

Contributed by Frank Gerhardt

Reg. No.	389
R. S. No.	

AKA6/A12-1/(lmk)  
Serial No. 0105

U.S.S. ALCHIBA (AKA6)

c/o Fleet Post Office  
San Francisco, Calif.  
13 June 1945

**CONFIDENTIAL**

From: The Commanding Officer.  
To: The Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet.

Subject: War Diary - 1-22 April 1942.

Reference: (a) CinCh Rest. ltr. FF1/A12-1 Serial 4690 dated 5 June 1945.

1. In accordance with request of reference (a), War Diary of this vessel for period covering 1 April 1942 through 22 April 1942 is submitted herewith.

1-6 April 1942: (Zone /4) Underway from ANTOFAGASTA, CHILE, enroute to NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK with cargo of ingot and electrolytic copper, in accordance with instructions from United States Consul of ANTOFAGASTA, CHILE. Steaming independently on course 000° T, 000° pgc, 356° psc, 351° pstc at standard speed of 16 knots, 86 RPM.

7 April 1942: (Zone /4) Underway as before. Passed ISLA BONA LIGHT abeam to port, distant 7.6 miles. Steering various courses and maneuvering at various speeds following Navy patrol craft to anchorage assigned in Panama Bay to await orders. Captain at conn, Navigator on the bridge. 1335 Anchored in Panama Bay on the following bearings: TORTOLITA ISLAND, 303° T, FLAMENCO ISLAND LIGHTHOUSE, 004° T, and SAN JOSE ROCK, 012° T. 1500 Made all preparations for getting underway. 1514 Underway to transit canal in accordance with orders of Commandant 15th Naval District. Pilot C. BAYERSTOCK at conn, Captain and Navigator on the bridge, steering various courses and maneuvering at various speeds to conform to channel. 1600 Standing down BALBOA REACH, standard speed 15 knots, 81 RPM. Proceeding at various speeds and steering various courses to conform to channel. 1613 Anchored in BALBOA INNER HARBOR in 7 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to the port anchor. 1645 Made all preparations for getting underway. 1653 Underway to transit canal. 1712 Approaching MIRAFLORES. 1751 Entered second lock, MIRAFLORES. 1814 Let go all lines. 1815 Left MIRAFLORES LOCKS and entered MIRAFLORES LAKE. 1827 Approaching PEDRO MIGUEL LOCKS. 1831 Received wires from locomotives. 1840 Inside PEDRO MIGUEL LOCK. 1909 Let go all lines. 1914 Left PEDRO MIGUEL LOCKS, approaching PARAISO REACH. 2154 Approaching GATUN LOCKS. 2207 Received wires from locomotives. 2214 Secured to first lock, GATUN. 2239 Entered second lock, GATUN. 2300 Entered third lock, GATUN. 2321 Let go all lines and left GATUN LOCKS. Proceeded down GATUN APPROACH to TIMON BAY.

8 April 1942: (Zone /4) 0000 Steaming on various courses and maneuvering at various speeds approaching Pier 8, CRISTOBAL, CANAL ZONE, standard speed 15 knots, 81 RPM, tug TAVERNILLA alongside to port. Captain, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge, Pilot C. BAUERSTOCK at the conn. 0015 Moored starboard side to Pier 8-B, CRISTOBAL, CANAL ZONE. 0039 Pilot left ship. 1530 Made all preparations for getting underway. 1615 Got underway in accordance with Port

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Director, 15th Naval District's letter A4-3/NTS/ND15 of April 8, 1942, Captain, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge, pilot W. CALCUTT at the conn. Standard speed 15 knots, 81 RPM, standing out of LIMON BAY on various courses conforming to the channel and at various speeds.

9 April 1942: (Zone /4) Steaming independently as before. U.S.S. BORIE acting as escort vessel.

10 April 1942: (Zone /4) 0714 U.S.S. BORIE, escort vessel, discovered to have left during hours of darkness. 0724 Commenced zig-zagging in accordance with Plan #8.

11-13 April 1942: (Zone /4) Steaming independently as before using zig-zag Plan #8.

14 April 1942: (Zone /4) 2009 LOOKOUT BIGHT LIGHTED ENTRANCE BUOY #2 abeam to starboard, distant 0.5 miles. 2014 Anchored in LOOKOUT BIGHT, NORTH CAROLINA, in 7 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor on the following bearings: CAPE LOOKOUT LIGHTHOUSE, 089° T, LOOKOUT BIGHT, WRECK LIGHT, 103° 30' T, and LIGHTED ENTRANCE BELL BUOY #2, 229° T.

15 April 1942: (Zone /4) Anchored in LOOKOUT BIGHT, NORTH CAROLINA. 0515 Made all preparations for getting underway. 0551 LIGHTED ENTRANCE BUOY #2 abeam to port, distant 250 yards. 1000 Formed convoy of two columns of two ships each, one tanker astern and one tanker, one freighter, column to starboard, distant 1000 yards. Ships 800 yards astern. Escort of two British trawlers, (HMS LADY ROSEMARY) one Coast Guard Cutter, U.S.S. DICKERSON, as anti-submarine screen. 1209 Changed speed to 15 knots, 81 RPM and proceeded in convoy with two tankers with U.S.S. DICKERSON as escort. 1515 OLD CAPE HATTERAS LIGHTHOUSE abeam to port, distant 9.3 miles.

16 April 1942: (Zone /4) 0206 Pilot E.E. GUY came aboard. 0300 Anchored in LYNNHAVEN ROADS, VIRGINIA, in 7 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to the port anchor on the following bearings: CAPE HENRY LIGHTHOUSE, 126° T; HOTEL CHIMNEY, 222° T, LYNNHAVEN INLET DRAWBRIDGE, 322° T. 0730 Made all preparations for getting underway. 0859 With CHESAPEAKE BAY ENTRANCE LIGHTED WHISTLE BUOY "2CB" abeam to starboard, distant 50 yards, took departure and set course 044° T, 044° pgc, 044° psc, 046° pstc. 1610 Ceased zig-zagging. Maneuvering on various courses and at various speeds approaching DELAWARE BAY ENTRANCE. 1824 Proceeded towards anchorage, Captain, Executive Officer and Navigator on the bridge, pilot F.C. MAULL at the conn. Standard speed 15 knots, 81 RPM, steering various courses to conform to channel. 1905 Anchored in DELAWARE BAY in 7 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to the starboard anchor on the following bearings: CAPE MAY LIGHTHOUSE, 056° 31' T, HARBOR OF REFUGE LIGHT, 200° 30' T, WEST END OF BREAKWATER LIGHT, 217° T, BRANDYWINE SHOAL LIGHTED BUOY, 340° T.

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17 April 1942: (Zone #4) Anchored as before. 0630 Made all preparations for getting underway. 1847 GOVERNOR'S ISLAND LIGHT abeam to starboard. 1852 Entered North River. 1931 Moored starboard side to North side of Pier 57, North River, New York, New York, with 13 manila lines and one wire spring.

18-20 April 1942: (Zone #4) Moored as before. 1200 Discharging ingot and electrolytic copper from hatches #1, #2, #3, and #5.

21 April 1942: (Zone #4) Moored as before continuing discharge of copper. 0700 Completed fueling ship having received on board 190,816.50 gallons of fuel oil. 1730 Discontinued discharging copper.

22 April 1942: (Zone #4) Moored as before. 0620 Made all preparations for getting underway. 0702 Underway from Pier #57, NEW YORK, NEW YORK in accordance with Port Director 3rd Naval District's letter FGR/RAK/MKd/A4-3(AK23) Serial TDNY 0994 of April 20, 1942, with Captain, Executive Officer, Navigator on bridge and pilot A. SODERBERG at the conn, steering various courses and steaming at various speeds to conform to North River. 1952 Anchored off BOMBAY HOOK POINT, DELAWARE BAY in 7 fathoms of water with 45 fathoms of chain to the port anchor on the following bearings: COHANSEY LIGHT, 078° T; SHIP JOHN SHOAL LIGHT, 131° T; CHANNEL BUOY #23, 172° 30' T.

*K. E. Parry*  
K. E. PARRY  
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U.S.S. ALCHIBA

WAR DIARY

SECRET

From May 1, 1942 to May 31, 1942.

RECEIVED S-C FILED  
Room 2155

JUN 8 1942

ROUTE 10- 16-E-3

Op File No. (90)

A12-1/AK23

Doc. No.

52790

Copy No.

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SECRET

May 1, 1942.  
to  
May 25, 1942.

- (a) U.S.S. ALCHIBA (AK23), Naval Transportation Service.
- (b) Port Director New York, N.Y.'s letter FGR/RAK/mkd A4-3/AK23/PDNY (0994) of April 20, 1942.
- (c) None/.
- (d) Position: Navy Yard, Charleston, South Carolina.
- (e) Undergoing overhaul and conversion to combat loaded cargo ship. Guns and ammunition supply and storage being installed, also tank lighter and boat stowage. Main engine overhauled and other necessary conversion and repairs undertaken.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

*J.S. Freeman*  
J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *ES*  
Commanding.

SECRET

May 26, 27, 1942.

- (a) U.S.S. ALCHIBA (AK23), Naval Transportation Service.
- (b) Port Director New York, N.Y.'s letter FGR/RAK/mkd A4-3/AK23/PDNY (0994) of April 20, 1942.
- (c) None.
- (d) Position. Navy Yard, Charleston, South Carolina.
- (e) Finishing up Navy Yard work. Testing booms, and equipment. Making ship ready for sea.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

*J.S. Freeman*  
J.S. Freeman  
Commander, US NAVY, *Ed*  
Commanding.

SECRET

May 28, 1942.

- (a) U.S.S. ALCHIBA (AK23), Naval Transportation Service.
- (b) Port Director New York, N.Y.'s letter FGR/RAK/mkd A4-3/AK23/PDNY (0994) of April 20, 1942.
- (c) None.
- (d) 0800-Position. Navy Yard, Charleston, South Carolina.  
1200-Cooper River, off Charleston, South Carolina.  
2000-Anchored in Cooper River off Charleston, S.C.
- (e) Underway at Drum Island Range, Charleston, S.C. for calibration of degaussing<sup>ing</sup> equipment. Continued making ready for sea.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

*J.S. Freeman*  
J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *ES*  
Commanding.

SECRET

May 29, 1942.

- (a) U.S.S. ALCHIBA (AK23), Naval Transportation Service.
- (b) Commandant 6th Naval District's dispatch 281500 of May 1942.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:
  - 0800- Anchored in Cooper River off Charleston, S.C.
  - 1200- Anchored in Cooper River off Charleston, S.C.
  - 2000- 32-45-30 North Lat. 78-31-30 West Long.
- (e) Underway at 1300 in obedience to Commandant 6th Naval District's dispatch 281500 of May 1942. Proceeding to Base Hypo in company with the U.S.S. Alcyone, and U.S.S. Bainbridge as escort.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

*J.S. Freeman*  
J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *Ed*  
Commanding.

SECRET

May 30, 1942.

- (a) U.S.S. ALCHIBA, (AK23), Naval Transportation Service.
- (b) Commandant 6th Naval District's dispatch 281500 of May 1942.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions: 0800- 34-07-00 North Lat. 75-47-00 West Long.  
1200- 35-02-00 " " 75-00-00 " "  
2000- 36-29-00 " " 75-33-00 " "

Distance made good noon to noon; 293 miles.

- (e) At 0845 a large southbound convoy was passed. Enroute Charleston, S.C. to Base Hypo in company with USS Alcyone, and USS Bainbridge as escort.
- (f) No remarks.

*J.S. Freeman*  
J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *ES*  
Commanding.



SECRET

May 31, 1942.

- (a) U.S.S. AICHIBA (AK23), Naval Transportation Service,
- (b) Commandant 6th Naval District's dispatch 281500 of May 1942.
- (c) None.
- (d) Position: Anchored in Hampton Roads, Virginia.
- (e) Distance made good noon to noon: 140 miles.
- (e) 0018 Anchored in Hampton Roads, Virginia.
- (f) No remarks.

*J.S. Freeman*  
J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *ES*  
Commanding.

57406

U.S.S. ALCHIEA  
WAR DIARY  
SECRET

From June 1, 1942 to June 30, 1942.

RECEIVED SC FILES  
Room 2065

OCT 6 1942

ROUTE TO: 16E3

Op File No. (SC) 917-11AK 23

Inc. No. 62852

Op No. 1

WN 10-4

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SECRET

June 1, 1942.

- (a) U.S.S. ALCHIBA(AK23), Naval Transportation Service.
- (b) Commandant 6 Naval District's dispatch 281500 of May, 1942.
- (c) None.
- (d) Position:
  - 0800- Anchored in Hampton Roads, Va.
  - 1200- Moored alongside Pier 2, Naval Supply Depot Annex,
  - 2000- (Army Base), Norfolk, Va.
- (e) At 1038 shifted berth to Pier 2, Naval Supply Depot Annex, (Army Base), Norfolk, Va. pursuant to visual dispatch of Commandant 5 Naval District.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *ED*  
Commanding.

SECRET

June 2,3, 1942.

- (a) U.S.S. ALCHIRA (AK23), Naval Transportation Service.
- (b) Commandant 6 Naval District's dispatch 281500 of May 1942.
- (c) None
- (d) Position:  
Moored alongside Pier 2, Naval Supply Depot Annex,  
(Army Base), Norfolk, Va.
- (e) Commenced loading U.S. Marine Corps supplies and equipment.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *ES*  
Commanding.

SECRET

June 4-9, 1942.

- (a) U.S.S. ALCHIBA (AK23), Naval Transportation Service.
- (b) Commandant 6 Naval District's dispatch 281500 of May 1942.
- (c) None.
- (d) Position:  
Moored alongside Pier 1, Naval Supply Depot Annex  
(Army Base), Norfolk, Va.
- (e) At 0700 June 4, shifted berth to Pier 1, Naval Supply Depot Annex (Army Base), Norfolk, VA. Continued loading U.S. Marine Corps supplies and equipment. Completed loading on June 9, 4,453 tons of cargo, 12 officer passengers, and 167 enlisted passengers of the U.S. Marine Corps.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

*ES*

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SECRET

June 10, 1942.

- (a) Task Force 39, Commander Destroyer Squadron 7 in USS Plunket, Escort Commander, escort consisting of USS Hilary P. Jones, Madison, Lansdale, C.F. Hughes. Commanding Officer USS ALCYONE Convoy Commodore, Convoy consisting of USS ALCHIBA, LIBRA, MIZAR.
- (b) Commandant 5 Naval District's Movement Order 16-42 of June 6.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:  
0800- Underway standing out of Chesapeake Bay.  
1200- Anchored in Lynnhaven Roads.  
2000- 37-04 North Lat. 74-49 West Long.
- Heavy fog set in while proceeding down Bay.
- (e) Got underway from Pier #1 Naval Supply Depot Annex, (Army Base), Norfolk, Virginia, at 0700. Proceeded down Chesapeake Bay. At 0939 anchored in Lynnhaven Roads due to heavy fog. At 1403 got underway from Lynnhaven Roads and proceeded out to sea through swept channel.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J. S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

*ES*

SECRET

June 11, 1942.

- (a) Task Force 39. Commander Destroyer Squadron 7 in U.S.S. PLUNKET Escort Commander, escort consisting of U.S.S. MADISON, C.F. HUGHES, HILARY P. HONES, LANSDALE. Commanding Officer U.S.S. ALCYONE Convoy Commodore, convoy consisting of U.S.S. ALCHIBA, LIBRA, MIZAR.
- (b) Commandant 5 Naval District's Movement Order 16-42 of June 6.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:
- |       |               |      |              |       |
|-------|---------------|------|--------------|-------|
| 0800- | 35-14.5 North | Lat. | 73-36.5 West | Long. |
| 1200- | 34-34         | " "  | 73-32        | " "   |
| 2000- | 32-50         | " "  | 73-32        | " "   |
- Distance made good, 233 miles.
- (e) No remarks.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *ES*  
Commanding.

SECRET

June 12, 1942.

- (a) Task Force 39. Commander Destroyer Squadron 7 in U.S.S. PLUNKET, Escort Commander, escort consisting of U.S.S. PLUNKET, MADISON, O.P. HUGHES, LANSDALE, HILARY P. JONES. Commanding Officer U.S.S. ALCYONE Convoy Commodore, convoy consisting of U.S.S. ALCHIBA, ALCYONE, LIBRA, AND MIZAR.
- (b) Commandant 5 Naval District's Movement Order 16-42 of June 6.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions.
- |                       |                  |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| 0000-30-38 North Lat. | 72-02 West Long. |
| 1200-29-59.5 " "      | 71-22.5 " "      |
| 2000-28-25 " "        | 70-07 " "        |
- Distance and course made good noon to noon, 311 miles, 158 degrees True.
- (e) No remarks.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *Ed*  
Commanding.

SECRET

June 13, 1942.

- (a) Task Force 39, Commander Destroyer Squadron 7 in U.S.S. PLUNKET, Escort Commander, escort consisting of U.S.S. PLUNKET, G. F. HUGHES, HILARY P. JONES, LANSDALE, MADISON: Commanding Officer U.S.S. ALCYONE, Convoy Commodore, convoy consisting of U.S.S. ALCYONE, ALCHIBA, LIBRA, AND MIZAR.
- (b) Commandant 5 Naval District's Movement Order 16-42 of June 6.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:
- |       |       |            |       |            |     |     |
|-------|-------|------------|-------|------------|-----|-----|
| 0800- | 25-46 | North Lat- | 69-04 | West Long. |     |     |
| 1200- | 34-51 | " "        | 68-51 | " "        | " " | " " |
| 2000- | 23-02 | " "        | 68-33 | " "        | " " | " " |
- Distance and course made good noon to noon, 345 Miles, 156° True.
- (e) No remarks.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J. S. Freeman  
Commander, U. S. Navy, *Ed*  
Commanding.

SECRET

June 14, 1942.

- (a) Task Force 39, Commander Destroyer Squadron 7 in U.S.S. PLUNKET, Escort Commander, escort consisting of U.S.S. PLUNKET, C.F. HUGHES, HILARY P. HONES, MADISON, LANSDALE: Commanding Officer U.S.S. ALCYONE, Convoy Commodore, convoy consisting of U.S.S. ALCYONE, ALCHIBA, LIBRA AND MIZAR,
- (b) Commandant 5 Naval District's Movement Order 16-42 of June 6.
- (c) Nonsense
- (d) Positions:  
0800- 20-17 North Lat. 68-02 West Long.  
1200- 19-21 " " 68-02 " "  
2000- 17-45 " " 68-52 " "
- Distance made good noon to noon, 337 miles.
- (e) No remarks.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

o J.S. Freeman,  
Commander, US Navy,  
Commanding. *Ed*



SECRET

June 15, 1942.

- (a) Task Force 39, Commander Destroyer Squadron 7 in U.S.S. PLUNKET, Escort Commander, escort consisting of U.S.S. PLUNKET, C.F. HUGHES, LANSDALE, MADISON, HILARY P. JONES: Commanding Officer U.S.S. ALCYONE, Convoy Commodore, convoy consisting of U.S.S. ALCYONE, ALCHIBA, LIBRA, MIZAR.
- (b) Commandant 5 Naval District's Movement Order 16-42 of June 6 .
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:
- |       |         |            |       |                 |
|-------|---------|------------|-------|-----------------|
| 0800- | 16-21   | North Lat. | 71-26 | West Longitude. |
| 1200- | 15-59   | " "        | 72-10 | " "             |
| 2000- | 14-55.5 | " "        | 74-00 | " "             |
- Distance and course made good noon to noon, 331 miles, 228° True.
- (e) No remarks.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

*ES*

SECRET

June 16, 1942.

- (a) Task Force 39, Commander Destroyer Squadron 7 in U.S.S. PLUNKET, Escort Commander, escort consisting of U.S.S. PLUNKET, C.F. HUGHES, LANSDALE, MADISON, HILARY P. JONES. Commanding Officer U.S.S. ALCYONE Convoy Commodore, convoy consisting of U.S.S. ALCYONE, ALCHIBA, LIBRA, AND MIZAR.
- (b) Commandant 5 Naval District's Movement Order 16-42 of June 6.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:
- |             | North | Lat. | 76-13 | West | Long. |
|-------------|-------|------|-------|------|-------|
| 0800- 13-27 | "     | "    | 76-53 | "    | "     |
| 1200- 12-58 | "     | "    | 78-09 | "    | "     |

Distance made good and course, noon to noon, 328 miles, 232° True.

- (e) No remarks.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J. S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

*ES*

SECRET

June 17, 1942.

