac{1}{2}$  hour to conform with minus  $10\frac{1}{2}$  zone time.

POSITIONS: 0800 15°01'00" North  
147°54'30" East  
1200 14°49'00" North  
148°40'00" East  
2000 14°27'00" North  
150°11'00" East

June 24 ZONE DESCRIPTION: Minus  $10\frac{1}{2}$ .Underway as before. At 1900 set all ship's clocks ahead  $\frac{1}{2}$  hour to conform with minus 11 zone time.

POSITION: 0800 14°02'00" North  
152°55'30" East  
1200 13°52'30" North  
153°44'00" East  
2000 13°36'00" North  
155°18'00" East

June 25 ZONE DESCRIPTION: Minus 11.  
Underway as before.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

WAR DIARY

JUNE 1944

June 25 (cont'd)

POSITION:	0800	13°11'00" North 158°02'30" East
	1200	12°58'00" North 158°50'00" East
	2000	12°35'00" North 160°35'00" East

June 26 Underway as before. At 0729 proceeding to anchorage in berth #223 in Eniwetok Lagoon. At 0823 anchored in berth #223, Eniwetok Lagoon, Marshall Islands.

POSITION:	0800	Underway in anchorage.
	1200	Anchored in berth #223, Eniwetok Lagoon.
	2000	Anchored in berth #223, Eniwetok Lagoon.

June 27 Anchored as before.

POSITION:	0800)	Anchored in berth #223, Eniwetok Lagoon.
	1200)	
	2000)	

June 28 Anchored as before. At 1610 underway from berth #223, Eniwetok Lagoon, Marshall Islands, as part of Task Unit 57.18.3.

POSITION:	0800)	Anchored in berth #223, Eniwetok Lagoon.
	1200)	
	2000	11°07'00" North 163°02'00" East

June 29 Underway as before. At 1755 proceeding to anchorage "Baker 3", Roi Island, Kwajalein Atoll, Marshall Island. At 1828 anchored in berth "Baker 3", Roi Island, Kwajalein Atoll, Marshall Island.

POSITION:	0800	10°02'00" North 165°22'30" East
	1200	9 47'30" North 166 14'00" East
	2000	- - - - - - - -

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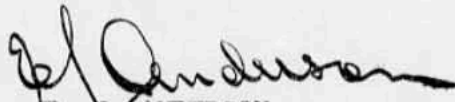
WAR DIARY

JUNE 1944

June 30 Anchored as before.  
POSITION:

0800)  
1200)  
2000)

Anchored in Berth "Baker 3"  
ROI ISLAND, KWAJALEIN ATOLL,  
MARSHALL ISLANDS.

  
E. J. ANDERSON  
Commander, USNR.,  
Commanding.



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**U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)**

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WAR DIARY

JULY 1944

July 4 (Cont'd)

POSITIONS: 0800 Anchored in KWAJALEIN ISLAND.  
1200 Anchored in KWAJALEIN ISLAND.  
2000 Anchored in KWAJALEIN ISLAND.

July 5 Anchored as before. 1710 Underway for Pearl Harbor in obedience to orders of Port Captain of Kwajalein Island.

POSITIONS: 0800 Anchored in Berth "A-57" KWAJALEIN ATOLL.  
1200 Anchored in Berth "A-57" KWAJALEIN ATOLL.  
2000 8°37'00" North  
167°51'00" East

July 5 Underway as before.

POSITIONS: 0800 7°40'00" North  
170°06'30" East  
1200 7°29'30" North  
170°58'00" East  
2000 7°47'30" North  
172°36'00" East

July 7 Underway as before. 0100 Set all ship's clocks ahead one-(1) hour to Zone Minus 12 Time.

POSITIONS: 0800 8°56'30" North  
174°45'00" East  
1200 9°14'00" North  
175°30'30" East  
2000 9°58'00" North  
177°05'00" East

July 8 Zone Description Minus 12 Time. Underway as before. 1100 Crossed 180th Meridan. Set all ship's clocks back 24 hours to conform with Zone Plus 12 Time. 0100 Set all ship's clocks ahead one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) hour to conform with Zone Plus 11 $\frac{1}{2}$  Time.

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**U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)**

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WAR DIARY

JULY 1944

July 8 (Cont'd)

POSITIONS:

0800 11°02'30" North  
179°20'00" East

1200 11°22'00" North  
179°52'00" West

2000 12°05'00" North  
178°19'00" West

July 8 Zone Description Plus 11½ Time.

POSITIONS:

Underway as before.

0800 13°01'00" North  
175°57'00" West

1200 13°20'00" North  
175°07'00" West

2000 13°58'30" North  
173°26'00" West

July 9 Underway as before. 0100 Set all ship's clocks ahead one-half (½) hour to conform with Zone Plus 11 Time.

POSITIONS:

0800 14°55'00" North  
171°03'00" West

1200 15°12'30" North  
170°15'30" West

2000 15°52'00" North  
168°36'00" West

July 10 Zone Description Plus 11 Time. Underway as before. 0100 Set all ship's clocks ahead ½ hour to conform with Zone Plus 10½ Time.

POSITIONS:

0800 16°43'00" North  
166°34'30" West

1200 16°52'00" North  
163°03'00" West

2000 17°17'00" North  
165°05'00" West

July 11 Zone Description Plus 10½ Time. Underway as before. 0100 Set all ship's clocks ahead one-half hour to conform with Zone Plus 10 Time.

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**U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)**

C O N F I D E N T I A L

WAR DIARY

JULY 1944

July 11 (Cont'd)

POSITIONS:

0800 17°35'00" North  
164°06'00" West

1200 17°41'00" North  
163°40'00" West

2000 18°04'00" North  
162°29'00" West

July 12 Zone Description Plus 10 Time. Underway as before. 0100 Set all ship's clocks ahead one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) hour to conform with Zone Plus 9 $\frac{1}{2}$  Time.

POSITIONS:

0800 18°45'30" North  
160°38'00" West

1200 19°06'30" North  
159°50'30" West

2000 19°52'00" North  
158°23'00" West

July 13 Zone Description Plus 9 $\frac{1}{2}$  Time. Underway as before. 0814 Moored port side to Pier "S-1", Pearl Harbor, T. H.

POSITIONS:

0800 Underway

1200 Moored port side to Pier "S-1", Pearl Harbor, T.H.

2000 Moored port side to Pier "S-1", Pearl Harbor, T.H.

July 14 Moored as before. 1806 Underway from Pearl Harbor as part of Task Unit 51.1.6 for San Diego, California in obedience to CTG 51.1 Movement Order #17-44

POSITIONS:

0800 Moored port side to Pier "S-1", Pearl Harbor, T.H.

1200 Moored port side to Pier "S-1", Pearl Harbor, T.H.

2000 21°13'30" North  
157°44'30" West



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**U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)**

CONFIDENTIAL

WAR DIARY

JULY 1944

July 15 Underway as before.  
POSITIONS: 0800 21°45'00" North  
154°58'00" West  
1200 21°48'00" North  
153°58'30" West  
2000 21°51'00" North  
152°01'00" West

July 16 Underway as before. 0100 Set all ship's clocks ahead one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ )  
hour to conform with Zone Plus 9 Time.  
POSITIONS: 0800 22°42'30" North  
149°15'00" West  
1200 22°56'30" North  
148°15'00" West  
2000 23°28' 30"North  
146°14'00" West

July 17 Zone Description Plus 9 Time. Underway as before. 0100 Set all  
ship's clocks ahead one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) hour to conform with Zone Plus  
8 $\frac{1}{2}$  Time. 1423 Commenced Gunnery Exercises. 1507 Completed  
Gunnery Exercises. Following ammunition expended: 9 rounds 5"38;  
3"50 - 33 rounds; 20MM - 2522 rounds. Pyrotechnic Smoke Signals  
- 10 cartridges.  
POSITIONS: 0800 24°14'00" North  
143°25'00" West  
1200 24°29'00" North  
142°25'00" West  
2000 25°05'00" North  
140°26'00" West

July 18 Zone Description Plus 8 $\frac{1}{2}$  Time. Underway as before. 0100 Set all  
ship's clocks ahead one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) hour to conform with Zone Plus  
8 Time.  
POSITIONS: 0800 25°59'00" North  
137°32'00" West  
1200 26°16'00" North  
130°26'00" West  
2000 28°54'00" North  
128°27'00" West

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## U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

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WAR DIARY

JULY 1944

July 19 Zone Description Plus 8 Time. Underway as before. 0100 Set all ship's clocks ahead one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) hour to conform with Zone Plus  $7\frac{1}{2}$  Time.

POSITIONS:

0800	28°01'00" North 131°25'00" West
1200	28°10'30" North 130°26'00" West
2000	28°54'00" North 128°27'00" West

July 20 Zone Description Plus  $7\frac{1}{2}$  Time. Underway as before. 0100 Set all ship's clocks ahead one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) hour to conform with Zone Plus 7 Time.

POSITIONS:

0800	29°59'00" North 125°33'00" West
1200	30°28'00" North 124°26'30" West
2000	30°10'00" North 122°22'00" West

July 21 Zone Description Plus 7 Time. Underway as before. 1548 Moored port side to "B" Street, Berth B North, San Diego, California. Pursuant to ComPhibsTraPac Dispatch 211712 this ship ordered to report for temporary additional duty to ComTransTHIRTY-SIX (36).

POSITIONS:

0800	32°07'00" North 119°05'00" West
1200	32°25'30" North 117°49'30" West
2000	Moored port side to "B" Street, Berth B North, San Diego, California.

July 22 Moored as before.

POSITIONS:

0800	Moored port side to "B" Street, Berth B North, San Diego, California.
1200	Moored port side to "B" Street, Berth B North, San Diego, California.
2000	Moored port side to "B" Street, Berth B North, San Diego, California.

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**U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)**

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WAR DIARY

JULY 1944

July 23 Moored as before.  
POSITIONS: 0800 Moored port side to "B" Street, Berth  
B North, San Diego, California.  
1200 Moored port side to "B" Street, Berth  
B North, San Diego, California.  
2000 Moored port side to "B" Street, Berth  
B North, San Diego, California.

July 24 Moored as before.  
POSITIONS: 0800 Moored port side to "B" Street, Berth  
B North, San Diego, California.  
1200 Moored port side to "B" Street, Berth  
B North, San Diego, California.  
2000 Moored port side to "B" Street, Berth  
B North, San Diego, California.

July 25 Moored as before. 1405 Pursuant to C.T.G. 13.1. landing Attack and  
Training Order 10-44 got underway for maneuvers off San Clemente Island.  
POSITIONS: 0800 Moored port side to "B" Street, Berth  
B North, San Diego, California.  
1200 Moored port side to "B" Street, Berth  
B North, San Diego, California.  
2000 32°33'00" North  
117°04'30" West

July 26 Underway as before. 0716 Set Condition I-A and commenced Landing  
Exercise #1 off San Clemente Island, California. 0735 Anchored in  
Transport Area "E", San Clemente Island, California. 0744 Commenced  
hoisting out all boats. 0828 Completed hoisting out all boats.  
0832 Secured Condition I-A, set Condition of Readiness II. 1109  
Received flash RED from O.T.C. 1110 Set Condition I-A. 1120 Received  
flash WHITE from O.T.C. 1121 Secured from Condition I-A, set Condition  
of Readiness II. 1220 Underway from Transport Area "E", proceeding to  
new anchorage. 1247 Anchored in new anchorage off Pyramid Cove, San  
Clemente Island, California. 1339 Underway from anchorage off  
Pyramid Cove to new anchorage. 1414 Anchored in Berth "A-4", Pyramid  
Cove, San Clemente Island, California. 1907 Commenced hoisting aboard  
all boats that returned to ship.

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**U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)**

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WAR DIARY

JULY 1944

July 26 (Cont'd)

POSITIONS:

0800 Anchored in Transport Area "E",  
San Clemente Island, California.

1200 Anchored in Transport Area "E",  
San Clemente Island, California.

2000 Anchored in Berth A-4, Pyramid  
Cove, San Clemente Island, California.

July 27

Anchored as before. 1033 Commenced hoisting out all boats. 1404  
Commenced Anti-Aircraft Practice "George" for Task Unit 13.1.1.  
1453 Completed Anti-Aircraft Practice with following ammunition  
expended: 9 rounds 3"50; 2 rounds 5"38; 458 rounds 20MM. 1808  
Commenced hoisting boats aboard. 2358 Underway from Berth "A-4".

POSITIONS:

0800 Anchored in Berth "A-4", Pyramid  
Cove, San Clemente Island, California.

1200 Anchored in Berth "A-4", Pyramid  
Cove, San Clemente Island, California.

2000 Anchored in Berth "A-4", Pyramid  
Cove, San Clemente Island, California.

July 28

Underway as before. 0130 Set Condition I-A and commenced landing  
exercise #2. 0208 Anchored in Transport Area "E", San Clemente Island,  
California. 0210 Commenced hoisting out all boats. 0307 Completed  
hoisting out all boats. 0322 Secured from Condition I-A, set Condition  
of Readiness II. 0712 Underway from Transport Area "E", San Clemente  
Island, California, proceeding to anchorage "A-4". 0753 Anchored  
in Berth "A-4", Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island, California.  
0817 Commenced hoisting boats aboard. 1001 Completed hoisting boats  
aboard.

POSITIONS:

0800 Anchored in Berth "A-4", Pyramid  
Cove, San Clemente Island, California.

1200 Anchored in Berth "A-4", Pyramid  
Cove, San Clemente Island, California.

2000 Anchored in Berth "A-4", Pyramid  
Cove, San Clemente Island, California.

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**U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)**

C O N F I D E N T I A L

WAR DIARY

JULY 1944

- July 29 Anchored as before. 0851 Exercised crew at general drills. 2301 Underway in accordance with C.T.U. 13.1.1. visual message 290030 from Berth "A-4", Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island, California.
- POSITIONS:
- 0800 Anchored in Berth "A-4", Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island, California.
- 1200 Anchored in Berth "A-4", Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island, California.
- 2000 Anchored in Berth "A-4", Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island, California.
- July 30 Underway as before. 0447 Received orders from O.T.C. to proceed independently into Transport Area. 0500 Set Condition I-A and commenced landing exercise #3. 0535 Anchored in Transport Area off Oceanside, California. 0536 Commenced hoisting out all boats. 0615 Completed hoisting out all boats. 0707 Secured from Condition I-A, set Condition of Readiness II. 0741 Set Condition I-A, commenced unloading cargo from all holds. 0930 Underway in obedience to orders from O.T.C., to move in to inner Transport Area. 0954 Anchored off Aliso Canyon, California. 1010 Commenced making smoke on order of O.T.C. 1015 Secured making smoke. 1604 Completed unloading cargo from ship. 1618 Transport Battalion 5th Marine Division, left the ship. 1620 Commenced hoisting boats aboard. 2100 Completed hoisting all boats aboard.
- POSITIONS:
- 0800 Anchored in Transport Area off Oceanside, California.
- 1200 Anchored in Inner Transport Area off Aliso Canyon, California.
- 2000 Anchored in Inner Transport Area off Aliso Canyon, California.
- July 31 Anchored as before. 0400 Underway from Aliso Canyon in Task Unit 13.1.1. proceeding to San Diego, California in accordance with Task Group 13.1. visual message 302345. 0951 Anchored in Berth 203-4, San Diego Harbor, California.

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U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

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WAR DIARY

JULY 1944

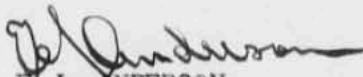
July 31 (Cont'd)

POSITIONS:

0800 Underway

1200 Anchored in Berth 203-4, San Diego,  
California.

2000 Anchored in Berth 203-4, San Diego,  
California.

  
E.J. ANDERSON,  
Commander, USNR.,  
Commanding.



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U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

C O N F I D E N T I A L

WAR DIARY

AUGUST 1944

August 23                    Moored starboard side to Pier 1, Berth 11, U.S. Naval Dry Docks, Terminal Island, San Pedro, California. 1110 Underway, proceeding to Berth 232D, East San Pedro, California. 1220 Moored starboard side to Berth 232D, East San Pedro, California. 1455 Underway, shifting berth to 230D, East San Pedro, California. 1528 Moored port side to Berth 230D, East San Pedro, California.

August 24 to                Moored port side to Berth 230D, East San Pedro, California.  
August 27


August 28                    Moored port side to Berth 230D, East San Pedro, California. 0945 Underway for San Diego, California in accordance with ComPhibTraPac Despatch #174341 of August 1944. 1745 Test fired #6 20MM gun. Ammunition expended: 50 rounds. 2006 Anchored in Berth 208, San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California.

POSITIONS:                    0800 Moored port side to Berth 230D, East San Pedro, California.

                                  1200 Underway for San Diego, California.

                                  2000 Underway for San Diego, California.

August 29 to                Anchored in Berth 208, San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California.  
August 31

  
E. J. ANDERSON,  
Commander, USNR.,  
Commanding.



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Reg. No. 1117

R. S. No.

U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

C O N F I D E N T I A L

WAR DIARY

SEPTEMBER 1944

DESIGNATION: Task Force 13.  
COMPOSITION: Transport Division Thirty-Six.  
NEXT HIGHER ECHELON: Commander Amphibious Training Command, Pacific Fleet.  
IDENTIFYING ORDER: ComPhibTraPac Despatch #211712 of July 1944.  
ZONE DESCRIPTION: Plus seven time.

September 1 to  
September 26

Anchored in Berth 208, San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California.

September 27

Anchored as before. 1501 Underway from Berth 208, San Diego Harbor, California. 1542 Moored port side to Berth North B-1, "B" Street Pier, San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California.

POSITIONS: 0800 Anchored in Berth 208, San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California.

2000 Moored port side to Berth North B-1, "B" Street Pier, San Diego, California.

September 28 and  
September 29

Moored port side to Berth B-1, "B" Street Pier, San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California.


September 30

Moored as before. 1414 Underway from "B" Street Pier, San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California in accordance with Commander Amphibious Training Command Landing Attack and Training Order No. 11-44 for San Clemente Island.

POSITIONS: 0800 Moored port side to Berth North B-1, "B" Street Pier, San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California.

2000 Underway for San Clemente Island.

90495

  
E. J. ANDERSON,  
Commander, U.S.N.R.  
Commanding.

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U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

WAR DIARY

OCTOBER 1944

DESIGNATION: Task Force 13.  
COMPOSITION: Transport Division Thirty-Six.  
NEXT HIGHER ECHELON: Commander Amphibious Training Command, Pacific Fleet.  
IDENTIFYING ORDER: ComPhibTraPac Despatch #211712 of July 1944.  
ZONE DESCRIPTION: Plus seven times.

October 1

Underway in accordance with Commander Amphibious Training Command Landing Attack and Training Order No. 11-44 for San Clemente Island. 0637 Received orders from O.T.C. to proceed independently to anchorage area. 0710 Set Condition I-A and commenced Landing Exercise #1 off San Diego Bay, San Diego, California. 0728 Anchored in Transport Area "F", San Diego Bay, San Diego, California. 0730 Commenced hoisting out boats. 0825 Completed hoisting out boats. 1140 Received orders from O.T.C. to proceed to Inner Transport Area. 1224 Anchored in Inner Transport Area. 1348 Underway for Berth 128, San Diego Bay, San Diego, California in obedience to O.T.C. orders. 1419 Anchored in Berth 128, San Diego Bay, San Diego, California. 1420 Commenced hoisting aboard all boats. 1501 Completed hoisting aboard all boats. 1930 Underway from Berth 128, San Diego Bay, San Diego, California in obedience to O.T.C. orders.

POSITIONS: 0800 Anchored in Transport Area "F", San Diego Bay, San Diego, California.  
1200 Anchored in Inner Transport Area off San Diego, California.  
2000 Underway.

October 2

Underway as before. 0745 Set Condition I-A. 0800 Commenced scheduled firing exercises. 1040 Completed scheduled firing exercises. Ammunition expended: 11 rounds 5"38; 56 rounds 3"50; 674 rounds 20MM. 1041 Secured Condition I-A, set Condition of Readiness II. 1124 Proceeding to anchorage assigned at Pyramid Cove. 1203 Anchored in Berth A-5, Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island.

POSITIONS: 0800 Underway  
1200 Anchored in Berth A-5, Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island.  
2000 Anchored in Berth A-5, Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island.

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U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

October 3

Anchored as before. 0532 Underway from Berth A-5, Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island. 0704 Set Condition I-A and commenced Landing Exercise #2 off San Clemente Island. 0735 Commenced hoisting out all boats. 0747 Anchored in Transport Area "G", Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island. 0811 Completed hoisting out all boats. 0813 Secured Condition I-A, set Condition of Readiness II. 1200 Received orders from O.T.C. to proceed to assigned anchorages in Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island. 1220 Underway from Transport Area "G", Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island. 1305 Anchored in Berth A-5, Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island. 1359 Set Condition I-A. 1424 Secured Condition I-A, set Condition of Readiness II.

POSITIONS: 0800 Anchored in Transport Area "G", Pyramid  
1200 Cove, San Clemente Island.

2000 Anchored in Berth A-5, Pyramid Cove,  
San Clemente Island.

October 4

Anchored as before. 1300 Set Condition I-A. 1325 Commenced scheduled Anti-Aircraft Firing Practice. 1421 Completed Anti-Aircraft Firing Practice. Ammunition expended: 7 rounds 3"50; 260 rounds 20MM. 1422 Secured Condition I-A, set Condition of Readiness II. 1735 Commenced hoisting all boats aboard. 1835 Completed hoisting all boats aboard.

POSITIONS: 0800 Anchored in Berth A-5, Pyramid Cove,  
1200 San Clemente Island.  
2000

October 5

Anchored as before. 0129 Underway from Berth A-5, Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island. 0300 Set Condition I-A and commenced Landing Exercise #3 off San Clemente Island. 0332 Commenced hoisting out all boats. 0347 Anchored in Berth "G", Transport Area, San Clemente Island. 0410 Completed hoisting out all boats. 0827 Underway from Berth "G", Transport Area, San Clemente Island. 0906 Anchored in Berth A-5, Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island. 1250 Commenced hoisting all boats aboard. 1838 Completed hoisting all boats aboard.

POSITIONS: 0800 Anchored in Berth "G", Transport Area,  
San Clemente Island.

1200 Anchored in Berth A-5, Pyramid Cove,  
2000 San Clemente Island.

October 6

Anchored as before. 2302 Underway in accordance with C.T.U. 13.9.1. visual message #061600 from Anchorage A-5, Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island.

POSITIONS: 0800 Anchored in Berth A-5, Pyramid Cove,  
1200 San Clemente Island.

2000 Underway.

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U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

- October 7 Underway as before. 0500 Set Condition I-A and commenced Landing Exercise #4 off Aliso Canyon, Oceanside, California. 0533 Commenced hoisting out all boats. 0535 Anchored in Transport Area "D", Aliso Canyon, Oceanside, California. 0610 Completed hoisting out all boats. 0714 Secured Condition I-A, set Condition of Readiness II. 0846 Commenced unloading cargo. 1001 Set Condition I-A. 1012 Secured Condition I-A, set Condition of Readiness II. 1022 Received orders from O.T.C to proceed to Inner Transport Area. 1038 Underway from Berth "D", Transport Area proceeding to Inner Transport Area. 1056 Anchored in Inner Transport Area off Aliso Canyon, Oceanside, California. 1353 Set Condition I-A. 1425 Secured Condition I-A, set Condition of Readiness II. 1713 Completed unloading all cargo and disembarkation of troops.
- POSITIONS: 0800 Anchored in Transport Area, Berth "D", Aliso Canyon, Oceanside, California.  
1200 Anchored in Inner Transport Area off  
2000 Aliso Canyon, Oceanside, California
- October 8 Anchored as before. 0156 Underway from Inner Transport Area off Aliso Canyon, Oceanside, California proceeding to San Diego, California with Task Unit 13.9.2. 1046 Moored port side to North Berth B-1, "B" Street Pier, San Diego, California.
- POSITIONS: 0800 Underway for San Diego, California.  
1200 Moored port side to North Berth B-1,  
2000 San Diego, California
- October 9  
October 10 Moored port side to North Berth B-1, "B" Street Pier, San Diego, California.
- October 11 Moored as before. 1300 Made all preparations for getting underway. 1404 Underway from Berth North B-1, "B" Street Pier, San Diego, California, in accordance with C.T.U. 13.9.2. Training Order 11-44.
- POSITIONS: 0800 Moored port side to Berth North B-1, "B"  
1200 Street Pier, San Diego, California.  
2000 Underway.

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## U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

October 12

Underway as before. 0643 O.T.C. ordered this vessel to proceed independently to anchorage. 0700 Set Condition I-A and commenced Landing Exercise #1 off San Diego Bay, San Diego, California. 0717 Anchored in Transport Area "F", San Diego Bay, San Diego, California. 0724 Commenced hoisting out boats. 0752 Completed hoisting out boats. 0755 Secured Condition I-A, set Condition of Readiness II. 1245 Commenced hoisting boats aboard. 1331 Underway from Transport Area "F", San Diego Bay, San Diego, California. 1404 Anchored in Berth 128, San Diego Bay, San Diego, California. 1435 Completed hoisting boats aboard. 2102 Underway from Berth 128, San Diego Bay, San Diego, California.

