

# Log of the Saihan

SEPTEMBER 1953



- 28th Departed Norfolk, Virginia.
- 30th Arrived Mayport, Florida. Embarked VMA-324 and conducted refresher air operations in the Jacksonville Operating Area.

OCTOBER 1953



- 8th Arrived Mayport, Florida, from the Jacksonville Operating Area.
- 13th Departed Mayport.
- 19th Arrived Christobal, Panama Canal Zone. Completed transit of the Panama Canal and arrived Balboa, Panama Canal Zone. Reported for duty with the United States Pacific Fleet.
- 21st Departed Balboa.
- 30th Arrived San Diego, California, after two days of air operations in the San Diego Operating Area.



NOVEMBER 1953



- 2nd Departed San Diego for the San Diego Operating Area. Conducted air operations and returned to San Diego on 4 November.
- 6th Departed San Diego.
- 12th Arrived Pearl Harbor, Territory of Hawaii.
- 13th Departed Pearl Harbor for the Hawaiian Operating Area. Conducted air operations and returned to Pearl Harbor on 14 November. Departed Pearl Harbor on 16 November for the operating area and returned to Pearl Harbor on 17 November.
- 20th Departed Pearl Harbor for the Far East.
- 30th Arrived Yokosuka, Japan. Reported for duty with Naval Forces, Far East.



DECEMBER 1953



- 2nd Departed Yokosuka, Japan, for Sasebo, Japan.
- 4th Arrived Sasebo, Japan. Reported for duty with Task Force NINETY FIVE, United Nations Blockading and Escorting Force.
- 8th Departed Sasebo for Korean West Coast Operating Area in the Yellow Sea.
- 16th Returned Sasebo.
- 28th Departed Sasebo for Korean West Coast Operating Area in the Yellow Sea.
- 31st Returned Sasebo.



JANUARY 1954



- 5th Departed Sasebo for Korean West Coast Operating Area in the Yellow Sea.
- 14th Returned Sasebo.
- 19th Departed Sasebo for Korean West Coast Operating Area in the Yellow Sea. Provided air cover for Japanese manned LST's transporting Chinese POW's from Inchon, South Korea, to Formosa.
- 28th Returned Sasebo.



FEBRUARY 1954



- 4th Departed Sasebo for Okinawa. Embarked 143 Army, Air Force, Marine and Navy "Rest and Recreation" personnel from Korea for trip to Hong Kong. Participated in RLT MarLex III-54 (Marine Landing Exercise) from 3 thru 10 February.
- 12th Arrived Hong Kong, British Crown Colony. Liberty, shopping and sightseeing for all hands in Hong Kong thru 16 February.
- 17th Departed Hong Kong.
- 19th At Sea. Captain D. G. DONAHO, USN, relieved Captain W. B. MECHLING, USN, as Commanding Officer.
- 20th Arrived Inchon, South Korea. Prepared to assist in the helicopter evacuation of Indian security troops from Panmunjon truce camp.
- 23rd Departed Inchon.
- 24th Arrived Sasebo.



MARCH 1954



- 3rd Departed Sasebo for Korean West Coast Operating Area in the Yellow Sea.
- 10th Returned Sasebo.
- 15th Departed Sasebo.
- 18th Arrived Iwo Jima Operating Area. Participated in MarDivLex 1-54 (Marine Division Landing Exercise) thru 25 March.
- 27th Arrived Yokosuka, Japan.

APRIL 1954



- 7th Departed Yokosuka, Japan. Participated in Japanese "Black Ship Festival" commemorating visit of Admiral Perry to Japan.
- 11th Departed Yokohama for Yokosuka. Loaded AU aircraft for delivery to French Forces in Indo China.
- 13th Departed Yokosuka.
- 18th Arrived Tourane, Indo China. Flew 25 AU aircraft ashore. VMA-324 pilots returned to SAIPAN by French helicopter. Off-loaded AU spare parts and maintenance personnel in Tourane harbor. Departed Tourane.
- 20th Arrived Sangley Point, Republic of the Philippines.
- 21st Departed Sangley Point.
- 25th Arrived Sasebo.
- 29th Departed Sasebo for Korean East Coast Operating Area in the Sea of Japan. Participated in 4th RLT LEX (Marine Landing Exercise) at Sokcho' Ri, South Korea, thru 4 May. Proceeded to Korean West Coast Operating Area in the Yellow Sea.

MAY 1954



- 8th Returned Sasebo.
- 14th Departed Sasebo.
- 15th Arrived Nagasaki, Japan. Represented United States Navy at Armed Forces Day celebration.
- 17th Departed Nagasaki.
- 18th Arrived Sasebo.
- 25th Departed Sasebo for return trip to the United States.
- 28th Destroyer Division 341 joined off Hong Kong, B.C.C.
- 31st Crossed the Equator at 105° 36' East Longitude.

JUNE 1954



- 1st Arrived Singapore, British Crown Colony, for liberty, shopping and sightseeing.
- 3rd Departed Singapore. Duty with the United States Pacific Fleet completed.
- 7th Arrived Colombo, Ceylon, for liberty, shopping and sightseeing.
- 9th Departed Colombo.
- 15th Arrived Aden. Refueled and departed.
- 19th Arrived Suez Canal. Completed transit of Suez Canal and entered the Mediterranean Sea.
- 22nd Arrived Naples, Italy, for liberty, shopping and sightseeing.
- 25th Departed Naples.
- 26th Arrive Ville Franche, on the French Riviera, for liberty, shopping and sightseeing.
- 30th Departed Ville Franche.

JULY 1954



- 1st Arrived Barcelona, Spain, for liberty, shopping and sightseeing.
- 5th Departed Barcelona.
- 7th Arrived Lisbon, Portugal, for liberty, shopping and sightseeing.
- 9th Departed Lisbon.
- 19th Arrived Mayport, Florida, completing a cruise around the world. Off-loaded VMA-324.
- 20th Departed Mayport.
- 21st Arrived Norfolk, Virginia. SAIPAN was home again after nine months and three weeks.