- (a) Task Force 39, Commander Destroyer Squadron 7 in U.S.S. PLUNKET, Escort Commander, escort consisting of U.S.S. PLUNKET, LANSDALE, C.F. HUGHES, MADISON, HILARY P. JONES. Commanding Officer U.S.S. ALCYONE Convoy Commodore, convoy Consisting of US.S. ALCYONE, ALCHIBA, LIBRA AND MIZAR.
- (b) Commandant 5 Naval District's Movement Order 16-42 of June 6.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions;  
0800-Approaching Limon Bay, Canal Zone.  
1200-Transiting the Panama Canal.  
2000-Pier 18A, Balboa, Canal Zone.
- Distance and course made good, noon to noon, 284 miles,  
232° True.
- (e) At 0835 anchored in Limon Bay, Colon, Canal Zone. 1105 Got underway and commenced transit of the Panama Canal. 1834 Completed transit of the Panama Canal and moored in Berth 209, Pier # 18A, Balboa, Canal Zone.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman,  
Commander U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

*ES*

SECRET

June 18, 1942.

- (a) Task Group 81.3. Commanding Officer U.S.S. TRENTON, Escort Commander, escort consisting of U.S.S. TRENTON AND WARRINGTON. Commanding Officer U.S.S. ALCYONE, Convoy Commodore, convoy consisting of U.S.S. ALCYONE, ALCHEBA, LIBRA AND MIZAR.
- (B) Commandant 15 Naval District's Movement Order 10-42 of June 17.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:
  - 0800- Moored at Pier 18A Balboa, Canal Zone.
  - 1200- 08-24 North Lat. 79-30.5 West Long.
  - 2000- 06-46 " " 79-51 " "
- (e) At 0859 got underway from Pier 18A, Balboa, Canal Zone, and proceeded out to sea.
- (f) Commandant 15 Naval District's Movement Order 10-42 of June 17. Panama Sea Frontier Sortie Order 2-42 of June 17, 1942, and routing instructions.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

*ES*

SECRET

June 19, 1942.

- (a) Task Group 81.3. Commanding Officer U.S.S. TRENTON, Escort Commander, escort consisting of U.S.S. TRENTON and WARRINGTON. Commanding Officer U.S.S. ALCYONE Convoy Commodore, convoy consisting of U.S.S. ALCYONE, ALCHIBA, LIBRA, and MIZAR.
- (b) Commandant 15 Naval District's Movement Order 10-42 of June 17.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions.
- |       |       |       |      |       |      |            |
|-------|-------|-------|------|-------|------|------------|
| 0800- | 06-01 | North | Lat. | 82-22 | West | Longitude. |
| 1200- | 05-48 | "     | "    | 83-17 | "    | "          |
| 2000- | 05-20 | "     | "    | 85-03 | "    | "          |

Distance made good, noon to noon, 321 miles.

- (e) No remarks.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J. S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

*Ed*



SECRET

June 20, 1942.

- (a) Task Group 87.3. Commanding Officer U.S.S. TRENTON, Escort Commander, escort consisting of U.S.S. TRENTON and WARRINGTON. Commanding Officer U.S.S. ALCYONE Convoy Commodore, convoy consisting of U.S.S. ALCYONE, ALCHIBA, LIBRA and MIZAR.
- (b) Commandant 15 Naval District's Movement Order 10-42. of June 17.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:
- |       |       |       |      |       |      |            |
|-------|-------|-------|------|-------|------|------------|
| 0800- | 04-33 | North | Lat. | 87-35 | West | Longitude, |
| 1200- | 04-16 | "     | "    | 88-23 | "    | "          |
| 2000- | 03-41 | "     | "    | 90-06 | "    | "          |

Distance and course made good noon to noon, 321 miles,  
253° True.

- (e) No remarks.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J. S. Freeman  
Commander U.S. Navy, *ES*  
Commanding.

**SECRET**

June 21, 1942.

- (a) Task Group 81.3. Commanding Officer U.S.S. TRENTON Escort Commander, escort consisting of U.S.S. TRENTON and WARRINGTON. Commanding Officer U.S.S. ALCYONE Convoy Commodore, convoy Consisting of U.S.S. ALCYONE, ALCHIBA, LIBRA, and MIZAR.
- (b) Commandant 15 Naval District's Movement Order 10-42 of June 17.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions.
- |       |       |            |       |                 |
|-------|-------|------------|-------|-----------------|
| 0800- | 02-36 | North Lat. | 92-44 | West Longitude. |
| 1200- | 02-27 | " "        | 93-42 | " "             |
| 2000- | 01-57 | " "        | 95-45 | " "             |
- Distance and course made good, noon to noon, 338 miles, 251° True.
- (e) At 1436 large patrol plane flew over ship.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, US.NAVY,  
Commanding.

*ES*

SECRET

June 22, 1942.

- (a) Task Group 81.3. Commanding Officer U.S.S. TRENTON Escort Commander, escort consisting of U.S.S. TRENTON and WARRINGTON. Commanding Officer U.S.S. ALCYONE Convoy Commodore, convoy consisting of U.S.S. ALCYONE, ALCHIBA, LIBRA, and MIZAR.
- (b) Commandant 15 Naval District's Movement Order 10-42 of June 17.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:
- |       |       |       |      |          |      |       |
|-------|-------|-------|------|----------|------|-------|
| 0900- | 00-52 | North | Lat. | 98-32    | West | Long. |
| 1200- | 00-34 | "     | "    | 99-32    | "    | "     |
| 2000- | 00-02 | "     | "    | 101-18.5 | "    | "     |
- Distance and course made good noon to noon, 366 miles, 252° True.
- (e) No remarks.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

*ES*

SECRET

June 23, 1942.

- (a) Task Group 81.3. Commanding Officer U.S.S. TRENTON Escort Commander, escort consisting of U.S.S. TRENTON and WARRINGTON. Commanding Officer U.S.S. ALCYONE Convoy Commodore, convoy consisting of U.S.S. ALCYONE, ALCHIBA, LIBRA, and MIZAR.
- (b) Commandant's 15 Naval District's Movement Order 10-42 of June 17.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:
- |       |         |       |      |        |      |       |
|-------|---------|-------|------|--------|------|-------|
| 0800- | 00-58   | South | Lat. | 103-52 | West | Long. |
| 1200- | 01-24.5 | "     | "    | 104-45 | "    | "     |
| 2000- | 02-16   | "     | "    | 106-39 | "    | "     |

Distance and course made good noon to noon,  
338 miles, 250° True.

- (e) No remarks.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J. S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

*ES*

SECRET

June 24, 1942.

- (a) Task Group 81.3. Commanding Officer U.S.S. TRENTON Escort Commander, escort consisting of U.S.S. TRENTON and WARRINGTON. Commanding Officer U.S.S. ALCYONE Convoy Commodore, Convoy consisting of U.S.S. ALCYONE, ALCHIBA, LIBRA, and MIZAR.
- (b) Commandant 15 Naval Districts Movement Order 10-42 of June 17.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions.
- |       |       |            |        |                 |
|-------|-------|------------|--------|-----------------|
| 0800- | 03-19 | South Lat. | 109-24 | West Longitude. |
| 1200- | 03-34 | "          | "      | "               |
| 2000- | 04-14 | "          | "      | "               |

Distance and course made good noon to noon, 361 miles.  
249° True.

- (e) No remarks.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander U.S. Navy, *Ed*  
Commanding.

SECRET

June 25, 1942.

- (a) Task Group 81.3. Commanding Officer U.S.S. TRENTON Escort Commander, escort consisting of U.S.S. TRENTON and WARRINGTON. Commanding Officer U.S.S. ALCYONE, Convoy Commodore, convoy consisting of U.S.S. ALCYONE, ALCHIBA, LIBRA and MIZAR.
- (b) Commandant 15 Naval District's Movement Order 10-42 of June 17/
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions.
- |       |       |       |      |        |      |       |
|-------|-------|-------|------|--------|------|-------|
| 0800- | 05-16 | South | Lat. | 115-07 | West | Long. |
| 1200- | 05-35 | "     | "    | 116-04 | "    | "     |
| 2000- | 06-11 | "     | "    | 117-54 | "    | "     |
- Distance and course made good, noon to noon, 365 miles, 250° True.
- (e) No remarks.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S.Freeman  
Commander U.S.Navy,  
Commanding.

*ES*

SECRET

June 26, 1942.

- (a) Task Group 81.3. Commanding Officer U.S.S. TRENTON Escort Commander, escort consisting of U.S.S. TRENTON and WARRINGTON. Commanding Officer U.S.S. ALCYONE Convoy Commodore, convoy consisting of U.S.S. ALCYONE, ALCHIBA, LIBRA and MIZAR.
- (b) Commandant 15 Naval District's Movement Order 10-42 of June 17/
- (c) None.

(d) Positions.

0800-	07-09	South Lat.	120-32	West Long.		
1200-	07-25	"	"	121-24.5	"	"
2000-	08-00	"	"	123-15	"	"

Distance and course made good noon to noon, 337 miles,  
251 degrees True.

- (e) No remarks.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J. S. Freeman  
Commander U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

*Ed*



SECRET

June 27, 1942.

- (a) Task Group 81.3. Commanding Officer U.S.S. TRENTON <sup>ES</sup>escort  
Commander escort consisting of U.S.S. TRENTON and WARRINGTON.  
Commanding Officer U.S.S. ALCYONE Convoy Commodore, convoy  
consisting of U.S.S. ALCYONE, ALCHIBA, LIBRA and MIZAR.
- (b) Commandant 15 Naval District('s Movement Order 10-42 of June 17.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions.
- |       |       |            |        |            |   |   |
|-------|-------|------------|--------|------------|---|---|
| 0300- | 08-44 | South Lat. | 125-54 | West Long. |   |   |
| 1200- | 08-59 | "          | "      | 126-45     | " | " |
| 2000- | 09-31 | "          | "      | 128-31     | " | " |
- Distance and course made good noon to noon, 333 miles,  
253° True.
- (e) No remarks.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

*Ed*

SECRET

June 28, 1942.

- (a) Task Group 81.3. Commanding Officer U.S.S. TRENTON Escort Commander escort consisting of U.S.S. TRENTON and WARRINGTON. Commanding Officer U.S.S. ALCYONE Convoy Commodore, convoy consisting of U.S.S. ALCYONE, ALCHIBA, LIBRA and MIZAR.
- (b) Commandant 15 Naval District's Movement Order 10-42 of June 17.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions.
- |       |       |            |        |            |   |   |
|-------|-------|------------|--------|------------|---|---|
| 0800- | 10-14 | South Lat. | 131-03 | West Long. |   |   |
| 1200- | 10-28 | "          | "      | 131-57     | " | " |
| 2000- | 10-54 | "          | "      | 133-51     | " | " |
- Distance and course made good noon to noon, 325 miles, 254 degrees True.
- (e) No remarks.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

*ES*

SECRET

June 29, 1942.

- (a) Task Group 81.3 Commanding Officer U.S.S. TRENTON Escort Commanding Officer U.S.S. TRENTON and WARRINGTON. Commanding Officer U.S.S. ALCYONE Convoy Commodore, convoy consisting of U.S.S. ALCYONE, ALCHIBA, LIBRA and MIZAR.
- (b) Commandant 15 Naval District's Movement Order 10-42 of June 17.
- (c) None.

- (d) Positions.
- |       |       |            |        |            |   |   |
|-------|-------|------------|--------|------------|---|---|
| 0800- | 11-29 | South Lat. | 136-27 | West Long. |   |   |
| 1200- | 11-41 | "          | "      | 137-21     | " | " |
| 2000- | 12-07 | "          | "      | 139-08     | " | " |

Distance and course made good noon to noon, 326 miles, 257 degrees True.

- (e) No remarks.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

*ES*

SECRET

June 30, 1942.

- (a) Task Group 81.3. Commanding Officer U.S.S. TRENTON Escort Commander, escort consisting of U.S.S. TRENTON and WARRINGTON. Commanding Officer U.S.S. ALCYONE Convoy Commodore, convoy consisting of U.S.S. ALCYONE, ALCHIBA, LIBRA and MIZAR.
- (b) Commandant 15 Naval District's Movement Order 10-42 of June 17.
- (c) None.

- (d) Positions.

0800-	12-39.5	South	Lat.	141-36	West	Long.
1200-	12-53	"	"	142-26	"	"
2000-	13-19	"	"	144-10	"	"

Distance and course made good noon to noon, 305 miles, 256 degrees, True.

- (e) No remarks.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

*ES*

57388

U.S.S. ALCHIBA

WAR DIARY

SECRET

From July 1, 1942 to July 31, 1942.

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SECRET

July 1, 1942.

- (a) Task Group 81.3. Commanding Officer U.S.S. TRENTON Escort Commander, escort consisting of U.S.S. TRENTON and WARRINGTON. Commanding Officer U.S.S. ALCYONE Convoy Commodore, convoy consisting of U.S.S. ALCYONE, ALCHIBA, LIBRA and MIZAR.
- (b) Commandant 15 Naval District's Movement Order 10-42 of June 17.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions.
- |       |         |            |        |            |
|-------|---------|------------|--------|------------|
| 0800- | 13-55   | South Lat. | 146-37 | West Long. |
| 1200- | 14-08.5 | " "        | 147-26 | " "        |
| 2000- | 14-27   | " "        | 149-08 | " "        |
- Distance and course made good noon to noon, 301 miles, 256 degrees True.
- (e) 1300 transferred mail to escort destroyer.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S.Freeman  
Commander, U.S.Navy,  
Commanding.

SECRET

July 2, 1942.

- (a) Task Group 81.3. Commanding Officer U.S.S. TRENTON Escort Commander, escort consisting of U.S.S. TRENTON and WARRINGTON. Commanding Officer U.S.S. ALCYONE, Convoy Commodore, convoy consisting of U.S.S. ALCYONE, ALCHIEBA, LIBRA and MIZAR.
- (b) Commandant 15 Naval District's Movement Order 10-42 of June 17.
- (c) None.

- (d) Positions.

0800-	15-05	South Lat.	151-35	West	Long.
1200-	15-01	"	"	152-38	"
2000-	15-01	"	"	154-40	"

Distance and course made good noon to noon, 310 miles, 260° True.

- (e) At 0800 U.S.S. TRENTON and WARRINGTON relieved as escort by H.M.S. ACHILLES and U.S.S. WALKE. Task Group changed from 81.3 to 12.1.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.



SECRET

July 3, 1942.

- (a) Task Group 12.1. Commanding Officer H.M.S. ACHILLES Escort Commander, escort consisting of H.M.S. ACHILLES and U.S.S. WALKE. Commanding Officer U.S.S. ALCYONE Convoy Commodore, convoy consisting of U.S.S. ALCYONE, ALCHIBA, LIBRA and MIZAR.
- (b) Commandant 15 Naval District's Movement Order 10-42 of June 17.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions.
- |       |       |       |      |        |      |       |
|-------|-------|-------|------|--------|------|-------|
| 0800- | 16-16 | South | Lat. | 157-19 | West | Long. |
| 1200- | 16-45 | "     | "    | 158-11 | "    | "     |
| 2000- | 17-48 | "     | "    | 159-46 | "    | "     |

Distance and course made good noon to noon, 349 miles, 252° True.

- (e) No remarks.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

SECRET

July 4, 1942.

- (a) Task Group 12.1. Commanding Officer H.M.S. ACHILLES, Escort Commander, escort consisting of H.M.S. ACHILLES and U.S.S. WALKE. Commanding OFFICER, U.S.S. ALCYONE, Convoy Commodore, convoy consisting of U.S.S. ALCYONE, ALCHIBA, LIBRA and MIZAR.
- (b) Commandant 15 Naval District's Movement Order 10-42 of June 17.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions.

0800-	19-49	South	Lat.	161-45	West	Long.
1200-	20-35	"	"	162-31	"	"
2000-	21-57	"	"	163-36	"	"

Distance and course made good noon to noon, 337 miles, 226° T.

- (e) No remarks.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

SECRET

July 5, 1942.

- (a) Task Group 12.1. Commanding Officer H.M.S. ACHILLES, Escort Commander, escort consisting of H.M.S. ACHILLES, U.S.S. WALKE. Commanding Officer U.S.S. ALCYONE, Convoy Commodore convoy consisting of U.S.S. ALCYONE, ALCHIBA, LIBRA and MIZAR.
- (b) Commandant 15 Naval District's Movement Order 10-42 of June 17.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions.

0800-	24-10	South Lat.	165-20	West Long.
1200-	24-53	" "	165-57	" "
2000-	26-25.5	" "	167-07	" "

Distance and course made good noon to noon, 328 miles, 219° True

- (e) No remarks.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

SECRET

July 6, 1942.

- (a) Task Group 12.1. Commanding Officer H.M.S. ACHILLES Escort Commander, escort consisting of H.M.S. ACHILLES and U.S.S. WALKE. Commanding Officer U.S.S. ALCYONE, Convoy Commodore, convoy consisting of U.S.S. ALCYONE, ALCHIBA, LIBRA and MIZAR.
- (b) Commandant 15 Naval District's Movement Order 10-42 of June 17.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions.

0800-	28-41	South	Lat.	168-54	West	Long.
1200-	29-21	"	"	169-20	"	"
2000-	30-53	"	"	170-45.5	"	"

Course and distance made good noon to noon, 214°T, 326 miles.

- (e) No remarks.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
July 7, 1942.

- (a) Task Group 12.1 .
- (b) Commandant 15 Naval District's Movement Order 10-42 of June 17.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:

0800-	33-04.5	South Latitude	172-36	West Long.	
1200-	33-46	" "	173-13	" "	
2000-	34-32	" "	173-46	" "	(Lying to )

Distance and course made good noon to noon, 332 miles, 218<sup>o</sup> True.

- (e) At 1650 breakdown due to broken piston main engine, Lying to with U.S.S. WALKE circling vessels at night as anti-submarine screen. While repairs were being effected, convoy maneuvered in vicinity with H.M.A.S. ACHILLES.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

SECRET

July 8, 1942.

- (a) Task Group 12.1.
- (b) Commandant 15 Naval District's Movement Order 10-42 of June 17.
- (c) None.

- (d) Positions:

0800-	34-36	Lat. South	173-42	West Long. (lying to )
1200-	34-18.5	" "	173-52.5	" " " "
2000-	35-18	" "	175-00	" " " "

Distance and course made good noon to noon, 53 miles, 227° True.

- (e) 0800 U.S.S. WALKER left task group. 1310 Completed repairs and got underway. 1900 Rejoined convoy and assumed former position.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J. S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

SECRET

July 9, 1942.

- (a) Task Group 12.1.
- (b) Commandant 15 Naval District's Movement Order 10-42 of June 17.
- (c) None.

- (d) Positions.

0800-	36-59	South Lat.	177-26	West Long.
1200-	37-39	"	"	178-12 "
2000-	38-58.5	"	"	179-57 East Long.

Distance and course made good noon to noon; 292 miles, 226° True.  
friendly

- (e) 1315 sighted/patrol plane. 1350 H.M.S. ACHILLES Left Task Group/  
Convoy coverage by patrol plane.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S.Freeman  
Commander, U.S.Navy,  
Commanding.



SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
July 11, 1942.

- (a) Task Group 12.1 .
- (b) Commandant 15 Naval District's Movement Order 10-42 of June 17.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:

0800- 41-04 South Lat. 177-00 East Long.  
1200- ~~41-35~~ " " 175-50 " "  
2000- Anchored in Lambton Harbour, Wellington, N.Z.

Distance and course made good noon to noon, 363 miles, 230° T.

- (e) At 0000 set clocks to -12 Zone Time having crossed the 180 meridian. July 10 omitted. At 1733 anchored in Lambton Harbour, Wellington, New Zealand with convoy.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S.Freeman  
Commander, U.S.Navy,  
Commanding.

//

SECRET

July 12, 1942.

- (a) Task Group 12.1 .
- (b) Commandant 15 Naval District's Movement Order 10-42 of June 17.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions.

0800- Underway in Lambton Harbour, Wellington, N.Z.  
1200- Moored alongside Aotea Quay, Wellington, N.Z.  
2000- Ditto.

- (e) ~~At 0744~~ got underway and at 0851 moored alongside Aotea Quay.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S.Freeman  
Commander, US. Navy,  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
July 13 to 20, 1942.

- (a) Task Group 12.1 . On July 16 U.S.S. ALCHIBA temporarily assigned to Amphibious Force South Pacific.
- (b) Commandant 15 Naval District's Movement Order 10-42 of June 17.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions.

Moored alongside Actea Quay, Wellington , New Zealand.  
Heavy rain and strong winds hampered unloading on July 13-15.  
temporarily

- (e) On July 16 the U.S.S. ALCHIBA was assigned to the Amphibious Force South Pacific by Commander In Chief Pacific Fleet's dispatch 150237 of July, and to Transport Division Ten therein by Commander Amphibious Force South Pacific's Organization of July 18.
- (f) Comamphibforsopac's Operation Order O-1 of July 18, 1942.  
Commander Transport Divisions South Pacific Force  
Current Tactical #1 of July 20, 1942.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S.Freeman  
Commander, U.S.Navy,  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
July 21, 1942.