POSITIONS: 0800 Anchored in Transport Area "F", San Diego Bay, San Diego, California.

1200 Anchored in Transport Area "F", San Diego Bay, San Diego, California.

2000 Anchored in Berth 128, San Diego Bay, San Diego, California.

October 13

Underway as before. 0745 Set Condition I-A. 0810 Commenced short range battle practice. 0827 Completed short range battle practice. Ammunition expended: 40 rounds 3"50; 10 rounds 5"38. 0829 Secured Condition I-A, set Condition of Readiness II. 1216 Proceeding independently to Berth A-4, Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island in obedience to O.T.C. orders. 1244 Anchored in Berth A-4, Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island.

POSITIONS: 0800 Underway

1200 Underway

2000 Anchored in Berth A-4, Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island.

October 14

Anchored as before. 0530 Made all preparations for getting underway. 0539 Underway from Berth A-4, Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island to Transport Area "G". 0710 Set Condition I-A and commenced Landing Exercise #2 off San Clemente Island. 0711 O.T.C. ordered this vessel to proceed independently to anchorage. 0715 Commenced hoisting out boats. 0733 Anchored in Berth "G", San Clemente Island. 0755 Secured Condition I-A, set Condition of Readiness II. 1204 Made all preparations for getting underway. 1218 Underway proceeding to Inner Transport Area. 1248 Anchored in Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island. 1345 Underway proceeding to anchorage A-4. 1417 Anchored in Berth A-4, Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island. 1535 Commenced hoisting boats aboard. 1705 Completed hoisting boats aboard.

POSITIONS: 0800 Anchored in Transport Area "G", San Clemente Island.

# CONFIDENTIAL

## U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

October 14 (Cont'd)

POSITIONS: 1200 Anchored in Transport Area "G", San Clemente Island.  
2000 Anchored in Berth A-4, Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island.

October 15

Anchored as before. 0824 Began exercising at General Drills. 0844 Secured from all drills. 1347 Set Condition I-A. Commenced scheduled Gunnery Exercises. 1433 Secured Condition I-A, gunnery exercises completed. This ship did not participate in scheduled gunnery exercises.  
POSITIONS: 0800 Anchored in Berth A-4, Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island.  
1200  
2000

October 16

Anchored as before. 0115 Made all preparations for getting underway. 0145 Underway from Berth A-4, Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island. 0300 Set Condition I-A and commenced Landing Exercise #3. 0311 O.T.C. ordered this vessel to proceed independently to Transport Area. 0330 Commenced hoisting out boats. 0340 Anchored in Transport Area "G", Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island. 0405 Completed hoisting out boats. 0407 Secured Condition I-A, set Condition of Readiness II. 0814 Underway from Transport Area "G", proceeding to Berth A-4, Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island. 0847 Anchored in Berth A-4, Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island. 1225 Commenced hoisting in all boats. 1338 Completed hoisting all boats aboard.  
POSITIONS: 0800 Anchored in Transport Area "G", Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island.

1200 Anchored in Berth A-4, Pyramid Cove, San  
2000 Clemente Island

October 17

Anchored as before. 2310 Underway from Berth A-4, Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island in convoy with Task Unit 13.9.2.  
POSITIONS: 0800 Anchored in Berth A-4, Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island.  
1200  
2000

# CONFIDENTIAL

## U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

October 18 Underway as before. 0500 Set Condition I-A and Commenced Landing Exercise #4. 0534 Commenced hoisting out all boats. 0542 Anchored in Transport Area "D", Aliso Canyon, California. 0608 Completed hoisting out all boats. 0624 Underway from Transport Area "D", Aliso Canyon, California proceeding to Transport Area "C". 0637 Anchored in Transport Area "C", Aliso Canyon, California. 0647 Secured Condition I-A, set Condition of Readiness II. 0650 Commenced unloading cargo. 1256 Underway from Transport Area "C", proceeding to Inner Transport Area. 1337 Anchored in Inner Transport Area, Aliso Canyon, California. 1600 Completed hoisting out all cargo. 1608 Commenced hoisting aboard all boats.

POSITIONS: 0800 Anchored in Transport Area "C", Aliso Canyon, 1200 California.

2000 Anchored in Inner Transport Area, Aliso Canyon, California.

October 19 Anchored as before. 0205 Underway from anchorage in Inner Transport Area off Aliso Canyon, Oceanside, California. 1034 Moored port side to Berth North B-1, "B" Street Pier, San Diego, California.

POSITIONS: 0800 Underway for San Diego, California.

1200 Moored port side to Berth North B-1, San 2000 Diego, California.

October 20  
October 21 Moored port side to Berth North B-1, "B" Street Pier, San Diego, California.

October 22 Moored as before. 1404 Underway from Berth North B-1, "B" Street Pier, San Diego, California. 1449 General Quarters. 1457 Set Condition of Readiness II.

POSITIONS: 0800 Moored port side to Berth North B-1, "B" 1200 Street Pier, San Diego, California.

2000 Underway.

CONFIDENTIAL

U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

- October 23 Underway as before. 0651 Proceeding independently to assigned Transport Area. 0700 Set Condition I-A and commenced Landing Exercise #1 off San Diego Bay, San Diego, California. 0737 Commenced hoisting out all boats. 0742 Anchored in Transport Area "F", San Diego Bay, San Diego, California. Completed hoisting out all boats. 0803 Secured Condition I-A, set Condition of Readiness II. 1012 Set Condition I-A. 1114 Secured Condition I-A, set Condition of Readiness II. 1115 Commenced hoisting boats aboard. 1242 Completed hoisting aboard all boats. 1245 Underway from anchorage proceeding to Inner Transport Area anchorage. 1317 Anchored in Inner Transport anchorage 128 off Coronado Strand, San Diego Bay, California. 1948 Underway from anchorage 128, Coronado Strand, San Diego, California.
- POSITIONS: 0800 Anchored in Transport Area "F", San Diego Bay,  
1200 San Diego, California.
- 2000 Underway.
- October 24 Underway as before. 0745 Set Condition I-A. 0801 Commenced exercising at short range battle practice. 0846 Completed short range battle practice. Ammunition expended: 40 rounds 3"50; 10 rounds 5"38. 0848 Secured Condition I-A, set Condition of Readiness II. 1231 Anchored in Berth A-5, Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island.
- POSITIONS: 0800 Underway
- 1200 Underway
- 2000 Anchored in Berth A-5, Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island.
- October 25 Anchored as before. 0515 Made all preparations for getting underway. 0531 Underway from Berth A-5, Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island. 0700 Set Condition I-A and commenced Landing Exercise #2. 0743 Commenced hoisting out all boats. 0756 Anchored in Transport Area "H", San Clemente Island. 0805 Completed hoisting out all boats. 0807 Secured Condition I-A, set Condition of Readiness II. 1009 Set Condition I-A. 1017 Secured Condition I-A, set Condition of Readiness II. 1031 Set Condition I-A. 1110 Secured Condition I-A, set Condition of Readiness II. 1312 Underway from Transport Area "H" proceeding to Inner Transport Area. 1352 Anchored in Berth A-5, Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island. 1540 Commenced hoisting aboard all boats. 1701 Completed hoisting aboard all boats.
- POSITIONS: 0800 Anchored in Transport Area "H", San Clemente  
1200 Island.
- 2000 Anchored in Berth A-5, Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island.



# CONFIDENTIAL

## U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

- October 26 Anchored as before. 1357 Set Condition I-A. 1455 Commenced Anti-Aircraft Firing Practice with port guns. Ammunition expended: 5 rounds 3"50; 1 round 5"38; 215 rounds 20MM. 1457 Secured Condition I-A, set Condition of Readiness II. 1659 Commenced hoisting aboard all boats. 1715 Completed hoisting aboard all boats.  
POSITIONS: 0800  
1200 Anchored in Berth A-5, Pyramid Cove, San  
2000 Clemente Island.
- October 27 Anchored as before. 0100 Made all preparations for getting underway. 0120 Underway from Berth A-5, Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island. 0300 Set Condition I-A and commenced Landing Exercise #3. 0308 Proceeding independently to assigned transport area. 0340 Commenced hoisting out all boats. 0341 Anchored in Transport Area "G", Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island. 0409 Completed hoisting out all boats. 0413 Secured Condition I-A, set Condition of Readiness II. 0825 Received orders from O.T.C to proceed to assigned anchorages at discretion. 0839 Underway from Transport Area "G", Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island proceeding to Inner Transport anchorage A-5. 0934 Anchored in Berth A-5, Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island. 1028 Commenced hoisting in boats. 1100 Completed hoisting in boats.  
POSITIONS: 0800 Anchored in Transport Area "G", Pyramid  
Cove, San Clemente Island.  
1200 Anchored in Berth A-5, Pyramid Cove, San  
2000 Clemente Island.
- October 28 Anchored as before. 2240 Made all preparations for getting underway. 2309 Underway from Berth A-5, Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island proceeding to Alise Canyon, California  
POSITIONS: 0800  
1200 Anchored in Berth A-5, Pyramid Cove, San  
2000 Clemente Island.
- October 29 Underway as before. 0500 Set Condition I-A and commenced Landing Exercise #4. off Alise Canyon, California. 0540 Anchored in Transport Area "D", Alise Canyon, California. 0540 Commenced hoisting out all boats. 0610 Secured Condition I-A, set Condition of Readiness II. 0745 Commenced unloading all cargo. 0953 Received orders from O.T.C. to proceed to Inner Transport Area. 1008 Underway from Transport Area "D", Alise Canyon, California proceeding to Inner Transport Area. 1035 Anchored in Inner Transport Area, Alise Canyon, California. 1240 This ship completely unloaded. 1300 Commenced disembarking troops. 1315 Completed disembarking troops, having disembarked four (4) officers and sixty (60) enlisted personnel of 303rd RCT. 1411 Commenced hoisting aboard all boats. 1549 Completed hoisting aboard all boats.

CONFIDENTIAL

U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

October 29 (Cont'd)

POSITIONS:

0800 Anchored in Transport Area "D", Aliso Canyon, California.

1200 Anchored in Inner Transport Area, Aliso Canyon, California.  
2000

October 30

Anchored as before. 0130 Made all preparations for getting underway. 0158 Underway for San Diego, California. 1038 Moored starboard side to North Pier 3, U.S. Naval Repair Base, San Diego, California.

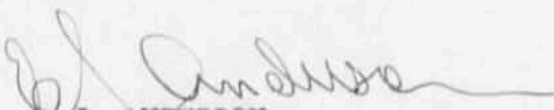
POSITIONS:

0800 Underway for San Diego, California.

1200 Moored starboard side to North Pier 3,  
2000 U.S.NAVAL Repair Base, San Diego, California.

October 31

Moored as before.

  
E.J. ANDERSON,  
Comdr., USNR.,  
Commanding.

U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

WAR DIARY

NOVEMBER 1944

DESIGNATION: Task Force 13.

COMPOSITION: Commander Transport Training Division Amphibious Training Command, Pacific Fleet.

NEXT HIGHER EXHELON: Commander Amphibious Training Command, Pacific Fleet.

IDENTIFYING ORDER: ComPhibTraPac Despatch #211712 of July 1944.

ZONE DESCRIPTION: Plus seven time.

November 1 to November 9

Moored starboard side to North pier #3, U.S. Naval Repair Base, San Diego, California.

POSITIONS: 0800 Moored to North pier #3, U.S. Naval Repair Base, San Diego, California.  
1200 Base, San Diego, California.  
2000

November 10

Moored as before. 0930 Made all preparations for getting underway. 1009 Underway from North side pier #3, U.S. Naval Repair Base, San Diego, California Proceeding to Berth 206, San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California. 1104 Anchored in Berth 206, San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California.

POSITIONS: 0800 Moored to North pier #3, U.S. Naval Repair Base, San Diego, California.

1200 Anchored in Berth 206, San Diego Harbor,  
2000 San Diego, California.

November 11 to November 13

Anchored as before.

POSITIONS: 0800 Anchored in Berth 206, San Diego Harbor,  
1200 San Diego, California.  
2000

## U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

- November 14 Anchored as before. 0925 Made all preparations for getting underway. 0939 Underway from Berth 206, San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California Proceeding to "B" Street pier, San Diego, California. 1022 Moored port side to Berth B-1, "B" Street pier, San Diego, California.
- POSITIONS: 0800 Anchored in Berth 206, San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California.
- 1200 Moored to Berth B-1, "B" Street pier, San Diego, 2000 California.
- November 15 Moored as before. 0800 Commenced loading cargo. 1250 Completed loading cargo.
- POSITIONS: 0800 Moored to Berth B-1, "B" Street pier, San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California.
- 1200 Harbor, San Diego, California.
- 2000
- November 16 Moored as before. 1343 Made all preparations for getting underway. 1404 Underway from pier #1, "B" Street pier, San Diego, California for Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island in obedience to C.T.U. 13.9.1. Landing and Attack Order #12-44.
- POSITIONS: 0800 Moored port side to Berth North B-1, "B" Street pier, San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California.
- 1200 Street pier, San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California.
- 2000 Underway for San Clemente Island.
- November 17 Underway as before. 0646 Proceeding independently to assigned anchorage. 0700 Set Condition I-A. Commenced Landing Exercise #1 off San Clemente Island. 0740 Commenced hoisting out all boats. Anchored in Transport Area "G", Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island. 0804 Completed hoisting out all boats. 0805 Secured Condition I-A. Set Condition of Readiness II. 1233 Underway from Transport Area "G", Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island Proceeding to Inner-Transport Area. 1325 Anchored in Inner-Transport Area Berth A-4, Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island. 1810 Underway from Berth A-4, Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island in obedience to orders of O.T.C.
- POSITIONS: 0800 Anchored in Transport Area "G", Pyramid Cove, 1200 San Clemente Island.
- 2000 Underway from Berth A-4, Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island.

U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

November 18 Underway as before. 0731 Proceeding independently to assigned anchorage in obedience to O.T.C. orders. 0758 Anchored in Berth A-4, Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island. 1410 Set Condition I-A. 1421 Commenced scheduled Anti-Aircraft Firing Practice. 1422 Completed Anti-Aircraft Firing Practice. Ammunition expended 2 rounds 5" 38; 4 rounds 3" 50; 384 rounds 20MM. 1424 Secured Condition I-A. Set Condition of Readiness II.

POSITIONS: 0800 Anchored in Berth A-4, Pyramid Cove, San  
1200 Clemente Island.  
2000

November 19 Anchored as before. 0459 Underway from Berth A-4, Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island, Lying to awaiting orders of O.T.C. Task Unit 13.9.1. 0506 Received orders from O.T.C. to anchor in present position until further orders received. 0516 Anchored in Berth A-5, Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island. 0545 Set Condition I-A and Commenced Landing Exercise #2 off San Clemente Island. 0552 Commenced hoisting out all boats. 0637 Completed hoisting out all boats. 0641 Secured Condition I-A. Set Condition of Readiness II. 1053 Underway from Berth A-5, Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island. 1110 Anchored in Berth A-4, Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island.

POSITIONS: 0800 Anchored in Berth A-5, Pyramid Cove, San  
Clemente Island.  
1200 Anchored in Berth A-4, Pyramid Cove, San  
2000 Clemente Island.

November 20 Anchored as before. 2240 Made all preparations for getting underway. 2205 Underway for Aliso Canyon Area of Oceanside California in obedience to C.T.U. 13.9.1. Operation order 8-44.

POSITIONS: 0800 Anchored in Berth A-4, Pyramid Cove, San  
1200 Clemente Island.  
2000 Underway.

November 21 Underway as before. 0500 Set Condition I-A. Commenced Landing Exercise #3 off San Clemente Island. 0512 Proceeding independently to assigned anchorage in obedience to O.T.C. orders. 0548 Commenced hoisting out all boats. 0555 Anchored in Transport Area "C", Aliso Canyon. 0616 Completed hoisting out all boats. 0618 Secured Condition I-A. Set Condition of Readiness II. 0802 LCT#1360 came alongside. 0821 Commenced loading cargo into LCT. 0946 LCT#1360 Cast off. 1029 Underway from Transport Area "C" Proceeding to Inner-Transport Area. 1056 Anchored off Aliso Canyon, San Diego, California. 1234 LCT#1359 came alongside. 1417 LCT#1359 Cast off. 1517 All troops disembarked. 1527 Commenced hoisting all boats aboard. 1816 Underway Proceeding to San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California.

POSITIONS: 0800 Anchored in Transport Area "C", Aliso Canyon. 3

U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

- November 21 POSITIONS: 1200 Anchored off Aliso Canyon, San Diego, California.  
2000 Underway.
- November 22 Underway as before. 0858 Anchored in Berth 206, San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California.  
POSITIONS: 0800 Underway proceeding to San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California.  
1200 Anchored in Berth 206, San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California.  
2000 Diego, California.
- November 23 Anchored as before. 1320 Made all preparations for getting underway. 1330 Underway from Berth 206, San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California. Proceeding to "B" Street Pier #1, San Diego, California. 1452 Moored starboard side to "B" Street pier #1, San Diego, California.  
POSITIONS: 0800 Anchored in Berth 206, San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California.  
1200 San Diego, California.  
2000 Moored to "B" Street pier #1, San Diego, California.
- November 24 Moored as before. 0800 Commenced loading cargo. 1055 Completed loading all cargo.  
POSITIONS: 0800 Moored to "B" Street pier #1, San Diego, California.  
1200 California.  
2000
- November 25 Moored as before. 1335 Made all preparations for getting underway. 1402 Underway for Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island in obedience to Com Task Unit 13.9.1. Operation order 8-44.  
POSITIONS: 0800 Moored to "B" Street pier #1, San Diego, California.  
1200 California.  
2000 Underway.

## U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

November 26 Underway as before. 0700 Set Condition I-A and commenced Landing Exercise #1 off San Clemente Island. 0744 Commenced hoisting out boats. 0745 Anchored in Transport Area "G" Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island. 0805 Completed hoisting out all boats. 0810 Secured Condition I-A. Set Condition of Readiness II. 0905 Set Condition I-A. 0923 Secured Condition I-A. Set Condition of Readiness II. 1021 Set Condition I-A. 1029 Secured Condition I-A. Set Condition of Readiness II. 1108 Set Condition I-A. 1125 Secured Condition I-A. Set Condition of Readiness II. 1303 Underway from Transport Area "G" Proceeding to Inner-Transport Area #1. 1342 Anchored in Inner-Transport Area A-5.

POSITIONS: 0800 Anchored in Transport Area "G", Pyramid  
1200 Cove, San Clemente Island.

2000 Anchored in Inner-Transport Area A-5,  
Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island.

November 27 Anchored as before.

POSITIONS: 0800 Anchored in Berth A-5, Pyramid Cove,  
1200 San Clemente Island.  
2000

November 28 Anchored as before. 0330 Made all preparations for getting underway. 0408 Underway from Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island. 0545 Set Condition I-A and Commenced Landing Exercise #2 off San Clemente Island. 0550 Proceeding independently to Transport Area "G". 0619 Commenced hoisting out all boats. 0620 Anchored in Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island. 0648 Completed hoisting out all boats. 0650 Secured Condition I-A. Set Condition of Readiness II. 1027 Underway from anchorage "G", Transport Area Proceeding to Inner-Transport Area. 1110 Anchored in Berth A-5, Inner-Transport Area Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island. 1615 Completed hoisting aboard all boats.

POSITIONS: 0800 Anchored in Pyramid Cove, San Clemente  
Island.

1200 Anchored in Berth A-5, Inner-Transport  
2000 Area Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island.

November 29 Anchored as before. 2340 Made all preparations for getting underway. 2305 Underway for Aliso Canyon Area in obedience to C.T.U. 13.9.1. dispatch 221611.

POSITIONS: 0800 Anchored in Berth A-5, Pyramid Cove, San  
1200 Clemente Island.  
2000

U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

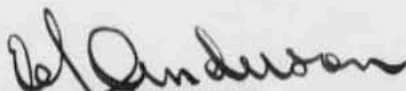
November 30

Underway in convoy with Task Unit 13.9.1. 0500 Set Condition I-A and commenced Landing Exercise #3 off San Clemente Island. 0510 Received orders from O.T.C. to proceed independently into Transport Area. 0550 Anchored in Transport Area "D", Aliso Canyon. 0613 Secured Condition I-A. Set Condition of Readiness II. 0749 Commenced unloading cargo. 0921 Set Condition I-A. 0940 Secured Condition I-A. Set Condition of Readiness II. 0948 Set Condition I-A. 1026 Secured Condition I-A. Set Condition of Readiness II. 1103 Underway from Transport Area "D", to Inner-Transport Area. 1125 Anchored in Inner-Transport Area. 1216 Set Condition I-A. 1255 Secured Condition I-A. Set Condition of Readiness II. 1521 All Army and Marine personnel disembarked. 1530 Commenced hoisting all boats aboard. 1920 Completed hoisting aboard all boats.

POSITIONS:                    0800 Anchored in Transport Area "D", Aliso Canyon.

                                  1200 Anchored in Inner-Transport Area.

                                  2000

  
E. J. ANDERSON,  
Comdr., USNR.,  
Commanding.



CONFIDENTIAL

U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

WAR DIARY

DECEMBER 1944.

Reg. No. 1200

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

DESIGNATION: Commander Transport Training Division.  
COMPOSITION: Training Division Amphibious Training Command,  
Pacific Fleet.  
NEXT HIGHER EXHELON: Commander Amphibious Training Command,  
Pacific Fleet.  
ZONE DESCRIPTION: Plus seven time.

December 1

Anchored in Aliso Canyon, San Diego, California. 0130 Made all preparations for getting underway. 0159 Underway proceeding to San Diego, California in obedience to C.T.U. 13.9.1. Dispatch of 221601 November. 1003 Anchored in Berth #211, San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California. 1205 Made all preparations for getting underway. 1227 Underway from Berth #211, San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California. 1305 Moored starboard side to southside Pier #1, "B" Street Pier, San Diego, California.

POSITIONS: 0800 Underway proceeding to San Diego, California.  
1200 Anchored in Berth #211, San Diego, California.  
2000 Moored starboard side to Southside Pier #1, "B" Street Pier, San Diego, California.

December 2 to

Moored as before.

December 3

POSITION: 0800 Moored as before.  
1200 " " "  
2000 " " "

December 4

Moored as before. 1330 Made all preparations for getting underway. 1410 Underway for San Clemente Island in obedience to C.T.U. 13.9.1. Dispatch of 012244 December.

POSITIONS: 0800 Moored as before.  
1200 Underway for San Clemente Island in obedience  
2000 to C.T.U. 13.9.1. Dispatch of 012244 December.

102567

**U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)**

December 5 Underway as before. 0700 Set Condition I-A. 0730 Commenced hoisting out all boats. 0732 Anchored in Transport Area "G" San Clemente Island. 0750 Completed hoisting out all boats. 0752 Secured Condition I-A. Set Condition of Readiness II. 0930 Set Condition I-A. 1045 Secured Condition I-A. Set Condition of Readiness II. 1241 Underway from Transport Area "G", San Clemente Island proceeding to Inner-Transport Area A-5, Anchored in Inner-Transport Area A-5. 1500 Commenced hoisting all boats aboard. 1601 Completed hoisting all boats aboard.

POSITIONS: 0800 Anchored in Transport Area "G", San Clemente  
1200 Island.  
2000 Anchored in Inner-Transport Area A-5.

December 6 to Anchored as before.  
December 7

Position: 0800 Anchored in Berth A-5, Pyramid Cove San Clemente  
1200 Island.  
2000 " " " " "

December 8 Anchored as before. 2240 Made all preparations for getting underway. 2307 Underway for Aliso Canyon Area, California in obedience to C.T.U. 13.9.1. Dispatch of 012244 December.

POSITIONS: 0800 Anchored in Berth A-5, Pyramid Cove, San Clemente  
1200 Island.  
2000 Underway for Aliso Canyon Area, California in obedience to C.T.U. 13.9.1. Dispatch of 012244 December.

December 9 Underway as before. 0500 Set Condition I-A. 0544 Anchored in Birth "D", Aliso Canyon, Oceanside California in obedience to O.T.C. order. 0544 Anchored in Berth "D" Aliso Canyon, Oceanside California. 0545 Commenced hoisting out all boats. 0608 Completed hoisting out all boats. 0609 Secured Condition I-A. Set Condition of Readiness II. 0958 Underway for Inner-Transport Area. 1020 Anchored in Inner-Transport Area, Aliso Canyon, San Diego, California. 1025 Commenced unloading all Cargo. 1317 Completed unloading all Cargo and Army Personnel. 1357 Commenced Hoisting all boats aboard. 1755 Completed hoisting all boats aboard.