- (a) Task Force 62. Commander Task Force, Rear Admiral R.K. Turner, U.S. Navy in U.S.S. McCAWLEY. Escort Commander, Rear Admiral Crutchley R.N. in H.M.A.S. AUSTRALIA. Escort consisting of H.M.A.S. AUSTRALIA, CANBERRA, HOBART, U.S.S. CHICAGO, SALT LAKE CITY, PATTERSON, JARVIS, RABPH TALBOT, BLUE, SELFRIDGE, HENLEY, and MUGFORD ( T.G. 62.2). Convoy Commodore, Commander Transport Division Ten, South Pacific Amphibious Force, in U.S.S. HUNTER LIGGETT. Convoy (T.G. 62.1 ) consisting of Section 2, U.S.S. NEVILLE, HEYWOOD, LIBRA. Section 3, HUNTER LIGGETT, ALCHIBA, POMALHAUT, Section 4, McCAWLEY, BARNETT, GEORGE F. ELLIOT, Section 5, FULLER, AMERICAN LEGION, BELLATRI X.
- (b) Commander South Pacific Amphibious Force's Operation Order No. O-1 of July 20, 1942.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:  
Moored alongside Aotea Quay, Wellington, N.Z.
- (e) At 2125 got underway and at 2200 anchored in Lambton Harbour, Wellington, N.Z. Loading and discharging of U.S. Marine Corps equipment completed, and personnel embarked. ( 18 officer passengers, 520 enlisted men, U.S. Marine Corps. )
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. NAVY,  
Commanding.

U.S.S. ALCHIBA

SECRET

July 22, 1942.

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Commander Amphibious Force South Pacific's Operation Order No. O-1 of July 20, 1942.
- (c) None .
- (d) Positions:
  - 0800- Anchored in Lambton Harbour, Wellington, N.Z.
  - 1200- 41-40.5 South Lat. 175-08.5 East Long.
  - 2000- 41-23 " " 176-48 " "
- (e) At 0845 got underway pursuant to (b) and proceeded toward KORO ISLAND, FIJI for purposes of conducting landing exercises.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S.Freeman  
Commander, U.S.Navy,  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
July 23, 1942.

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Commander Amphibious Force South Pacific's Operation Order No. O-1 of July 20, 1942.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:

0800-	39-15	South Lat.	179-08	East Long.
1200-	38-41	"	179-54	"
2000-	36-58	"	179-58	"

Distance and course made good noon to noon, 334 miles, various courses leaving harbor.

- (e) 1330 U.S.S. BAGLEY and HELM joined escort.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

**SECRET**

**U.S.S. ALCHIBA**  
**July 24, 1942.**

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Commander Amphibious Force South Pacific's Operation Order O-1 of July 20, 1942.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions.

	0800-	34-16	South	Lat.	179-58	West	Long.
	1200-	33-39	"	"	179-59.5	"	"
	2000-	31-50	"	"	179-56	2	"

Distance and course made good noon to noon, 307 miles, 001°T.

- (e) No remarks.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

**J.S. Freeman**  
**Commander, U.S. Navy,**  
**Commanding.**



SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
July 25, 1942.

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Commander Amphibious Force South Pacific 's Operation Order No. O-1, of July 20, 1942.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions.

0800-	30-01	South Lat.	179-52	West Long.
1200-	29-10.5	"	"	"
2000-	27-20	"	"	"

Distance and course made good noon to moon, 267 miles, 001°T.

- (e) No remarks.
- (f) Following orders received:

Commander Task Force 62 Operation Plans, AR-42(rehearsal) and AB-42, dated July 22, 1942.  
Commanding General 1st Marine Division's Operation Plan 7-42, and Division Administrative Order "2a-42" dated July 20, 1942.

- (g) No remarks.

J.S.Freeman  
Commander, U.S.Navy,  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
July 26, 1942.

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Commander Amphibious Force South Pacific's Operation Order O-1 of July 20, 1942.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:

0800-	24-37	South	Lat.	179-51	East	Long.
1200-	23-40	2 "	"	179-49	"	"
2000-	22-09	"	"	179-58.5	West	"

Distance and course made good, 331 miles, 357° True.

- (e) The following ships joined the Task Force in the afternoon. U.S.S. CRESCENT CITY, PRESIDENT HAYES, PRESIDENT ADAMS, ALHENA, NEVILLE, ~~ZELIN~~, HEYWOOD, PRESIDENT JACKSON, COLHOUN, GREGORY, LITTLE, MC KEAN; QUINCY, VINCENNES, ASTORIA, HULL, DEWEY, ELLET, WILSON, SAN JUAN, GRIDLEY, BUCHANAN, HOPKINS, TREVER, AND several others as yet unidentified by this vessel.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman,  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
July 27, 1942.

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Commander Amphibious Force South Pacific's Operation Order O-1 of July 20, 1942.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:
  - 0800- 20-01 South Lat. 179-48 West Long.
  - 1200- 19-32.5            179-56        "        "
  - 2000- Lying to North of Koro Island, Fijis.Distance and course made good, 257 miles, 002° True.
- (e) Lying to off North shore of Koro Island, Fijis engaged in conducting landing exercises.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. FREEMAN  
Commander, U.S.Navy,  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA.  
July 28, 1942.

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Commander Amphibious Force South Pacific's Operation Order, O-1 of July 20, 1942.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:

0800- 17-09 South Lat. 179-42 East Long.  
1200- Lying to off Koro Island, Fiji.  
2000- " " " " " "

- (e) Conducting landing exercises. Launched 16 amphibious tractors, 2 tank lighters, and 14 landing boats. The fittings and riggings on board are not adapted for the type of boats assigned this vessel.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J. S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
July 29, 1942.

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Commander Amphibious Force South Pacific's Operation Order O-1 of July 20, 1942.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions.

Lying to North of Koro Island, Fiji.

- (e) Underway from 0030 to 0800 on various courses for 65 miles. Continued landing exercises.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
July 30, 1942.

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Commander Amphibious Force South Pacific's Operation Order O-1 of July 20, 1942.
- (c) None.
- (d) Position:  
Lying to north of Koro Island, Fiji.  
Maneuvered during night on various courses, 158 miles.
- (e) Continued landing exercises.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA

July 31, 1942

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Commander Amphibious Force South Pacific's Operation Order O-1 of July 20, 1942.
- (c) None.
- (d) Position:
  - 0800- Lying to north of Koro Island, Fiji.
  - 1200- Ditto
  - 2000- 17-22.5 SouthLat. 179-39 East Long.
- (e) At 1704 got underway and proceeded toward Solomon Islands, in company with task force. 1730 formed Cruising Disposition, AC-1, Task Force 62 less Betelguese and Zeilin. Weather good sea smooth. Alchiba loaded with ammunition, amphibian tractors, gasoline, general supplies, Pioneer Battalion, and Amphibious Tractor Battalion, United States Marine Corps.
- (f) Received Commander Task Force 62 's Operation Plan A3-42 and Operation Order 5-42 dated July 30, 1942.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S.Freeman  
Commander, U.S.Navy,  
Commanding.



U.S.S. ALCHIBA

WAR DIARY

SECRET

From August 1, 1942 to August 31, 1942.

RECEIVED SC HEAD  
Nov 1942

DEC 3 1942

ROUTE 10-16-E-3

US FILE NO. (SD) A 12-1 / AK-23Inv. No. 68204JAN NO. 29-42WAR DIARIES FOR MONTHS  
of August, Sept., + Oct.

44120

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
August 1, 1942.

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Commander Task Force 62's Operation Plan A3-42.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:

0800-	18-43	SouthLat.	179-39	East	Long.
1200-	19-05.5	"	"	179-13	"
2000-	19-40	"	"	177-42	"

Distance made good noon to noon 138 miles.  
Continued good weather.

- (e) General drills and instruction of crew. During forenoon, sighted several unidentified ships astern bearing 050° True which gradually disappeared from sight. In afternoon sighted large task force (61) on port bow. 3 CV and a number of DDs and CA or CLs.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

*Ed*

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
August 2, 1942.

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Commander Task Force 62's Operation Plan A3-42.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions.

0800-	19-10	South Lat.	174-55	East Long.
1200-	18-59	" "	174-06.5	" "
2000-	19-06.5	" "	172-17	" "

Distance and course made good, 304 Miles, various courses.  
Weather good.

- (e) Continued drills and instruction of crew. Received mail from Commander Task Group 62.1.
- (f) Received Commander Task Group 62.1's Operation Plan 1-42 of August 1, 1942.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

*ES*

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIEA  
August 3, 1942.

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Commander Task Force 62's Operation Plan A3-42.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:

0800-	18-23	SouthLat.	169-58	East Long.
1200-	18-08.5	"	"	169-14 East Long.
2000-	18-13	"	"	167-25 " "

Distance and course made good, 293 miles, 280° True.  
Weather good.

- (e) At daybreak sighted cargo ship escorted by DDs. At 0750 (Love) sighted U.S.S. ZEILIN approaching from astern and at about 1030 she took position in formation in Transdiv Easy. At about 1545 Love U.S.S. BETELGUESE joined and took position in Transdiv Cast.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J. S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

*Ed*

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
August 4, 1942.

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Comtaskfor 62 Operation Plan A3-42.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:

0800-	17-33	South	Lat,	164-46	East	Long.
1200-	17-16	"	"	164-07.5	"	"
2000-	16-58	"	"	162-38	"	"

Distance and course made good, 301 miles, 279° True.

- (e) No remarks.
- (f) Received Comgen 1st Mardiv 's Operation Plan 9-42, and CTF 62's Alternate Plan ( Loss of Transports) of July 3.
- (g) No remarks.

J. S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

*Ed*

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBRA  
August 5, 1948.

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Comtaskfor 62's Operation Plan A3-42.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:

0800-	16-50	South Lat.	159-50	East Longt
1800-	16-35	" "	159-09	" "
2000-	16-07	" "	158-54	" "

Distance and course made good, 225 miles, 278 degrees.

- (d) <sup>0600</sup> slowed down due to engine trouble, and dropped out of convoy position. 0614 engines normal again, and resumed convoy position.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J. B. Prosser  
Commander, U.S. Navy.  
Commanding.

*ES*

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
August 6, 1942.

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Comtaskfor 62's Operation Plan A3-42.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:

0900-	12-54	South	Lat.	158-54	East	Long.
1200-	12-03	"	"	158-55	"	"
2000-	10-32	"	"	158-59	"	"

Distance and course made good, 271 miles, 357° True.

- (e) No remarks.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S.Navy,  
Commanding.

*ES*



SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
August 7, 1942.

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Comtaskfor 62's Operation Plan A3-42 and Operation Order A5-42.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:

Lying to in Transport Area Xray, north of Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands.

Distance made good noon to noon, 219 miles.

(e) Continued on approach for attack on Guadalcanal and Tulagi Area, Solomon Islands. 0240 Squadron Yoke consisting of U.S.S. NEVILLE, ZEILIN, HEYWOOD, PRESIDENT JACKSON, COLHOUN, GREGORY, LITTLE, McKEAN, left formation to approach Tulagi. Squadron Xray consisting of U.S.S. FULLER, AMERICAN LEGION, BELLATRIX, McCAWLEY, BARNETT, GEORGE F. ELLIOTT, LIBRA, HUNTER LIGGETT, ALCHIBA, FOMALHAUT, BETELGEUSE, CRESCENT CITY, PRESIDENT HAYES, PRESIDENT ADAMS, ALHENA proceeded to position off Guadalcanal. 0615 accompanying destroyers and cruisers began bombardment of shoreline. 0630 small vessel off shore was set on fire by gunfire apparently loaded with gasoline or oil. 0653 began launching landing boats preparatory to landing troops from transports. 0902 bombardment of beach by our forces recommenced. About 0910 first wave made beach and signalled a successful landing. At 1000 started approach to anchorage and anchored at 1055. Destroyers, cruisers and planes took up screening positions around Transport Area. 1115 disembarked troops, less cargo handling party and began discharging cargo. 1145 received warning of impending air attack. 1315 Twenty five Mitsubishi heavy bombers type 97 passed overhead. All ships opened fire with AA batteries. Our aircraft also took part in the fight. 1500 dive bombers were seen making attacks in the distance. Several ships opened fire, but no planes came within range of this vessel. It appeared that one of our destroyers (identity undetermined) may have suffered a hit or a near miss.

Continued discharging cargo throughout night until 0650 when orders were received from CTG62.1 to discontinue unloading.

- (f) No remarks.
- (g) Copy of report of action attached to diary of August 7.

J. S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *ES*  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
August 8, 1942.

- (a) Task Force 62 less Transport Squadron Yoke.
- (b) Comtaskfor 62 's Operation Plan 23-42, and Operation Order A3-42.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:

Anchored or lying to off Guadalcanal Island north shore,  
Transport Area Xray.

- (e) Continued discharging cargo. 1043 received warning of forty enemy planes passing over Bougainville headed southeast. 1043 signal from OTC to prepare for air attack. 1045 signal to get underway and form cruising disposition AC-3. 1100 Underway and forming up. 1200 formation attacked by Japanese planes with bombs and torpedoes. 1205 GEORGE F. ELLIOTT appeared to be on fire. Formation was zigzagging radically throughout attack. 1410 Received signal that aircraft were approaching on course 096°. 1734 received orders from OTC to proceed independently to Transport Area and resume discharging cargo but to remain underway.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) Copy of action report attached to *diary of August 9.*

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *ES*  
Commanding.

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
August 9, 1942.

- (a) Task Force 62, less Squadron Yoke.
- (b) Comtaskfor 62's Operation Plan A3-42 and Operation Order A5-42.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions.

Lying to or underway north of Guadalcanal Island, Solomons.

(e) 0150 A series of parachute flares were dropped over Northern shore of Guadalcanal and simultaneously a heavy bombardment commenced over Tulagi Area. Discontinued discharging cargo and darkened ship. At day break it was discovered that had drifted about seven miles to eastward of Transport Area and the proper position was regained. Began discharging cargo at 1726. 0855 Received signal to prepare for air attack. 0855 Formed cruising disposition AC-3 and began zigzagging. 1113 Received orders from CTF 62 to proceed to Savo Island and take the U.S.S. ASTORIA in tow. Left formation. 1212 Reached ASTORIA to find her about to capsize with U.S.S. BUCHANAN engaged in taking off crew. Put boats in water. 1212 ASTORIA capsized and sank. 1240 BUCHANAN signalled submarine contact by sound bearing 090°T. Got way on and proceeded to zigzag on base course 010°T. 1250 With Buchanan developing contact, returned to scene of sinking and picked up boats and thirty two survivors, at 1308 (List attached) / 1304 BUCHANAN released two depth charges. 1320 Underway to Transport Area at Guadalcanal. 1525 Received orders to hoist in boats and proceed to join Squadron Yoke in Yoke Area (Tulagi) /. 1805 Reported to Commander Squadron Yoke, having hoisted Tare Roger boats on board. Received information from U.S.S. BETELGEUSE that she had my two tank lighters, and from the U.S.S. LIBRA that she had five Tare Roger boats and twenty men on board belonging to this vessel. At 1930 received orders from CTF 62 to report when ready to proceed. Reported ready and at 1843 proceeded in company with Squadron Yoke and U.S.S. McCAWLEY through Lengo Channel.

- (f) Included in (e).
- (g) ~~No remarks~~ Action report attached.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. NAVY, *Ed*  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIRA  
August 10, 1942.

- (a) Task Force 62's Squadron Yoke, and CTF 62 in U.S.S. McCawley.
- (b) CTF 62 dispatch 090355 Of August.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:

0800-	10-16	South	Lat.	162-25	East	Long.
1200-	10-43	"	"	163-04	"	"
2000-	11-36	"	"	164-24	"	"

Distance made good 209 miles.

- (e) Proceeding to unknown destination, presumed to be Noumea. Several submarine warning by sound equipped vessels in company. Used evasive tactics, ships turn movements. At 1730 McCAWLEY left formation and conducted sea burial. Half masted colors, following movements of O.T.C.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *Ed*  
Commanding.



SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
August 11, 1942.

(a) Task Force 62 *less Transdiv 2 and 12.*

(b) Comtaskfor 62's 090355 August.

(c) None.

(d) Positions:

0800-	14-08	South Lat.	165-21	East Long.
1200-	14-46		165-36	
2000-	16-21		166-23	

Distance made good noon to noon, 304 miles.

(e) Enroute Guadalcanal-Tulagi Area to Noumea, New Caledonia. At 0600 sighted ship bearing 250 degrees true. Identified as friendly and later determined to be Squadron Xray. 0910 formed cruising disposition AC-3. Rejoined Division East of Squadron Xray. The two squadrons forming up as a unit. 1010 Destroyer on starboard bow bearing 162° distant three miles, dropped depth charges. Executed radical turn movements. Various courses and speeds forming up. 1100 Transdiv Two took position in rear of formation as directed by O.T.C. 1800 Transdiv Two ( U.S.S. CRESCENT CITY, PRESIDENT HAYES, PRESIDENT ADAMS, and ALHENA) and Transdiv 12 ( U.S.S. COLHOUN, MCKEAN, LITTLE, and GREGORY) plus PRESIDENT JACKSON left formation and proceeded on duty assigned on course 225° True, speed 13 knots.

(f) No remarks.

(g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

*ES*

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
August 12, 1942.

- (a) Task Force 62, ~~2less Squadron Make~~ (Transdivs Two and Twelve.)
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions.

0800-	18-53	South Lat.	167-42	East Long.
1200-	19-34		168-06	
2000-	21-05.5		168-42	

Distance and course made good, 320 miles, 153° True.

- (e) Steaming as before. 0620 Sighted U.S.S. CIMARRON bearing 110° True. Apparently this tanker made rendezvous with this task force to fuel destroyers, although distance made this difficult to determine. 1317 Air patrol was sighted giving coverage.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J. S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *ES*  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
August 13, 1942.

- (a) Task Force 62 .
- (b) Comtaskfor 62's dispatch 090355 of August.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:

0800- 23-15 South Lat. 167-14 East Long.  
1200- 22-44.5 " " 166-30.5 " "  
2000- Anchored in Dumbea Bay, Noumea, New Caledonia.

Distance made good noon to noon, 315 miles.

- (e) At 1547 anchored in Dumbea Bay, Noumea, New Caledonia,  
2230 Commenced loading cargo, by boats, from U.S.S. LIBRA.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J. S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding. *ES*



SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
August 14, 1942.

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Comtaskfor 62's dispatch 090355 of August.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:  
Anchored in Dumbea Bay, Noumea, New Caledonia.
- (e) 0800 U.S.S. LIBRA moored alongside and commenced unloading directly into the U.S.S. ALCHIBA.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J. S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *ES*  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
August 15, 1942.

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Comtaskfor 62's dispatch 090355 of August.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:

Anchored in Dumbea Bay, Noumea, New Caledonia.

- (e) 1600 Completed loading and U.S.S. LIBRA cast off and returned to her anchorage.
- (g) <sup>M</sup> remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.



SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
August 16, 1942.

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Comtaskfor 62's dispatch 090355 of August.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:  
Anchored in Dumbea Bay , Noumea, NEW Caledonia.  
2000- Moored alongside Grand Quay, Noumea.
- (e) 1638 Got underway to shift berths. 1744 Moored alongside Grand Quay, Noumea, New Caledonia. 2045 Commenced to unload ship.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.



SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
August 17, 1942.

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Same as Before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Same as before.
- (e) Discharging cargo.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

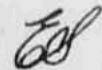


SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
August 18, 1942.

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Same as before.
- (e) 1645 S.S. DeRoche came alongside and moored.  
Continued discharging cargo.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J. S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.



SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
August 19, 1942.

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Same as before .
- (c) None.
- (d) Same as before.
- (e) OS10 S.S. DEROCHE cast off and shifted berths. Continued ~~loading~~  
discharging cargo.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *ES*  
Commanding.

SECRET

USS ALCHIBA  
August 20, 1942.

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Same as before.
- (e) Continued discharging cargo.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S.Freeman  
Commander, U.S.Navy,  
Commanding.





SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
August 21, 1942.

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) ~~Same~~.as before.
- (e) 0635 U.S.S. BARNETT made fast to our starboard side, and at 0745 commenced fueling. 1325 Completed fueling. 2200 Completed discharging cargo.
- (f) Received Comtaskfor 62's mailgram 200940 of August, which placed U.S.S. ALCHIBA in Task Unit 62.1.9 and directed it to proceed to Strawstack departing August 22.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S.Navy, *EF*  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
August 22, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.1.9. Commanding Officer U.S.S. CUMMINGS, Escort Commander, escort consisting of U.S.S. CUMMINGS, HOVEY, AND TREVER. Commanding Officer U.S.S. WHARTON Convoy Commodore, convoy consisting of U.S.S. WHARTON, PRESIDENT JACKSON, and ALCHIBA.
- (b) Comtaskfor 62's 200940 August.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions.
  - 0800- Underway in Dumbea Bay, Noumea, New Caledonia.
  - 1200- Anchored in Dumbea Bay.
  - 2000- 22-58.5 South Lat. 166-37 East Long.
- (e) 0655 U.S.S. BARNETT cast off from our starboard side and shifted berths. 0728 Got underway from Grand Quay and at 0816 anchored in Dumbea Bay, Noumea, N.E. 1553 Got underway and proceeded for Strawstack. U.S.S. CHICAGO with escort of two destroyers ( unidentified ) proceeding in
- (f) same direction. Lost contact after dark. U.S.S. RALPH TALBOT joined our escort.
- (f) Received Comtaskfor 62's Operation Plan A9-42 of August 20, detailing plans for occupation of Apricot, which is to be placed in effect later.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *ES*  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
August 23, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.1.9 .
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:

0800-	23-12.5	South Lat.	169-15	East Long.
1200-	23-05		170-14	
2000-	22-53		172-13	

Distance made good noon to noon, 246 miles.

- (e) No remarks.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S.Navy, *Ed*  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
August 24, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.1.9 .
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:

0800-	22-33	South Lat.	174-54	East Long.
1200-	22-11		175-42	
2000-	21-23		177-29	

Distance and course made good, ~~250~~<sup>315</sup> miles, 080° True.

- (e) No remarks.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *EF*  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
August 25, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.1.9 .
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:

0800-	20-11	South Lat.	179-54	West Long.
1200-	19-45		179-01	
2000-	18-55		177-18	

Distance and course made good, 329 miles, 064° True.

- (e) Having crossed the International Date line, at 2400 the date was retarded one day. Zone time now plus 12.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *ES*  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIRA  
August 25, 1942.  
(repeated)

- (a) Task Unit 62.1.9 .
- (b) Same as before.
- (d) None.
- (d) Positions:

0900-	17-19 South Lat.	174-58 West Long.
1200-	16-45.5	174-14
2000-	15-48	172-31

Distance and course made good, 326 miles, 057° True.

- (e) Having crossed the International Date Line from West to East August 25, 1942 is repeated.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J. S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *Ed*  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
August 26, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.1.9 .
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:

0800- Circling off entrance to Pago Pago Harbor, Tutuila, Samoa.  
1200- Moored U.S. Naval Station Wharf, Pago Pago, " " .  
2000- Ditto.

Distance made good noon to noon, 260 miles.

- (e) 1138 Moored At U.S. Naval Station Wharf, Pago Pago, Tutuila,  
in U.S.S. CRESCENT CITY  
Samoa, and reported to Comtransdiv Two/for duty, pursuant to  
Comsopac's 200940 August. Commenced loading U.S. Marine Corps  
diesel oil , gasoline, and provisions.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *Ed*  
Commanding.



SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
August 27, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.2.3. Composed of U.S.S. CRESCENT CITY, PRESIDENT JACKSON, TREVOR, ALCHIBA. Comtransdiv 2 in U.S.S. CRESCENT CITY.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:  
0800- Moored at U.S. Naval Station Wharf, Tutuila.  
1200- Ditto.  
2000- Anchored in Pago Pago Harbor, Tutuila.
- (e) Completed loading cargo. 1620 Got underway from wharf and at 1705 anchored in Pago Pago Harbor, Tutuila, Samoa.
- (f) Received Naval Station Tutuila's mailgram 280715 August, and Comtask Unit 62.2.3's mailgram 280900 August, directing the U.S.S. ALCHIBA to proceed with the PRESIDENT JACKSON, and TREVOR TO Strawhat.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

*ES*

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
August 28, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.2.3 , less U.S.S. CRESCENT CITY, with U.S.S. TREVOR as antisubmarine escort.
- (b) Navsta Tutuila's mailgram 280715 August.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions.

0800- Anchored in Pago Pago Harbor, Tutuila, Samoa.  
1200- Underway from Pago Pago to E Apia, British Samoa.  
2000- Anchored in Apia Harbor, British Samoa.

Distance made good 84 miles.

- (e) 0833 Got underway from Pago Pago Harbor, Tutuila, Samoa.  
1215 Passed U.S.S. PRESIDENT HAYES and PRESIDENT ADAMS,  
with destroyer escort ( unidentified) abeam headed in  
opposite direction. 1507 Anchored in Apia Harbor,  
British Samoa. 2000 Commenced loading U.S. Marine Corps  
equipment and cargo.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding. *ES*

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
August 29, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.3.3, as before.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:

Anchored in Apia, Harbor, British Samoa.

- (e) Continued loading cargo.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J. S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.



SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA AUG 3 0 1942

(A) Task Unit 62.3.3, Plus U.S.S. CRESCENT CITY and HOVEY, less U.S.S. PRESIDENT JACKSON and TREVOR. Commanding Officer U.S.S. CRESCENT CITY Commander Task Unit 62.3.3 .

(b) Same as before.

(c) None.

(d) Positions:

Anchored in Apia Harbor, British Samoa.

(e) Continued to load cargo. 1315 U.S.S. PRESIDENT JACKSON and TREVOR got underway and stood out. 1608 U.S.S. CRESCENT CITY anchored in harbor, while U.S.S. HOVEY replaced the TREVOR as anti-submarine screen outside harbor entrance.

(f) No remarks.

(g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman, Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding,

*Ed*

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
August 31, 1942.

(a) Task Unit 62.3.3, less PRESIDENT ADAMS, PRESIDENT HAYES, and PRESIDENT JACKSON.

(b) Same as before.

(c) None.

(d) Positions:

Anchored in Apia Harbor, British Samoa.

(e) Completed loading cargo. U.S. Marine Corps personnel embarked as passengers, 52 enlisted men, 6 officers.

(f) No remarks.

(g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

*ES*

Noumea, New Caledonia,  
August 16, 1942.

S-E-C-R-E-T

From: Commanding Officer.  
To: Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet.  
Via: (1) Commander Task Group 62.1  
(2) Commander Task Force 62.

Subject: Action Report.

Reference: (a) U.S. Naval Regulations, 1920, Article  
712, 874(6).

Enclosure: (A) Report of Executive Officer, U.S.S. ALCHIBA.

1. In accordance with reference (a), an action report covering the landing on Guadalcanal Island, Solomon Islands from August 7, 1942 to August 9, 1942 is submitted herewith.

2. At 0600, August 7, while approaching the Transport Area XRAY in Attack Force Approach Disposition "AR-3", (Annex Interrogatory to Commander Task Force Sixty-Two Operation Plan A3-42,) a plane with running lights was observed. This plane was believed to have been launched by H.M.A.S. AUSTRALIA. At the same instant a small craft was observed bearing 100° (true), close inshore.

At 0615, cruisers and destroyers of the Fire Support Sections opened bombardment on the shore line at Guadalcanal. Simultaneously, fire was opened in the Tulagi Area.

At 0630 the small craft inshore was hit and burst into flame. It appeared to be loaded with gasoline or oil.

At 0653, having reached the Transport Area and receiving orders to launch boats, got the first boats into water. At 0734 completed launching boats. All boats from this vessel proceeded to Transports as directed in the Covering Operation Plan.

At 0656 received signal "Zero Hour is 0910."



10-kr

Noumea, New Caledonia,  
August 16, 1942.S-E-C-R-E-TSubject: Action Report.  
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At 0902 bombardment of beaches began preparatory to landing of troops.

At 0920 a successful landing on Guadalcanal was indicated by signal from the beach.

At 1000 stood in toward beach, and at 1155 anchored with HUNTER LIGGETT bearing 273°, distant 800 yards. Anchored in 28 fathoms of water with 90 fathoms of chain to port anchor.

At 1145 received signal to repel Air Attack. Ship went into Special Condition of Readiness, effective while handling cargo.

At 1220 started discharging cargo in the four Tare Roger boats available.

At 1315 twenty-six "Mitsubishi" heavy bombers, Type 97, were sighted bearing 315° (true), estimated altitude 8000 feet. One plane fell before passing over Transport Area. Bombs were dropped, but none were observed in Transport Area. One ship, in the distance to westward, identity of which could not be determined, appeared to be hit and in flames. All bombs appeared to have been released short of objective, presumed to be Transports XRAY. Fire was opened, but was discontinued when planes did not come within range.

At 1350 launched the last one of the amphibian tractors.

At 1500, distant dive-bombers were sighted, but did not come within range.

Continued discharging cargo. Both WL lighters of this vessel were in difficulties with ramp gear. Conditions on the beach appeared to be unsatisfactory, as boats were returned to vessel still loaded.

At 0450, August 8, orders were received from Comtaskforce 62 to discontinue unloading on Beach Red until further orders.



10-kr

Noumea, New Caledonia,  
August 16, 1942.S-E-C-R-E-TSubject: Action Report.  
-----

At 1043 received signal to prepare for air attack.

At 1100, got underway in response to signal, formed Cruising Disposition AG-3, base course 000° (true), speed 13 knots, and started evasive courses by ship turn movements, distance between ships 1000 yards, maneuvering Squadron XRAY in area bounded by Guadalcanal Island on the South, Florida Island on the North, and Savo Island on the west.

At 1150 Japanese planes dropped bombs in the area where the squadron had been anchored.

At 1152, approximately twenty planes, believed to be "Mitsubishi MC-20" Transport Bombers, came through the Transport formation from astern. Fire was opened at 1155 and it appeared that at least four planes were hit by gunfire from this vessel. One plane was definitely hit by a 3-inch shell from #1 gun, and seen to break in two, all parts hitting the water as debris in flames, which lasted a few seconds and disappeared.

At 1158 the U.S.S. GEORGE F. ELLIOTT, in the right hand column of the Transport formation, was seen in flames and smoke. It was believed that she had been hit by a falling plane which was on fire.

At 1210 ceased fire, all guns.

It is my opinion that at least fourteen of the attacking planes were brought down during this attack.

The tactics of the enemy appeared to be an effort to fly between the columns of ships at torpedo launching altitude, in order that opposing fire would be restricted by our ships fouling the range of fire for each other.

Things happened so swiftly that complete recording of events was not accomplished. It is believed that the action lasted about six or eight minutes. This vessel expended 800 rounds of 20 mm ammunition and 27 rounds of 3" ammunition during this phase of the action. Extreme care was exercised to prevent firing into our own ships.

Noumea, New Caledonia,  
August 16, 1942.

S-E-C-R-E-T

Subject: Action Report.  
-----

The conduct and discipline displayed by officers and crew of this command were of the highest order, and the Commanding Officer has only the highest praise for all personnel concerned.

The sea was smooth, wind from Southeast, force one.

No damage was sustained by this vessel.

No casualties were sustained in this vessel.

At 1340 took aboard six casualties from an ELLIOTT boat. These were marines from the beach who were enroute to the U.S.S. ELLIOTT when the air attack occurred. None of the casualties were serious.

At 1515 received orders from OTC to land stores just west of Beach Red. Vessels lay to landing cargo.

Unloading was slow due to shortage of boats and lighters. Two Tare Roger boats from this vessel had been submerged, and were damaged beyond repair by ship's force. Both W.L. lighters were out of commission most of the night and repairmen were working on them. This vessel, at present, has insufficient boat personnel to run boats continuously for any protracted period.

At about 2130 took aboard 1st Lieut. P. Glass, Jr., USMCR, with six Marines, twenty-five naval enlisted, and one Coast Guard, survivors from the ELLIOTT. Four of the Navy enlisted, and the Coast Guard surfman, subsequently left the ship when the ELLIOTT boat was ordered to clear the side when the ship started to regain the Transport Area. None were injured.

On Sunday, August 9, unloading was continued from 0000 to 0150, when parachute flares were observed over both Guadalcanal and Tulagi areas. The ship was darkened and unloading discontinued.

The flares over Tulagi silhouetted Squadron YOKE vessels, and it appears certain that those over Guadalcanal served the same purpose for this squadron. The nature of the flares, whether from enemy or our own planes, was not known.

AOKR

Noumea, New Caledonia,  
August 16, 1942.

S-E-C-R-E-T

Subject: Action Report.

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At the same time, (i.e., 0150) Navy bombardment was heard to the northward. Plane engines were heard overhead. The dropping of flares and the sound of bombardment to the north continued for about an hour.

At about 0500 heavy gunfire was heard from the direction of Savo Island, which continued for some time.

At dawn this vessel was some distance to the east of the unloading area, and had a number of disabled boats alongside. The transport area was regained and discharging of cargo started, after the necessary gassing of boats.

At 0855 signal, "Prepare for Air Attack."

At 0910, formed up in Cruising Position AC-3 and began maneuvering by ship turn movement. Base course 350°, standard speed 12 knots.

At 1113, received orders from OTC to proceed immediately to Savo Island and take the ASTORIA in tow. This cruiser had been observed throughout the forenoon, and appeared to be on fire just forward of the bridge structure. Left the formation and proceeded at 15 knots dragging, as submarines were thought to be in the vicinity.

At 1212 reached the ASTORIA, which was listing heavily to port and was down by the head. She appeared to be about to capsize, and towing to be impossible. The U.S.S. BUCHANAN was taking off survivors, and doing a splendid piece of work in doing so.

At 1215 the ASTORIA capsized to port and sank at 1217, in Lat. 09-08-20S.; 159-52-30E. in 300 fathoms of water.

Boats from the ASTORIA and BUCHANAN were picking up survivors. This vessel maneuvered to put boats in the water.

At 1240 the BUCHANAN signalled a submarine contact by sound, bearing 190° (true). This vessel got way on and stood away from the BUCHANAN and the contact. When the BUCHANAN was seen searching at some distance, a thousand yards estimated, returned to scene of capsizing to pick up boats and survivors.

Noumea, New Caledonia,  
August 16, 1942.

S-E-C-R-E-T

Subject: Action Report.  
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At 1304 the BUCHANAN fired two depth charges.

At 1308 picked up #1 lifeboat with 32 survivors. Ship's motor whale boat also returned and was picked up.

At 1320 proceeded to return to Transport Area XRAY, off Guadalcanal Island.

At 1525 received orders to hoist in boats and proceed with U.S.S. HELM to join Squadron YOKE in Transport Area YOKE.

At 1805 reported for duty to Commander Squadron YOKE.

At 2000 proceeded with McCAWLEY and Squadron YOKE through Lengo Channel.

3. No damage to ship or personnel was experienced throughout the action. Officers and crew behaved splendidly under fire and under the highly difficult circumstances of unloading. In general, all hands worked twenty-four hours a day throughout the operations.

The air raids and warnings, boat trouble, and difficulties of landing cargo interfered with the task in a considerable way and, consequently, departure was taken with approximately seventy-five per cent of the cargo still on board.

J. S. FREEMAN.

Orig. & 1 copy to Cincpacflt  
1 Copy to CTG 62.1  
1 Copy to CTF 62  
2 Copies to War Diary



kr

Noumea, New Caledonia,  
August 16, 1942.

S-E-C-R-E-T

From: Executive Officer.  
To: Commanding Officer.  
Subject: Action Report.  
Reference: (a) U.S.N.R., 1920, Art. 712(1).

1. In accordance with reference (a), an action report covering the movements and operations of this ship during the landing on Guadalcanal Islands, Solomon Islands, from August 7, 1942 to August 9, 1942, both dates included, is submitted.

2. During the approach to transport area on August 7 in prescribed formation, a plane with running lights burning was observed forward of starboard beam at 0600, minus eleven time. This plane is believed to have been from one of the escort cruisers. At the same time, a small vessel was observed bearing two points on starboard bow, distance about three miles, close inshore.

At 0615, cruisers and destroyers of the Fire support sections opened fire on the shore line at Guadalcanal. At the same time fire was noticed in the Tulagi area.

After four salvos from a destroyer in the van at 0630, the small craft ahead was hit and burst into flame - evidently loaded with gasoline or oil from spread of flame and black smoke.

At 0653, upon order after reaching transport area, launched first boats. Completed launching last boat at 0734, a period of 41 minutes. Boats proceeded as directed in First Marine Division Landing Plan. Began launching amphibian tractors from holds 1, 2, 3 and 5.

At 0656 received signal "Zero hour is 0910."

At 0902 close bombardment of beaches began preparatory to landing troops.

At 0920, successful beach landing indicated by shore signal.

Houma, New Caledonia,  
August 16, 1942.

S-E-C-R-E-T

Subject: Action Report.

-----

1155 Anchored in 28 fathoms of water with 90 fathoms to port anchor, with HUNTER LIGGETT bearing 273°, distance 800 yards.

1145 Went to special anti-aircraft condition of readiness.

1315 Counted twenty-five bombers, identified as "Mitsubishi", type 97, bearing 315°, estimated height, 10,000 feet. One additional plane was noted falling in flames beneath formation. Planes were in groups of three in a very shallow "V" formation. Anti-aircraft fire from screen and ships to northwest of us. Bombs were dropped short of objective (the transport area), and planes disappeared in clouds. Ship opened fire at 1320. Ceased fire at 1325. One ship to the westward, off Savo Island, type unknown, appeared to be hit.

Continued working cargo.

August 3

1100 Got underway in response to signal "Prepare for Air Attack". Formation, Cruising Disposition AC-3, speed 13, base course 000° (true). Started evasive courses, in area between Guadalcanal Island on the south, and Florida Island on the North.

1152 - Noticed flight of planes estimated at about twenty, approaching formation from the eastward. Splashes of two sizes were noted, one large and the other much smaller, off the right flank of the formation, apparently all short. There may have been some between screen and first section. No hits were noticed.

Opened fire about three minutes later on black planes filtering through formation, from starboard side and astern. Hits were observed on two planes from port 20 mm guns #2 and #4 or #6, and one hit from #1 - 3"/50 Cal. Range estimated, 500 yards. The hit from #1 - 3"/50 Cal. caused the plane to break in two and sink in two parts almost immediately.

Shortly after opening fire, observed ship on fire abaft stack. This was first believed to be the U.S.S. BELLATRIX, but was later identified as the GEORGE F. ELLIOTT.

Noumea, New Caledonia,  
August 16, 1942.

S-E-C-R-E-T

Subject: Action Report.

-----  
1210 Ceased fire, all guns.

In this engagement, as well as that of August 7, the enemy appeared to drop his bombs short of the formation. Some indication of strafing was noticed by splashes in the water ahead of planes but no actual machine gun fire was seen by me. After dropping his bombs (or torpedoes), the enemy flew low between the ships in formation, apparently in order that our fire be restricted by other ships fouling the range.

No accurate estimate of time or hits was possible during the melee, but I counted twelve planes, or their remains, down in the immediate maneuver area, and a thirteenth off Lunga Point, which burned for some time after the engagement.

Returned to area off Beach "Red" and resumed discharging cargo.

On Sunday, August 9, 1942, when I came on bridge, the ship was about eight miles to eastward of area. Headed to the westward and dropped port anchor at 0820 in 19 fathoms of water, with 45 fathoms on wildcat.

0905 Underway in response to signal "Prepare for Air Attack". In cruising disposition AC-3, speed 12, base course, 350° (true), began evasive tactics by turn movements.

1113, Orders from OTC to proceed to Savo Island to take ASTORIA in tow. Proceeded on course 317° (true), speed 15. At 1212, reached the ASTORIA which had a list of about 30° to port, with crew members remaining on board on deck near starboard quarters. U.S.S. BUCHANAN was maneuvering alongside to take off survivors. About three minutes later, the ASTORIA rolled over to port, turned bottom up, and sank slowly, stern first. No suction was noticed. Ship's motor whaleboat and #1 life boat were launched to pick up survivors, together with two motor whaleboats from BUCHANAN.

Before boats could be recovered, BUCHANAN hoisted an emergency submarine signal, bearing 100° (true).



AK23/A16-3

U.S.S. ALCHIEA

kr

Noumea, New Caledonia,  
August 16, 1942.

S-E-C-R-E-T

Subject: Action Report.  
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Got way on ship and stood away from BUCHANAN and contact. When BUCHANAN was distant about 1500 yards, returned to boats and picked them up - #1 life boat having 32 enlisted survivors on board.

While boats were being hoisted, BUCHANAN dropped two depth charges.

At 1320, got underway for transport area "XRAY".

H. R. SHAW.

ENCLOSURE (A) to CO  
ALCHIEA ltr. AK23/A16-3/  
(OO1) of Aug. 16, 1942.

No. ....

U. S. S. ALCHIBA (AK23)

WAR DIARY

SECRET

From September 1, 1942 to September 30, 1942.

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44

SECRET

U.S.S. ALHIBA  
September, 1, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.3.3 . Commanding Officer U.S.S. CRESCENT CITY  
Commander Task Unit 62.3.3, composed of U.S.S. CRESCENT CITY,  
PRESIDENT ADAMS, PRESIDENT HAYES, PRESIDENT JACKSON, and  
ALHIBA.
- (b) Navsta Tutuila's Mailgram 280715 of August.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:  
0800- Underway proceeding out of Apia Harbor, British Samoa.  
1200- Enroute Apia to Tutuila, Samoa.  
2000- Anchored in Pago Pago Harbor, Tutuila, Samoa.  
Distance made good, 84 miles.
- (e) 0745 Got underway and stood out of Apia Harbor, British Samoa.  
Circled outside of harbor until 1155 when USS CRESCENT CITY  
joined and became formation guide. Proceed toward Tutuila  
with U.S.S. HOVEY continuing as anti-submarine screen.  
1400 Passed S.S. CALAMARES headed in opposite direction.  
1941 Anchored in Pago Pago Harbor, Tutuila, Samoa.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman,  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

*Ed*

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
September 2, 1942.