POSITION: 0800 Anchored in Berth "D", Aliso Canyon,  
1200 Oceanside California.  
2000 " " " " "

**U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)**

December 10 Anchored as before. 0130 Made all preparations for getting underway. 0203 Underway for San Diego, California in obedience to C.T.U. 13.9.1. Dispatch of 012244 December. 1014 Moored Port side to Southside Pier I, U.S. Naval Repair Base, San Diego, California.

POSITIONS: 0800 Underway.  
1200 Moored Port side to Southside Pier I, U.S. Naval  
2000 Repair Base, San Diego, California.

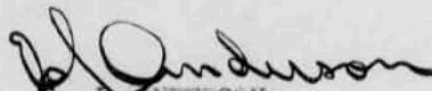
December 11 to Moored as before.

December 21

POSITION: 0800 Moored Port side to Southside Pier I, U.S.  
1200 Naval Repair Base, San Diego, California.  
2000 " " " " " "

December 22 to Moored as before. 0800 Made all Preparations for getting underway. 0826  
December 31 Underway from Pier I, U.S. Naval Repair Base, San Diego, California.  
1305 Moored starboard side to U.S.S. NEVILLE at north side Pier I,  
U.S. Naval Repair Base, San Diego, California.

POSITION: 0800 Moored alongside port side of U.S.S. NEVILLE  
1200 starboard side too at U.S. Naval Repair Base,  
2000 San Diego, California. At North side Pier I.

  
E. J. ANDERSON,  
Captain, USNR.,  
Commanding.

**U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)**

WAR DIARY

JANUARY 1945

DESIGNATION: Commander Transport Division #1.  
 COMPOSITION: Transport Division #1.  
 NEXT HIGHER EXHELON: Commander Amphibious Training Command,  
 Pacific Fleet.  
 IDENTIFYING ORDER: ComPhibTraPac Despatch #142146  
 of December 1944.  
 ZONE DESCRIPTION: Plus seven time.

January 1

Moored starboard side to U.S.S. NEVILLE, north side Pier 1, U.S. Naval Repair Base, San Diego, California. 1300 Made all preparations for getting underway. 1442 Underway to moor between buoys #26 and #27, in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California, Bow to buoy #27, Stern to buoy #26.

POSITIONS: 0800 Moored starboard side to U.S.S. NEVILLE, north side Pier 1, U.S. Naval Repair Base, San Diego, California.  
 1200 Moored in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California  
 2000 Bow to buoy #27, Stern to buoy #26.

January 2 to  
January 31

Moored as before.  
 POSITION: 0800 Moored in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California,  
 1200 Bow to buoy #27, Stern to buoy #26.  
 2000 " " " " "

*E. P. Anderson*  
 E. P. ANDERSON,  
 Captain, USNR.,  
 Commanding.

(946)

Reg. No. 1265

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

U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

WAR DIARY

DESIGNATION: Commander Transport Division #1.

COMPOSITION: Transport Division #1.

NEXT HIGHER EXHELON: Commander Amphibious Training Command, Pacific Fleet.

IDENTIFYING ORDER: ComPhibTraPac Despatch #142146 Of December 1944.

ZONE DESCRIPTION: Plus seven time.

February 1 to  
February 19

Moored in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California, between buoys #26 and #27 in six (6) fathoms of water.

POSITIONS: 0800 Moored in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California, between buoys #26 and #27, 2000 in six (6) fathoms of water.

February 20

Moored as before. 0800 Made all preparations for getting underway. 0953 Underway from buoys #26 and #27, San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California. 1101 Set general quarters. 1106 Secured from general quarters. Set Condition of Readiness II. 1109 Exercised at fire quarters. 1118 Secured from fire quarters. 1537 Anchored off Aliso Canyon Area, California. 1559 Commenced hoisting out all boats.

POSITIONS: 0800 Moored in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California, between buoys #26 and #27, in six (6) fathoms of water. 1200 Anchored off Aliso Canyon Area, California. 2000 " " " "

February 21

Anchored off Aliso Canyon Area, California. 0730 Set general quarters. 0735 Secured from general quarters. 0738 Set Condition I-A. 0740 Commenced hoisting out all boats. 0827 Secured Condition I-A. Set Condition of Readiness II. 0938 Commenced making smoke. 1324 Commenced hoisting boats aboard. 1402 Completed hoisting all boats aboard.

POSITION: 0800 Anchored off Aliso Canyon Area, California. 1200 " " " 2000 " " " "

February 22

Anchored off Aliso Canyon Area, California. 0730 Set general quarters. 0735 Secured from general quarters. Set Condition of Readiness II. 0742 Commenced hoisting out all boats.

112448

U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

POSITION: 0800 Anchored off Aliso Canyon Area, California.  
1200 " " " "  
2000 " " " "

February 23

Anchored off Aliso Canyon Area, California. 0812 Completed hoisting out all boats. 0816 Secured from Condition I-A. Set Condition of Readiness II. 0830 Commenced making smoke. 0934 Set general quarters. 1015 Secured from making smoke. 1016 Secured from general quarters. Set Condition of Readiness II. 1043 Commenced hoisting boats board. 1213 Completed hoisting all boats aboard.

POSITION: 0800 Anchored off Aliso Canyon Area, California.  
1200 " " " "  
2000 " " " "

February 24

Anchored off Aliso Canyon Area, California. 0225 Underway from Aliso Canyon, Oceanside to San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California. 0649 Proceeding independently into San Diego Harbor. 0755 Tug, Wenonak along Port bow to assist in mooring. 0835 Moored in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California, between buoys #26 and #27. 0848 Tug, Wenonak cast off.

POSITIONS: 0800 Underway from Aliso Canyon, Oceanside to San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California.  
1200 Moored in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California.  
2000 " " " "

February 25

Moored in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California, between buoys #26 and #27, in six (6) fathoms of water.

POSITION: 0800 Moored in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California.  
1200 " " " "  
2000 " " " "

February 26

Moored in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California, between buoys #26 and #27, in six (6) fathoms of water. 0750 Commenced idling main engines. 0803 Secured idling main engines. 0830 Made all preparations for getting underway. 0937 Underway from San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California. 0942 Tug, YTB 266 cast off. 1300 Commenced zigzagging in accordance with zigzag Plan #5. 1620 Ceased zigzagging.

POSITIONS: 0800 Moored in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California.  
1200 Underway from San Diego Harbor, San Diego,  
2000 California.

U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

February 27

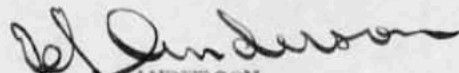
Underway as before. 0745 Set general quarters. 0750 Set Condition I-A. 0757 Commenced hoisting out all boats. 0827 Completed hoisting out all boats. 0837 Secured from Condition I-A. Set Condition of Readiness II. 1254 Underway from assigned anchorage A-I. Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island. 1325 Anchored in Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island. 1333 Commenced hoisting all boats aboard. 1401 Underway from anchorage in Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island. 1409 Anchored in Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island. 1428 Completed hoisting all boats aboard. 1711 Underway from anchorage A-I, Shifting to anchorage C-G, Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island. 1845 Anchored in berth C-G, Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island. 2356 Commenced idling main engines.

POSITIONS: 0800 Underway.  
1200 " "  
2000 Anchored in Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island.

February 28

Anchored in berth C-6, Pyramid Cove San Clemente Island. 0030 Underway from Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island proceeding to assigned anchorage at Oceanside, California. 0749 Secured from general quarters. Set Condition of Readiness II. 0745 Commenced hoisting out all boats. 0823 Completed hoisting out all boats. 0855 Commenced debarkation of simulated personnel. 0903 Completed debarkation of simulated personnel. 1045 Ordered by OTC to proceed to assigned anchorage. 1106 Anchored in berth Y-16, Aliso Canyon, Oceanside California. 1117 Commenced hoisting all boats aboard.

POSITIONS: 0800 Anchored in berth C-6, Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island.  
1200 Anchored in berth Y-16, Aliso Canyon,  
2000 Oceanside, California.

  
E. J. ANDERSON,  
Captain, USNR.,  
Commanding.

CONFIDENTIAL

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Reg. No. 1290  
R. S. No. \_\_\_\_\_

U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

WAR DIARY

MARCH 1945

DESIGNATION: Commander Transport Division #1.  
COMPOSITION: Transport Division #1.  
NEXT HIGHER EXHELON: Commander Amphibious Training Command, Pacific Fleet.  
IDENTIFYING ORDER: ComPhibTraPac Despatch #142146 of December 1944.  
ZONE DESCRIPTION: Plus seven time.

March 1

Anchored in Aliso Canyon, California. 0902 Exercised at general quarters. 0906 Secured from general quarters. Set Condition I-A. 0911 Commenced hoisting out all boats. 0956 Completed hoisting out all boats. 0958 Secured from Condition I-A. 1155 Commenced hoisting aboard all boats. 1240 Completed hoisting aboard all boats.

POSITION: 0800 Anchored in Aliso Canyon, California.  
1200 " " "  
2000 " " "

March 2

Anchored off Aliso Canyon, Oceanside, California. 0715 Made all preparations for getting underway. 0747 Underway for San Diego, California in obedience to ComTranSquad 18's visual despatch #010110 of March 1945. Moored in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California, between buoys #26 and #27 in six (6) fathoms of water.

POSITIONS: 0800 Underway.  
1200 " "  
2000 Moored in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California, between buoys #26 and #27 in six (6) fathoms of water.

March 3 to  
March 5

Moored in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California, between buoys #26 and #27 in six (6) fathoms of water.

POSITION: 0800 Moored in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California,  
1200 between buoys #26 and #27 in six (6) fathoms of  
2000 water.

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1



U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

March 6

Moored in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California, between buoys #26 and #27 in six (6) fathoms of water. 0804 Made all preparations for getting underway. 0857 Underway with compliance with "TG" 13.17 operation plan training ComPhibGroup 14 movement order No. "A". 1401 - 45 Of 3 March 1945. 1215 Set Condition I-A. 1224 Anchored off Coronado Strand, Coronado, California in berth H-6, 1225 Commenced hoisting out all boats. 1255 Completed hoisting out all boats. 1304 Secured from Condition I-A. Set Condition of Readiness II. 1503 Underway to inner transport area. 1542 Anchored in inner transport area off Coronado Strand, Coronado, California. 1555 Commenced hoisting aboard all boats. 1700 Completed hoisting all boats aboard. 1745 Made all preparations for getting underway. 1805 Underway Pursuant to orders of C.T.G. 13.19.

POSITIONS: 0800 Moored in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California, between buoys #26 and #27 in six (6) fathoms of water.  
1200 Underway.  
2000 Underway Pursuant to orders of C.T.G. 13.19.

March 7

Underway as before. 1013 Proceeding to inner transport area on orders of O.T.C. 1030 Lying to in inner transport area. 1120 Proceeding to anchorage A-4, Pyramid Cove. 1149 Anchored in berth A-4, Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island.

POSITIONS: 0800 Underway as before.  
1200 Anchored in berth A-4, Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island.  
2000 " " "

March 8

Anchored as before. 0530 Made all preparations for getting underway. 0605 Underway in obedience to ComTransDiv One's visual despatch 080050. 0700 Commenced zigzagging in accordance with zigzag plan No. 6. 0930 Ceased zigzagging. 1000 Began exercising at fire quarters. 1106 Secured from all general drills. 1104 Proceeding into San Diego Harbor on various courses and speeds conforming to the channel. 1200 Moored in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California, between buoys #26 and #27 in six (6) fathoms of water.

POSITIONS: 0800 Anchored as before.  
1200 Underway.  
2000 Moored in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California, between buoys #26 and #27 in six (6) fathoms of water.

March 9 to  
March 30

Moored in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California, between buoys #26 and #27 in six (6) fathoms of water.

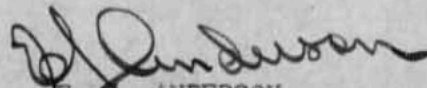
POSITION: 0800 Moored in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California,  
1200 between buoys #26 and #27 in six (6) fathoms of  
2000 water.

U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

March 31

Moored in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California, between buoys #26 and #27 in six (6) fathoms of water. Ship's Present: Transport division #1. 1045 Made all preparations for getting underway. 1107 Underway pursuant to ComTransDiv One's Operation Order #A3-45. Proceeding to Pier B-1, San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California. 1210 Moored Port side to North side of "B" Street Pier, San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California. 1510 Commenced loading cargo. 1620 Completed loading cargo.

POSITIONS:           0800 Underway pursuant to ComTransDiv One's Operation  
                          1200 Order #A3-45. Proceeding to Pier B-1, San Diego  
  Harbor, San Diego, California.  
                          2000 Moored Port side to North side of "B" Street  
  Pier, San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California.

  
E. J. ANDERSON,  
Captain, USNR.,  
Commanding.

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Reg. No.	1296
R. S. No.	

U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

**CONFIDENTIAL**

WAR DIARY

APRIL 1945

DESIGNATION: Commander Transport Division ONE.  
COMPOSITION: Transport Division ONE.  
NEXT HIGHER ECHELON: Commander Amphibious Training Command, Pacific Fleet.  
IDENTIFYING ORDER: ComPhibsTraPac Despatch #142146 of December 1944.  
ZONE DESCRIPTION: Plus seven time.

April 1

Moored port side of "B" Street Pier, San Diego, California. 1654 Underway from port side of "B" Street Pier, San Diego, California in accordance with ComTransDivONE's Operation Order #A3-45 dated 22 March 1945 for Aliso Canyon, California. 2240 Anchored off Aliso Canyon in twelve (12) fathoms of water with seventy-five (75) fathoms of chain to the port anchor.

POSITION: 0800 Moored port side of "B" Street Pier, San Diego, California  
1200 " " "  
2000 Underway.

April 2

Anchored off Aliso Canyon, California in twelve (12) fathoms of water with seventy-five (75) fathoms of chain to the port anchor. 0730 Exercised at General Quarters. 0734 Secured from General Quarters, set Condition I-A. 0737 Commenced hoisting out all boats. 0803 Completed hoisting out all boats. 0810 Secured from Condition I-A, set Condition of Readiness II. 0835 Commenced hoisting out all cargo. 1359 Completed hoisting out all cargo. 1126 Commenced hoisting all boats aboard. 1220 Completed hoisting all boats aboard. 1300 Made all preparations for getting underway. 1327 Underway pursuant to ComTransDivONE's Operation Order #A3-45 of 22 March 1945. 1949 Moored in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California between buoys #26 and #27 in six (6) fathoms of water.

POSITION: 0800 Anchored in Aliso Canyon, California  
1200 " " "  
2000 Moored in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California between buoys #26 and #27 in six (6) fathoms of water.

**CONFIDENTIAL U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)**

April 3 to  
April 8

Moored in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California between buoys #26 and #27 in six (6) fathoms of water.

April 9

Moored in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California between buoys #26 and #27 in six (6) fathoms of water. 0805 Made all preparations for getting underway. 0943 Underway for Aliso Canyon, Oceanside, California as part of Transport Division ONE. 1701 Proceeding independently to anchorage "Y-5" in accordance with O.T.C. orders. 1824 Anchored off Aliso Canyon, Oceanside, California in thirty-three (33) fathoms of water with one-hundred and five (105) fathoms of chain to the port anchor.

POSITION: 0800 Moored in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California between buoys #26 and #27 in six (6) fathoms of water.  
1200 Underway.  
2000 Anchored off Aliso Canyon, Oceanside, California in thirty-three (33) fathoms of water with one-hundred and five (105) fathoms of chain to the port anchor.

April 10

Anchored as before. 1215 Exercised at General Quarters. 1219 Secured from General Quarters, set Condition I-A. 1220 Commenced hoisting out all boats. 1246 Completed hoisting out all boats. Secured from Condition I-A, set Condition of Readiness II. 1504 Commenced hoisting aboard all boats. 1627 Completed hoisting aboard all boats.

POSITION: 0800 Anchored off Aliso Canyon, Oceanside, California in thirty-three (33) fathoms of water with one-hundred and five (105) fathoms of chain to the port anchor.  
1200  
2000

April 11

Anchored as before. 0715 Exercised at General Quarters. 0719 Secured from General Quarters, set Condition I-A. 0724 Commenced hoisting out all boats. 0749 Completed hoisting out all boats. 0751 Secured Condition I-A, set Condition of Readiness II. 0928 Set Condition I-A. 0932 Commenced making smoke. 0945 Secured from Condition I-A, set Condition of Readiness II. 1020 Commenced hoisting aboard all boats. 1530 Completed hoisting aboard all boats.

POSITION: 0800 Anchored off Aliso Canyon, Oceanside, California in thirty-three (33) fathoms of water with one-hundred and five (105) fathoms of chain to the port anchor.  
1200  
2000

April 12

Anchored as before. 0645 Exercised at General Quarters. 0650 Secured from General Quarters, set Condition I-A. 0655 Commenced hoisting out all boats. 0725 Secured from Condition I-A, set

CONFIDENTIAL

U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

April 12 Cont'd

Condition of Readiness II. 0930 Commenced making smoke. 0933 Set Condition I-A. 0941 Ceased making smoke. 0945 Secured from Condition I-A, set Condition of Readiness II. 0954 Commenced hoisting in all boats. 0958 Made all preparations for getting underway on orders of O.T.C. 1048 Completed hoisting all boats aboard. 1057 Underway for San Diego, California pursuant to ComTransDivONE's Attack Order (Training) No. A4-45 dated 5 April 1945. 1900 Moored in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California between buoys #26 and #27 in six (6) fathoms of water.

POSITION: 0800 Anchored off Aliso Canyon, Oceanside, California in thirty-three (33) fathoms of water with one-hundred and five (105) fathoms of chain to the port anchor.  
1200 Underway.  
2000 Moored in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California between buoys #26 and #27 in six (6) fathoms of water.

April 13 to  
April 15

Moored in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California between buoys #26 and #27 in six (6) fathoms of water.

April 16

Moored as before. 0922 Underway pursuant to ComTransDivONE's Landing Attack Order (Training) No. A5-45 dated 13 April 1945. 1300 Exercised at General Drills. 1419 Exercised at fire drill. 1432 Secured from fire drill. 1435 Exercised at abandon ship drill. 1440 Secured from all General Drills. 1530 Anchored in Berth X-5 off Aliso Canyon, California in eighteen (18) fathoms of water with thirty (30) fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor.

POSITION: 0800 Moored in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California between buoys #26 and #27 in six (6) fathoms of water.  
1200 Underway.  
2000 Anchored in Berth X-5 off Aliso Canyon, Oceanside, California in eighteen (18) fathoms of water with thirty (30) fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor.

April 17

Anchored as before. 0700 Exercised at General Quarters. 0704 Secured from General Quarters, set Condition I-A. 0710 Commenced hoisting out all boats. 0731 Completed hoisting out all boats. 0732 Secured from Condition I-A, set Condition of Readiness II. 0916 Set Condition I-A. Commenced making smoke. 0930 Secured Condition I-A, set Condition of Readiness II. Ceased making smoke. 0950 Commenced hoisting all boats aboard. 1150 Completed hoisting all boats aboard.

**CONFIDENTIAL U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)**

April 17

POSITION: 0800 Anchored in Berth X-5 off Aliso Canyon, 1200 Oceanside, California in eighteen (18) 2000 fathoms of water with thirty (30) fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor.

April 18

Anchored as before. 0700 Exercised at General Quarters. Set Condition I-A. 0708 Commenced hoisting out all boats. 0735 Completed hoisting out all boats. 0731 Secured Condition I-A, set Condition of Readiness II. 0831 Set Condition I-A. Commenced making smoke. 0845 Secured Condition I-A, set Condition of Readiness II. Ceased making smoke. 0930 Secured Condition I-A, set Condition of Readiness II. Ceased making smoke. 0953 Set Condition I-A, 0958 Secured Condition I-A, set Condition of Readiness II. 1005 Commenced hoisting all boats aboard. 1625 Completed hoisting aboard all boats.

POSITION: 0800 Anchored in Berth X-5 off Aliso Canyon, 1200 Oceanside, California in eighteen (18) 2000 fathoms of water with thirty (30) fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor.

April 19

Anchored as before. 0700 Exercised at General Quarters. 0703 Secured from General Quarters, set Condition I-A. 0707 Commenced hoisting out all boats. 0725 Completed hoisting out all boats. Secured from Condition I-A, set Condition of Readiness II. 0917 Set Condition I-A. 0931 Secured from Condition I-A, set Condition of Readiness II. 0933 Commenced making smoke. 0940 Ceased making smoke. 0941 Commenced hoisting aboard all boats. 1015 Completed hoisting all boats aboard. 1024 Made all preparations for getting underway. 1043 Underway pursuant to ComTransDivONE's Landing Attack Order (Training) #A5-45 dated 13 April 1945. 1843 Moored between buoys #26 and #27 in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California.

POSITION: 0800 Anchored in Berth X-5 off Aliso Canyon, Oceanside, California in eighteen (18) fathoms of water with thirty (30) fathoms of chain to starboard anchor.  
1200 Underway.  
2000 Moored between buoys #26 and #27 in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California.

April 20 to  
April 24

Moored between buoys #26 and #27 in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California.

April 25

Moored as before. 0930 Made all preparations for getting underway. 1010 Underway pursuant to ComTransDivONE's Training Memorandum 27-45 dated 23 April 1945. 1121 Anchored off Coronado Strand, San Diego, California in ten (10) fathoms of water with forty-five (45) fathoms of chain to starboard anchor. 1215 Exercised at General Quarters. 1219 Secured from General Quarters, set Condition I-A. 4

**CONFIDENTIAL** U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

April 25 Cont'd 1223 Commenced hoisting out all boats. 1241 Completed hoisting out boats. 1242 Secured Condition I-A, set Condition of Readiness II. 1318 Set Condition I-A. 1319 Commenced making smoke. 1325 Ceased making smoke. 1342 Secured from Condition I-A, set Condition of Readiness II. 1449 Commenced making smoke. 1458 Ceased making smoke. 1459 Commenced hoisting aboard all boats. 1609 Completed hoisting aboard all boats.

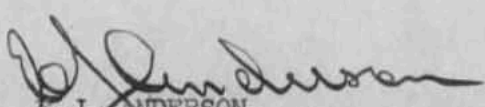
POSITION: 0800 Moored between buoys #26 and #27 in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California.  
1200 Anchored off Coronado Strand, San Diego,  
2000 California in ten (10) fathoms of water with thirty (30) fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor.

April 26 Anchored as before. 0815 Exercised at General Quarters. 0815 Secured from General Quarters, set Condition I-A. 0822 Commenced hoisting out all boats. 0848 Completed hoisting out all boats. 0850 Secured from Condition I-A, set Condition of Readiness II. 0926 Set Condition I-A. 0929 Commenced making smoke. 0938 Ceased making smoke. 0951 Secured from Condition I-A, set Condition of Readiness II. 1042 Commenced making smoke. 1044 Set Condition I-A. 1048 Ceased making smoke. 1100 Secured from Condition I-A, set Condition of Readiness II. 1103 Commenced hoisting in all boats. 1159 Completed hoisting up all boats. 1301 Made all preparations for getting underway. 1342 Underway pursuant to ComTransDivONE's Training Memorandum No. 27-45 dated 26 April 1945. 1510 Moored in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California buoys #26 and #27 in six (6) fathoms of water.

POSITION: 0800 Anchored off Coronado Strand, San Diego,  
1200 California in ten (10) fathoms of water with forty-five (45) fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor.  
2000 Moored in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California between buoys #26 and #27 in six (6) fathoms of water.

APRIL 27 to  
APRIL 30

Moored in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California between buoys #26 and #27 in six (6) fathoms of water.

  
E.J. ANDERSON,  
Captain, USNR.,  
Commanding.

U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

CONFIDENTIAL

WAR DIARY

JUNE 1945

REG. NO 1383  
R. S. NO  
REG. SHEET NO 276

DESIGNATION: Commander Transport Division ONE.

COMPOSITION: Transport Division ONE.

NEXT HIGHER ECHELON: Commander Amphibious Training Command, Pacific Fleet.

IDENTIFYING ORDER: ComPhibsTraPac Despatch #142146 of December 1944.

ZONE DESCRIPTION: Plus seven time.

June 1 to June 5

Moored between buoys #26 and #27 in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California in six (6) fathoms of water. Ships present: Transport Division ONE.

June 6

Moored as before. 0950 Made all preparations for getting underway. 1007 Underway in obedience to ComTransDivONE's Training Memorandum No. 45-45. 1119 Anchored off Coronado Strand, San Diego, California in ten (10) fathoms of water with forty-five (45) fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor. 1215 Exercised crew at General Quarters. 1218 Set Condition I-A. 1224 Commenced hoisting out all boats. 1240 Completed hoisting out all boats. 1243 Set Condition of Readiness II. 1350 Set Condition I-A, commenced making smoke. 1407 Ceased making smoke. 1437 Secured from Condition I-A, set Condition of Readiness II. 1447 Commenced hoisting all boats aboard. 1551 Completed hoisting all boats aboard.

POSITION: 0800 Moored between buoys #26 and #27 in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California in six (6) fathoms of water.  
1200 Anchored off Coronado Strand, San Diego, California in ten (10) fathoms of water with forty-five (45) fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor.

June 7

Anchored as before. 0815 Exercised at General Quarters. 0820 Secured from General Quarters, Set Condition I-A. Commenced hoisting out boats. 0842 Completed hoisting out boats. 0844 Set Condition of Readiness II. 0932 Set Condition I-A. 1023 Set Condition of Readiness II. 1043 Commenced hoisting all boats aboard. 1137 Completed hoisting aboard all boats. 1227 Underway in pursuant to ComTransDivONE's Training Memorandum No. 45-45 dated 1 June 1945. 1335 Moored starboard side to North Side of "B" Street Pier, San Diego, California.



CONFIDENTIAL U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

POSITION: 0800 Anchored off Coronado Strand, San Diego,  
1200 California in ten (10) fathoms of water  
with forty-five fathoms of chain to the  
starboard anchor.  
2000 Moored starboard side to North Side "B"  
Street Pier, San Diego, California.

June 8 to  
June 14

Moored starboard side to North Side of "B" Street Pier, San Diego,  
California.

June 15

Moored as before. 1040 Made all preparations for getting underway.  
1056 Underway pursuant to ComTransDivONE's Landing Attack Order  
A8-45 dated 11 June 1945. Exercised at General Quarters. 1449  
Commenced scheduled AA gunnery exercises. 1637 Completed scheduled  
AA gunnery exercises. Ammunition expended: 5"38 - 12 rounds; 3"50 -  
73 rounds; 20 m.m. - 3,593 rounds. No casualties. 1639 Secured  
from General Quarters, set Condition of Readiness II. 1934 Anchored  
in berth A-4, San Clemente Island in forty-one (41) fathoms of water  
with ninety (90) fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor.

POSITION: 0800 Moored starboard side to North Side of "B"  
Street Pier, San Diego, California.  
1200 Underway.  
2000 Anchored in berth A-4, Pyramid Cove, San  
Clemente Island in forty-one (41) fathoms  
of water with ninety (90) fathoms of chain  
to the starboard anchor.

June 16

Anchored as before. 0744 Underway for outer anchorage area. 0817  
Exercised at General Quarters. 0820 Secured from General Quarters,  
set Condition 1-A. 0830 Commenced hoisting out all boats. 0830  
Anchored off Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island in fifty-three (53)  
fathoms of water with ninety (90) fathoms of chain to the starboard  
anchor. 0850 Completed hoisting out all boats. 0853 Set Condition  
of Readiness II. 0944 Set Condition 1-A, commenced making smoke.  
1012 Ceased making smoke. 1030 Set Condition of Readiness II. 1043  
Commenced hoisting boats aboard. 1145 Completed hoisting aboard all  
boats. 1407 Made all preparations for getting underway. 1514 Under-  
way pursuant to ComTransDivONE's Landing Attack Order (Training) No.  
A8-45 of 1 June 1945. 2125 Moored in San Diego Harbor, San Diego,  
California between buoys #26 and #27 in six (6) fathoms of water.

POSITION: 0800 Anchored as before.  
1200 Anchored off Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Is.  
in fifty-three (53) fathoms of water with  
ninety (90) fathoms of chain to the star-  
board anchor.  
2000 Underway.

June 17 to  
June 19

Moored between buoys #26 and #27 in San Diego, Harbor, San Diego,  
California in six (6) fathoms of water. Ships present: Transport  
Division ONE.

**CONFIDENTIAL U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)**

June 20

Moored as before. 0950 Made all preparations for getting underway. 1016 Underway for Coronado Strand Anchorage pursuant to ConTransDiv-ONE's Training Memorandum No. 49-45. 1127 Anchored off Coronado Strand, San Diego, California in ten (10) fathoms of water with forty-five fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor. 1215 Exercised at General Quarters. 1219 Set Condition 1-A. 1224 Commenced hoisting out all boats. 1247 Set Condition of Readiness II. 1322 Set Condition 1-A, commenced making smoke. 1350 Ceased making smoke. 1440 Set Condition of Readiness II. 1447 Commenced hoisting aboard all boats. 1903 Completed hoisting all boats aboard.

POSITION: 0800 Moored between buoys #26 and #27 in San Diego, Harbor, San Diego, California in six (6) fathoms of water.  
1200 Anchored off Coronado Strand, San Diego,  
2000 California in ten (10) fathoms of water with forty-five (45) fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor.

June 21

Anchored as before. 0715 Made all preparations for getting underway. 0730 Underway for scheduled gunnery exercises. 0926 Exercised at General Quarters. 1043 Commenced scheduled gunnery exercises. 1231 Ceased scheduled gunnery exercises. Ammunition expended: 10 rounds 5"38; 40 rounds 3"50. 1616 Moored between buoys #26 and #27 in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California in six (6) fathoms of water.

POSITION: 0800 Underway.  
1200 Underway.  
2000 Moored between buoys #26 and #27 in San Diego, Harbor, San Diego, California in six (6) fathoms of water.

June 22 to  
June 26

Moored between buoys #26 and #27 in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California in six (6) fathoms of water.

June 27

Moored as before. 1120 Made all preparations for getting underway. 1135 Underway pursuant to ComTransDivONE's Training Memorandum No. 55-45. 1239 Anchored off Coronado Strand, San Diego, California in ten (10) fathoms of water with forty-five (45) fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor. 1240 Set Condition 1-A. 1245 Commenced hoisting out all boats. 1307 Set Condition of Readiness II. 1332 Set Condition 1-A. 1335 Commenced making smoke. 1420 Secured from making smoke, set Condition of Readiness II. 1430 Commenced hoisting aboard all boats. 1620 Completed hoisting aboard all boats.

POSITION: 0800 Moored between buoys #26 and #27 in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California in six (6) fathoms of water.  
1200 Anchored off Coronado Strand, San Diego, California in ten (10) fathoms of water with forty-five (45) fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

**U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)**

June 28

Anchored as before. 0815 Exercised at General Quarters. 0820 Set Condition 1-A. 0824 Commenced hoisting out all boats. 0842 Completed hoisting out all boats. 0845 Set Condition of Readiness II. 0941 Set Condition 1-A, commenced making smoke. 1000 Ceased making smoke. 1027 Commenced hoisting aboard all boats. 1043 Secured from Condition 1-A, set Condition of Readiness II. 1151 Underway from Coronado Strand, San Diego, California. 1348 Moored North Side of Broadway Pier, San Diego, California.

POSITION:

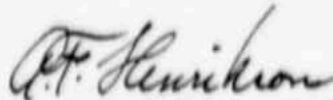
0800 Anchored off Coronado Strand, San Diego, California in ten (10) fathoms of water with forty-five (45) fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor.

1200 Underway.

2000 Moored North Side of Broadway Pier, San Diego, California.

June 29 &  
June 30

Moored North Side of Broadway Pier, San Diego, California.



A. F. HENRIKSON, Lt-Cdr., USNR.,  
Commanding.

## U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

**CONFIDENTIAL**WAR DIARYJULY 1945

DESIGNATION: Commander Transport Division ONE.

COMPOSITION: Transport Division ONE.

NEXT HIGHER ECHELON: Commander Amphibious Training Command, Pacific Fleet.

IDENTIFYING ORDER: ComPhibsTraPac Despatch 142146 of December 1944.

ZONE DESCRIPTION: Plus seven time.

July 1-4 Moored North Side of Broadway Pier, San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California.

July 5 Moored as before. 1015 Made all preparations for getting underway. 1102 Underway pursuant to ComTransDivONE's training memorandum No. 57-45, dated 29 June 1945. 1505 Exercised at General Quarters. 1523 Commenced scheduled "AA" exercises firing 20MM guns at star shells and bursts. 1545 Completed "AA" exercises. Ammunition expended: 5"38 - 2 rounds; 3"50 - 7 rounds; 20MM - 882 rounds. 1547 Set Condition of Readiness II. 1948 Anchored off Coronado Strand, San Diego, California in ten (10) fathoms of water with sixty (60) fathoms of chain to the port anchor.

POSITION: 0800 Moored North Side of Broadway Pier, San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California.  
1200 Underway.  
2000 Anchored off Coronado Strand, San Diego, California in ten (10) fathoms of water with sixty (60) fathoms of chain to the port anchor.

July 6 Anchored as before. 0815 Exercised at General Quarters. 0819 Set Condition I-A. 0824 Commenced hoisting out boats. 0843 Completed hoisting out boats. 0845 Secured from Condition I-A, set Condition of Readiness II. 0947 Set Condition I-A. 0950 Commenced making smoke. 1010 Ceased making smoke. 1030 Set Condition of Readiness II. 1101 Commenced hoisting aboard all boats. 1222 Made all preparations for getting underway. 1301 Underway from Coronado Strand, San Diego, California. 1457 Moored port side to south side Pier "B", San Diego, California.

POSITION: 0800 Anchored as before.  
1200 Anchored as before.  
2000 Moored port side to south side Pier "B", San Diego, California.

140031

**CONFIDENTIAL U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)**

July 7-10 Moored port side to south side Pier "B", San Diego, California.

July 11 Moored as before. 0830 Made all preparations for getting underway. 0855 Underway pursuant to ComTransDivONE's training memorandum No. A6-45, dated 7 July 1945. 1006 Anchored off Coronado Strand, San Diego, California in ten (10) fathoms of water with thirty (30) fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor. 1219 Exercised at General Quarters. 1222 Commenced hoisting out boats. 1224 Set Condition I-A. 1246 Completed hoisting out all boats. 1247 Set Condition II. 1402 Commenced making smoke. 1403 Set Condition I-A. 1414 Ceased making smoke. 1440 Commenced hoisting aboard all boats. 1641 Veered chain out to sixty (60) fathoms.

POSITION: 0800 Moored as before.  
1200 Anchored off Coronado Strand, San Diego, California in ten (10) fathoms of water with thirty (30) fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor.  
2000 Anchored off Coronado Strand, San Diego, California in ten (10) fathoms of water with sixty (60) fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor.

July 12 Anchored as before. 0710 Made all preparations for getting underway. 0735 Underway in accordance with ComTransDivONE's order No. 60-45, dated 7 July 1945. 0940 Commenced scheduled gunnery exercises. Ammunition expended: 5"38 - 10 rounds; 3"50 - 40 rounds. 1206 Set Condition of Readiness II. 1507 Moored between buoys #26 and #27, San Diego, Harbor, San Diego, California in six (6) fathoms of water.

POSITION: 0800 Anchored as before.  
1200 Anchored as before.  
2000 Moored between buoys #26 and #27, San Diego, California.

July 13-17 Moored between buoys #26 and #27, San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California in six (6) fathoms of water.

July 18 Moored as before. 0945 Made all preparations for getting underway. 1005 Underway pursuant to ComTransDivONE's training memorandum No. 63-45. 1108 Anchored off Coronado Strand, San Diego, California in ten (10) fathoms of water with sixty (60) fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor. 1215 Set General Quarters. 1222 Set Condition I-A. 1225 Commenced hoisting aboard all boats. 1241 Completed hoisting aboard all boats. Set Condition of Readiness II. 1350 Set Condition I-A. 1430 Set Condition of Readiness II.

**CONFIDENTIAL** U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

July 18  
(Con't.)

POSITION: 0800 Moored as before.  
1200 Anchored off Coronado Strand, San Diego, California in ten (10) fathoms of water with sixty (60) fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor.  
2000 Anchored off Coronado Strand, San Diego, California in ten (10) fathoms of water with sixty (60) fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor.

July 19

Anchored as before. 0815 Set General Quarters. 0820 Set Condition 1-A. 0829 Commenced hoisting out all boats. 0842 Completed hoisting out all boats. 0844 Set Condition of Readiness II. 1103 Commenced hoisting in all boats. 1219 Completed hoisting in all boats. 1225 Made all preparations for getting underway. 1311 Underway pursuant to ComTransDivONE's training memorandum No. 63-45, dater 13 July 1945. 1355 Anchored in Berth 208, San Diego Bay, San Diego, California in seven (7) fathoms of water with fifteen (15) fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor. 1418 Underway for buoys #26 and #27, San Diego, Harbor, San Diego, California. 1502 Moored between buoys #26 and #27, San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California in six (6) fathoms of water.

POSITION: 0800 Anchored as before.  
1200 Anchored as before.  
2000 Moored between buoys #26 and #27 in San Diego, Harbor, San Diego, California, in six (6) fathoms of water.

July 20-24

Moored between buoys #26 and #27, San Diego, Harbor, San Diego, California in six (6) fathoms of water.

July 25

Moored as before. 0810 Made all preparations for getting underway. 0902 Underway pursuant to ComTransDivONE's training memorandum No. 70-45, dated 20 July 1945. 1049 Anchored off Coronado Strand, San Diego, California in nine (9) fathoms of water with sixty (60) fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor. 1215 Exercised at General Quarters. 1220 Set Condition 1-A. 1227 Commenced hoisting out all boats. 1250 Completed hoisting out all boats. 1257 Set Condition of Readiness II. 1343 Set Condition 1-A. 1411 Commenced making smoke. 1420 Ceased making smoke. 1442 Set Condition of Readiness II. 1454 Commenced hoisting aboard all boats. 1631 Completed hoisting aboard all boats.

POSITION: 0800 Moored as before.  
1200 Anchored off Coronado Strand, San Diego, California in nine (9) fathoms of water with sixty (60) fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor.  
2000 Anchored as before.

CONFIDENTIAL

U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

July 26

Anchored as before. 0815 Exercised at General Quarters. 0819 Set Condition 1-A. Commenced hoisting out all boats. 0841 Completed hoisting out all boats. 0843 Set Condition of Readiness II. 1000 Set Condition 1-A. 1103 Set Condition of Readiness II. 1107 Commenced hoisting all boats aboard. 1228 Made all preparations for getting underway. 1237 Completed hoisting aboard all boats. 1259 Underway pursuant to ComTransDivONE's training memorandum No. 70-45 dated 20 July 1945. 1449 Moored between buoys #26 and #27 in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California in six (6) fathoms of water.

POSITION:

0800 Anchored as before.

1200 Anchored as before.

2000 Moored between buoys #26 and #27 in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California in six (6) fathoms of water.

July 27-31

Moored between buoys #26 and #27 in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California in six (6) fathoms of water.



A.F. HENRIKSON.

U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

WAR DIARY

AUGUST 1945

REC NO 1502  
R.  
REC. SHEET NO

DESIGNATION: Commander Transport Division ONE.  
COMPOSITION: Transport Division ONE.  
NEXT HIGHER ECHELON: Commander Amphibious Training Command,  
Pacific Fleet.  
IDENTIFYING ORDER: ComPhibsTraPac Despatch 142146  
of December 1944.  
ZONE DESCRIPTION: Plus seven time.

August 1

Moored in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California between buoys #26 and #27 in six (6) fathoms of water. 0820 Made all preparations for getting underway. 0923 Underway pursuant to ComTransDivONE's Training Memorandum 73-45 dated 27 July 1945. 1622 Commenced scheduled exercises. Ship set at General Quarters. 1623 This ship commenced firing port batteries on drone plane. 1650 Completed drone plane gunnery exercises. Ammunition expended: 30 rounds - 3"50; 1 round - 5"38. 1650 Set Condition of Readiness II. 2205 Anchored off Coronado Strand, San Diego, California in nine (9) fathoms of water with sixty (60) fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor.

POSITION: 0800 Moored in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California between buoys #26 and #27 in six (6) fathoms of water.  
1200 Underway.  
2000 Underway.

August 2

Anchored off Coronado Strand, San Diego, California in nine (9) fathoms of water with sixty (60) fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor. 0815 Exercised at General Quarters. 0818 Set Condition I-A. 0825 Commenced hoisting out all boats. 0840 Completed hoisting out all boats. 0842 Set condition of Readiness II. 0945 Set Condition I-A. Commenced making smoke. 1005 Ceased making smoke. 1008 Set Condition of Readiness II. 1047 Commenced hoisting aboard all boats. 1223 Made all preparations for getting underway. 1224 Completed hoisting aboard all boats. 1307 Underway in obedience to ComTransDivONE's Training Memorandum No. 73-45 dated 27 July 1945. 1414 Moored between buoys #26 and #27 in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California in six (6) fathoms of water.

POSITION: 0800 Anchored off Coronado Strand, San Diego, California  
1200 in nine (9) fathoms of water with sixty (60) fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor.  
2000 Moored between buoys #26 and #27 in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California in six (6) fathoms of water.

149636



U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

August 3 - 7

Moored between buoys #26 and #27 in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California in six (6) fathoms of water.

August 8

Moored as before. 1010 Made all preparations for getting underway. 1042 Underway pursuant to ComTransDivONE's Training Memorandum No. 76-45. 1345 Commenced scheduled gunnery exercises. 1551 Completed gunnery exercises with the following ammunition expended: 40 rounds - 3"50; 10 rounds - 5"38. 1814 Anchored off Coronado Strand, San Diego, California in ten (10) fathoms of water with sixty (60) fathoms of chain to the port anchor.

POSITION: 0800 Moored between buoys #26 and #27 in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California in six (6) fathoms of water.  
1200 Underway.  
2000 Anchored off Coronado Strand, San Diego, California in ten (10) fathoms of water with sixty (60) fathoms of chain to the port anchor.

August 9

Anchored as before. 0815 Set General Quarters. 0819 Set Condition I-A. 0824 Commenced hoisting out all boats. 0842 Completed hoisting out all boats. 0844 Set Condition of Readiness II. 0844 Set Condition of Readiness II. 0920 Set Condition I-A. Commenced making smoke. 0929 Ceased making smoke. 0939 Set Condition of Readiness II. 1019 Commenced hoisting aboard all boats. 1133 Completed hoisting aboard all boats. 1150 Underway pursuant to ComTransDivONE's Training Memorandum N. 76-45. 1232 Anchored in berth 206, San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California in seven (7) fathoms of water with thirty (30) fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor. 1300 Underway from Berth 206, San Diego Harbor for buoys #26 and #27 in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California in six (6) fathoms of water.

POSITION: 0800 Anchored off Coronado Strand, San Diego, California in ten (10) fathoms of water with sixty (60) fathoms of chain to the port anchor.  
1200 Underway.  
2000 Moored between buoys #26 and #27 in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California in six (6) fathoms of water.

August 10 - 15

Moored between buoys #26 and #27 in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California in six (6) fathoms of water.

August 16

Moored as before. 0802 Underway pursuant to ComPhibsTraPac's Confidential despatch 092359 dated August 1945. 0904 Exercised at Fire Drill. 0914 Secured from Fire Drill.

POSITION: 0800 Moored as before.  
1200 32-34-45 N 118-05-15 W  
2000 33-21-00 N 119-54-00 W

U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

August 17

Underway as before. 2132 Anchored in San Francisco Bay, San Francisco, California in ten (10) fathoms of water with sixty (60) fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor.

POSITION: 0800 35-30-00 N 121-46-00 W  
1200 36-15-45 N 122-11-00 W  
2000 Anchored in San Francisco Bay, San Francisco, California in ten (10) fathoms of water with sixty (60) fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor.

August 18

Anchored as before. 2230 Made all preparations for getting underway. 2253 Underway for Seattle, Washington pursuant to ComPhibsTraPac's Confidential despatch 092357 of August 1945.

POSITION: 0800 Anchored as before.  
1200  
2000 Underway.

August 19

Underway as before.

POSITION: 0800 38-47-00 N 123-57-30 W  
1200 39-31-00 N 124-20-00 W  
2000 40-55-30 N 124-39-30 W

August 20

Underway as before.

POSITION: 0800 43-16-45 N 124-44-30 W  
1200 44-09-45 N 124-34-30 W  
2000 45-43-45 N 124-30-30 W

August 21

Underway as before. 1918 Moored port side to south side Pier #46, Seattle, Washington.

POSITION: 0800 48-14-30 N 124-59-30 W  
1200 48-19-00 N 124-04-45 W  
2000 Moored port side to south side Pier #46, Seattle, Washington.

August 22

Moored as before.

August 23

Moored as before. 0830 Made all preparations for getting underway. 0856 Underway enroute to San Pedro, California pursuant to ComWes SeaFron Confidential sailing orders of 22 August 1945.

POSITION: 0800 Moored port side to south side Pier #46, Seattle, Washington.  
1200 48-10-20 N 122-48-20 W  
2000 48-26-10 N 125-12-45 W

U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

August 24

Underway as before.

POSITION: 0800 45-40-00 N 124-55-20 W  
1200 44-46-00 N 125-12-50 W  
2000 42-56-48 N 125-25-00 W

August 25

Underway as before.

POSITION: 0800 40-11-30 N 125-08-00 W  
1200 39-04-00 N 124-49-00 W  
2000 37-23-00 N 123-52-00 W

August 26

Underway as before.

POSITION: 0800 35-09-50 N 122-19-00 W  
1200 34-35-00 N 121-51-00 W  
2000 33-45-45 N 120-29-30 W

August 27

Underway as before. 0647 Anchored in berth B-8, San Pedro Bay, San Pedro, California in eight (8) fathoms of water with forty-five (45) fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor. 0810 Commenced unloading ammunition from the forward magazine. 1445 Completed unloading all of ships ammunition. 1756 Moored starboard side to U.S.S. DOYEN (APA-1), Pier 52, Long Beach, Calif.

POSITION: 0800 Anchored in Berth B-8, San Pedro Bay, San Pedro.  
1200 California in eight (8) fathoms of water.  
2000 Moored starboard side to U.S.S. DOYEN (APA-1), pier 52, Long Beach, California.

August 28 - 31

Moored starboard side to berth 54, Pier 52, Consolidated Pico Yard, Long Beach, California.



A. F. HENRIKSON,  
Lt. Cdr., USNR.,  
Commanding.

U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

WAR DIARY

SEPTEMBER 1945

DESIGNATION: Commander Transport Division ONE.  
COMPOSITION: Transport Division ONE.  
NEXT HIGHER ECHELON: Commander Amphibious Training Command,  
Pacific Fleet.  
IDENTIFYING ORDER: ComPhibsTraPac Despatch 142146  
of December 1944.  
ZONE DESCRIPTION: Plus seven time.

September 1-5 Moored starboard side to berth #54, pier #52, Consolidated Pico Yards, Long Beach, California.

September 6 Moored as before. 1104 Made preparations for getting underway. 1135 Underway for drydock at Consolidated ship yards in Wilmington, California. Ship under power of tugs. 1412 Entered dry dock of Consolidated Shipbuilding Corporation. 1454 Ships keel resting on blocks in drydock.

POSITION: 0800 Moored as before.  
1200 Underway  
2000 In Consolidated Steel Corporation dry dock,  
Wilmington California.

September 7 In dry dock as before.

September 8 In dry dock as before. 2000 Commenced flooding dry dock. Make all preparations for getting underway. 2032 Completed flooding dry dock. 2106 Underway under power of tugs to Consolidated Pico Yards, Long Beach, California.

POSITION: 0800 In dry dock as before.  
1200 In dry dock as before.  
2000 Underway.

September 9 Underway as before. 0113 Moored starboard side to berth #54, Pier #52, Consolidated Pico Yards, Long Beach, California.

POSITION: 0800 Moored starboard side to berth #54, Pier #52,  
Consolidated Pico Yards, Long Beach, California.  
1200 Moored as before.  
2000 Moored as before.

September 10 Moored as before.

U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

September 11

Moored as before. 0540 Made all preparations for getting underway. 0624 Underway for Deperming Station, San Pedro, California. 0819 Moored starboard side to Pier #92, Deperming Station, San Pedro, California. 0945 Made all preparations for getting underway. 1017 Underway for anchorage B-7 in San Pedro Harbor, San Pedro, California. 1100 Anchored in Berth B-7 in San Pedro Harbor, San Pedro, California in seven (7) fathoms of water with forty five (45) fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor.

POSITION: 0800 Underway  
1200 Anchored in Berth B-7 San Pedro Harbor, San Pedro Harbor, San Pedro, California.  
2000 Anchored as before.

September 12

Anchored as before. 0615 Commenced receiving fuel oil from United Towing Fuel Barge #4. 0900 Completed taking on fuel oil having received 153,928 gal. 1530 Commenced taking aboard ammunition from U.S. Navy barge Y. F.-953. 2110 Completed taking aboard ammunition.