(a) Task Unit 62.3.3.

(b) Same as before.

(c) None.

(d) Positions:

Anchored in Pago Pago Harbor, Tutuila, Samoa.

(e) 0610 U.S.S. HOVEY got underway and stood out of harbor.

(f) No remarks.

(g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. NAVY,  
Commanding,,

*Ed*

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
September ~~4~~<sub>3</sub>, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.3.3 .
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Anchored in Pago Pago Harbor, Tutuila, Samoa.
- (e) No remarks.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *ES*  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALHIBA  
September 8, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.3.3, plus U.S.S. MEREDITH and TREVOR as escorts.
- (b) Comtaskfor 62's 050449 September.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions;

Anchored in Pago Pago Harbor, Tutuila, Samoa.

- (e) 2143 Got underway in company with Task Unit 62.3.3., U.S.S. CRESCENT CITY Formation guide, U.S.S. MEREDITH and TREVOR escorts.
- (f) Received Comtransdiv 2's visual orders to get underway and head south upon leaving harbor entrance, pursuant to CTF62's 050449 September.  
mailgram  
Received Comtaskfor 62's/181114 August detailing new organization for Task Force 62.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *Ed*  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
September 5, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.3.3, with U.S.S. TREVER and MEREDITH as escorts.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions.

0800-	16-26.5	South Lat.	170-44.5	West Long.
1200-	17-28.5		170-43.5	
2000-	19-03		171-41	

Distance and course made good, , 190 miles, 179°-30' True.

- (e) 1448 Sighted U.S.S. GWIN and H.M.A.S. ACHILLES and at 1530 they joined escort. 1630 Unidentified merchantman sighted on horizon heading in opposite direction. 2400 Advanced date one day to September 7, having crossed International Date Line.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *EF*  
Commanding.



SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
September 7, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.3.3, with U.S.S. MEREDITH, GWIN, TREVOR, and H.M.A.S. ACHILLES as escorts.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:

0800- 2100 South Lat. 174-22 West Long.  
1200- 21-24                      175-06.5  
2000- Anchored in Nukualofa Harbor, Tongatabu.

Distance made good, noon to noon, 371 miles.

- (e) Having crossed the International Date Line September 6 was omitted, date was advanced to September 7. 1750 Anchored in Nukualofa Harbor, Tongatabu, Tonga Islands. Following ships present: U.S.S. SARATOGA (Comtaskfor 11), SOUTH DAKOTA, NEW ORLEANS, ATLANTA, MINNEAPOLIS, VESTAL, WORDEN, PHELPS, CLARK, GRAYSON, MONSSEN, DEWEY, NEVILLE, HEYWOOD, BARNETT, AMERICAN LEGION, HUNTER LIGGETT, CUMMINGS, and SEMINOLE,  
FULLER, LIBRA, ARCTIC.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. FREEMAN  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *ES*  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
September 8, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.3.3 .
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:

Anchored in Nukualofa Harbor, Tongatabu.

- (e) No remarks.
- (f) Received Comtransdiv 2's dispatch 080057 , which stated that until further orders are received The U.S.S. ALCHIBA will be considered assigned to Transport Division Two.

Received Comtaskfor 64's Sortie Order 1-42 ( Tongatabu ), detailing Task Force 64 as follows; Task Group 64.1 U.S.S. MINNEAPOLIS, Task Group 64.2 U.S.S. ADAMS, HAYES, JACKSON, HEYWOOD, CRESCENT CITY, ALCHIBA, LIBRA, Task Group 64.3 (screen) U.S.S. GRAYSON, MONSSEN, MEREDITH, GWIN, MACDONOUGH, FARRAGUT, TREVOR.

Received Comtaskgroup 64.2's dispatch 080643 containing sortie and operation orders.

- (g) No remarks.

J.S.Freeman  
Commander, U.S.Navy,  
Commanding.

*Ed*

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
September 9, 1942.

- (a) Task Group 64.2 . Rear Admiral Wright, Commander Task Force 64 in U.S.S. MINNEAPOLIS. Commanding Officer U.S.S. CRESCENT CITY Convoy Commodore, convoy consisting of U.S.S. PRESIDENT ADAMS, ALCHIBA, Section One on right, CRESCENT CITY, HEYWOOD, LIBRA, Section 2 in center, PRESIDENT HAYES, PRESIDENT JACKSON Section 3 on left. Escort consisting of U.S.S. MINNEAPOLIS, GRAYSON, MONSSEN, MEREDITH, GWIN, MACDONOUGH, FARRAGUT, and TREVOR.
- (b) Comtaskgroup 64.2's mailgram 080643 September,
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:
- |       |   |
|-------|---|
| 0800- | Underway proceeding out of Nukualofa Harbor, Tongatabu. |
| 1200- | 20-46.5 South 175-58 West Long.                         |
| 2000- | 20-09 177-49  |
- Distance made good, departure to noon, 45 miles.
- (e) 0739 Got underway and stood out of Nukualofa Harbor, Tongatabu.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *Ed*  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
September 10, 1942.

(a) Task Group 64.2, same as before.

(b) Same as before.

(c) None.

(d) Positions:

0800-	19-55.0	South Lat.	179-15	East Long.
1200-	19-55		178-16	
2000-	19-52		176-17	

Distance and course made good, 330 miles, 279 degrees True.

(e) No remarks.

(f) No remarks.

(g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding. *Ed*

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
September 11, 1942.

- (a) Task Group 64.2 . Same as before.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:

0800-	17-41.0	South Lat.	174-18.0	East Long.
1200-	17-26		173-28	
2000-	17-07		171-31	

Distance and course made good, 338 miles, 298degrees True.

- (e) ~~Remarks~~. Sighted patrol plane at 1130.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *ES*  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
September 12, 1942.

- (a) Task Group 64.2 Same as before.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) Pursuant to CTG 64.2's 110550 stood out to sea to avoid an air raid.
- (d) Positions:

0800- 16-00 South Lat. 168-54 East Long.  
1200- 15-52                   167-57  
2000- Standing out of Second Channel.

Distance made good noon to noon, 346 miles.

- (e) 1440 Sighted patrol plane bearing 340 degrees. 1500 Passed U.S.S. FULLER AND BELLATRIX standing out of Second Channel. 1703 Anchored in Second Channel, Espiritu Santo Island, New Hebrides. 1943 Got underway and stood out of Second Channel. Proceeded on easterly course past Malekula Island toward Efate, in accordance with instructions in CTG 64.2's 110550, to avoid an impending air raid.
- (f) Received CTG 64.2 's 110550, of September.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *ES*  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
September 13, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 64.2 Same as before.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) Pursuant to CTG 64.2's 110550 got under way to avoid an air raid, and stood out to sea.
- (d) Positions:

0800- 16-43 South Lat. 167-58 East Long.  
1200- 15-47                      167-27  
2000- Anchored in Second Channel.

Distance made good, noon to noon, 206 miles.

- (e) 0507 pursuant to CTF 64's 121355 turned around and proceeded to return to Button. 1430 Anchored in Second Channel, Espiritu Santo, New Hebrides. Following ships present, U.S.S. BOISE, MANLEY, MCKEAN, STRINGHAM, MC CAWLEY, BETELGEUSE, CURTISS, (COMAIRSOPAC S.O.P.A.), HMNZS LEANDER, SS. DEL BRASIL, SANTA ANA, MORMACSEA, JAMES RUSSEL LOWELL, U.S.S. SABINE and others unidentified.
- (f) Received CTF 64's 121355 , and CTF 65's Rehearsal Operation Plan AR2-42.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S.Navy,  
Commanding. *ES*



SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
September 14, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 65.1.2 . Task Force 65, Commander in U.S.S. MC CAWLEY  
Task Group 65.1, Commander, Commanding Officer U.S.S. CRESCENT  
CITY, Transdiv Afirm, (65.1.1), U.S.S. CRESCENT CITY, PRESIDENT  
ADAMS, PRESIDENT HAYES, Transdiv Baker (65.1.2), U.S.S.  
MC CAWLEY, PRESIDENT JACKSON, ALCHIBA, Landing Force, (65.2),  
7th Marines Reinforced, Screening Group, (65.3), Crudiv 31,  
U.S.S. MINNEAPOLIS, BOISE, HMNZS LEANDER, (65.3.1); Desron 32,  
Desdiv 22, plus FARRAGUT, MACDONOUGH, HULL, STERETT (65.3.2);  
Minron 2, HOPKINS, SOUTHARD, ZANE, TREVER, HOVEY(65.3.3).
- (b) Comtaskfor 65g Operation Plan A15-42, of September 13.
- (c) None.
- (d) POSITIONS:
- |                         |                     |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 0800- 15-25.0 SouthLat. | 167-24.5 East Long. |
| 1200- 14-38.5           | 167-12              |
| 2000- 13-46.0           | 165-38.5            |
- Distance made good departure to noon, 74 miles.
- (e) 0521 Got underway with Task Force 65 , less cruisers and  
their destroyer escort, and stood out of Second Channel.  
0650 Operation Plan A15-42 placed in effect. Transports  
formed in two columns, with Transdiv Baker on the right,  
with destroyers and minesweeps deployed as screen. 1238  
Sighted unidentified aircraft bearing 310 degrees. 1350  
U.S. cruiser observation plane approached formation and  
circled the U.S.S. MC CAWLEY.
- (f) Received Comtaskfor's 65's Operation Plan A15-42 of Sept.13,  
and Comtransdiv 2 (CTG 65.1) 's dispatch 131115 ordering  
units to get underway.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *Ed*  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
September 15, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 65.1.2. Same as before, less cruisers and destroyer escort.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:

0300-	15-25	South Lat.	167-24	East Long.
1200-	11-48	S	162-20	
2000-	11-15		161-05	

Distance made good and course, 335 miles, 301 degrees True.

- (e) 0800 Sighted two planes bearing 045 degrees. 1119 Sighted escort cruisers and destroyer escort bearing 155 degrees. 1525 Sighted two observation planes bearing 160 degrees. 1536 U.S.S. MINNEAPOLIS, BOISE, HMNZS LEANDER, and destroyer escort, U.S.S. STERETT, GWIN, HULL, FARRAGUT, MONSSEN, GRAYSON AND MACDONOUGH joined formation and task force formed cruising disposition AC\*1. 1900 Pursuant to visual orders of Comtaskfor 65 course was reversed and the task force headed south.
- (f) Received Comtaskfor 65's Operation Plan A1-42 of September 14, and visual orders changing base course from 301° to 170° True/.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.



SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
September 16, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 65.1.2. Same as before.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:

0900-	13-40.5	South Lat.	161-17.0	East Long.
1200-	14-25.0		161-40.0	
2000-	15-00.0		162-10.0	

Distance and course made good, 299 miles, courses various.

- (e) 1238 Sighted strange aircraft bearing 022° T. 1457 Sighted Strange aircraft bearing 029° T. 1800 Reversed course and headed north.
- (f) Received CTF 65's visual orders changing course to the north.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *ES*  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
September 17, 1942.

(a) Task Unit 65.1.2 . Same as before.

(b) Same as before.

(c) None.

(d) Positions:

0800-	12-37.0	South Lat.	162-34.0	East Long.
1200-	11-43		162-30	
2000-	10-33		161-11	

Distance made good, noon to noon, 313 miles.

(e) 1900 Formed Approach Disposition AR-5.

(f) No remarks.

(g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

*ES*

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
September 18, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 65.1.2. Same as before.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:

Anchored off Kukum, Guadalcanal Island, Solomons.

(e) 0525 Upon entering Guadalcanal Area some tracer fire was noticed ashore. Several planes took off and circled over it. 0732 Anchored off Kukum, in Lunga Roads, Guadalcanal Island, Solomons. Commenced landing marines and cargo. 1000 U.S.S. TRACY and MAC FARLAND arrived and anchored. 1215 Air raid alarm was sent out. No enemy planes appeared. One of our own planes was fired on and shot down. This vessel did not open fire. 1300 U.S.S. BELLATRIX arrived and anchored. 1800 Completed discharge of ammunition, food, gasoline, and miscellaneous U.S. Marine Corps equipment. Landed embarked troops, and also 2 tank lighters, 2 ramp boats, and their crews.

During unloading activities one of our destroyer escort bombarded beach to the westward. No enemy activity was noted. 1953 Got underway pursuant to visual orders of Comtaskfor 65. U.S.S. BELLATRIX, TRACY, and MAC FARLAND joined Task Force 65 for the retirement. Approach Disposition AR-5 was used except the cruisers and destroyers escort were placed in the rear until the Task Force had passed clear of Lengo Channel.

(f) Received visual orders from Comtaskfor 65 to retire from Guadalcanal, at 2030.

(g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.



SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
September 19, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 65.1.2 .Task Force 65 plus U.S.S. BELLATRIX, TRACY, And MAC FARLAND.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:

0800-	11-01	South Lat.	161-17	East Long.
1200-	11-51		161-27	
2000-	13-36		161-47	

Distance made good departure to noon, 203 miles.

- (e) 0600 Changed fleet formation to Cruising Disposition AC-1 and at 0630 the cruisers and their destroyer escort took their position in formation. 1610 U.S.S. PRESIDENT HAYES, TRACY and MAC FARLAND left formation and proceeded on duty assigned.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding. *Ed*



SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
September 20, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 65.1.2. Same as before.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions.

0800- 16-12	South Lat.	162-00	East Long.
1200- 17-02		162-00	
2000- 18-36.5		161-58	

Distance made good and course, 317 miles, 174 degrees.

(e) 0620 Sighted patrol plane, and another at 0640. 0800 U.S.S. PRESIDENT HAYES and HULL left formation and proceeded on duty assigned. Comtaskfor 65's Operation Plan A15-42 cancelled. Convoy's task unit number changed to Task Unit 62.3.2. Comtaskfor 65 resumed old designation of Comtaskfor 62. 0826 Sighted about twenty six friendly naval vessels astern. They appeared to be a task force. No information received about them. The task force operated in the vicinity all day.

- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. NAVY, *EF*  
Commanding.



Commander, US. Nav.,  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
September 21, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.3.2., less U.S.S. PRESIDENT HAYES and HULL.
- (b) Operating under direct orders of Comtaskfor 62.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:

0800-	20-25 South Lat,	162-59 East Long.
1200-	20-36	163-08
2000-	21-26	164-17

Distance and course made good, 274 miles. 164 degrees.

- (e) Anti-aircraft and anti-submarine target practice held at 1000 and 1400.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, US. Navy,  
Commanding.

*Ed*

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
September 22, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.3.2 ,less USS PRESIDENT HAYES and HULL.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:

0800- Entering Bulari Passage, Noumea, N.C.  
1200- Anchored in Dumbea Roads, Noumea, N.C.  
2000- " " " " " " " " " "

Distance made good from noon to anchoring, 138 miles.

(e) 0945 Anchored in Dumbea Roads, Noumea, New Caledonia. The following ships present, U.S.S. ARGONNE( Comsopac ), CHESTER, WHITNEY, SOLACE, SABINE, ARCTIC, SUMNER, FULLER, LIBRA, HEYWOOD, BREESE, MANLEY, MC KEAN, STRINGHAM, ANTARES, LAFFEY, KANAWHA, LACKAWANNA, KANKAKEE, RAPPAHANOCK, and various unidentified naval and merchant vessels.

- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *EF*  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
September, 23, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.1.2 .
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:

Anchored in Dumbea Bay, Noumea, N.C.

- (e) 0700 Tanker S.S. NICOLAOU MARIA moored alongside, and at 1315 cast off having fueled U.S.S. ALCHIBA.
- (f) Received Comtaskfor 62's mailgram 210640 September which established new task organization for Task Force 62. The U.S.S. ALCHIBA was assigned to Transdiv 8, which included the U.S.S. NEVILLE, FULLER, and AMERICAN LEGION.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

*ES*

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
September 24, 1942.

(a) Task Unit 62.1.2.

(b) Same as before.

(c) None.

(d) Position:

Anchored in Dumbea Bay, Noumea, N.C.

(e) No remarks.

(f) No remarks.

(g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman,  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding. *ES*

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIEA  
September 25, 1942.

(a) Task Unit 62.1.2.

(b) Same as before.

(c) None.

(d) Position:

Anchored in Dumbea Bay, Noumea, N.C.

(e) No remarks.

(f) Noremarks.

(g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

*ES*

SECRET

U.S.S. AICHIBA  
September 26, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.1.2 .
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:

Anchored in Dumbea Bay, Noumea, N.C.

- (e) No remarks.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

*ES*

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
September 27, 1942.

(a) Task Unit 62.1.2.

(b) Same as before.

(c) None.

(d) Position:

Anchored in D umbœa Bay, Noumea, N.C.

(e) 0815 Commenced discharging diesel oil and gasoline in drums, and general U.S.M.C. cargo.

(f) Received ~~com~~taskfor 62's dispatch 25~~0920~~ September to discharge remaining cargo.

(g) No remarks.

J. S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

*Ed*



SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
September 28, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.1.2.
- (b) Comtaskfor 62's dispatch 250920.
- (c) None.
- (d) Position:

Anchored in Dumbea Bay, Noumea, N.C.

- (e) Continued discharging cargo.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

*ed*

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIB A  
September 29, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.1.2.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:
  - 0800-Anchored in Dumbea Bay, Noumea, N.C.
  - 1200- ditto.
  - 2000-Anchored in Great Road, Noumea, N.C.
- (e) Continued discharging cargo. 1320 Got underway to shift berth. 1354 Anchored in Great Road, Noumea, New CAledonia.
- (f) Received Comtaskfor 62's dispatch 232227 ordering berth to be shifted.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S.Freeman  
Commander, U.S.Navy, *ES*  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIB A  
September 30, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.1.2.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Position:

Anchored in Great Road, Noumea, N.C.

- (e) Continued discharging cargo.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.



No. ....

U. S. S. ALCHIBA (AK23)

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U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
October 1, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.1.2.
- (b) Under direct orders Comtaskfor 62.
- (c) None.
- (d) Position:

Anchored in Great Road, Noumea, New Caledonia.

- (e) Discharging cargo.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

*ES*

SECRET

U.S.S. AECHIBA  
October 2, 1942.

(a) Task Unit 62.1.2.

(b) Same as before.

(c) None.

(d) Position:

Anchored in Great Road, Noumea, N.C.

(e) Completed discharging cargo, and commenced to load miscellaneous U.S.M.C. equipment, provisions and general cargo for Base Cactus.

(f) No remarks.

(g) No remarks.

J. S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *Ed*  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
October 3, 1942.

(a) Task Unit 62.1.2.

(b) Same as before.

(c) None.

(d) Positions:

Anchored in Great Road, Noumea, N.C.

(e) Continued loading cargo.

(f) No remarks.

(g) No remarks.

J. S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

*Ed*



SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
October 4, 1942.

(a) Task Unit 62.1.2.

(b) Same as before.

(c) None.

(d) Position:

Anchored in Great Road, Noumea, N.c.

(e) Continued loading cargo.

(f) No remarks.

(g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

*ES*

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
October 5, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.4.5. Commanding Officer U.S.S. BELLATRIX Task Unit Commander, unit composed of U.S.S. BELLATRIX, ALCHIBA, JAMESTOWN, with U.S.S. AARON WARD as escort.
- (b) Comtaskfor 62's Ø5Ø815 October.
- (c) None.
- (d) Position:  
Anchored in Great Road, Noumea, N.C.
- (e) Completed loading at 1900.
- (f) Received Comtaskfor 62's Ø5Ø815 October dispatch forming Task Unit 62.4.5. and directing it to proceed to Button.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *ES*  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA

*October 6, 1942*

- (a) Task Unit 62.4.5.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:

0800- Anchored in Dumbea Bay, Noumea, N.C.  
1200- Underway standing out of Noumea, N.C.  
2000- Anchored off Amedee Island, Noumea, N.C.

(e) 0646 Underway to shift berths. 0718 Anchored in Dumbea Bay, Noumea, New Caledonia. 0733 U.S.S. KINGFISHER came alongside with Barge PAB 6. 1046 Barge taken in tow. 1114 Got underway pursuant to CTF 62's dispatch 050815, and stood out of the Bay. 1400 In accordance with Comtaskunit 62.4.5's Movement Order 1-42, after sortie formed Cruising Disposition as follows; Escort U.S.S. AARON WARD, station ahead, BELLATRIX towing two prep tares ( right ship ), Alchiba towing PAB 6, ( center ship- guide ), JAMESTOWN towing two prep tares (left ship ), ships in line, distant 800 yards.

1635 Pursuant to visual orders of C.T.U. 62..4.5 reversed course and returned to BULARI PASSAGE. 1857 Anchored off Amedee Island, Noumea, N.C.

- (f) Received Comtaskunit 62.4.5. 's Movement Order 1-42 of October 5.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

*ES*

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
October 7, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.4.5 .
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:

0800-	22-45	South Lat.	166-32	East Long.
1200-	23-08		166-53	
2000-	22-59		167-55	

Distance made good departure to noon, 49 miles.

- (e) 0805 Got underway and stood out of Eulari Passage, Noumea, N.C. Resumed former cruising disposition. 0850 Sighted U.S.S. CRESCENT CITY, HEYWOOD, LIBRA and two destroyers as escort headed in opposite direction.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, US Navy, *ES*  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
October 8, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.4.5 .
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:

0300-	21-46	South	168-56	East	Long.
1200-	21-03		168-53		
2000-	19-59		168-26		

Distance made good noon to noon, 197 miles.

- (e) No remarks.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy. *ES*  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
OCTOBER 9, 1942.

(a) Task Unit 62.4.5.

(b) Same as before.

(c) None.

(d) Positions:

0800-	18-14 South Lat.	168-00 East Long.
1200-	17-31	167-56
2000-	16-29.5	167-53

Distance and course made good, 216 miles, 346 degrees True.

(e) Sighted various patrol planes providing air coverage during day.  
1148 Sighted unidentified vessel which passed, headed on opposite course.

(f) No remarks.

(g) No remarks.

J. S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *ED*  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
OCTOBER 10, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.4.5 .
- (b) Commander Task Force 62's 082214 October.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:

0800- Lying to off Eogacio Island, Espiritu Santo .  
1200- Anchored Segond Channel, Espiritu Santo.  
2000- Ditto.

Distance made good, noon to arrival 135 miles.

- (e) 0530 Arrived off Eogacio Island, Espiritu Santo, New Hebrides,.  
0735 U.S.S. VIREO came alongside and relieved us of tow, PAB barge number 6. Proceeded into Segond Channel and at 0928 moored alongside S.S. OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES. Other ships present; U.S.S. CURTISS, ( COMAIRSOPAC, S.O.P.A. ), MACKINAC, MC FARLAND, BALLARD, CHESTER, MINNEAPOLIS, HULL, MONSSEN, MC CALLA, MEREDITH, MANLEY, GAMBLE, BREESE, TRACY, SOUTHARD, ZANE, HOVEY, TREVER, HOPKINS, HERCULES, ALHENA, KANKAKEE, VIREO, NAVAJO, and various unidentified merchant vessels. 1300 Commenced loading cargo for BASE CACTUS.
- (f) Received Comtaskfor 62's dispatch 082214 October detailing task unit 62.4.5.'s operation plans for CACTUS.
- (g) No remarks.

J. S. Freeman,  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding. *ES*



SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIEA  
October 11, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.4.5.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Position:

Anchored in Segond Channel, Espiritu Santo.

- (e) 1132 Dropped anchor, 1157 S.S. OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES castoff and stood away. Continued loading general cargo.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

*ED*

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIEBA  
October 12, 1942

- (a) Task Unit 62.4.5.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:

0800- Anchored in Second Channel, Espiritu Santo.  
1200- Ditto.  
2000- 14-52.5 South Lat. 167-14 East Long.

(e) Completed loading 1130. 1248 Underway in company with Task Unit 62.4.5. plus U.S.S. VIREO, with MEREDITH as escort. 1540 Formed Cruising Formation "A", U.S.S. MEREDITH ahead as anti-submarine escort, BELLATRIX towing PAB 4 barge as guide, ALCHIEBA 1000 yards abeam to port towing PAB 6 barge, JAMESTOWN 2000 yards abeam to port of PAB 6, and VIREO 2000 yards abeam to starboard PAB 4.

- (f) Received Comtaskunit 62.4.5's Movement Order 2-42 of October 12.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.



SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
October 13, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.4.5.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None
- (D) Positions:

0800-	14-05	South Lat.	166-21	East Long.
1200-	14-01		166-16,5	
2000-	13-07		165-17	

Distance from departure to noon, 124 miles.

(e) 0225 Parted towline to PAB 6 barge. Maneuvered on various courses and at various speeds to take barge in tow. 0550 Sighted two bombers (B17s) bearing 310 degrees. 0635 Sighted three unidentified ships bearing 340 degrees and at 0637 sighted patrol plane (PB7) flying over them in circles, 0718 Sighted two unidentified ships bearing 155 degrees. 0809 VIREG cast off and stood away, after having made barge fast alongside at 0750. 1016 Streamed barge, towline fouled. 1041 VIREO alongside to clear towline. 1201 Towline cleared. ALCHIBA got underway and commenced towing. Task unit resumed convoy cruising disposition "A". 1409 JAMESTOWN reported submarine by sonic contact and dropped three depth charges 6 miles from this ships position bearing 170 degrees. Position at 1515 Latitude 13-46 South, Longitude 165-57 East.

- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *ES*  
Commanding.

SECRET

USS ALGHIBA  
October 14, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.4.5 .
- (b) Comtaskunit 62.4.5 's Operation Order 2-42 of October 12.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:

0800-	11-45	South Lat.	163-52	East Long.
1200-	11-12		163-24	
2000-	10-30		162-49	

Distance and course made good, 236 miles, 315 degrees.

(e) 1605 Sighted and challenged destroyer, identified as U.S.S. NICHOLAS. 1626 NICHOLAS joined task unit as anti submarine escort. 1700 Received guard mail from NICHOLAS (see f). 1848 At 10-21.5 South Latitude 162-41.0 East Longitude, reversed course pursuant to Comtaskfor 62's dispatch 140045 October, to COMtask unit 62.4.5.

(f) Received Comtaskfor 62's secret letters of October 14, serial numbers 00282, and 00283 in guard mail from U.S.S. NICHOLAS.  
Received at 1845 Comtaskunit 62.4.5.'s visual orders to reverse course.

(g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *ES*  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
October 15, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.4.5/  
(b) Same as before.  
(c) Same as before.  
(d) Positions:
- |       |                  |              |
|-------|------------------|--------------|
| 0800- | 11-50 South Lat. | 163-52 Long. |
| 1200- | 12-25            | 164-12       |
| 2000- | 13-51.5          | 163-17       |

Distance made good noon to noon, 219 miles.

(e) 0610 U.S.S. VIREO came alongside the BELLATRIX and relieved her of PAB barge #4. 0650 VIREO with barge in tow and with MEREDITH as escort departed on course 320° toward RINGBOLT. 0715 NICHOLAS opened fire on plane not visible from this ship, and ceased at 0719. 0800 Sighted plane bearing 140°, identified as friendly. 0922 Sighted plane bearing 310°, identified as friendly. 0946 Sighted plane bearing 000°. 0950 Plane did not reply to challenge. Went to General Quarters. Commenced firing. Plane retired on course 050°. It appeared to be Japanese Zero with twin floats. 1324 Slipped towline on Barge PAB 6 in position 12-37 South Latitude, 164-07 East Longitude, pursuant to visual orders of COMtaskunit 62.4.5. 1633 Sighted four Japanese dive bombers. Went to General Quarters. 1634 Commenced firing. One bomb exploded off port bow of ALCHIBA and another off starboard quarter. No damage to ship. 1638 Ceased firing.

(f) Received visual orders from CTU 62.4.5. to cast PAB barge #6 adrift.

(g) No remarks. Action report attached.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. NAVY, *ES*  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
October 16, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.4.5.
- (b) Comtaskunit 62.4.5.'s Operation Order 2-42 of October 12, 1942.
- (c) Modified by Comtaskfor 62's dispatch 140045 October.
- (d) Positions:

0800-	15-46	South Lat.	164-56	East Long.
12000	15-58		165-48	
2000-	1719		166-04	

Distance made good noon to noon, 322 miles.

- (e) 1126 U.S.S. JAMESTOWN reported sonic contact with submarine, Tanã at 1142 dropped depth charges bearing 086 degrees True distant 6 miles from this vessel. Cargo ships maneuvered radically and started zig-zagging. At 1147 JAMESTOWN dropped more charges and reported sighting submarine. At 1210 NICHOLAS reported sighting submarine and dropped depth charges, bearing 130 degrees True, distant 1200 yards from ALCHIBA, and quite close to BELLATRIX. JAMESTOWN AND NICHOLAS made extensive hunt for submarines and dropped depth charges. 1353 NICHOLAS returned to formation, and at 1610 JAMESTOWN did the same. 2300 Received visual orders to change course and proceed to Button, pursuant to CTF' 62's 161102 October.
- (f) Received visual orders from Comtaskunit 62.4.5 to reverse course toward Button; Comtaskfor 62's 161102 dispatch orders to Bellatrix and units in company to proceed to Button And await further orders.
- (g) No remarks.

J. S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

*Ed*



SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
October 17, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.4.5.
- (b) Commander Task Unit 62.4.5. 's Operation Order 2-42 of October 12.
- (c) As modified by Comtaskfor 62's dispatch 161102 October.
- (d) Positions:

0800- 16-01 South Lat. 166-52 East Long.  
1200- Maneuvering to enter Segond Channel.  
2000- Anchored in Segond Channel.

Distance made good noon to noon, 284 miles.

(e) 1230 Anchored in Segond Channel, Espiritu Santo Island, New Hebrides. Other ships present; U.S.S. CURTISS (COMAIRSOPAC Senior Officer Present Afloat ), MANLEY, LACKAWANNA, KANKAKEE, SOUTHARD, and several unidentified vessels.

- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman,  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

*ES*



SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
October 18, 1942.

(a) Task Unit 62.4.5.

(b) Same as before.

(c) None.

(d) Positions:

Anchored in Second Channel, Espiritu Santo, N.H.

(e) No remarks.

(f) No remarks.

(g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

*ES*

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
October 19, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.4.5.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Position:

Anchored in Segond Channel, Espiritu Santo N.H.

- (e) 1236 Got underway to shift berth and at 1335 moored to KANKAKEE.  
At 1543 cast off and stood away having completed fueling. 1558  
Anchored in Segond Channel, Espiritu Santo.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

*ES*

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
October 20, 1942.

(a) Task Unit 62.4.5.

(b) Same as before.

(c) Same as before.

(d) Position:

Anchored in Second Channel.

(e) No remarks.

(f) No remarks.

(g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman,  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

*ES*

SECRET

US.S. ALCHIBA  
OCTOBER 21, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.4.5.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) Same as before.
- (d) Position:

Anchored in Second Channel, Espiritu Santo, Island.

- (e) No remarks.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy  
Commanding,

*ED*

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
October 22, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.4.5.
- (b) Same as Before.
- (c) Same as before.
- (d) Positions:

Anchored in Second Channel, Espiritu Santo Island, N.H.

- (e) 0839 Got underway to shift berth and anchored in new berth at 0904.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

*ES*

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
October 23, 1942.

(a) Task Unit 62.4.5.

(b) Same as before/

(c) Same as before.

(d) Position:

Anchored in Second Channel, Espiritu Santo Island, N.H.

(e) No remarks.

(f) No remarks.

(g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

*ES*

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
October 24, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.4.3. Cominron 2 in U.S.S. HOPKINS Comtaskunit, U.S.S. ALCHIBA, with U.S.S. HOPKINS and SOUTHARD as escort.
- (b) Comtaskfor 62's dispatch 231220 October.
- (c) Modified by Comtaskfor 62's dispatch 232205 October.
- (d) Position;

Anchored in Segond Channel, Espiritu Santo, N.H.

(e) 1630 Underway to shift berth and at 1652 anchored in new berth. 1855 Commenced loading ammunition for Cactus.

(f) Received Comtaskfor 62's dispatches 231220 and 232205 directing the formation of Task Unit 62.4.3, as described in (a) above, Alchiba to proceed under escort to Cactus and unload. 232205 Directs the loading of maximum amount of ammunition practicable with the Alchiba departing for Cactus earliest daylight 25th October.

(g) No remarks.

J. S. Freeman,  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding. *ES*



SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
October 25, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.4.3/
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:

0800-	15-50	South Lat.	166-52	East Long.
1200-	15-28		166-08	
2000-	15-14		164-45	

Distance made good departure to noon, 89 miles.

- (e) 0040 Completed loading ammunition cargo. 0438 Got underway from Second Channel, Espiritu Santo, N.H. 0537 Assumed cruising formation with ALCHIBA as guide, and HOPKINS abeam to port, SOUTHARD abeam to starboard, distant 1500 yards. 1615 Changed course to westward in accordance with visual orders from CTU 62.4.3. at 14-50 South Latitude 165-28 East Longitude.
- (f) Received Comtaskfor 62's dispatch 250224 October directing this task unit to proceed west and remain south of latitude 15 and east of longitude 160. Our aircraft code reports indicated heavy enemy ship concentrations in the vicinity of Guadalcanal.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding,

*ES*

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
October 26, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.4.3.
- (b) Comtaskfor 62's Dispatch 231220 October.
- (c) Modified by Comtaskfor 62's dispatches 250224 and 251015 October.
- (d) Positions:

0800-	15-48	South Lat.	162-24	East Long.
2200-	15-26		161-31	
2000-	15-37		162-17	

Distance made good noon to noon, 323 miles.

- (e) 0509 Changed course to 310 degrees True to proceed toward rendezvous; position 16-14 South Latitude, 162-57 East Longitude, at time of change. Maneuvered on various courses to remain in rendezvous area.
- (f) 0509 Received visual orders from CTU 62.4.3. to change course in accordance with Comtaskfor 62's dispatch 251015 October and proceed to position 15-30 South Latitude 161-30 East Longitude, to combine there with Task Unit 62.4.5. under the command of CTU 62.4.5 and to remain in the area bounded by Latitude 15 to 16 Longitude 160 to 163.  
  
2100 Received Comtaskfor 62's dispatch 260725 October directing task units 62.4.3 and 62.4.5 to rendezvous at point Queen with the MAJABA 16 South Latitude 165-40 East Longitude at 1600 Love October 27th. At which point the BELLATRIX was to proceed independently to ROSES and Cominron 2 was designated CTU 62.4.3 to go to CACTUS with the task unit composed as follows: ALCHIBA, MAJABA, WOODWORTH, HOPKINS, and SOUTHARD, to arrive at CACTUS 0530 Love October 30th.
- (g) No remarks.

JAMES S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.



SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
October 27, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.4.3 plus U.S.S. WOODWORTH.
- (b) Same as Before.
- (c) Same as before.
- (d) Positions:

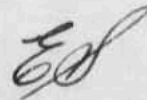
0800-	15-37	South Lat.	164-34	East Long.
1200-	15-55		164-36	
2000-	15-46		165-46	

Distance made good noon to noon, 302 miles.

(e) High wind, heavy rain and seas, which prevented any celestial observations and accurate position finding continued throughout day. Task unit unable to rendezvous with MAJABA. 1317 Challenged by two ships bearing 290 degrees, identified as friendly. 1537 Ships determined to be the U.S.S. BELLATRIX and WOODWORTH. 1758 BELLATRIX proceeded alone on mission assigned. 1910 WOODWORTH joined Task Unit 62.4.3 as anti submarine escort and took station ahead.

- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.



SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
October 28, 1942.

(a) Task Unit 62.4.3.

(b) Same as before.

(c) Same as before.

(d) Positions;

0800-	15-42	South Lat.	165-30	East Long.
1200-	15-56		165-59	
2000-	15-01		165-04	

Distance made good noon to noon, 231 miles.

(e) Heavy sea continued with rain squalls. 1243 Task Unit unable to rendezvous with MAJABA, changed course and proceeded toward CACTUS. 1420 Sighted four engined bomber (B17) bearing 350° identified as friendly. Task Unit proceeded to Button on orders from CTF 62.

(f) CTU 62.4.3. sent dispatch 280100 October announcing the discontinuance of the search for the MAJABA, the acute fuel situation and that the task unit was proceeding to CACTUS in accordance with orders.

Received CTF 62's 280350 October ordering the task unit to proceed to BUTTON.

Received CTF 62's 280545 October ordering the HOPKINS, SOUTHARD, and WOODWORTH to fuel immediately upon arrival in BUTTON early daylight October 29th. The same day the task unit when ready for sea plus the MAJABA to proceed to CACTUS passing South and West of SAN CRISTOBAL and through SEA LARK CHANNEL arriving CACTUS 0530 Love November 2nd.

(g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *ES*  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
October 29, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.4.3.
- (b) Comtaskfor 62's 280545 October.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:

0800- Anchored in Segond Channel, Espiritu Santo, N.H.  
1200- Ditto.  
2000- 15-37 South Lat. 166-34 East Long.

Distance made good noon to anchoring, 248 miles.

(e) 0734 Anchored in Segond Channel, Espiritu Santo, N.H. 1312 Got under way, escort having completed fueling, and proceeded toward CACTUS. The U.S.S. MAJABA joined the Task Unit and took station astern of the ALCHIBA, formation guide. Cruising disposition otherwise as before. 1338 Passed the following vessels entering Segond Channel: U.S.S. LAFLEY, SAN FRANCISCO, HELENA, BUCHANAN, MC CALLA, WALKE.

- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman,  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

*ES*

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
October 30, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.4.3/.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions/

0800-	14-07	South Lat.	165-14	East Long.
1200-	13-43		164-49	
2000-	12-47		164-11	

Distance made good from departure to noon, 204 miles.

- (e) No remarks.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.





SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
October 31, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.4.3 .
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:

0800- 11-59	South Lat.	163-18.5	East Long.
1200- 11-52		163-39	
2000- 11-15		163-31	

Distance made good noon to noon, 195 miles.

- (e) 0715 Sighted plane bearing 180 degrees. 0955 Sighted plane bearing 025 degrees. Both planes appeared to be large bombers but did not approach close enough to be identified.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.





U.S.S. ALCHIBA (AK23)

AK23/A16-3  
Serial: 0010

October 20, 1942.

S-E-C-R-E-T

From: Commanding Officer.  
To : The Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet.  
Via : (1) Commander Task Unit 62.4.5 (Commanding Officer,  
U.S.S. BELLATRIX).  
(2) Commander Transport Divisions, South Pacific Force.  
(3) Commander Amphibious Force, South Pacific Force.  
(4) Commander South Pacific Force.  
Subject: Action Report - Dive Bombing Attack on Task Unit 62.4.5.  
Reference: (a) U.S. Navy Regulations, 1920, Articles 712, 874(6).  
Enclosure: (A) Report of Executive Officer, U.S.S. ALCHIBA.

1. In accordance with reference (a), an action report covering the dive bombing attack on Task Unit 62.4.5 on October 15, 1942, is submitted herewith.

2. At 1633 Zone (-) 11 time in Lat. 13°-14' S., Long. 163°-32' E., this task unit was attacked by Japanese zero fighters dive bombing on the vessels. Four planes were seen, two of which attacked the ALCHIBA. There may have been additional planes which were not observed.

The Task Unit Commander was in the BELLATRIX which was formation guide, the ALCHIBA in position one thousand yards on port beam of guide, the NICHOLAS screening to starboard and the JAMESTOWN screening to port. Vessels were proceeding on course 220° (true) at standard speed of 14 knots.

Radar bearings signalled from the U.S.S. NICHOLAS throughout the day had indicated considerable activity in the air. Information indicated presence of an enemy carrier within three hundred miles to the northward.

Two planes were sighted at 1633 making a dive attack on the BELLATRIX. At 1634 two planes were seen diving on this vessel from dead ahead, one plane was in its dive, the other approaching at about 5000 feet elevation, position angle 35°. The sun bore 240° (true) and rendered sighting planes difficult. Fire was opened on planes with 3"/50 and 20mm. guns. Maneuvering the ship was not considered advisable.

AK23/A16-3  
Serial: 0010

October 20, 1942.

S-E-C-R-E-T

Subject: Action Report - Dive Bombing Attack on Task Unit 62.4.5  
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At 1635 a bomb landed about fifteen feet off the port bow, the water from the explosion deluging the forward part of the ship.

At 1636 a second bomb landed approximately thirty feet off the starboard quarter.

Neither of the near misses caused any personnel casualties or apparent damage to the ship. One small fragment of bomb was brought on board by the water after the explosion of the first bomb. The bombs were estimated to be of 250 or 500 pounds. The planes did not strafe the ship or personnel. Examination of vessel showed no damage from enemy attack.

The volume of fire from the ship's guns was considerable and is believed to have influenced the plane gunners in their failure to fire. The accuracy of the bombers was almost too good. The failure of the bombs to cause fragmentation damage to the hull is not understood. The fact that they struck near the bow and stern where structural strength is greatest is believed to account for the lack of structural damage.

The 20mm guns on this vessel have no stops to control the arc of fire. Control by the gunner during an action is not satisfactory. Slight damage was done to the mainmast and rigging by ship's own gun fire.

No definite damage to the planes was observed. The speed of the target was estimated as 290 knots and the lead taken by the gunners was insufficient. One plane appeared to wobble badly passing over the ship, but recovered and did not appear seriously damaged.

3. This was the first experience this vessel has had with dive bombers and it was very valuable. The behavior of officers and crew under fire was splendid. There have been few opportunities for any kind of firing practice since guns were installed and, in my opinion, no target practice could approach this experience in value. Minor faults of communication and procedure appeared and steps have been taken to correct them insofar as practicable. The urgent need for certain types of cargo in advanced bases necessitates carrying considerable deck load in this type of vessel. In spite of careful planning for stowage of such cargo, considerable impediment to free deck passage to battle, fire, and abandon ship stations exists on every voyage. Efforts to improve this situation continue.