September 13

Anchored as before. 0035 Completed stowing aboard the following ammunition from Naval Ammunition Depot, Seal Beach, California: 602 rounds - 5"38 caliber ammunition; 10 - 5"38 caliber plug corks; 904 rounds 3'50 caliber ammunition; 39,600 -20 MM ammunition; 37,500 rounds 50 caliber ammunition; 7 empty 50 caliber magazines; 169,200 rounds 30 caliber ammunition; 16,800 rounds 45 caliber ammunition; 0640 Lt(jg) D. L. Kenega, USNR., compass compensator, came aboard. 0645 The ten (10) ton boom on the port side of #1 hold fell across LCPL #9. Boom bent out of line five (5) inches. The canopy on LCPL #9 was damaged and its port gunwhale was cracked fifteen (15) inches down the side. 0647 Made all preparations for getting underway. 0706 Underway for San Diego, California pursuant movement order #47 R&R of Port Director San Pedro, California. 0734 Commenced swinging ship to compensate compasses. 0810 Completed compensating compasses. 1557 Moored in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California between buoys #42 and #43 in five (5) fathoms of water.

POSITION: 0800 33-42-30 N 118-13-30 W  
1200 33-04-20 N 117-46-36 W  
2000 Moored in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California between buoys #42 and #43.

September 14

Moored as before. 1416 Made all preparations for getting underway. 1436 Underway to pier #4 Destroyer Base, San Diego, California. 1504 Moored port side to south side Pier #4, Destroyer Base, San Diego, California. 1640 Made ten (10) minute static test on the ten (10) ton boom on the port side of #1 hold. Boom is satisfactory.

POSITION: 0800 Moored in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, California between buoys #42 and #43.  
1200 Moored as before.  
2000 Moored port side to south side of Pier #4, Destroyer Base, San Diego, California.

U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

September 15

Moored as before. 1220 Commenced receiving fuel from Y. O. 52  
1315 Completed fueling ship having received 28,879 gallons.

September 16

Moored as before.

September 17

Moored as before. 0745 Made all preparations for getting underway.  
0803 Underway for buoys #40 and #41, San Diego Harbor, San Diego,  
California. 0852 Moored to buoys #40 and #41 San Diego Harbor,  
San Diego, California.

POSITION:

0800 Moored as before.

1200 Moored in San Diego Harbor, San Diego, Calif-  
ornia to buoys #40 and #41.

2000 Moored as before.

September 18-19

Moored as before.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH COMINCH REST. LTR. FF1/A12-1, SERIAL 7425,  
18 SEPTEMBER 1945. THIS IS OUR LAST WAR DIARY.

*A. F. Henrikson*

A. F. HENRIKSON,  
Lt.Cdr., USNR.,  
Commanding.

U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

NOV 6 10 15 AM

AKA3/A10  
Serial 866

SO11 6 1

00R

27 October 1945.

RESTRICTED

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

Subject: Ship's History - Forwarding of.

Reference: (a) ALPAC 202-45.

Enclosure: (A) Copy of Ship's History of this vessel.



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

*A. F. Henrikson*  
 A. F. HENRIKSON.

cc: Cincpac.

156183

RESTRICTED

HISTORY  
OF  
U.S.S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

1 October 1945

A. F. HENRIKSON,  
Lt-Cdr., U.S.N.R.,  
Commanding.



1 October 1945.

HISTORY OF THE U.S.S. BELLATRIX

I

Commissioning and Fitting Out.

The U.S.S. Bellatrix, first vessel of the U.S. Navy so christened, is named for the Star Bellatrix, which is in the constellation Orion. Built at the Tampa Shipbuilding Company, Tampa, Florida, she was originally intended to be the "M.S. Raven", a cargo-passenger ship, built for the U.S. Maritime Commission. She was converted during construction to a combat-loaded Navy cargo ship and was completed and placed in commission by Commander D. W. Coe, on 17 February 1942. The ship was immediately turned over to Commander W. F. Dietrich, U.S.N., Commanding Officer. She was at that time designated as the "AK 20".

The Bellatrix got underway for the first time on 5 March 1942 and during the following four days underwent a shakedown with speed trials and compass compensation. On 9 March 1942, she got underway for Charleston, South Carolina. As she was approaching Charleston Harbor, she got her first taste of submarine warfare when a torpedo passed her on her port side. However, after a few radical maneuvers she returned to her course and entered Charleston Harbor without any further difficulty and she docked at the Charleston Navy Yard on 11 March 1942 to be fitted out.

After a short fitting out period, she got underway on 25 March 1942 and arrived at Norfolk, Virginia on the 27th. By 8 April 1942, she had received her first combat cargo and passengers, a detachment of Fleet Marines, and on 10 April sailed under sealed orders as part of Task Force 38. On 18 April she passed through the Panama Canal and became part of convoy

## I

### Commissioning and Fitting Out - Continued

"BT 202", which was headed for the South Pacific. On 23 April, "Davey Jones" came aboard and converted the many Pollywogs into trusty Shellbacks. On 8 May the Bellatrix arrived in Pago Pago Harbor, Samoa. After discharging cargo at Apia, Tongatabu and Pago Pago, the Bellatrix was underway for Wellington, New Zealand. She arrived at Wellington on 3 June 1942. Present in the harbor were most of the ships of the original Southwestern Pacific Amphibious Force.

## II

### THE GUADALCANAL CAMPAIGN

A little over a month was consumed while the Bellatrix along with most of the other ships of Task Force 62, which was to eventually attack Guadalcanal, received her combat cargo, fueled and provisioned. On 22 July 1942 Task Force 62 sortied from Wellington Harbor, New Zealand. From 28 July to 31 July, the Bellatrix unloaded and loaded her cargo as the Task Force made rehearsal landings on Karo Island, part of the Fiji group.

On 31 July 1942, the U.S.S. Bellatrix was underway for her first invasion. At 0230 on 7 August 1942 Guadalcanal Island was sighted and at 0652 the Bellatrix's first boat was in the water and she began to discharge her cargo to the beach. By evening she had had her first real taste of war, two air attacks by enemy bombers. However no bombs were dropped near her and no damage was done. That night, anchored off Guadalcanal in Lingo Roads, she was able to unload cargo. However, the next day she was not able to do much unloading as the greater part of the day was spent underway avoiding air attacks. At noon there was a large scale torpedo attack by enemy planes in which three nearby ships of the Task Force were hit. As a result of the attack, the U.S.S. George F. Elliot, a member of the Transport Attack Force, was in flames and later had to be sunk by U.S. Forces. That night more cargo was unloaded, and on 9 August 1942 the greater part of the Task Force left the area. By 13 August, the Bellatrix had arrived in Dunbea Bay, New Caledonia.

## II

### THE GUADALCANAL CAMPAIGN - Continued

After discharging the cargo which she had not unloaded at Guadalcanal, she was reloaded and on 1 September arrived at Fila Harbor, Efate, New Hebrides. There she took aboard Marine and Naval Aviation personnel. On 4 September she was in Espiritu Santo, and received more cargo and personnel. On 6 September 1942, she got underway from Espiritu Santo in company with the U.S.S. Fuller and one escort for her second trip to Guadalcanal.

On 8 September 1942, the Bellatrix arrived at Guadalcanal and immediately began discharging her cargo with the aid of Marine working parties furnished from the beach. She managed to unload cargo all day but that night she and the Fuller were driven out of the area by enemy flares and air attacks which usually followed. The following day, 9 September was a hard day for the Bellatrix and her crew. While returning to the area on the 9th, the Bellatrix and Fuller were subjected to a heavy enemy bombing attack. By 1142 that morning, twenty-nine bombs had fallen around both quarters of the Bellatrix. The closest fell approximately seventy-five feet away and bomb fragments wounded two of her crew. At 1154 the planes returned and one was shot down by the Bellatrix gunners. Not only enemy aircraft plagued her that day but also submarines menaced the ship. By 1310 she had seen the periscopes of three enemy submarines and had successfully avoided attack. That evening she was again ordered out of the area and on 11 September arrived in Espiritu Santo.

However, on the next day, 12 September 1942, she was underway again for her third trip to Guadalcanal and on 14 September she was at anchor in Tulagi Harbor. Again, attempts to unload were thwarted by enemy action. At 0957 she got underway because of threatened air attack. At 1334 she was again underway because of "Condition Red". At 1806 she experienced another high altitude bombing attack by eighteen enemy planes, however no bombs fell near her. At 1838 she was attacked by one enemy plane, but received no damage, nevertheless by 1930 she had debarked all of her Marine personnel and was ordered out of the area because of the approach of a Japanese surface force.

On 16 September as she headed for Espiritu Santo, orders were received for her to reverse course and proceed independently to Guadalcanal. Thus on

## II

### THE GUADALCANAL CAMPAIGN - Continued

18 September she was again anchored in Lingo Roads. It was her fourth trip. With the aid of Marines, she was able to unload her deck cargo of vital aviation gasoline all in one day. That evening she was underway for New Caledonia, and on 22 September anchored in Dunbea Bay, New Caledonia.

By 7 October she was again fully loaded and after stopping at Espiritu Santo to pick up a barge of aviation gasoline as a tow, she and the U.S.S. Alchiba, also towing a barge, departed for Guadalcanal on 10 October 1942. On the 14th as they approached their destination they received orders to reverse course and return to Espiritu Santo. On the 15th the Task Unit was subjected to two air attacks. The second one almost proved disastrous to the Bellatrix. Nine enemy dive bombers attacked her as an individual target. There were no direct hits, but two near misses. Both landed within 30 feet of her starboard side and caused damage to her frames and plates on that side. The enemy, evidently having expended all their bombs, allowed her to proceed. But the excitement was not yet over. On the following day two torpedoes were barely avoided by emergency turns as she approached Espiritu Santo.

On 23 October 1942, she departed Espiritu Santo for Guadalcanal but again she did not reach her destination because after two days of circling, awaiting an opportunity to approach the area, she was ordered to return to Efate. But by 28 October she was again ordered to make a run to "The Canal". She stopped at Espiritu Santo and picked up another barge of gasoline and in company with a tug and an escort headed for Guadalcanal. On 2 November she arrived at her destination. This was her fifth successful trip, out of seven attempts. By 4 November she had unloaded all her cargo at Tulagi and Guadalcanal and was able to depart. On the 7th she arrived at Port Noumea and went alongside the U.S.S. Vestal, a repair ship, and received temporary repairs to her damaged starboard side. She then left for Wellington, New Zealand and arrived there on the 17th of November 1942.

On 19 November she entered Jubilee Dry Dock at Wellington and remained there until 9 December, getting her bomb damages repaired. On 18 December after compensating her compasses, she sailed for Auckland, New Zealand and arrived there on the 20th.

## II

### THE GUADALCANAL CAMPAIGN - Continued

Upon receiving her Christmas mail and passengers for Noumea, she got underway on Christmas Day and arrived at Noumea on the 29th. On 3 January 1943, after receiving a full cargo she got underway. Then a brief stop at Espiritu Santo on the 5th and she departed for Guadalcanal, arriving there on the 8th for her sixth and last run into that area. By the 12th, she had all of her cargo and passengers discharged and returned to Espiritu Santo arriving on 16 January 1943.

During the next two days she embarked passengers and casualties for the United States and on 18 January 1943 she sailed for San Diego, California. On 4 February 1943 she arrived at San Diego and immediately went to the Naval Repair Base for voyage repairs.

At San Diego on 13 February 1943, Captain W. F. Dietrich was relieved as commanding officer by Commander O.H. Ritchie. Captain Dietrich at a later date received the Navy Cross for the part the Bellatrix played during the critical days of the Guadalcanal Campaign.

On 19 February 1943, the U.S.S. Bellatrix was again underway, this time for Charleston, South Carolina. On 1 March she passed through the Panama Canal and on 8 March arrived at the Charleston Navy Yard. There she received additional 20 m.m. guns and radar equipment plus other necessary yard work. At this time her designation was changed from "AK 20" to "AKA 3".

By 13 April 1943, she was in Hampton Roads, off Norfolk, Virginia, ready to begin her preparations for the next campaign -- The Sicily Operation.

### III

#### THE SICILY CAMPAIGN

The U.S.S. Bellatrix began training operations for the Sicilian Landings on 18 April 1943. These were conducted in Chesapeake Bay, primarily in the area around Cove Point, Maryland. From 18 April until 24 May, these training operations were conducted.

On 24 May she began receiving Army combat cargo at the Army Port of Embarkation at Newport News, Virginia. And on 8 June after she had made one more rehearsal landing in Chesapeake Bay, the Bellatrix got underway for the Mediterranean Area as part of Task Force 65. On 21 June the convoy passed through the Straits of Gibraltar and on the following day the U.S.S. Bellatrix led the convoy into Oran Harbor. The Bellatrix anchored at Mers El Kebir. On the 24th a final rehearsal landing was made at Arzew Bay, and on the 25th, she was anchored in Oran Harbor, Algeria, awaiting the order to start for Sicily.

5 July 1943 she got underway as part of Task Unit 85.1.2 and after five days steaming with occasional submarine and mine scares, the Task Force arrived off Scoglitti, Sicily in the very early morning of the 10th. During the day and night preceeding D-Day, an unusual storm had caused very heavy seas which in turn resulted in considerable difficulty in putting the landing boats in the water. Nevertheless, by 0740 all the Bellatrix's boats were in the water and she had commenced unloading her cargo. She was able to discharge cargo almost continuously although on the 11th there were several air raids in the area. The bombs which fell closest to the Bellatrix were about 1100 yards away. At night there were numerous air raids, none of which caused any damage to the Bellatrix. The flares dropped by the enemy over the area and the necessity of heavy anti-aircraft barrages by the ships, delayed unloading more than any other factor.

By the afternoon of 13 July, all her cargo was unloaded and all army personnel disembarked. Her work completed, the Bellatrix left the area and after several submarine contacts, arrived at Oran Harbor on 16 July 1943. After six days during which passengers and casualties for the United States were loaded, she departed for the U.S.A. and arrived at the Naval Operating Base, Norfolk, Virginia on 3 August 1943. After a short yard period at Berkeley, Virginia, she was anchored in

### III

#### THE SICILY CAMPAIGN - Continued

Hampton Roads on the 20th, ready to start on her third invasion.

For the manner in which the Bellatrix kept her boats in operation under adverse conditions at Scoglitti, Sicily and for her expeditious discharge of cargo, the Commanding Officer, Captain O.H. Ritchie, at a later date received the Legion of Merit.

### IV

#### THE INVASION OF TARAWA

On 24 August 1943, the Bellatrix was underway once more heading back to the Pacific. She was part of Task Group 20.15, traveling in convoy with other transports of the Amphibious Forces. On August 30-31 she passed through the Panama Canal and joined Task Group 12.5. 10 September 1943 she arrived at San Francisco, California to receive cargo for the Hawaiian Islands. On 24 September after receiving a cargo of bombs from the Benicia Arsenal, she departed for the Hawaiian Islands and arrived at Honolulu on 30 September. This cargo consisting of more than 4200 tons of bombs was the heaviest load the Bellatrix ever carried. After discharging this cargo she left on 6 October and proceeded independently to Wellington, New Zealand, arriving there on 20 October 1943.

On 22 October her second Commanding Officer, Captain O.H. Ritchie, U.S.N.R., was relieved by Commander C. A. Joans, U.S.N.R.

23 October 1943 she began to load a reserve Marine combat cargo for the invasion of Tarawa. On 1 November she got underway as part of Task Group 53.1 and on the 7th arrived at Efate Island, New Hebrides Group. On the 8th a final rehearsal landing was held in the area and on 13 November 1943 the task group sortied from Havannah Harbor, New Hebrides heading for Tarawa. By 0806 on 20 November 1943 the U.S.S. Bellatrix was in her transport area off Betio Atoll, Tarawa Island. The only excitement that day as far as the ship was concerned was caused by Japanese shore batteries which had found the range of the transport area and splashed several shells nearby. The transports moved out of range and the shore batteries were silenced shortly afterwards by the Naval bombardment forces.

#### IV

#### THE INVASION OF TARAWA - Continued

As the Bellatrix was part of a reserve transport division, no cargo was unloaded, but her boats were sent to aid other vessels in unloading. The night of the 20th the Transport Group retired from the immediate area and returned in the morning. After lying to all day, watching the heavy fighting ashore, the Bellatrix got her only real thrill of the invasion when that evening a single two-engine Japanese bomber, the only one seen in that area, nearly collided with her mainmast. However, no shots were fired and no bombs were dropped.

Unfortunately, on 22 November the Bellatrix's troubles began. Her port diesel engine became a casualty due to the constant speed changes while in convoy. Repairs could not be made aboard, so she was crippled and had only half her speed. As a result of this engine casualty she was ordered to proceed to the Ellice Islands for repairs. On 25 November, after she had unloaded no cargo in her five days at Tarawa, she left unescorted and arrived at Funafuti, Ellice Islands, on 30 November after making an average speed of eight knots. The Bellatrix was particularly fortunate this time, inasmuch as she traversed waters which were thickly infested with enemy submarines. At Funafuti she went alongside the U.S.S. Cascade, a repair ship, and received temporary repairs to her damaged engine. By 7 December she was proceeding to Hilo, Hawaii Island where she moored on the 15th. There she discharged her cargo. After a brief stop at Pearl Harbor, she departed for San Francisco on 24 December arriving there 31 December 1943. She went almost immediately to the Bethlehem Shipbuilding Company Yards for a complete overhaul on her engines.

#### V

#### THE SAIPAN OPERATION

By 3 January 1944, the U.S.S. Bellatrix began her most complete yard overhaul since commissioning, at the Bethlehem Shipbuilding Company in San Francisco. In addition to overhauling her engines, the propeller was cut down to reduce the critical vibration zone, her bottom was cleaned and a new set of winches were installed for her booms.



THE SAIPAN OPERATION - Continued

On 8 February 1944, her third Commanding Officer, Commander C.A. Joans, U.S.N.R. was relieved by Commander E. J. Anderson, U.S.N.R.

On 9 March she left the yard and began degaussing runs and speed trials. The next day her compasses were compensated and her radio direction finder calibrated. On the 11th she began loading a general cargo and on the 17th sailed for Pearl Harbor, heavily loaded. She arrived there the 23rd of March and immediately began discharging her cargo.

Two weeks later, on 6 April 1944, she had been moved to Honolulu Harbor and on the 7th the training operations for the Saipan invasion began. These operations were held in Maalaea Bay, on Maui Island, part of the Territory of Hawaii. They consisted of landing Army and Marine personnel in accordance with amphibious doctrine. On the 15th she returned to Honolulu and on the 18th left again for another seven days of training operations. By the 26th she was back in Honolulu again.

Pursuant to orders of Commander Fifth Amphibious Force, she moved to Kahului Harbor, Maui Island, T.H. on 1 May 1944 and began to receive her combat load of Marine gear.

By 5 May she was in Pearl Harbor receiving more cargo. On the 9th she moved to Honolulu and on the 15th sortied with the entire task group for a final rehearsal landing on Maui. When this was finished she returned to Pearl Harbor and lay there awaiting the order to sortie for the invasion. On 29 May the order came and the U.S.S. Bellatrix sortied as part of Task Group 52.15.

On 8 June 1944 she arrived at Eniwetok Atoll, Marshall Islands for final logistic preparations and left for the Saipan assault on 11 June. On 14 June the Task Group was formed in the assault disposition, and the Bellatrix joined a demonstration group which was to make a feint landing on the northern part of Saipan while the actual attack was made on the southern end.

At 0625, 15 June 1944, the U.S.S. Bellatrix arrived in her transport area off Saipan and took her part in the demonstration attack. By 1100 the feint had been completed and the Bellatrix had moved south and joined the main attacking force.

THE SAIPAN OPERATION - Continued

Her boats were sent to land assault troops from the APA's. She lay to all day as the initial landings were made and that evening she retired with the task groups after a small ineffectual air attack was made by four Japanese planes.

On the morning of the 16th she returned to Saipan Harbor after cruising all night with the Task Group and began to unload cargo. Cargo was unloaded all day and that evening she moved to within 1500 yards of the beach and attempted to unload vital artillery shells. Not much unloading was accomplished however because of beach conditions, but numerous casualties were taken aboard for medical treatment.

She continued to unload all day during the 17th and that evening after a small air raid by two planes retired with her Task Group to the east of Saipan Island. There she remained during the 18th because the Japanese fleet was challenging Task Force 58.

At 0425, on the 19th, however, the Bellatrix was detached and ordered to proceed independently to Saipan and unload. She arrived there on the 19th and unloaded day and night without undue difficulty. By the afternoon of the 21st she was completely unloaded and all her passengers were disembarked. She was the first AKA completely unloaded in the operation. On the 22nd she left the area with a number of empty APA's and on the 26th arrived at Eniwetok Atoll. She departed on the 28th with Task Unit 51.18.3. On the 29th the U.S.S. Neville and the U.S.S. Bellatrix were detached and arrived at Roi Island, Kwajalein Atoll, Marshall Islands, the same day. There the Bellatrix loaded a partial cargo of SeaBee equipment to be returned to Pearl Harbor. On 4 July she moved to Kwajalein Island, at the south end of Kwajalein Lagoon, and there took aboard 149 casualties of the Saipan operation who had been flown to the hospital at Kwajalein. On 5 July she left in convoy for Pearl Harbor and arrived there 14 July. After unloading she departed on the 14th for the United States. On the 21st of July 1944 she arrived at San Diego to join a Transport Division which was helping to train Marine and Army Units in amphibious technique prior to their departure overseas.

For her prompt unloading and the manner in which casualties were treated aboard the Bellatrix, the Captain, officers and men received a letter of commendation from Vice Admiral R. L. Ghormley, U.S.N.

VI

AS A TRAINING SHIP

The U.S.S. Bellatrix joined Transport Division Thirty-Six on 22 July 1944. This division was under ComPhibsTraPac and its function was to be the afloat training of Army and Marine Corps personnel in conjunction with the Troop Training Unit, Amphibious Training Command.

On 23 July, the U.S.S. Bellatrix went on her first eight day training operation. This consisted of landing troops of the Fifth Marine Division on beaches at Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island, with token equipment and finally landing troops and all equipment at Aliso Canyon near Oceanside, California.

The Bellatrix and other vessels of the Transport Division went to San Pedro, California for yard availability on 2 August 1944. Necessary voyage repairs and upkeep were made. 4 September 1944 found her back in San Diego to begin work with the 97th Infantry Division. Preliminary training was conducted by ships boats at the Marine Corps Base Mock-Up. On September 28th afloat training began. This consisted of three eight-day training periods with landings on beaches at Coronado Strand, San Diego, Pyramid Cove, San Clemente Island; and the Aliso Canyon Area.

Following a ten day yard period at the U.S. Naval Repair Base in San Diego for ship's upkeep and boat repair, more training operations were begun, on 10 November. This time the 86th Infantry Division was trained. This period of training duplicated the training of the 97th Infantry Division and was carried on from 16 November until 10 December 1944.

December 12th the Transport Division to which the Bellatrix was attached was redesignated Transport Division One.

On 13 December 1944 the afloat training of troops ended and the primary function of the division became the constant training of various trainee groups under ComPhibsTraPac. These groups which were trained in part aboard the U.S.S. Bellatrix consisted of ship's companies, boat crews and boat groups, boat group officers, hatch and winch crews, support air control groups, prospective transport division commanders and staffs under instruction, officer observers as ordered for instruction and Transport Quartermasters. Other miscellaneous activities of the U.S.S. Bellatrix were training of LCI(L)s in coming alongside and on 13 May demonstration landings were made in San Diego Harbor for the War Bond Drive. These activities necessitated almost weekly trips from San Diego to San Clemente Island, Aliso Canyon or Coronado Strand.

## VI

### AS A TRAINING SHIP - Continued

The fourth Commanding Officer of the U.S.S. Bellatrix, Captain E. J. Anderson, U.S.N.R. was relieved by Lieutenant Commander A.F. Henrikson, U.S.N.R. on 14 May 1945.

The U.S.S. Bellatrix continued these training operations until the end of the war. Immediately after the war ended she began carrying cargo. On 16 August 1945 she got underway on a cargo trip to Seattle, Washington. She returned to San Pedro, California for a yard period on 27 August. During this yard period she was put in shape for general cargo duty. After making two trips carrying boats from the Amphibious Training Base at Morro Bay, California to San Pedro, she returned to San Diego on 28 September. On 1 October she was detached from ComPhibsTraPac and was made available to Commander Western Sea Frontier for general cargo carrying duty.

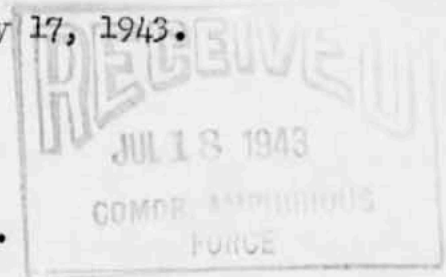
Pursuant to orders to proceed to San Francisco, the Bellatrix departed from San Diego on 1 October and arrived in San Francisco on 3 October and began loading a general cargo for a run to Hawaii. After this trip has been made, she is slated to be decommissioned and either returned to the U.S. Maritime Commission or assigned as a Board of Examination sees fit.

AKA3/A16-3  
Serial 0136

# U. S. S. BELLATRIX

July 17, 1943.

**CONFIDENTIAL**



From: Commanding Officer.  
To: Commander Task Force 85.  
Subject: USS BELLATRIX - Report of HUSKY Operation.  
Reference: (a) CTF 85 Mailgram 151138 of July 1943.  
Enclosure: (A) Copy of BELLATRIX Action Report #1-43  
(B) Copy of BELLATRIX Action Report #2-43  
(C) Report of Ensign L.A. Biggs, USNR (Support Boat Officer).  
(D) Report of Ensign H.E. Bedford, USNR (Boat Officer).  
(E) Report of Ensign H.L.D. Cofer, USNR (Boat Officer).

1. The specific information called for by reference (a) is given below insofar as it is available. As this vessel is not an assault transport, no information is available regarding loading, dispatching, and landing of assault waves, except what is contained in reports of boat officers, enclosures (C), (D), and (E).

- (a) Hour of anchoring in Transport Area: 0030, July 10.
- (b) Time to get all boats in water: 3 hours, 35 minutes.
- (c) Time to Load: No information available.
- (d) Time departure Rendezvous Area: do
- (e) Time of beaching and location: do
- (f) Number of boats in each wave: do
- (g) Number of personnel embarked in each wave: do
- (h) Number of boat and personnel casualties each wave: do
- (i) Did each wave hit the same beach, if not explanation: do
- (j) Include brief experience report each Wave Commander: Enclosures (C), (D), (E).
- (k) Include name of each boat Coxswain, Boat Officer and Wave Commander including Scout and Support Boats:
  - KA3-1 LCM(3) - James D. CRAWFORD, Cox., USN.
  - KA3-2 " - WHEELER, George W., Cox., USNR.
  - KA3-3 " - SAPPIC, Anthony J., S2c, USNR.
  - KA3-4 " - MORWAY, William G., Slc, USNR.
  - KA3-5 " - DAVIS, William M., Cox., USNR.
  - KA3-6 " - COFER, Horace L.D., Ensign, D-V(G), USNR.
  - FRISINGER, Warren F., Cox., USN.
  - KA3-7 " - BEDFORD, Robert E., Ensign, D-V(G), USNR.
  - TALTON, Earnest L., Slc., USNR.
  - KA3-8 " - HAYNES, Herbert L., Slc., USN.
  - KA3-9 LCVP - LEADER, James E., Slc., USNR.
  - KA3-10 " - GARDNER, Charlie, Slc, USN.
  - KA3-11 " - TILTON, John J., Slc, USNR.
  - KA3-12 " - SIMPSON, Glenn Z., Slc, USN.
  - KA3-13 " - UNDERWOOD, Fred J., S2c, USN.
  - KA3-14 " - DUNCAN, Otho L., Cox., USNR.

**SECRET**  
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KA3-15 LCVP - CARPENTIER, Edward J., Slc, USNR.  
 KA3-16 " - WALKER, LeRoy A., Cox., USN.  
 KA3-17 " - CHRISTMAN, Walter H., Slc, USN.  
 KA3-18 " - NARDY, Arthur D., Cox., USNR.  
 KA3-19 LCS(S) - BIGGS, Lee A., Ensign, D-V(G), USNR.  
                   CREDLE, Walter C., S2c, USNR.  
 KA3-20 " - PITT, Malcolm U., Ensign, D-V(G), USNR.  
                   DOTZEL, George N., S2c, USNR.

(1) Identity and Schedule of landing craft assisting:

July 10th.

1635 - LCT #153 alongside.  
 2020 - LCT #153 shoved off.

July 11th.

1225 - LCT #153 alongside.  
 1423 - LCT #153 shoved off.

July 12th.

2142 - LCT #153 alongside.  
 2230 - LCT #413 alongside.

July 13th.

0610 - LCT #153 shoved off.  
 0750 - LCT #413 shoved off.

2. The following is the narrative of events of this operation arranged in chronological order. All times given are Zone Baker.

July 9th.

2230 - Received signal to execute Landing Attack Plan No. 4, D day July 10th, H hour 0245. Made approach to CENT Transport Area off Scoglitti with Task Force 85.  
 2240 - Parachute flares were dropped ahead of the transports.  
 2308 - Set Condition IV, and made preparations to hoist out boats.

July 10th.

0030 - Anchored in Transport Area about 13,000 yards off Beach Red CALVERT, in 51 fathoms of water, with 70 fathoms of chain to the port anchor. Commenced hoisting out boats.  
 0032 - First boat in the water. Weather conditions were extremely unfavorable, heavy swells causing the boats to swing violently from the booms, partially out of control of the deck hands.  
 0235 - H hour advanced to 0345.  
 0407 - Last boat in water. All boats were dispatched to the CALVERT except the following:

**SECRET**

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- 1 - LCS(S) - Damaged in hoisting out, leaking badly and in danger of sinking.
- 1 - LCM(3) - Lines fouled around propellers.
- 1 - LCVP - Retained as reserve in accordance with Boat Employment Plan.

Reports of boat coxswains showed that the landing was made in an extremely rough surf, with intermittent, but generally ineffective fire from shore batteries estimated to be 75 mm and 5" guns, and from heavy caliber machine guns. The smoke screen laid before the incoming waves was reported to be very effective in causing the enemy to cease firing as the boats became obscured from view. Numerous sand bars were encountered close to the beach and these, combined with the heavy surf, increased the difficulties of re-tracting from the beach, and caused many boats to broach, and others to receive damage to their rudders and screws. Some boats which were stranded on sand bars were swamped by waves coming in and breaking over their sterns.

In the initial assault only one casualty to Army or Navy personnel in our boats was reported. MERRITT, Lloyd L., Flc, in LCM(3) No. 6 was wounded by a machine gun bullet from shore, which passed through his right leg, inflicting only superficial injury.

- 0426 - This ship was brightly illuminated by three flares dropped from enemy plane overhead.
- 0508 - Two bombs hit approximately 800 yards off the port bow.
- 0716 - Shifted to inshore anchorage about 5000 yards off Beach Red, bearing 051° T.
- 0740 - Commenced unloading cargo.
- 2120 - Shifted to anchorage about 3000 yards off Beach Red, bearing 051° T.

July 11th.

- 0645 - Sighted ten HE III's, 6000 feet over GEIA.
- 0650 - Commenced firing on two HE III's which attacked ships in this area. (See Action Report #1-43).
- 1046 - Demolition party left ship and proceeded to Scoglitti.
- 1535 - Shifted anchorage to 2300 yards off Beach Red Two at Scoglitti.
- 1549 - Fifteen DO 217E2's sighted over Scoglitti.
- 1644 - Three DO 217E2's approached from bearing 320° T, altitude 8000 feet and dropped several bombs on port bow, distance about 1100 yards. No hits on ships were observed. Planes departed on course 215° T.

**SECRET**

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- 2155 - Flares lighted up DLME Transport Area of GEIA, and bombs were dropped on the beach and ships in that vicinity.
- 2227 - Two flares were dropped off starboard bow.
- 2232 - Heard roar of planes overhead. Commenced firing. About six bombs exploded 300 yards dead ahead. (See Action Report #2-43).

July 12th.

- 1525 - Shifted anchorage to position 2,000 yards off Beach Red Two, bearing 100° T.
- 2115 - Shifted anchorage to position 7,000 yards off Beach Red, bearing 015° T, behind minefield.

July 13th.

- 1205 - Completed unloading cargo.
- 1515 - Disembarked remaining Army personnel, and dispatched 3 LCM(3)'s with five-man crews to report to Beachmaster, CENT Area.
- 1600 - Secured from Condition IV.
- 1731 - Underway for Oran.

3. All troops and cargo carried by the BELIATRIX were delivered intact at their destination.

*O. H. Ritchie*  
O.H.RITCHIE.

Copy to:  
Comtransphiblant  
Comtransdiv 7.

**SECRET**

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4



CONFIDENTIAL

ANTI-AIRCRAFT ACTION BY SURFACE SHIPS

Location of ship 2950 Yards bearing 090° E. from Red Beach north of Scoglitti. U.S.S. SMILAH  
Time 0650 Date July 11 1943

NOTES

- (a) Repel Attack First - then collect data for this report!
- (b) Do not "gun deck" this report - if data cannot be estimated with reasonable accuracy enter dash in space for which no data is available.
- (c) These sheets are to be filled out immediately after action is completed with data available from ship's log, memory, and consultation with ship's officers. Information is essential in order that the effectiveness of our equipment can be determined. Where data is of doubtful accuracy fill in with general terms. The obtaining of this information must not be allowed in any way to adversely affect the handling of equipment during action.
- (d) Forward under separate cover to Readiness Section, C-in-C, U.S. Fleet.

No. (Observed anti-aircraft fire in Gela area).

1. Surprise attack (Yes or No) \_\_\_\_\_
2. Method picking plane up (Radar, binoculars, ~~naked eye~~, Binoculars, naked eye.) \_\_\_\_\_  
(If by Radar state type of set) \_\_\_\_\_
3. Range plane was picked up (50 miles, 30 miles, 10 miles, less 5 miles) Less 5
4. Number of planes Two
5. Type of plane (Fighter, scout, dive bomber) Twin engine bomber  
Type of attack \_\_\_\_\_
6. Speed & Altitude (High and fast, intermediate and fast, high and slow, intermediate and slow, low and slow) High and fast, high
7. Guns firing 14 Size 3" and 20 mm Number 4 - 3"; 12 - 20 mm  
Method of control Telephone Method spotting Local  
Method of ranging Estimate Method of firing \_\_\_\_\_
8. Ammunition expended 10 Rounds 3"; 850 Rounds 20 mm.
9. Percent service allowance expended 1-1/2%
10. Approximate time tracking to first shot 15 seconds
11. Approximate time of first hits \_\_\_\_\_
12. Approximate time first shot to last shot Two minutes
13. Approximate position angle open fire 30°
14. Approximate position cease fire 45°
15. Approximate bearing first shot 315°
16. Approximate bearing last shot 340°

**SECRET**

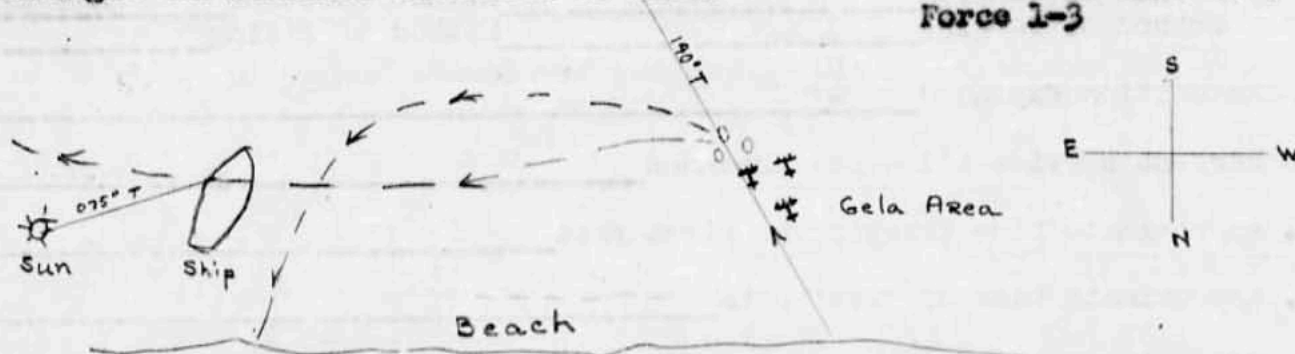
⑦

17. Approximate range first shot 8000 feet
18. Approximate range last shot 6000 feet
19. Approximate altitude of bomb release ----- Type bomb Medium
20. Approximate range torpedo release -----  
Size of torpedo -----
21. Hits on ship None Was ship strafed No Size gun -----
22. Number near bomb misses None Casualties from near misses None  
How near? -----
23. Planes shot down - Sure None Possible None Damaged None  
By what size gun -----
24. Details of damage to target by gunfire if available None observed
25. Performance of ammunition (Excellent, good, bad, poor) Excellent
26. Pattern sizes (Large, small, excessive) Small
27. What failures in material occurred in this action? Ejector failure on No. 11  
20 mm gun.
28. Comment on personnel performances Excellent

SKETCH

- (a) Indicate direction of attack relative ship's head.  
 (b) Show relative position of sun.  
 (c) Indicate own maneuvers.  
 (d) Show strength and relative direction of wind.

Wind direction: N.W.  
Force 1-3



These planes were first picked up when anti-aircraft fire was observed in the Transport Area off of Gela. The planes released their bombs also in the Gela area. Two planes passed close aboard this ship during their getaway. They were fired upon until Spitfires intercepted, then firing from the ship was ceased.

⑧

O. H. RITCHIE,  
Captain, D-V(G), USNR.

6

CONFIDENTIAL

ANTI-AIRCRAFT ACTION BY SURFACE SHIPS

Location of ship 2300 yards bearing 044° T, from Beach Red Two off Scoglitti. U.S.S. BELLATRIX

Time 2232 Date July 11 1943

NOTES

- (a) Repel Attack First - then collect data for this report!
- (b) Do not "gun deck" this report - if data cannot be estimated with reasonable accuracy enter dash in space for which no data is available.
- (c) These sheets are to be filled out immediately after action is completed with data available from ship's log, memory, and consultation with ship's officers. Information is essential in order that the effectiveness of our equipment can be determined. Where data is of doubtful accuracy fill in with general terms. The obtaining of this information must not be allowed in any way to adversely affect the handling of equipment during action.
- (d) Forward under separate cover to Readiness Section, C-in-C, U.S. Fleet.

1. Surprise attack (Yes or No) No Observed flares dropped over transports in Gela area.
2. Method picking plane up (Radar, binoculars, naked eye) Observed flares dropped over transports in Gela area.  
(If by Radar state type of set) -----
3. Range plane was picked up (50 miles, 30 miles, 10 miles, less 5 miles) 10 Miles
4. Number of planes Unknown
5. Type of plane (Fighter, scout, dive bomber) Dive bomber  
Type of attack Low level bombing
6. Speed & Altitude (High and fast, intermediate and fast, low and fast, high and slow, intermediate and slow, low and slow) Low and fast
7. Guns firing 19 Size 3" and 20 mm Number 1 - 3"; 18 - 20 mm  
Method of control Sector fire Method spotting Local  
Method of ranging Radar Method of firing Pointer  
Antiaircraft barrages covering all sectors were fired.
8. Ammunition expended 1 Round 3"; 4150 rounds 20 mm
9. Percent service allowance expended 9%
10. Approximate time tracking to first shot -----
11. Approximate time of first hits -----
12. Approximate time first shot to last shot -----
13. Approximate position angle open fire -----
14. Approximate position cease fire -----
15. Approximate bearing first shot ----- 5 420 -----
16. Approximate bearing last shot -----

**SECRET**

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"B'7

17. Approximate range first shot \_\_\_\_\_
18. Approximate range last shot \_\_\_\_\_
19. Approximate altitude of bomb release \_\_\_\_\_ Type bomb \_\_\_\_\_
20. Approximate range torpedo release \_\_\_\_\_  
Size of torpedo \_\_\_\_\_
21. Hits on ship \_\_\_\_\_ Was ship strafed \_\_\_\_\_ Size gun \_\_\_\_\_
22. Number near bomb misses 6 Casualties from near misses None  
How near? 800 yards, dead ahead,
23. Planes shot down - Sure \_\_\_\_\_ Possible \_\_\_\_\_ Damaged \_\_\_\_\_  
By what size gun \_\_\_\_\_
24. Details of damage to target by gunfire if available \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
25. Performance of ammunition (Excellent, good, bad, poor) Excellent
26. Pattern sizes (Large, small, excessive) Small
27. What failures in material occurred in this action? 30 mm - Two hammers were broken; Double load stop tripped; Three short blow backs.
28. Comment on personnel performances Excellent fire discipline and very good performance.

SKETCH

- (a) Indicate direction of attack relative ship's head.  
 (b) Show relative position of sun.  
 (c) Indicate own maneuvers.  
 (d) Show strength and relative direction of wind.

Wind direction: S.W.  
Force: 1-3

No sketch of this attack is possible as darkness obscured the attacking planes. Only an occasional glimpse of a plane wing was seen as it passed in front of the moon. Thus much of the information desired above is lacking.

The first sign of enemy planes was the heavy anti-aircraft barrage fired by the ships off Gela. These ships were approximately nine miles from our anchorage. The ships were illuminated by flares and bombs were dropped.

A short while later flares were dropped off our starboard bow illuminating us. The roar of a plane was heard passing off the starboard bow. A series of heavy barrages covering all sectors were fired. About six bombs were seen to explode about 800 yards dead ahead.

At least three planes were seen to crash and burst into flames close to the beach.

10

O.H. RITCHIE;  
Captain, D-V(G), USNR.

8

U.S.S. BELLATRIX

July 17, 1943.

From: Ensign Lee A. BIGGS, D-V(G), USNR.  
To: Commanding Officer.  
Subject: Report of action of Support Boat LCS(S)-19 in HUSKY operations.

LCS(S) #19 was hoisted out at approximately 0040, July 10, 1943. The boat was damaged slightly in the process, but a checkup in the water revealed no serious damage. After checking with Ensign Pitt in LCS(S) #20 to determine the extent of his damage, and getting our orders from the Bridge we proceeded to the Rendezvous Area in the vicinity of the CALVERT.

I reported to Lieutenant (jg) File, Squadron Commander of LCS(S) Squadron Seven, and discussed last minute details of the operation with him. We then took up our patrol station on the left flank of the Rendezvous Area.

At approximately 0130 we located the LCS(S) boat of Ensign Busse of the FUNSTON. His boat was completely disabled, and on orders from the Division Commander, we took him in tow to the FUNSTON. Completing this, we returned to our patrol station. Here we learned that HOW hour had been advanced one hour.

At approximately 0320, on signal from the Primary Control Vessel, I left the Rendezvous Area and assumed underway station 100 yards off the port quarter of said vessel, and proceeded to the Line of Departure. This trip was uneventful.

On reaching the Line of Departure the three LCS(S)s formed a line abreast and proceeded to the beach at top speed. At about 1800 yards the Squadron Commander started firing ranging shots with his rockets; we held our fire. The first four ranging shots landed in the water, and the fifth shot landed on the beach. I then gave the order to commence firing. We fired salvos of three rockets each at intervals of 30 seconds until our racks were emptied. All salvos landed on Red Beach with apparently good results. At this time we were about 100 yards off shore. We made a 180° turn to port and returned to the line of Departure. On inspecting the racks I found that 23 rockets had been fired, and that one hangfire was still in the starboard rack. This I removed and dropped over the side. We patrolled the area until all waves had been dispatched to the beach and then returned to the BELLATRIX.

During our approach to the beach the area was illuminated by five enemy parachute flares overhead, and spasmodic firing was observed from the beach. No actual resistance was encountered.

SECRET  
5 436

Lee A. Biggs  
LEE A. BIGGS

"C" 9

(11)

U.S.S. BELLATRIX

July 17, 1943.

From: Ensign Robert "E". BEDFORD, D-V(G), USNR.  
To: Commanding Officer.  
Subject: Report of action of Tank Lighter LCM-7 (KA3) in HUSKY operations.

I boarded LCM-7 (KA3) at 0530 July 10, 1943, and we immediately headed for the beach. The boat was loaded with a bulldozer, ammunition, and medical supplies. Of the 30 some army personnel aboard, there was a Colonel and two Second Lieutenants.

We were assigned to the 5th wave but due to the fact that the waves were not being formed, we proceeded to the beach independently. Upon nearing the beach a CALVERT scout boat directed us to the left of our course and showed us where to land.

At 0630, we hit the beach and were informed that it was the First Division's Beach, though a number of CALVERT boats had landed there previously. This beach being unsatisfactory to discharge our cargo, we retracted. At this time shells were dropping 700 yards off our starboard bow.

While making our way to the CALVERT Red Beach, a machine gun fired on us from the beach but no casualties resulted.

At 0720, we landed on the CALVERT Beach and unloaded. We then returned to the BELLATRIX.

*Robert "E" Bedford*  
ROBERT "E". BEDFORD

5 435

SECRET

"D"  
10

(12)

U.S.S. BELLATRIX

July 17, 1943.

From: Ensign Horace L. D. Cofer, D-V(G), USNR.  
To: Commanding Officer.  
Subject: Report of Action of LCM(3) - 6 in HUSKY operations.

1. I was in boat team #49 in LCM(3) - 6. The load was about 100 members, including Beach Party and Medical Unit, and S.P. armored half track.

2. We were despatched from CALVERT at approximately 0530 for CALVERT Beach, course 041<sup>0</sup> magnetic, without control vessel. Four boats in wave. This was third group that left ship, so all indications point to it being the third wave.

3. The armored half-track threw the compass slightly off, and when we were about 2500 yards off the beach we encountered machine gun fire from beach, directly ahead where we were supposed to land coming from a concealed point on beach. To avoid endangering personnel of boat to needless danger, I turned left, Ensign Sinatra of CALVERT in the other LCM(3) in wave turned right (scattering so enemy fire would not have a concentrated area to fire upon).

4. One of my men, MERRITT, Lloyd L., Flc, was shot through the right leg, not seriously.

5. I pulled around to left and landed men on First Division Beach at 0630. Finding this the wrong beach, I offered to move men up beach to the right beach, but the lieutenant in charge stated he was satisfied with his present location and would rather stay on shore.

6. We retracted without trouble and returned to the BELLATRIX.

*H. L. D. Cofer*  
H.L.D. COFER

5 438  
**SECRET**

(13)

"E" 11

Reg. No. 18706  
R.S. No. 5 436

File No. FE25/A16-3

UNITED STATES ATLANTIC FLEET  
SIXTH AMPHIBIOUS FORCE  
(Administrative Command)

Serial:

**SECRET**  
**SECRET**

Naval Operating Base  
Norfolk (11), Virginia.

9 SEP 1943

FIRST ENDORSEMENT to  
CO USS BELLATRIX 1tr.  
ser. 0136 of 7/17/43.

From: Commander Sixth Amphibious Force.  
To : Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.  
Subject: U.S.S. BELLATRIX, Battle Report, HUSKY operation.  
1. Forwarded.

*E. A. Mitchell*

E. A. MITCHELL  
ACTING CHIEF OF STAFF

Copy to:  
ComNavNAW (with basic letter)  
CinCLant (with basic letter)

Transmission of this document by  
registered mail within the  
continental limits of the United  
States is authorized.

1943 SEP 11 9 45  
RECEIVED  
COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF  
FLAG OFFICE

(2)

**SECRET**



AK20/L11-1  
Serial 070

U. S. S. BELLATRIX

October 19, 1942.

CONFIDENTIAL

From: Commanding Officer.  
To: The Chief of the Bureau of Ships.  
Subject: War Damage Report.  
Reference: (a) BuShips Conf. lettr. C-FS/L11-1(374) C-EN2B/A2-11  
of April 17, 1942.  
Enclosure: (A) Diagram of Damage.  
(B) Data pertinent to Enclosure (A).

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COMMANDER IN CHIEF  
U.S. FLEET  
RECEIVED

1. In accordance with reference (a) the following report of war damage is submitted:

(A) GENERAL

- (1) Date damage was received - October 15, 1942, at 1635 Love.
- (2) Geographic position - Latitude 13° 10' S; Longitude 163° 26' E.
- (3) Depth of water - Over 50 fathoms.
- (4) Conditions of weather - Clear, sea slight, visibility 15 miles.
- (5) Draft forward and aft before damage - 15'0" forward, 21'6" aft. After damage no change.
- (6) Resulting list if flooding occurred - No flooding.
- (7) Course and speed before and after damage - Base course 220° T, speed 14 knots just prior to attack. After alarm, speed increased to 16 knots, wheel turned hard right, and, on attack the ship's heading was about 290° T.
- (8) At approximately 1633 Love, October 15, 1942, enemy dive bombers (AICHI 99's) were seen approaching from about 30° relative, distance 12 miles, to gain position for dive. At about 1635 two of the bombers dove on this vessel dropping two bombs that were near misses. The first bomb hit with little effect about 30 feet outboard, starboard, from frame #95. A few seconds later a second bomb exploded at a distance estimated between 10 to 20 feet outboard starboard, opposite frame #41. This second near miss caused considerable concussion and some damage to the starboard quarter of the ship. No apparent damage was noticeable save on the starboard motor whale boat where a piece of shrapnel had splintered the strongback causing it to be carried away and gouging about five strikes on port (inboard) side of boat. Stores on shelves in GSK storeroom were shaken up considerably and a portion of them scattered around the deck of the storeroom. Soundings were promptly taken in all holds and no leaks were apparent. During the night, however, water began to accumulate in #4 deep tank, which previously was empty. Early in the morning of October 16th an inspection was made in the deep tank and damage to shell plating, frames and longitudinals noted. Frames Nos. 38 to 48 are buckled as also the heavy web longitudinal stiffener. Maximum indentation of shell plating is about four inches. Numerous small leaks exist at seams and rivets. At 0900 three inches of water was in the deep tank

43593

and by 2400 about thirty inches had seeped in which was at the rate of approximately 5000 gallons per day. A number of minor casualties occurred from the concussion in the engine room, none of which were considered serious and all corrected promptly. The carriage on No. 4 3"/50 caliber AA gun was sprung outward about 3/16" which makes this gun unsafe to operate until replacement carriage can be obtained.

- (9) The effect of the damage on the fighting efficiency of the ship has reduced the 3" AA battery by 25 percent. All other guns and ship control machinery undamaged. The No. 4 3" AA gun, it is believed, could be fired for a short while in an emergency.

(B) DIRECT HITS BY PROJECTILES OR BOMBS.

- (1) None.

(C) UNDERWATER EXPLOSIONS

- (1) Type of weapon believed to be 250 pound (or 100 kilo) delayed action bomb.
- (2) Position of center of explosion between 10 to 20 feet outboard of frame #41 on starboard quarter, about 10 feet under surface.
- (3) Outstanding circumstances or peculiarities of explosion - None.
- (4) Single explosion.
- (5) Sharp thud.
- (6) No flash or flame noted.
- (7) No smoke noticed.
- (8) No serious effect of shock. It caused circuit breakers to open and this caused the ship to stop momentarily until they could be reset and the propulsion motors (Diesels) could be restarted.
- (9) Small general flexural vibration of ship noted. Various personnel have noticed an occasional amount of loping, probably caused by small amount general loosening and weakening of the after part of the ship.
- (10) Number 3 deep tank just forward of damaged shell plating filled with 195,000 gallons salt water ballast.
- (11) No holes in ship's side save small leaks around seams and rivets (see enclosures (A) and (B)).
- (12) The entire starboard shell plating of No. 4 deep tank shows an indentation area about 20' x 30', maximum indentation about four inches.
- (13) See enclosures (A) and (B) for full description of destruction and distortion.
- (14) No penetration by fragments.
- (15) No damage to water-tight doors or hatches in vicinity.
- (16) No immediate flooding.
- (17) No flooding that could not be controlled by ship's pumps.
- (18) Slow flooding at rate of about 5000 gallons per day controlled by regular deep tank overboard discharge pump.
- (19) No fires started.

- (20) No damage control measures are necessary other than keeping close check on amount of seepage and pumping out deep tank as water collects. Repairs to restore original strength to the part of the ship affected are considered beyond the capacity of tender and ship's force, and should be accomplished in drydock as soon as this vessel can be made available for the work. Drydocking should be accomplished any way, as the bottom is becoming badly fouled with barnacles and sea grass. Last docking was nine months ago.

W.F. DIETRICH.

Copies to:

C-in-C US Fleet.

BuOrd.

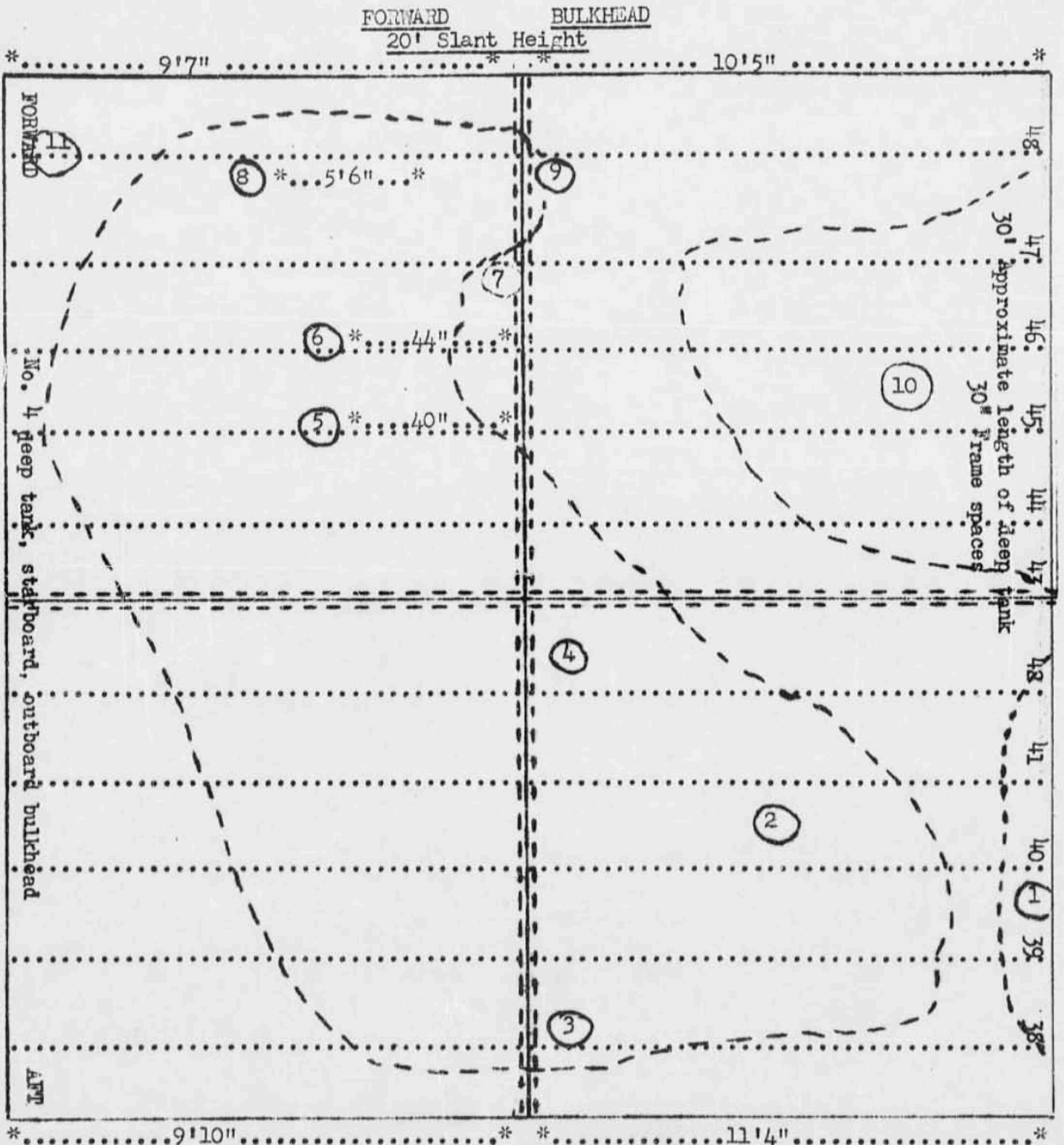
Comsopac

Comamphibforsopac

Comtransdivs, Amphibforsopac

Comtransdiv 14, Amphibforsopac

Comseronsopac



18'11" Vertical height top to bottom of deep tank

ENCLOSURE "A"

SECRET

U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

AKA3/A16-3  
Serial 0197

CONFIDENTIAL

3 February 1944.

From: Commanding Officer.

To: Commander Group Two, Fifth Amphibious Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet.

Via: Commander Transport Division Eighteen.

Subject: U.S.S. BELLATRIX (AKA3), Report of Gilbert Islands Operations.

Enclosure: (A) Statement of Ensign Robert E. Goodman, D-V(G), USNR.  
(B) Statement of Ensign Merlin S. Young, D-V(G), USNR.  
(C) Remarks of Coxswains.  
(D) List of Men Left at Tarawa.  
(E) List of boats Left at Tarawa.  
(F) List of Machine Guns.  
(G) List of 45 Calibre Automatics.

1. The behavior of the officers and men of this command, many of whom were for the first time engaged in landing operations was beyond criticism and in some instances commendable. Of the twenty landing boats that were despatched to the Commander Transports, several were never heard of after leaving the ship and were no doubt lost. Some through skillful handling by the crew were kept in constant use, throughout the operation. During the operation eight landing boats were returned to the ship with damaged screws and rudders. These were immediately repaired, provided with fresh crews, and returned to service. The performance of the Boat Repair Group in this respect was commendable.

2. Although two medical officers and five hospital corpsmen are assigned to this vessel with ample supplies and capable of caring for at least thirty-five bed patients and seventy-five to one-hundred ambulatory patients, no effort was made to use these reportedly much needed facilities. Instead destroyers and minesweepers were overtaxed with badly wounded personnel. It is felt that one of this vessel's medical officers together with some corpsmen should have been despatched to other ships or to the shore.

3. The boats, men and equipment as shown in enclosures were engaged in landing operations at Tarawa under direction of Commander Transports. This vessel retired from the Transport Area each night under orders and the boats and crews were left behind. Attempts by some of these men to obtain food or water from ships other than their own proved fruitless. 4 01470  
This condition should be provided for in the future. All boats that approached this vessel were fueled, repaired and provisioned even though they were attached to other vessels of the force. No knowledge of the final dis-

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SECRET

U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

AKA3/A16-3  
Serial 0197

CONFIDENTIAL

3 February 1944

Subject: U.S.S. BELLATRIX (AKA3) Report of Gilbert Islands Operation.  
-----

position of the boats, men or equipment left at Tarawa by this vessel is available at this time. The attached statements of the officers and men are presented to provide facts which may be useful in compiling a history of the operation.

4. Aside from the furnishing and upkeep of landing craft, this vessel was not actively engaged in the assault, nor involved in any direct action. On D 5 all troops were disembarked and sent to the beach, the cargo being of low priority was retained on board. This cargo was later discharged at Hilo, Hawaii. The following is merely a narrative of events occurring on this vessel arranged in chronological order:

GILBERT ISLANDS OPERATION

Zone Description: Plus Twelve.

Saturday 20 November 1943:

- 0356 Arrived in position in Transport Area "ABLE" of HELEN, TARAWA ATOLL, GILBERT ISLANDS, right tangent bearing 150 degrees, distant 7.5 miles.
- 0509 Beach batteries commenced firing on the transports.
- 0611 THUBAN, VIRGO, LA SALLE and WILLIAM P. BIDDLE reported near hits ranging from 25 feet to 100 yards. Observed from this vessel.
- 0616 Proceeding at two-thirds speed, course 000 degrees (t), maneuvering out of fire range of shore batteries.
- 1249 CTG 53.1 ordered this ship to send all boats to MONROVIA, for further assignment to TRANSDIV #4.
- 1355 Completed unloading fourteen (14) boats. Boat Pool Boats retained on board. All boats were completely equipped with arms, ammunition, and provisions.
- 1534 Set Condition II Mike Able.
- 1617 SANTA FE reported two groups of unidentified aircraft. Raid #1 bearing 270 degrees (t), distant 21 miles, Raid #2, bearing 279 degrees (t), distant 25 miles.
- 1618 Set Condition "1-A".
- 1625 Planes previously reported unidentified are friendly.

4 01470

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SECRET

U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

AKA3/A16-3  
Serial 0197

CONFIDENTIAL

3 February 1944.

Subject: U.S.S. BELLATRIX (AKA3) Report of Gilbert Islands Operation.  
-----

1628 Set Condition II Mike Able.

1809 Unknown station reported enemy planes identified as BETTYS' are in area.

1811 Set Condition "1-A". Anti-aircraft fire observed to westward of Transport Area.

1812 Unknown station reported three BETTYS' low on water bearing 310 degrees (t).

1815 OTC ordered all ships to prepare to repel air attack.

1830 Underway on various courses and at various speeds on order of OTC. Standard speed 14 knots.

1838 MARYLAND opened anti-aircraft fire across our bow on BETTY flying at low altitude.

1935 Set Condition II Mike Able.

2045 Returned on station to transport area.

Sunday 21 November 1943:

0401 Unidentified aircraft Raid #1, bearing 340 degrees (t), distant 40 miles; and Raid #2, bearing 350 degrees (t), distant 10 miles.

0410 Set Condition "1-A".

0415 CTF #53 reported 3 unidentified aircraft on Radar Screen to Northwest, (1) distant 12 miles, (2) distant 30 miles, (3) 80 miles, respectively.

0440 DASHIEL reported large unidentified aircraft circling her at Picket Station #3.

0503 Ahead one-third. Heading into moon to reduce silhouette.

0521 One plane, from bearing 135 degrees (t), identified as BETTY made what appeared to be a torpedo run on this ship. Having been previously ordered not to open fire no action was taken except to maneuver ship to avoid possible torpedo. It is possible that this BETTY did not see this vessel, because in passing over the stern it was necessary for him to make a vertical bank to avoid collision.

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SECRET

U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

AKA3/A16-3  
Serial 0197

CONFIDENTIAL

3 February 1944.

Subject: U.S.S. BELLATRIX (AKA3) Report of Gilbert Islands Operation.

-----  
Sunday 21 November 1943 - Continued

- 0526 BETTY passed through Transports unmolested at altitude of 100 feet passing ahead of this ship from North to South.
- 0614 Set Condition II Mike Able.
- 1304 LCVP #12 returned and was hoisted aboard with fouled screw and damaged starter. Repaired, refueled, provisioned, provided with fresh crew and returned to service.
- 1421 This ship ordered by OTC to hoist out remaining boats.
- 1441 Completed hoisting out all boats; ordered them to report to CTD #6.
- 1630 Underway with Retirement Group One as Task Unit 53.10.1, maneuvered for position on various courses and speeds. Fleet Guide in MONROVIA.

Monday 22 November 1943:

- 0835 Set Condition "1-A".
- 0845 Set Condition II Mike Able.
- 1126 Arrived in Transport Area. Stopped and killed all headway.
- 1400 Seven LCVP's returned with damaged screws and rudders. These boats were repaired, refueled, provisioned, and equipped with fresh crews; then sent to the MONROVIA for further orders.
- 1628 Notified COMTRANSDIV #6 that we had engine casualty and that maximum speed now 13.5 knots. Also requested to cut out 3 cylinders on starboard engine.
- 1642 Supplied stretchers and blankets to boat #28 from MONROVIA for evacuation of wounded.
- 1850 Received orders to retire for the night with T.G. 53.8.

Tuesday 23 November 1943:

- 0515 Set Condition "1-A".
- 0615 Secured from Condition "1-A", set Condition II Mike Able.
- 0650 From CTD #6 received permission to cut out 3 cylinders on starboard engine.

4 01470



SECRET

U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

AKA3/A16-3  
Serial 0197

CONFIDENTIAL

3 February 1944.

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Tuesday 23 November 1943: Continued

0730 CTG 53.1.3. reported to CTG 53.8 that this ship has had engineering casualty with maximum speed 13.5 knots.

Wednesday 24 November 1943:

0515 Set Condition "1-A".

0611 Set Condition II Mike Able.

1045 Lying to off APAMAMA ATOLL. Maneuvering as necessary to maintain station in rendezvous area.

1110 LCVP #13 hoisted over side to aid in the transfer of casualties to the SOLACE.

1407 All casualty transfers completed.

1505 LCVP #13 hoisted aboard.

1510 Notified CTD #6 of the necessity of cutting out port engine to prevent further damage to this engine.

1730 Secured port engine. Maximum speed possible 61 r.p.m. Port engine in Condition of readiness.

Message from CTD #6 to CTG 53.8 Information BELLATRIX:

"BELLATRIX HOLD PORT ENGINE IN STANDBY STATUS TONIGHT FOR EMERGENCY CASUALTY WILL BE REPORTED TO RUGBY FOR ACTION TOMORROW THURSDAY MORNING".

Thursday 25 November 1943:

0515 Set Condition "1-A".

0615 Set Condition II Mike Able.

0725 CTG 53.8 recommends to CTF #53 that this vessel be detached to make repairs.

1512 Received the following message from CTF #53 to CTG 53.8:

"DIRECT BELLATRIX PROCEED FUNAFUTI FOR REPAIRS. PROVIDE ESCORT UNTIL DARK TODAY. INFORM COMCENPAC OF ROUTING. COMTASKFORCE 57 WILL PROVIDE ESCORT ON APPROACH FUNAFUTI. CTF #53 SENDS ACTION TO CTG 53.8 INFORMATION TO COMCENPAC".

SECRET

U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

AKA3/A16-3  
Serial 0197

CONFIDENTIAL

3 February 1944.

- 1530 Received following message from CTG 53.8:
- "WHEN UNLOADING REQUIRED AT HELEN IS COMPLETED BELLATRIX PROCEED FUNAFUTI FOR REPAIRS VIA ROUTE YODEL. COMDESRON 14 PROVIDE ONE ESCORT UNTIL DARK".
- 1625 Lying to in transport area BAKER.
- 1630 Hoisted aboard LCM's #2 and #6; LCVP's #20 and #19, which were towed to us in damaged conditions by PA31-7, PA8-10, and P102-2.
- 1650 Received orders from CTG 53.8 to transfer Divisional Ordnance troops and Company "H" Third Bat., Eighteenth Marines.
- 1730 Debarkation of troops completed. Prepared for getting underway.
- 1730 Sent following message by TBS to CTF 51 Information CTG 53.8:
- "EXAMINATION INDICATED SOME INJURY TO STARBOARD ENGINE ALSO BELIEVE ADVISABLE TO PROCEED AT EIGHT POINT FIVE (8.5) KNOTS".
- 1750 Underway on base course 180 degrees (t), proceeding independently in accordance with CTG 53.8 orders of 26 November 1943. Destroyer MURRY as escort.

Monday 30 November 1943:

- 1235 Moored starboard side to port side of CASCADE in Berth #7, FUNAFUTI, ELLICE ISLANDS. Examination of main engines disclosed that repairs were beyond capacity of forces afloat. Recommendation of ComSerRon #4 was that this vessel be returned to the coast for repairs.

Tuesday 7 December 1943:

- 0800 Underway from FUNAFUTI, ELLICE ISLANDS, proceeding to PEARL HARBOR, T. H., in accordance with Assistant Port Director's Orders of 7 December 1943.

Sunday 12 December 1943:

- 1900 Destination changed to Hilo, Hawaii.

Wednesday 15 December 1943:

- 1808 Moored port side to west side of Pier #2, Hilo, Hawaii; discharged cargo.

*C. A. Joans* 01170  
C. A. JOANS, Commander, USNR.,  
Commanding

SECRET

U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

ENCLOSURE "A"

CONFIDENTIAL

REPORT OF TARAWA OPERATIONS

Nov. 20-22, 1943

Ensign Robert E. Goodman, USNR:

With fifteen (15) boats, I left the BELLATRIX at 1250 November 20, 1943 and reported to the MONROVIA. There I assured the disposition of the BELLATRIX boats. The last boat to be assigned was KA-3 LCM(3) #1 and with this boat I reported to the MIDDLETON as per the MONROVIA'S orders.

The MIDDLETON loaded us with emergency medical supplies, stretchers and five gallon water cans and ordered us to shove off for Red Beach #1 via the Control Vessel, Pursuit. The MIDDLETON gave us the compass course to the Control Vessel and also to Red Beach #1. On arrival at the Control Vessel we were ordered to lie to since the tide was too low to take the tank lighter into the beach. However, I was ordered to proceed to the Traffic Control Officer and inform him to see that Marines were unloaded on the reef rather than have the boats circle with full loads. I complied with these orders and returned to the Pursuit. Fire from the beach forced all boats to lie well off. We were ordered to lie to in the Control Vessel Area until called.

Mr. Young, in KA-3 LCM(3) #6, and three other BELLATRIX boats were in the same area, so we formed a group. I went aboard Mr. Young's tank lighter for the night. We obtained rations for our boats from a nearby LCT and lay to until early morning.

At sunrise, the Pursuit ordered us to proceed to Red Beach #3 in any wave. We followed the fourth wave with the four KA-3 boats. As we passed by the fire control destroyer at the eastern tip of the island, it opened up with the entire 5" battery and the concussion was terrific. We were approximately 100 yards ahead of the destroyer when she let go. As we neared the beach we observed the boats ahead of us hurriedly heading out to sea and there was considerable confusion. The fourth wave broke up and headed to seaward and the Boat Group Commander from the APA-6 ordered us to head to sea. As we proceeded seaward we observed planes bombing the beached Jap ship. Then the destroyer shelled the same ship and finally planes strafed it. We assumed that the boats on Red Beach #3 had been trapped by a Jap crossfire.

We returned to Pursuit who ordered all boats to tie together in groups of four according to types of cargo. We tied up with LCM(#3) #1 from the BELLATRIX which also had a load of water and emergency medical supplies. Two LVT(I)'s came alongside and KA-3 LCM(B) #1 unloaded three quarters of her load of five gallon water cans into the LVT(I)'s and then unloaded the remainder of her load in Mr. Young's tank lighter, KA3-6.

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U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

ENCLOSURE "A"

REPORT ON TARAWA OPERATIONS

Nov. 20-22, 1943

Ensign Robert E. Goodman, USNR: Cont'd.

At this point I boarded LCM(3) #1, and reported to the Control Vessel for orders. It was approximately 0900 November 22. I was ordered to proceed to the ZEILIN, MIDDLETON, and HEYWOOD to pick up two 40 man life rafts with lumber and nails from each ship. The MIDDLETON boarded up the life rafts into a raft suitable for floating ammunition to Green Beach.

At 1330 we went in to Red Beach #2, the sea plane pier. The beach appeared to be secured but upon nearing the pier we encountered light sniper fire. We reported back to the MIDDLETON and loaded up with a light tank which we took to Red Beach #1 about six o'clock that night, as per the MONROVIA'S orders. Then the transports left the transport area with the exception of TransDivSix and the ORMSEY which was anchored at the end of the transport area where the rip-tide was worst. Because of this rip-tide, it took almost forty minutes to load a light tank into our tank lighter and by the time we got in towards the beach the tide was too low to permit us to go in so we reported back to Pursuit and lay to until five forty-five the next morning when we took the light tank into Red Beach #1 and were ordered by the beach master to report to the LST 242. On reporting to the LST, the Captain of the LST used flashing light to contact the Control Vessel and asked her what the LST should load in our tank lighter. Pursuit sent back "Standby".

We were tied up to the LST from 0800 until 1030 when the LST was shelled from the beach. Pursuit then ordered us to report to her immediately. When we reported to her she ordered us back to the LST to load water, ammunition and food. We loaded approximately 60,000 pounds of water, ammunition and food and headed for Red Beach #1. When we got into the Beach we came alongside the pier and the crew and myself unloaded the entire boat on the pier. Upon completion of the unloading the assistant beachmaster requisitioned our services to assist in unloading two LCT's that were lying about 200 yards off the pier with light tanks. We unloaded five light tanks on Red Beach #1 that afternoon, completing the task at 1815 that night. The Beachmaster ordered the boat to return to the BELLATRIX and get a coxswain (our coxswain had attempted to salvage a KA3 LCVP that was sinking and never managed to find his way back to our tank lighter. The tank lighter had been run for 55 hours by Brown, fireman second class, who was the engineer of the boat as well). We returned to the BELLATRIX arriving at approximately 1845 and I was ordered aboard. The crew was not relieved because the ship was ordered to get under way immediately.

We carried Luchetta, A. L., Slc; Thatcher, C.L., Flc; and Kidwell, H.H., Slc, whose LCVP had been blown up the first night, for 48 hours before we could get a boat to return them to the BELLATRIX.

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U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

ENCLOSURE "A"

REPORT ON TARAWA OPERATIONS

Nov. 20-22, 1943

Ensign Robert E. Goodman, USNR: Cont'd.

The crew of KA3 #1 - Brown, C. Jr., F2c; Martinelli, J.W., Slc; Skipper, W. E., Slc, and Johnson, A.C., S2c and Hayes, S. W., S2c, performed magnificiently. Special credit must be given to Brown, C. Jr., F2c, who handled the boat expertly especially when working around the pier where danger from coral was ever present.

Observations:

1. The Control Vessel, PURSUIT, did a magnificent job of traffic control, especially in the second day when the boats were arranged by types of cargo.
2. There were too few officers in the boats on the second and third days. When it was ascertained that a boat could not be unloaded on the beach, there should have been someone to order the boat to return the load to a transport and reload with a suitable cargo. Oftimes transports loaded a boat with anything handy disregarding priority cargo.
3. Many boats did not have enough line and some boats were minus anchors.

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U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

ENCLOSURE "B"

CONFIDENTIAL

REPORT OF TARAWA OPERATIONS

Ensign M. S. Young:

I left the BELLATRIX at 1300 November 20, 1943 in LCM(3) #KA3-6, with orders to report to the MONROVIA. There I was ordered to the MIDDLETON. At about 1530 the boat was loaded with three 250 gallon fresh water trailer tanks. The MIDDLETON ordered me to report to the Control Vessel and then land the water tanks on Red Beach #1. I reported to the Control Vessel at 1600 and was there ordered to proceed to Red Beach #1 independently. Upon arriving about 1500 yards off the beach, I found numerous boats standing off. I asked a Boat Group Commander if we could go in to the beach. He informed me that no boats were going in to the beach and advised me to report back to the Control Vessel. At sundown I reported there and was ordered to stand by until called.

Ensign Goodman also from the BELLATRIX then boarded my boat from LCM(3), KA3-1. Since there were several other BELLATRIX boats standing by in the vicinity, we grouped them together for the night. Ensign Goodman and myself asked permission of the Control Vessel at dawn on November 21, to take the BELLATRIX boats into the beach. We were ordered to follow the fourth wave of new landings being made. We proceeded toward the beach following the fourth wave. After the first three waves had landed we were turned back by a boat group commander because opposition from the beach made landing inadvisable at this time. We then returned to the Control Vessel.

At this time we were ordered to group the boats by type of cargo carried. This was done and all boats anchored. While anchored in the Control Vessel area fifty odd five gallon cans of fresh water were transferred to my boat from another KA3 boat, LCM(3) #1, that being its sole load. Ensign Goodman then went aboard the empty boat.

I continued to stand by in the Control Vessel area until the morning of November 22, when the Control Vessel called me along side and ordered me to stand by off the sea plane pier on HELEN. Upon arriving off the beach an assistant boat group commander ordered us to get an additional cargo from a nearby LCT. We took aboard officer's personal gear, barbed wire, and several five gallon cans of gasoline.

Even with the extra load we were not allowed to proceed to the beach. After standing off till noon, I proceeded to the pier. The Assistant Beach Master turned me back stating that large mobile equipment such as water trailers could not be unloaded. At that time only articles that could be handled by hand unloaded.

After joining some 150 other boats who were also unable to unload I was informed by a Boat Group Commander that we could no be unloaded for that day. I then proceeded to the BELLATRIX for motor fuel, food and cigarettes. Upon arrival at the BELLATRIX I was ordered to remain aboard.

Remarks: A great number of boats were loaded by transports with material that could not possibly have been landed under existing conditions. The result being that many boats were unable to serve usefully because present cargos could not be unloaded. My boat was an example. It was loaded in the afternoon of November 20th with water trailers which remained in the boat four days. The boat was finally hoisted aboard with damaged rudders and screws. The water trailers were put ashore at Hilo, Hawaii.

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U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

ENCLOSURE "C"

LUCCHETTA, A., Slc  
AKA3 LCVP #10

I Arthur Lucchetta, was hoisted over the side of the U.S.S. BELLATRIX at about 1245 with a crew of three men. Upon leaving our ship we reported to the MONROVIA, where we were sent to the MIDDLETON. From the MIDDLETON we were ordered to the BIDDLE.

At the BIDDLE our boat was loaded with 36 troops of the radio division and I was ordered to land them on Red Beach #2. After coming to within 200 yards of the Beach, I found the boats were being held off due to heavy machine gunning from the beach. After circling for about two hours we met four other boats carrying other units of the same radio outfit. In charge of the Marines was a Major who asked the coxswains if we thought we could make it into the beach. After talking it over we decided to try to make it.

With the pier as our objective, we started in from about 200 yards in a line abreast. Because we ran into coral at about 100 yards from the beach we formed into a column. At about 50 yards they started shooting at us. The fire was not too heavy and I do not believe there were any hits, on my boat. At about 1730 the first boat reached the pier and it was a matter of minutes before the rest of us were there.

A few seconds after we reached the pier a Marine called to say my boat was sinking. Looking next to me I saw the boats on either side of me sinking. The reason for the sinking was, I believe, a mortar hit. Due to the heavy fire, I did not investigate. We decided to abandon the boat. Taking off our machine guns we carried them over the sunken boat on our starboard side to one of the boats which was still afloat. It was a boat from the BIDDLE.

We retracted and started out to the transports, but they were in a Condition 1-A status and we dropped our anchor near some other boats. Finding a boat from the BELLATRIX nearby we boarded it. It was about 2100 at this time, so we took turns standing watch through the night. At sunrise the next morning I got on another boat from the BELLATRIX as I thought it would return to the BELLATRIX soon. But due to the needs of the men on the beach, this boat was kept busy for two more days. At about 1600 of the 23rd, a boat from the BIDDLE was sent by the Beachmaster to take us back to our ship. We were taken aboard the BELLATRIX at 1730 November 23, 1943.

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U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

ENCLOSURE "C"

DESMOND, G. R. Slc  
AKA3 LCM(3)#4

CONFIDENTIAL

We were put over the side of the BELLATRIX about 1230 November 20, 1943, with MARUSKA, A.C., Slc, as coxswain. We were ordered to report to the MONROVIA. At the MONROVIA we were loaded with medical supplies and water. At 1800 we were ordered to land them at the seaplane pier on HELEN ISLAND. In trying to get to the pier we got stuck on the coral until 2200. But at 2330 we unloaded under heavy fire. After unloading the boat we were loaded with 100 wounded Marines and just got away from the pier before the Japs recaptured it. We took the Marines to a troop transport, I do not remember which one it was. At this same transport we were loaded with gasoline in five gallon cans. We had the gasoline for two days (Nov. 21-22) before we were allowed to unload it. We finally unloaded it on CORA ISLAND.

On November 23rd we went to another troop transport and received a gun and a load of ammunition with orders to take it to Green Beach. While the Marines were unloading the gun, we were under steady fire from Jap snipers and it took about an hour to get the gun out of the boat.

We reported back to another troop ship, and took on a load of food supplies. We kept this load for a day and a night, until November 25th, before we could unload it. We were strafed that night by Jap planes. The Japs were also bombing HELEN so we took the food supplies to CORA and DIANA ISLANDS.

After we were unloaded we got orders from the Beachmaster to report to the VIRGO where we got the first meal we had had since we left the BELLATRIX. While we were on the VIRGO their boat crews were using our boat. On November 26th there was an air attack, so we had to take care of the boats that were alongside the VIRGO and which were loaded with ammunition. We carried this ammunition to DIANA. We stayed on DIANA for two days and before we were unloaded. When we completed unloading we reported back to the VIRGO and were taken aboard November 28.

We came to Honolulu on the VIRGO, and were transferred to the CALVERT on December 9. We left Honolulu on the 10th and arrived at Receiving Station, San Diego, on December 19, 1943. We were returned to the BELLATRIX on January 18, 1944.

CARPENTIER, E.J., Cox.  
AKA3 LCVP #15

I was lowered into the water at 1400 on November 21, 1943. We were ordered to the HARRIS. Upon reporting, the HARRIS loaded us with 36 Marines and their equipment. The boats were formed into waves and we went in column formation to the eastern tip of HELEN ISLAND where the Japs were trying to escape to CORA. Upon orders of a support boat officer, we anchored off the beach till the morning of the 22nd.

At dawn on the 22nd we were led to Green Beach on HELEN ISLAND. We made our landing on Green Beach shortly after dawn without difficulty getting to within 25 yards of the beach.

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U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

CONFIDENTIAL

ENCLOSURE "C"

CARPENTIER, E.J., Cox.  
AKA3LCVP #15

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We reported back to the HARRIS which then ordered us to the BELL. The BELL loaded us with rations, and ordered us to take them to CORA ISLAND. We unloaded the rations on CORA about 1100 November 22nd. We then made two more trips from the BELL to CORA carrying the same type load. We completed our last trip to CORA about 1700 November 22nd. The BELL stated she had no further use for us. As the BELLATRIX was not in the Transport Area we spent the night in the boat. We returned to the BELLATRIX about 1600 November 23rd, and were relieved.

WALKER, L. A. BM2c  
AKA3 LCM(3) #1

I was hoisted over the side of the KA3 about 1300 November 20, 1943. I was ordered to report to the MONROVIA which in turn ordered me to the MIDDLETON.

At the MIDDLETON I was loaded with medical supplies and water in five gallon cans. The MIDDLETON ordered us to the Control Vessel and the Control Vessel ordered us to stand by.

I then discovered that a BELLATRIX boat in the area, KA3-16 which was sinking slowly. I aided in shifting her cargo to a LCM (3) which was nearby. I then undertook to return the sinking boat to the BELLATRIX. Pizarro, Coxswain of the sinking boat took over my boat KA3-1. After bailing out the boat as much as possible, I proceeded toward the transport area. As I neared the transport area, the transports got underway. I followed for an hour or so. The engine started missing badly and the boat was half filled with water. When the engine quit I decided to abandon the boat. A VIRGO boat picked us up and returned us to the BELLATRIX on the following day, November 21st.

On November 21st at about 1300 I was again put over the side as coxswain of LCV(P), number KA3-19. I was ordered to the HARRIS which then ordered me to the BELL. I received two loads from the BELL, both consisting of rations of different kinds. I unloaded them at the pier on HELEN ISLAND without any difficulty. Upon returning to the BELL, after the second trip, we were ordered back to the BELLATRIX. I was hoisted aboard the BELLATRIX about 1730 November 21, 1943.

I remained aboard the BELLATRIX until November 23rd. On that day I was put over the side at about 1400 in LCV(P) KA3-19 and ordered to report to the HARRIS. The HARRIS ordered us to the FELAND. The FELAND ordered us back to the BELLATRIX as they were getting underway, so I returned to the BELLATRIX at 1730 November 23, 1943.

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U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

CONFIDENTIAL

ENCLOSURE "C"

MARKO, J.,Slc  
AKA3 LCM(3) #2

We were ordered over the side of the BELLATRIX at about 1245 November 20, 1943. Ensign Goodman ordered us to the MIDDLETON. We were loaded with medical supplies and water in five gallon cans. Upon orders from the MIDDLETON we proceeded to the Control Vessel.

The Control Vessel ordered us to lay off until called. We waited until dawn of November 21st and then proceeded to Red Beach #1, on our own initiative. The beach had not been secured and due to heavy shore fire we were forced to back off. In backing off we became grounded on the coral about 500 yards from the beach.

After getting off the coral we stood by off the beach waiting to go in. Around 1000 a Marine Colonel approached us in a LCP(R) boat and requested that we go in towards the end of the seaplane pier and try to knock out a Jap machine gun nest located there. We approached the pier and started to fire with our 50 cal. machine guns when both guns jammed. Because of the jam we were forced to withdraw.

We stood by about 1,000 yards off shore until the pier was secured. About 1200 we went into the pier and were being unloaded when the tide went out causing us to be grounded again. We stayed alongside the pier till 2300 the night of November 21st when the tide came in and we were able to leave.

We anchored off the beach till morning. About 1000 November 23rd we were loaded with jeeps at an LST which was about 2000 yards off the beach. We were not allowed to land them for 24 hours. About noon of the 24th we landed the jeeps at the seaplane pier. At the pier we were then loaded with radio equipment and ordered to take it to DIANA. We landed the radio equipment on DIANA about 1700 on November 24th.

In returning from DIANA our steering apparatus broke down, so we utilized the emergency tiller. We then reported to the Control Vessel which ordered us to LSD #1 for repairs. However they were unable to repair us. So we were ordered to return to the BELLATRIX. We were hoisted aboard at about 1700 November 25th.

HOUCK, M. Cox.  
AKA3 LCVF #15

We left the BELLATRIX at 1300 on November 21st. We were told to report to the PA31. After reporting we were told to follow the ship. When we reached our destination we went into an assembly circle. When we were called alongside we were loaded with 36 Marines and their equipment. We formed into waves under a officer who was the wave commander. By the time we reached the Control Vessel it was becoming dark and we were told to anchor for the night.

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U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

ENCLOSURE "C"

HOUCK, M., Cox.  
AKA3 LCVP #15

Con't.

CONFIDENTIAL

On the morning of November 22nd we were ordered to weigh anchor and follow the wave commander. He then led us to the Green Beach of HELEN ISLAND. We went into the beach in column formation. We had to land the Marines in water which came to their chests. However, the landing was unmolested.

Then we reported back to PA31 and they ordered us to report to another PA, which upon reporting we were called alongside and loaded with field rations. We were ordered to proceed to CORA ISLAND. It had a fine sandy beach. We made a good landing and were unloaded immediately by Marines. We were ordered by the Marines to report back to the ship from which we had gotten our load.

When we reported back to the PA31, they ordered us to the port side where they removed the cargo nets which we had in our boat. We were then ordered to report to our own ship. On returning to the BELLATRIX we were taken aboard at about 1730 November 22, 1943.

SMITH, A. W., Cox.  
AKA3 LCVP #11

I, with my crew of three men was hoisted over the side of the BELLATRIX at approximately 1300 November 20, 1943. Upon orders from the BELLATRIX I reported to the MONROVIA. I remained in the MONROVIA assembly area until 1500 when I was loaded with five gallon water cans and ordered to proceed to the Control Vessel for Red Beach #2.

The Control Vessel ordered me to take my load to the seaplane pier on HELEN ISLAND. The pier had evidently not been secured as yet, because the boat group commander who was standing off the beach about 1000 yards did not allow me into the pier until 0100 on November 21. Although sniper and machine gun fire around the pier was very heavy, I was unloaded.

After leaving the pier I returned to the BELLATRIX. I was ordered to stand by until called. At 0600 I was ordered to report to the MONROVIA. Upon reporting at the MONROVIA, I was ordered to return to the BELLATRIX. My boat was hoisted aboard the U.S.S. BELLATRIX at 0700, November 21nd.

I remained aboard the BELLATRIX until about 1300 on November 23rd when I was put over the side as coxswain of an LCVP, number KA3-20. I was ordered to report to the MONROVIA. After reporting to the MONROVIA I waited until 0200 when I was loaded with a jeep, 75 m.m. gun; 60 rounds of 75 m.m. ammunition and fifteen men, and was ordered to join a wave of seven boats which was to proceed to DIANA ISLAND. I landed on DIANA at 0400 November 24, however, coral prevented me from getting all the way in to the beach and my boat was swamped while being unloaded. As a result, I was not able to retreat until low tide, 1200 November 24. Since my screw was damaged by coral, I proceeded to the LSD-1 where the screw was repaired.

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U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

ENCLOSURE "C"

SMITH, A. W., Cox.  
AKA3 LCVP #11

Cont'd.

CONFIDENTIAL

After the boat had been repaired, I reported to the Control Vessel which ordered me to report to the Beachmaster at the seaplane pier on HELEN. The Beachmaster ordered me to help unload the LST'S and LCT'S which were lying off shore. I do not know their numbers. I made six round trips from the two LST'S carrying food and water. These trips were routine. I worked from the LST'S from 1600 November 24 until dawn on November 25, when I was ordered by the Beachmaster to take Marines from the seaplane pier to the HARRIS. I made two such trips. After I had delivered the second load of Marines to the HARRIS, I was loaded with a fire control truck. I was ordered to take the truck to the seaplane pier on HELEN ISLAND. Because of the weight of the truck, my screw became fouled and the boat was swamped again when it was being unloaded. The Beachmaster ordered another KA3 boat to tow me back to the BELLATRIX. I was taken aboard the BELLATRIX at 1700 November 25, 1943.

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U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

ENCLOSURE "D"

The following named men were left ashore at Tarawa, Gilbert Islands:

ASBURY, Rawlin J., Jr.	Slc
BASS, Judd L.	S2c
BASTIN, George E.	Slc
*BERGER, J. K.	MoMM2c
BROWN, Charles Jr.	F2c
BUTLER, L.H.	MoMM2c
CHRISTMAN, Walter H.	Cox.
COLLINS, Jerry M.	S2c
DANIEL, John P.	F2c
*DESMOND, G. R.	Slc
EPPERSON, William J.	S2c
FARLEY, Patrick P., Jr.	Slc
*HAYES, Stephen W.	S2c
HIGH, Joseph C.	Cox.
HILTON, William H.	MoMMLc
HILL, Harold B.	Slc
*JOHNSON, A.C.	S2c
JOLLY, Robert E.	Slc
JORDAN, Robert G.	F2c
KEEN, Kenneth P.	F1c
KIDD, William B.	Slc
KIDWELL, Harry H.	Slc
*KILPATRICK, Carey J.	Slc
KIMBLE, William E.	Slc
KRUZAN, Henry A.	S2c
LEADER, James Earnest	Slc
LUMPKIN, John Thomas	Slc
MAC GREGOR, Don C.	F1c
MADDOX, Grady E.	Slc
MALINOWSKI, John J.	Slc
*MARTINELLI, J. W.	Slc
*MARUSKA, Andrew C.	Slc
MATTHEWS, Ellie Jr.	Slc
MERRITT, Lloyd L.	F1c
PZZARRO, Hilario R. Jr.	Slc
SAPPIO, Anthony J.	Cox.
*SKIPPER, Wayland E.	Slc
SULLIVAN, James O.	F2c
TILTON, John J.	Cox.
TOBIAS, Edwin R.	MoMM2c
UNDERWOOD, Fred, Jr.	Cox.
WERNER, James R.	F2c
WU, Franklin	F1c
YELVERTON, Cuby G.	F2c

CONFIDENTIAL

18 \* Have since returned to this ship.

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U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

ENCLOSURE "B"

BOATS LEFT ASHORE AT TARAWA ON 25 NOVEMBER 1943

<u>BOAT</u>	<u>HULL NO.</u>	LCM (3) <u>BUSHIPS NO.</u>	<u>ENGINE SERIAL NO.</u>
KA3-1	C-28046	D-23434 D-23435	C-18464 C-18483
KA3-3	C-28049	D-23440 D-23441	C-18499 C-18503
KA3-4	C-28035	D-24104 D-24105	C-19158 C-19154
KA3-5	C-30025	D-23730 D-23729	C-18808 C-18772
KA3-7	C-28058	D-23488 D-23489	C-18544 C-18543
KA3-8	C-30022	D-20800 D-20801	C-24691 C-24698
		<u>LCVP'S</u>	
KA3-9	C-20734	D-23581	C-18642
KA3-10	C-34783	D-24483	C-19543
KA3-11	C-20752	D-23708	C-18785
KA3-12	C-20751	D-23707	C-18789
KA3-14	C-20765	D-23999	C-18888
KA3-15	C-20757	D-23713	C-18788
KA3-16	C-34789	C-24489	C-19527
KA3-17	C-34796	D-24561	C-19628
KA3-18	C-34810	D-25258	C-20338

CONFIDENTIAL

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U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

ENCLOSURE "F"

EQUIPMENT LOST DURING OPERATIONS AT TARAWA

1-G-5603 30 Caliber Automatic Machine Guns Model 1917 Serial Nos.

503710	503711	488971	489020
280357	298661	502412	502413
387587	502655	502654	488949
488960	467783	467796	360169
300292	387838	390871	

Total: 19

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1-G-5626 50 Caliber Automatic Machine Guns Model 1921 Serial Nos.

19561	19365	579002	578706
316544	19559	19566	19252
194052	19599	197219	19292
19311	145642		

Total: 14

CONFIDENTIAL

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SECRET

U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

ENCLOSURE "G"

.45 Caliber Automatic Pistols Lost at Tarawa

2-P-3415 .45 Caliber, Colt, Automatic, Serial Nos.

1042495	956758	1042599
956964	1042450	956777
956882	1042528	956734
956765	956356	1042669
956880	1042666	956612
1042343	718802	717505
872679	714927	1042573
718660	956675	956830
956419	956560	956539
956778	1042290	710872
956643	1042600	705913
956697	716381	718800
1042212	956744	957050
1042538	956735	1042633
1042477	1042555	1042626
1042579	717530	718633
744678	717168	956792

Total: 51

CONFIDENTIAL

(21)

4 738 01470 20



FB7-18/AFA31/A16-3  
Serial 0049

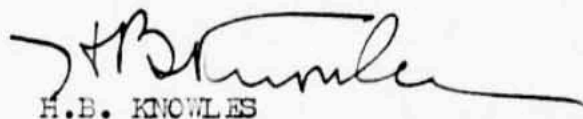
COMMANDER TRANSPORT DIVISION EIGHTEEN

**CONFIDENTIAL**

6 March 1944

FIRST ENDORSEMENT to U.S.S.  
BELLATRIX Ltr. AKA3/A16-3  
Ser. 0197 of 3 Feb. 1944.

From: Commander Transport Division EIGHTEEN.  
To: Commander Group TWO, FIFTH Amphibious Force, U.S.  
Pacific Fleet.  
Subject: U.S.S. BELLATRIX (AKA3), Report of Gilbert Islands  
Operations.  
1. Forwarded.

  
H.B. KNOWLES

4 01470

4 738

A16-3(3)  
Serial 0058

**COMMANDER GROUP TWO  
FIFTH AMPHIBIOUS FORCE, PACIFIC FLEET  
CARE OF FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.**

**CONFIDENTIAL**

21 March 1944

SECOND ENDORSEMENT to  
BELLATRIX sec. ltr.  
AKA3/A16-3 ser. 0197  
of 3 February 1944.

From: Commander Group TWO, FIFTH Amphibious Force, Pacific Fleet.  
To : Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Fleet.  
Via : (1) Commander FIFTH Amphibious Force.  
(2) Commander Central Pacific Force.  
(3) Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet.  
  
Subject: U.S.S. BELLATRIX (AKA3), Report of Gilbert Islands  
Operations - Forwarding of.

- 1. Forwarded.

*H. W. Hill*  
H. W. HILL.  
1

4 01470

4 738

C5A/A16-3(3)

OFFICE OF THE COMMANDER  
FIFTH AMPHIBIOUS FORCE, PACIFIC FLEET  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

Serial 06381

~~S-E-C-R-E-T~~

Reg. No.	CM 6794
R.S. No.	4 01470

MAR 24 1944

11655  
2050  
05/JAC  
10/16/9

~~THIRD ENDORSEMENT~~ to  
BELLATRIX Secret Ltr.  
AKA3/A16-3 Serial  
C197 of 3 February,  
1944.

From: Commander FIFTH Amphibious Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet.  
 To : Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet.  
 Via : Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet.  
 Subject: U.S.S. BELLATRIX (AKA3), Report of GILBERT Islands  
 Operations - Forwarding of.

- 1. Forwarded.

R. K. TURNER.

**CONFIDENTIAL**  
 CLASSIFICATION THIS CORRESPONDENCE  
 CHANGED TO *Confidential*  
 AUTHORITY *F. 24*  
 DATE *4-15-44*  
*PLB*

*J. J. Kircher*  
 J. J. KIRCHER,  
 BY DIRECTION.

Copy to:  
 ComGenPac (complete)  
 CO, BELLATRIX  
 ComGr2, 5thPhibFor

APR 10 1944

*4th* endorsement  
 Cinc Pacific Fleet  
 To: *cominch*  
 Via:

1. Forwarded. *OR*  
*O. L. Thorne*

O. L. THORNE,  
 By direction

1944 APR 14 17 17  
 COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF  
 FLAG OFFICE  
 RECEIVED

U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

AKA3/A9-8  
(0016)

SECRET

25 August 1944.

1944 SEP 12 9 39

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF  
FLAG OFFICE  
RECEIVED

From: Commanding Officer.  
To: Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Fleet.  
Subject: Action Report.

1. During the initial invasion of Saipan Island, Marianas Group, this vessel participated in the following events:

June 15 - Lying to with Task Group 52.15 off Saipan Island in Transport Area. 1830 Made all preparations for getting underway from Transport Area. 1831 Received word to prepare for enemy air attack. 1832 Set General Quarters and manned all guns. 1841 Ships forming into Transport Divisions. 1847 Enemy planes reported bearing 220 degrees (t), distant 20 miles. 1949 Four (4) enemy aircraft sighted bearing 270 degrees (t), coming in low. 1851 Many ships of Transport Group and Screen commenced firing on enemy aircraft (this vessel did not open fire). Four (4) enemy planes at about 16,000 ft. made a sweep of the Transport Area. They were met by heavy anti-aircraft fire and headed southward apparently without dropping bombs. 1954 Secured from General Quarters.

June 16 - Underway in convoy with Task Group 52.15 on night retirement route "BLUE". 0312 Received word to prepare for air attack. 0312 Set General Quarters. 0340 Unidentified aircraft reports coming in continuously on all bearings and at distances from twenty (20) to seventy (70) miles. 0525 Observed heavy anti-aircraft fire broad on our port bow. No enemy planes were observed by this vessel. 0543 Secured from General Quarters.

SECRET

U. S. S. BELLATRIX (AKA-3)

AKA3/A9-8  
Serial 0016

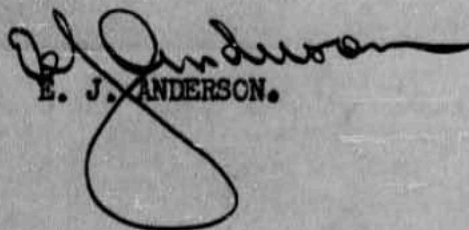
25 August 1944.

Subject: Action Report.

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June 17- Anchored off Saipan Island. 1757 Received orders from O.T.C. to prepare for air attack. 1804 Set General Quarters. Received orders to get underway immediately. 1812 Ship maneuvering to get in position in convoy. Repeated reports being made on unidentified aircraft on various bearings and at various distances. 1849 Observed anti-aircraft fire broad on the starboard beam. No enemy planes were observed by this vessel. 1854 Anti-aircraft fire observed on different bearings. No enemy planes were observed. 1939 Secured from General Quarters.

2. After 17 June, there were no further contacts with enemy planes or surface craft. At no time in the [redacted] operation did this vessel open fire.

  
E. J. ANDERSON.

CC: CinCPac  
ComPhibsForPac

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