AK23/A16-3  
Serial: 0010

October 20, 1942.

S-E-C-R-E-T

Subject: Action Report - Dive Bombing Attack on Task Unit 62.4.5.

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4. Chronological Record:

1625 Radar bearing of planes from U.S.S. NICHOLAS:  
Bearing 320°, distance 25 miles.  
1633 General Quarters.  
1634 Commenced firing.  
1635 Bomb near miss on port bow.  
1636 Bomb near miss on starboard quarter.  
1638 Ceased firing.

J. S. FREEMAN.

Copies to:

Orig. & One - Cincpac.  
Copy - C.T.U. 62.4.5  
" - ComTransDivsSoPacFor.  
" - ComAmphFor SoPacFor.  
" - ComSoPac.  
" - War Diary.  
" - File.

AK23/A16-3

October 17, 1942.

SECRET

From: The Executive Officer.  
 To : The Commanding Officer.  
 Subject: Enemy Action, October 15, 1942; Report of.  
 Reference: (a) U.S. Navy Regulations, 1920, Article 948.

1. When General Quarters was sounded at 1633, October 15, 1942, I was in the Communication Office and went to my room for my equipment - binoculars, pistol, etc. On my return to the lower bridge, action had been started.

2. While receiving reports from ship control stations (1JV circuit), a bomb exploded about 10 feet clear of port bow abreast, or slightly ahead, or #2 three-inch gun, deluging the foremast, the gun platform and the main deck aft as far as #1 hatch with water. By telephone the Engine Room was directed to put suction on forward bilge system. Before this directive was acknowledged, a second bomb exploded close to the starboard quarter, distant about 10 feet. The Engine Room was directed to put suction on draught system aft and on the shaft alley. Both repair parties were directed to sound all bilges immediately. At this time, a bomb explosion was noticed about 10 feet off the starboard quarter of the NICHOLAS.

3. The Engineer Officer, after personal inspection, reported no damage or water immediately visible in either the shaft alley or the engine room bilges. The First Lieutenant reported bilge soundings as normal. The Chief Boatswain's Mate reported forepeak boatswain's stores rooms and chain lockers as normal. Steering-engine room conditions were reported as normal.

4. While waiting for the above reports, I followed the action against one plane heading northwest, off port quarter and astern of BELLATRIX, until "cease fire" was ordered, with a second plane disappearing further to the northwest. These planes were at too great a distance and moving too fast to determine accurately their type, except in a general way - low wing monoplane, tapered wings with rounded ends, and a decided dihedral; no wheels or pontoons visible. They appeared similar to the planes making the high altitude attack on the ships at CACTUS, August 7, 1942.



U.S.S. ALCHIBA (AK23)

AK23/A16-3

October 17, 1942.

S E C R E T

Subject: Enemy Action, October 15, 1942; Report of.

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5. Further bilge soundings an hour after "secure" showed normal conditions.

6. No special mention of personnel is submitted.

H. R. SHAW,  
Commander, U.S. Navy.

No.....

86141

U. S. S. ALCHIBA (AK23)

SECRET  
WAR DIARY

From November 1, 1942 to November 30, 1942.

RECEIVED TO FILE  
NOV 1942  
JAN 9 1943  
TITLE NO- 16-E-3  
SERIAL NO. 71715  
NA/237A

44955

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
November 1, 1942.

(a) Task Unit 62.4.3.

(b) Same as before.

(c) None.

(d) Positions:

0800-	09-46	South Lat.	162-52	East Long.
1200-	09-36		162-33	
2000-	09-47		161-29	

Distance made good noon to noon, 191 miles.

(e) Weather cloudy with frequent rain squalls. 0945 U.S.S. HOPKINS  
Came up astern and delivered guard mail.

secret

(f) Received the following/mailgrams from Comtaskunit 62.4.3;  
310500 November- Alchiba to make arrival report for task unit.  
310505 November- Reports on progress in unloading cargo at Cactus.  
310520 November- Instructions for entrance of task unit into  
Cactus area and communication information.

(g) No remarks.

J. S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *Ed*  
Commanding.



SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
November 2, 1942

(a) Task Unit 62.4.3

(b) Same as before

(c) Modified by CTU 62.4.3's mailgram 310520 November.

(d) Positions:

0800 Anchored east of Lunga Point, Guadalcanal Island,  
Solomons.

1200 Ditto

2000 09-21.0 South Lat. 160-44.0 East Long.

Distance made good noon to anchoring, 94 miles.

(e) 0625 Anchored east of Lunga Point, Guadalcanal Island, Solomons. Commenced discharging cargo and disembarking Marine Units. U.S.S. FULLER ALSO present engaged in same operations. 0754 U.S.S. SHAW and CONYNGHAM commenced shelling enemy shore positions to the westward. 1040 got underway because of air raid alarm. Maneuvered on zig-zag courses. 1150 anchored in former position upon receiving all clear. 1225 sighted U.S.S. O'BANNON, BELLATRIX towing barge, and BOBOLINK approaching RINGBOLT bearing 083 degrees. 1657 got underway and formed column with HOPKINS as guide, then WOODWORTH, the ALCHIBA; SHAW and CONYNGHAM underway at same time.

1725 BELLATRIX with O'BANNON as escort underway standing out of RINGBOLT. 2108 changed course toward BUTTON following motions of guide.

(f) Received COMTASKFOR 62's dispatch 020805 November to CTU 62.4.3 ordering task unit to retire at best speed toward BUTTON.

(g) No remarks.

J. S. FREEMAN,  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *Ed*  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
November 3, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.4.3
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) Modified by CTF 62's dispatch 021335 November.
- (d) Positions:

0800-	10-03	South Lat.	161-02	East Long.
1200-	09-20.5		160-35	
2000-	09-18		160-46	

Distance made good departure Cactus to noon , 282 miles.

(e) 0332 Reversed course and headed toward Cactus ( Lat. 11-01 South, Long 161-35 East ). 0520 Sighted cargo ship and one destroyer escort bearing 329 True, identified as U.S.S. BELLATRIX and O'BANNON. 0603 Sighted 5 ships identified as friendly war vessels. 0920 BELLATRIX and O'BANNON reversed course and proceeded approximately on 160 True. 0930 BELLATRIX and O'BANNON passed this task unit on opposite parallel courses . 0935 BELLATRIX and O'BANNON changed course and fell in with this task unit. 1404 Anchored east of Lunga Point, Guadalcanal Island, Solomons, and commenced discharging cargo. Intermittent bombing and strafing by our planes on enemy positions in coconut groves on Koli Point throughout afternoon and evening. 1610 Ceased all discharging because all available boats were being loaded with troops to proceed against enemy positions on Koli Point. 1656 Got underway in column formation, HOPKINS (guide), WOODWORTH, and ALCHIBA. Maneuvered on various courses during night in INDESPENSABLE STRAIT.

MAJABA continued to unlead in TULAGI area. SOUTHARD detached from this task unit and sent to assistance of CONYNGHAM in accordance with CTF 62's dispatch 022341, at 1315.

(f) Received Comtaskfor 62's dispatch 021335 November ordering this task unit to return to CACTUS after daylight and resume unloading.

Received Comtaskfor 62's dispatch 030258 November ordering the ALCHIBA to tow PAB barge #4 to BUTTON upon departure.

\ No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *Ed*  
Commanding.

Secret

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
November 4, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.4.3 .
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) Modified by Comadnavbase Cactus's dispatch 030905 November.
- (d) Positions:

0800- Anchored Tulagi Harbor, Solomons. (Ringbolt)  
1200- Ditto.  
2000- 09-15 South Lat. 160-39 East Long.

Distance made good departure Cactus to arrival Ringbolt, 148 miles.

(e) 0405 Sighted six warships, identified as friendly bearing 130 True distant 1.5 miles. 0530 Sighted three transports and two destroyers (US) in Aola Bay, bearing 160 True distant 8 miles. 0546 One cruiser and three destroyers fired about thirty rounds at unidentified aircraft bearing 140 True, plane later identified as friendly. 0603 Sighted ship bearing 311, True distant fifteen miles. 0605 Sighted two destroyers bearing 258 True distant eight miles. 0630 Sighted three transports, one cruiser and 4 destroyers off Lunga Point. 0755 Anchored in Tulagi Harbor, Solomons. U.S.S. BELLATRIX and MAJABA present. HOPKINS and WOODWORTH also anchored. 0810 Commenced discharging cargo. 1146 Air raid warning, no planes sighted. 1510 BELLATRIX underway and stood out. 1714 Got underway and stood out. 2231 Sighted four white flares on beach bearing 080 True distant 4 miles. 2311 Sighted 4 ships bearing 240 True distant 3 miles.

(f) Received Comadnavbase Cactus' 030905 November directing the ALCHIBA to unload at Tulagi.

(g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *ED*  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
November 5, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.4.3.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) Modified by Comadnavbase Cactus' 040352 November, and 042244.
- (d) Positions;

0800-Anchored in Tulagi Harbor, Solomons.  
1200- Standing out of Tulagi Harbor.  
2000- 09- 16 South Lat. 160-48 East Long.

Distance made good departure to arrival, 108 miles.

(e) 0141 Sighted column of 4 ships crossing ahead starboard to port identified as friendly. 0750 Anchored in Tulagi Harbor. 0756 Commenced discharging cargo. 1050 Airt raid warning. 1108 Got underway and stood out, upon receipt of orders from Comadnavbase Cactus 042244. 1135 Three transports and one cruiser and seven destroyers standing out, across toward Tulagi, from Cactus. Radio warning of enemy planes in area. Two groups of our fighter planes overhead, about eight planes in each. Maneuvered on various courses north east of Guadalcanal Island, in anti submarine formation with HOPKINS on the starboard bow and WOODWORTH on the port bow. 1328 resumed regular column formation.

(f) Received Comadnavbase Cactus' 040352 dispatch directing the ALCHIBA to ~~continue~~ unloading at TULAGI on the fifth; 042244 directing the ALCHIBA and escort to depart at once and head eastward staying as close to shore as possible, and to return to CACTUS the sixth; 042131 directing the ALCHIBA and MAJABA to complete unloading at CACTUS on the sixth.

Received Comtaskfor 62' dispatch 042344 ordering the task unit to return to BUTTON upon completion of unloading, to the north of SAN CRISTOBAL, and in case the ALCHIBA and HOPKINS depart prior to the MAJABA and WOODWORTH the latter two are designated as Task Unit 62.4.7/.

- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *ES*  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
November 6, 1942

- (a) Task Unit 62.4.3.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) Modified by Comtaskfor 62's dispatch 042344.
- (d) Positions:

0800- Anchored off Lunga Point, Guadalcanal Island.  
1200- Ditto.  
2000- 09-19 South Lat. 160-24.5 East Long.

Distance made good departure to arrival, 184 miles.

(e) 0724 Anchored east of Lunga Point, Guadalcanal Island, MAJABA anchored nearby. 0735 Commenced discharging cargo. 1602 Completed discharging cargo. BOBOLINK brought FAB barge #4 alongside and made it fast. 1630 MAJABA and WOODWORTH underway and heading toward TULAGI. 1725 BOBOLINK cast off and stood away. 1739 Got underway and streamed barge astern. HOPKINS took station ahead as anti submarine screen, as unit proceeded toward BUTTON. 2023 Sighted white flare (parachute) bearing 275 True.

(f) Received CTU'62.4.3's dispatches 060200; which requested tug to meet ALCHIBA off entrance to BUTTON to relieve her of barge upon her arrival daylight the tenth, and reported the departure of the task unit to Comtaskfor 62; 060100 which designated the MAJABA and the WOODWORTH as Task Unit 62.4.7, and upon the completion of the unloading of the MAJABA the unit is to proceed to BUTTON by a route north and east of San Cristobal.

(g) No remarks.

J. S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *ES*  
Commanding.



SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
November 7, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.4.3 less WOODWORTH and MAJABA.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) Same as before.
- (d) Positions:

0800- 10-05	South Lat.	162-17	East Long.
1200- 10-29		162-45	
2000- 11-23		163-33	

Distance made good departure to noon, 180 miles.

(e) 0802 Sighted six planes bearing  $072^{\circ}$ . 0825 Sighted one plane bearing  $245^{\circ}$ . 1144 Sighted three planes bearing  $020^{\circ}$ . All planes identified as friendly. 1743 Sighted two ships bearing  $120^{\circ}$ . Identified as the U.S.S. MANLEY and MC KEAN, and 1809 passed abeam on opposite course distant two miles.

Heavy seas and rain necessitated slowing speed during day.

- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding. *EF*

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
November 8, 1942.

(a) Task Unit 62.4.3.

(b) Same as before.

(c) Same as before.

(d) Positions:

0800-	12-45	South Lat.	164-17	East Long.
1200-	13-06		164-25	
2000-	13-49		165-11	

Distance made good noon to noon, 200 miles.

(e) No remarks.

(f) No remarks.

(g) No remarks.

J. S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *Ed*  
Commanding.



SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
November 9, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.4.3.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) Same as before.
- (d) Positions:

0800- 14-39 South Lat. 166-43 East Long.  
1200- 15-07 167-15.5  
2000- Anchored in Second Channel.

(e) 1045 Sighted plane bearing 010 True, identified as friendly.  
1155 Sighted eight ships, one cruiser (ATLANTA ), four destroyers,  
one transport, and two cargo ships, bearing 155 True, identified as  
friendly, which passed abeam headed on opposite course at 1235.  
Numerous friendly planes sighted during day. 1420 ALCHIBA commenced  
maneuvering independently to stream barge at short stay preparatory  
to entering channel. 1711 MEADE and KOPARA standing out. 1818  
Anchored in SEGOND Channel, ESPIRITU SANTO, NEW HEBRIDES. 1840  
ROSEWOOD alongside to relieve ALCHIBA of PAB barge #4. Other ships  
present : U.S.S. CURTISS ( S.O.P.A. Comairsopac ) HUNTER LIGGETT,  
BARNETT, HEYWOOD, FULLER, NEVILLE, POMALHAUT, ALDEBARAN, GUADALUPE,  
LACKAWANNA, TANGIER, MACKINAC, WOODWORTH, CONYNGHAM, LANSDOWNE,  
GAMBLE, MANLEY, and MCKEAN.

- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *EF*  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
November 10, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.1.5. Commander Task Unit is Commander Transport Groups Amphibious Force South Pacific, in U.S.S. HUNTER LIGGETT; NEVILLE, BARNETT, FULLER, and ALCHIBA, escort HOPKINS, MANLEY and MC KEAN.
- (b) Comtaskunit 62.1.5 Operation Order 8-42 of November 10, 1942.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:  
Anchored in Second Channel, Espiritu Santo, N.H.
- (e) 1501 Under way to shift berths and anchored at 1531. Received provisions and supplies from ALDEBARAN.
- (f) Received Comtaskunit 62.1.5 's Oporder 8-42 of NOVEMBER 10, 1942, which ordered the task unit to proceed to WHITE POPPY and gave the routing and convoy instructions/.
- (g) No remarks.

J. S. Freeman,  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding. *ES*

**Secret**

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
November 11, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.1.5.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:

0800- Anchored in Segond Channel, Espiritu Santo.  
1200- 15-49 South Lat. 167-26 East Long.  
2000- 17-18 167-33

Distance made good departure to noon, 17 miles.

- (e) 0938 Got underway in company with task unit. 1042 Formed cruising disposition 1. Section 1 on right, BARNETT, Section 2, HUNTER LIGGETT (guide), FULLER in center, Section 3, NEVILLE, ALCHIBA on left, 1000 yards interval between sections, 600 yards distance between ships. HOPKINS, MANLEY and MC KEAN ahead as anti-submarine screen. 1315 Sighted 2 destroyers, 1 aircraft carrier, and one transport bearing 125 True, distant five miles, identified as friendly. 1540 Sighted one plane bearing 160 True identified as friendly.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *ES*  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
November 12, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.1.5.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:

0800-	19-50	South Lat.	168-00	East Long.
1200-	20-39		168-09	
2000-	22-19		168-09	

Distance made good noon to noon, 319 miles.

- (e) 1136 Fired surprise anti-aircraft target practise.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *ES*  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
November 13, 1942.

(a) Task Unit 62.1.5.

(b) Same as before.

(c) None.

(d) Positions:

0800- Entering Noumea, N.C.

1200- Anchored in Dumbea Bay, Noumea, N.C.

2000- Ditto.

Distance made good noon to arrival, 276 miles.

(e) 1130 Anchored in Dumbea Bay, Noumea, New Caledonia. Other ships present : ARGONNE ( Comsopac S.C.P.A.), WHITNEY, PROMETHEUS, ANTARES, KENMORE, ROCHAMBEAU, LASSEN, WILLIAM WARD BURROWS, SOLACE, RIGEL, STRATFORD, ARD II, H.M.N.Z.S. LEANDER, and various unidentified merchant vessels, and small craft. Disembarked passengers.

(f) Task Unit 62.1.5 dissolved in accordance with Commander Task Force 62's dispatch 060950 November.

(g) No remarks.

J. S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *Ed*  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
November 14, 1942.

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Comtaskfor 62's dispatch 060950 of November,
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions

Anchored in Dumbea Bay, N.C.

- (e) No remarks.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

*Ed*

SECRET

U.S.S. ALUHIBA  
November 15, 1942.

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Position:

Anchored in Dumbear Bay, N.C.

- (e) No remarks.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman,  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *ES*  
Commanding.



SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
November 16, 1942.

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Position:

Anchored in Dumbea Bay, N.C.

(e) 0600 Got underway and moored alongside S.S. ESSO RICHMOND. Upon completion fueling at 0941 stood away and moored alongside SS E.J.HENRY. Commenced loading aviation gas at 1045 and completed loading at 2255.

(f) Received Comtaskfor 62's dispatch 060610 November forming Task Unit 62.4.3 composed of BARNETT ( Captain Bailey as Comtaskunit) ALCHIBA and three destroyers to be designated by COMSOPAC. When the unit is loaded and ready for sea it is to proceed to CACTUS-RINGBOLT area and discharge cargo. ALCHIBA ordered to tow flat top barge and unload initially at RINGBOLT. MANLEY and MC KEAN are ordered to report for duty as screen upon their arrival. Upon completion unloading task unit is to return to BUTON. Task unit will retire to RINGBOLT IF conditions permit, otherwise it will retire to eastern side of INDISPENSABLE STRAIT, during night returning to unloading area by dawn the next day.

(g) Noremarks.

J.S.Freeman  
Commander, U.S.Navy, *Ed*  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
November 17, 1942.

(a) Task unit 62.4.3. Commander Task Unit Captain Bailey in BARNETT, ALCHIBA plus three unassigned destroyers.

(b) Comtaskfor 62's dispatch 160610 November.

(c) None.

(d) Positions:

0800- Anchored in Dumbea Bay, N.C.

1200- Moored alongside Grand Quay, Noumea, N.C.

2000- Ditto.

(e) 0529 Stood away from S.S. E.J. HENRY and moored alongside the S.S. JOHN BARRY. At 0700 commenced loading bombs. 0925 Completed loading. 0935 Stood away from S.S. JOHN BARRY and moored alongside GRAND QUAY, NOUMEA, NEW CALEDONIA, at 1024. 1300 Commenced loading cargo.

(f) No remarks.

(g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman,  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *Ed*  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
November 18, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.4.3.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Position:

Moored alongside Grand Quay, Noumea, N.C.

- (e) Continued loading cargo (provisions, aviation gas, and ammunition for CACTUS-RINGBOLT).
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

*ES*

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
November 19, 1942.

(a) Task Unit 62.4.3.

(b) Same as before.

(c) None.

(d) Position:

Moored alongside Grand Quay, Noumea, N.C.

(e) Continued loading cargo.

(f) No remarks.

(g) No remarks.

J. S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *EF*  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
November 20, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.4.3.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions;
  - 0800- Moored alongside Grand Quay, Noumea, N.C.
  - 1200- Ditto.
  - 2000- Anchored in Great Road, Noumea, N.C.
- (e) 1805 Discontinued loading cargo and got underway anchoring in Great Road, Noumea, N.C. at 1902. 2000 Resumed loading. 2300 Completed loading. 2330 Flat top barge made fast alongside.
- (f) Received Comtaskunit 62.4.3.'s Operation Plan 2-42 of November 20, 1942, detailing orders contained in Comtaskfor62's dispatch 160610 of November.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *Ed*  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
November 21, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.4.3, plus LAMSON, LARDNER, and HUGHES as escort.
- (b) Comtaskunit 62.4.3's Operation Plan 2-42 of November 20.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:

0800- Underway leaving Noumea, N.C.  
1200- 22-21 South Lat. 165-56 East Long.  
2000- 21-42 164-47

Distance made good departure to noon, 34 miles.

(e) 0530 Got underway and stood out of harbor. 0724 Streamed barge astern. 0915 Assumed regular cruising disposition; ALCHIBA towing flat top barge guide, BARNETT zigzagging ahead, of ALCHIBA, three destroyers disposed ahead as anti submarine screen as follows, LARDNER to port, LAMSON ahead, and HUGHES to starboard. 1837 ESCORT assumed special night anti-submarine screen formation: LARDNER one mile astern of ALCHIBA and tow, LAMSON ahead to port, and HUGHES ahead to starboard.

- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J. S. Freeman,  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *Ed*  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
November 22, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.4.3.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:

0800-	20-20	South Lat.	163-23	East Long.
1200-	19-51		162-58	
2000-	18-45		162-11	

Distance made good noon to noon, 227 miles, course, 312 True.

- (e) 0600 Escort resumed regular cruising disposition. 1830 Escort assumed special night anti-submarine formation.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J. S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *Ed*  
Commanding.



SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
November 23, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.4.3 .
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:

0800-	16-48	South Lat.	162-08	East Long.
1200-	16-08		162-09	
2000-	14-52		162-13	

Distance made good noon to noon, 233 miles.

- (e) 0600 Escort resumed regular cruising disposition . 1843 Escort assumed special night anti-submarine formation.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S.Freeman  
Commander, U.S.Navy, *Ed*  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
November 24, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.4.3.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:

0800-	13-21	South Lat.	163-12	East Long.
1200-	12-45		163-11	
2000-	11-46		163-44	

Distance made good noon to noon, 219 miles on course 017 deg.

- (e) 0545 Escort resumed regular cruising disposition . 0650 Sighted plane bearing 050 deg. identified as friendly. 1024 Sighted plane bearing 080 deg. unidentified. 1505 Sighted plane bearing 030 deg. identified as friendly. 1826 Escort assumed special night anti-submarine formation.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *EF*  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
November 25, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.4.3 .
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:

0800-	10-21	South Lat.	162-55	East Long.
1200-	10-13		162-20	
2000-	09-44		161-15.5	

Distance made good noon to noon, 209 miles.

- (e) 0555 Escort resumed regular cruising disposition. 0801 Sighted plane bearing 050 deg. identified as friendly. 2210 Sighted three ships bearing 020 deg. about five miles distant, unidentified. 2323 Sighted white flare bearing 275 deg which burned for 25 seconds.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S.Freeman  
Commander, U.S.Navy, *Ed*  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
November 26, 1942.

(a) Task Unit 62.4.3 .

(b) Same as before.

(c) None.

(d) Positions:

Anchored in Tulagi Harbor, Solomons.

(e) 0353 Left formation and proceeded toward Tulagi, with LARDNER as escort. Remainder of Task Unit proceeded toward Cactus. 0413 Observed searchlights and anti-aircraft fire on beach at Cactus. 0435 Motor torpedo boat passed astern distant 1000 yards. 0442 Sighted two vessels identified as U.S.S. LIBRA, and HOPKINS. 0513 Destroyer sighted bearing 295 deg. identified as friendly. 0652 Anchored in Tulagi Harbor, Solomons. 0658 Commenced unloading. 0708 U.S.S. MANLEY and MC KEAN got underway and stood out. 1335 U.S.S. LARDNER stood in and anchored. 1828 U.S.S. BARNETT, LAMSON, and HUGHES stood in and anchored. 2027 Finished unloading.

(f) No remarks.

(g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *Ed*  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
NOVEMBER 27, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.4.3.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions.
  - 0800- Anchored off Lunga Point.
  - 1200- Ditto.
  - 2000- Anchored in Tulagi Harbor.
- (e) 0405 Task unit underway from Tulagi Harbor with escort and anchored off Lunga Point at 0606. Commenced unloading at 0617. 1645 Discontinued unloading. 1700 Task unit underway from Lunga and anchored in Tulagi Harbor at 1843. 2103 Commenced loading Marston Mats from flat top barge alongside.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *EF*  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
November 28, 1942.

(a) Task Unit 62.4.3.

(b) Same as before,

(c) None.

(d) Positions:

Anchored and beached off Lunga Point, Guadalcanal Island.

(e) 0357 Task unit got underway from Tulagi Harbor, Alchiba having completed loading at 0346. 0546 Anchored off Lunga Point. 0555 Commenced discharging cargo. 0616 Torpedo hit port side of No. 2 hatch, fire broke out instantly. All ships fire fighting facilities brought into action immediately. 0619 Got underway and beached ship at 0626 east of Lunga Point. BARNETT got underway and left area with escort. Continued unloading ammunition aft. 0810 Evacuated all U.S. Army troops passengers

1115 BOBOLINK came alongside and commenced fighting fire. LAMSON (Comdesdiv 9), LARDNER, and MC KEAN continued as anti-submarine screen after departure of BARNETT. 1308 LAMSON dropped two depth charges bearing 062 mag., four miles distant. 1313 MC KEAN dropped two depth charges, 059 mag., four miles distant, and two more at 1336, 056 mag., distant 3.75 miles.

1735 BOBOLINK shifted to starboard side and continued fighting fire. 2337 Fire broke through hole in port side at No. 2 hatch. Smoke increased heavily and with a shift in the wind blanketed the ship. As a result fire fighting became more difficult and many men were overcome by the smoke and fumes.

(f) No remarks.

(g) Action report attached.

J.S. Freeman,  
Commander, U.S. NAVY, *Ed*  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
November 29, 1942.

- (a) Task Unit 62.4.3.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Position:

Anchored and beached off Lunga Point, Guadalcanal Island.

(e) Fire confined to forward part of ship. BOBOLINK alongside to starboard fighting fire. Heavy smoke covering both ships. Forward three holds flooded. 0050 BOBOLINK cast off. 0100 Commenced sending majority of crew, and all ships records and official papers ashore. Only the commanding officer and a volunteer party remained on board to fight the fire, and unload ammunition aft.

0555 Sighted seven ships bearing 088 T. identified as friendly. 0626 NEVILLE stood in and anchored off Lunga Point.

1744 NEVILLE GOT underway and stood out. 1745 Completed unloading ammunition aft.

- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman,  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *Ed*  
Commanding.



SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
November 30, 1942.

(a) Task Unit 62.4.1. Commander task unit Commander Destroyer Division Nine in Lamson, LARDNER, MC KEAN, and ALCHIBA.

(b) Comtaskfor 62's dispatch 292237 November.

(c) None.

(d) Position:

Anchored and beached off Lunga Point, Guadalcanal, Island.

(e) Fighting fire forward. Hatches Nos. 1, 2, and 3 flooded. LARDNER and LAMSON offshore as anti-submarine screen.

0550 NEVILLE stood in and anchored, her escort MC KEAN joined anti-submarine screen. 0645 Resumed discharging ammunition from No. 3 hatch. 0950 NEVILLE got underway and stood out. 1055 BOBOLINK came alongside to assist in discharging deck load.

At nightfall LARDNER, LAMSON and MC KEAN departed for BUTTON in accordance with (b).

2005 Sighted red flare ashore bearing 242 T. 2220 White light visible 028, distant 10 miles. 2248 Four white lights 028, 10 miles. 2321 Surface craft shell fire observed directed at enemy shore positions to westward. Firing vessels bore 290. 2325 Observed 15 starshells in air. 2327 Surface vessel appeared to be hit, 280°. 2330 Three unidentified ships visible in combat area. 2333 Air raid warning. 2337 All star shells out. 2337 Ships in combat area appeared to proceed to westward of SAVO ISLAND. Hit observed on a second ship. 2342 First ship hit observed to explode. 2358 All firing ceased.

(f) Received Comtaskfor 62's dispatch 292237 November, forming Task Unit 62.4.1 and directing it less ALCHIBA to proceed toward BUTTON at nightfall.

(g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman,  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *ES*  
Commanding.

No.....

Reg. No. <i>13-43</i>
U.S. No. ....

U. S. S. ALCHIBA (AK23)

SECRET

WAR DIARY

From December 1, 1942 to December <sup>16</sup> 31, 1942.

1943 APR 15 9 11  
COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF  
FLAG OFFICE  
RECEIVED

49005

*9*

1

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
December 1, 1942.

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Position:

Anchored and beached off Lunga Point, Guadalcanal Island.

- (e) Fighting fire in hatches Nos. 1 and 2. Hatches 1, 2, and 3 flooded.

0010 Searchlight on beach 260° turned on, and off at 0016.  
0024 Small explosions on ship previously hit. 0025 Steady white light 000°T. 0031 Searchlight visible 300°T. 0038 White star shells seen off beach 280°T. 0049 Searchlight on beach 120 turned on, and off at 0058. 0107 Occasional flashes of light 330.  
0121 Star shells, 340. 0145 White flashes, 345. 0202 Air raid all clear signal. 0425 Anti-aircraft fire from vessel bearing 250°.  
0439 Antiaircraft fire from beach.

0535 FOMALHAUT anchored off TAGOMA POINT with LANSDOWNE and SHAW as escorts. 0550 Two ships seen bearing 080. 0605 One ship seen 080. 0622 Sighted two ships bearing 340, and two more bearing 002. Last two groups identified as friendly, two cruisers and two destroyers.

0800 Resumed discharging cargo. 0905 Air raid warning. 0920 All clear. 1040 Air raid warning. 1053 All clear. 1445 Fire broke out in hatch No. 3 for a short time. 1753 Discontinued unloading. 1830 FOMALHAUT and escorts underway toward TULAGI.

- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. NAVY, *ES*  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
December 2, 1942.

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Position:

Anchored and beached off Lunga Point, Guadalcanal Island.

- (e) Fighting fire forward, in hatches Nos. 1 and 2.  
FOMALHAUT and escort arrived off TAGOMA POINT. 0650 Resumed discharging cargo. 0730 FOMALHAUT shifted berths and anchored off LUNGA POINT at 0750. PC 476 arrived and began screening ALCHIBA in accordance with instructions from Comnavactsol.

1423 FOMALHAUT underway and proceeded with escort to TOGOMA POINT. 1435 Fire under control. 1800 Discontinued unloading.

- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *Ed.*  
Commanding.

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
December 3, 1942.

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Position:

Anchored and beached off Lunga Point, Guadalcanal, Island.

- (e) PC 476 offshore as anti submarine screen.

0610 U.S.S. HUNTER LIGGETT and KENMORE anchored off Tagoma Point with escort disposed as anti-submarine screen. Escort consisting of U.S.S. HOWEY, SOUTHARD, and STACK PLUS O'BANNON and MCCALLA. 0646 S.S. JOSEPH TEAL anchored off Lunga Point. 0656 Torpedo sighted 300 yards astern bearing 012 deg., which curved away on heading 307 deg. It passed close aboard the TEAL. 0828 STACK dropped three depth charges bearing 052 deg., distant two miles. 0840 U.S.S. BOBOLINK came alongside. 1140 U.S.S. FOMALHAUT anchored off Lunga Point. 1620 BOBOLINK cast off and stood away 1845 Air raid warning. 1856 All clear.

- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman, Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding. *Ed*

4

SECRET

U.S.S. ALCHIBA  
December 4, 1942.

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Position:

Anchored and beached off Lunga Point, Guadalcanal.

(e) PC 476 acting as anti-submarine screen. 0139 Air raid warning. 0159 ALL clear. 0755 Lighted destroyer standing in bearing 090 deg. identified as friendly. 1005 S.S. JOSEPH TEAL anchored off port quarter. U.S.S. ZANE and STACK escorting her formed anti-submarine screen. 1142 TREVER replaced ZANE. 1215 TREVER left screen. 1510 U.S.S. KOPARA anchored off port beam, TREVER rejoined screen. SS JOSEPH TEAL at 1648 and KOPARA at 1725 got underway and stood toward TULAGI with escorts.

- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *ES*  
Commanding.

SECRET

December 5, 1942.

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Position:

Anchored and beached off Lunga Point, Guadalcanal.

(e) 0610 U.S.S. HUNTER LIGGETT and KENMORE anchored off Tagoma Point, with escort of SOUTHARD, STACK, and OBANNON forming anti-submarine screen. 0637 SOUTHARD dropped three depth charges off Koli Point bearing 090 deg. 0654 SOUTHARD dropped six depth charges off Koli Point bearing 085 deg. 0725 S.S. JOSEPH TEAL anchored off Lunga Point, with escort of MC CALLA and HOVEY forming anti-submarine screen. 0730 Commenced throwing debris over the side. 0742 SOUTHARD dropped four depth charges bearing 090 deg. 0815 KOPARA anchored off Lunga Point with escort of ZANE and TREVER joining anti-submarine screen. 1211 FOMALHAUT anchored off Tagoma Point, with escorts LANSLOWNE and SHAW. 1410 FOMALHAUT underway with escorts for Tulagi. 1705 KOPARA with escorts underway for Tulagi, also the TEAL at 0825 with escorts. 1920 HUNTER LIGGETT anchored off Lunga Point and departed at 2115.

- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *ES*  
Commanding.



No.....

**U. S. S. ALCHIBA (AK23)**

December 6, 1942.

SECRET

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) As before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Position:

Anchored and beached off Lunga Point, Guadalcanal.

(e) 0635 U.S.S. KOPARA anchored off Lunga Point, also S.S. JOSEPH TEAL at 0723 with escorts TREFER, ZANE, HOVEY, MC CALLA and PC 476 forming anti-submarine screen. Continued discharging debris and damaged cargo. 1700 KOPARA and TEAL with escorts got underway and stood out toward Tulagi.

- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *Ed*  
Commanding.

No. ....

U. S. S. ALCHIBA (AK23)

December 7, 1942.

SECRET

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Position:

Anchored and beached off Lunga Point, Guadalcanal.

(e) 0633 S.S. JOSEPH TEAL anchored off Lunga Point with escorts U.S.S. MC CALLA and HOVEY and later PC 476 forming anti-submarine screen. 0740 PC 476 relieved by PC 477. Continued discharging debris from forward holds.

0759 Torpedo hit ship, entering port side of No. 4 hatch. 0801 TEAL got underway. PC 477 dropped depth charges and so did plane overhead. TEAL fired at small submarine when she broke water 200 yards off port beam, and then it submerged. ALCHIBA settling slowly aft. 0855 All hands evacuated to camp on beach, except Commanding Officer, five officers and twelve enlisted men, who remained on board as ship keepers. 0945 TEAL returned to anchorage. 1020 TEAL underway with escorts. 1045 AIR raid warning. 1100 Our planes dropped depth charges three miles distant on starboard quarter. 1124 TEAL returned to anchorage 1127 All clear. 1236 TEAL got underway. PC 477 dropped six depth charges off port quarter. 1240 TEAL returned to anchorage. 1834 TEAL got underway with escorts and proceeded toward Tulagi. 1945 Air raid warning. 2015 All clear. 2045 Observed gunfire to eastward beyond Koli Point. 2345 Observed gunfire to westward directed toward enemy positions in vicinity Cape Esperance.

- (f) Action report attached.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *J.S.F.*  
Commanding.

No. ....

**U. S. S. ALCHIBA (AK23)**

**December 8, 1942.**

**SECRET**

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Position:

Anchored and beached off Lunga Point, Guadalcanal.

- (e) 0555 U.S.S. PRESIDENT JACKSON, PRESIDENT ADAMS, CRESCENT CITY and MERCURY anchored off Tagoma Point. 0720 S.S. JOSEPH TEAL anchored off Lunga Point. Destroyer escort formed anti-submarine screen. 1710 TEAL got underway and stood out toward Tulagi with escort, also MERCURY at 1715, PRESIDENT JACKSON at 1854, PRESIDENT ADAMS at 1857, and CRESCENT CITY at 1900, escort destroyers screening.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy. *ES*  
Commanding.

No. ....

**U. S. S. ALCHIBA (AK23)**

December 9, 1942.

SECRET

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Position:

Anchored and beached off Lunga Point, Guadalcanal.

(e) The following ships stood in and anchored; 0525 U.S.S. CRESCENT CITY, 0528 PRESIDENT ADAMS, 0532 PRESIDENT JACKSON, 0657 S.S. JOSEPH TEAL and 0714 U.S.S. MERCURY. The escorts consisting of seven destroyers formed an anti-submarine screen. 1428 Air raid alert. All ships present got underway and stood out. 1525 All clear. 1528 PRESIDENT JACKSON, PRESIDENT ADAMS, AND CRESCENT CITY departed from this area. 1547 Air raid alert. 1554 All clear. 1605 MERCURY and TEAL returned to anchorage, and at 1705 got underway for Tulagi with escorts.

- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J. S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *ES*  
Commanding.

No. ....

U. S. S. ALCHIBA (AK23)  
December 10, 1942.

SECRET

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Position:

Anchored and beached off Lunga Point, Guadalcanal.

(e) 0032 Air raid alert. 0040 All clear. 0045 Air raid alert. 0100 All clear. 0614 MERCURY and S.S. JOSEPH TEAL stood in and anchored off Lunga Point. Escorts formed anti-submarine screen. Commenced preliminary salvage operations. 1318 BOBOLINK came alongside to assist and cast off at 1600. At 1700 TEAL and at 1705 MERCURY got underway for Tulagi with their escorts. 1755 PC 477 relieved by PC 476 as anti-submarine screen for ALCHIBA.

- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J. S. Freeman  
Commander, U.S. Navy; *Ed*  
Commanding.

December 11, 1942.

SECRET

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Position:

Anchored and beached off Lunga Point, Guadalcanal.

(e) Following ships stood in and anchored off Lunga Point; 0620 U.S.S. MERCURY and LIBRA and S.S. JOSEPH TEAL, with escorts forming anti-submarine screen. Continued pumping operations and removing debris. 1240 Air raid alert. All ships got underway and stood out. 1309 All clear. 1325 All ships returned to anchorage. 1615 PC 477 dropped six depth charges, 1100 yards distant on port beam. 1705 All ships got underway for Tulagi with escorts.

- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. Freeman,  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *Ed*  
Commanding.

December 12, 1942

SECRET

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Position:

Anchored and beached off Lunga Point, Guadalcanal.

(e) 0055 Observed flash of light on horizon between Savo Island and Cape Esperance, followed by an explosion, believed to be a ship. 0100 Flashes of light beyond horizon bearing 275°. 0110 Ship afire in same direction. 0112 Heavy gunfire heard on the beach. 0115 Heavy smoke observed near Savo Island. 0120 Gunfire on beach ceased. More gunfire observed beyond horizon bearing 275°. 0125 Ship seen to be afire, in same location. 0150 Fire on first ship no longer visible. 0300 Heavy gunfire on beach.

Following ships stood in and anchored off Lunga Point; 0550 S.S. ROGER WILLIAMS and U.S.S. AMERICAN LEGION with U.S.S. FANNING and U.S.S. CRAVEN as escorts. 0730 S.S. JOSEPH TEAL, 0755 U.S.S. LIBRA, 0758 U.S.S. MERCURY, with escorts forming anti-submarine screen. 0755 S.S. JOSEPH TEAL and escort got underway and departed. Continued salvage operations.

Following ships got underway and stood out toward Tulagi with escorts; 1659 U.S.S. AMERICAN LEGION and S.S. ROGER WILLIAMS, 1705 U.S.S. MERCURY and U.S.S. LIBRA, 1730 Captain HOMER N. WALLIN, U.S.N., reported on board to plan salvage operations. 2203 Air raid alert. 2240 All Clear.

- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. FREEMAN,  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *Ed*  
Commanding.



U.S.S. ALCHIBA (AK23)  
December 13, 1942.

SECRET

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Position:

Anchored and beached off Lunga Point, Guadalcanal.

(e) The following ships stood in and anchored off Lunga Point; 0555 U.S.S. HUNTER LIGGETT and S.S. DEL BRAZIL, 0620 U.S.S. MERCURY and LIBRA, 0714 AMERICAN LEGION, 0730 S.S. ROGER WILLIAMS, escorts U.S.S. PANNING, STACK, and O'BANNON forming anti-submarine screen. 0725 Tug ORTOLAN came alongside to assist in salvage operations. 0830 ORTOLAN cast off and fueled alongside AMERICAN LEGION returning at 1115. Continued with salvage operations. 1300 Air raid alert. All ships got underway and stood out with escorts. 1334 All clear. All ships returned to anchorage. Following ships underway for Tulagi; 1650 LIBRA and MERCURY, S.S. DEL BRAZIL and ROGERWILLIAMS, 1905 U.S.S. HUNTER LIGGETT AND AMERICAN LEGION with escorts. 1730 Captain Homer W. Wallin, U.S.N. left ship having completed salvage plans. 2135 Air raid alert. Plane over beach dropped five bombs, and was fired at by anti-aircraft batteries on shore. 2310 All clear.

- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. FREEMAN,  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *J.S.F.*  
Commanding.

December 14, 1942.

SECRET

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Position:

Anchored and beached off Lunga Point, Guadalcanal.

(e) The following ships stood in and anchored off Lunga Point, 0600 HUNTER LIGGETT and AMERICAN LEGION, 0615 HEYWOOD and NEVILLE, 0700 BETELGUESE, 0705 LIBRA, and S.S. ROGER WILLIAMS, and 0725 MERCURY, with escorts forming anti-submarine screen. 1000 ROGER WILLIAMS got underway and stood out toward Tulagi with two destroyers as escort. Salvage operations continued. The following ships got underway and stood out toward Tulagi; 1445 MERCURY, 1525 AMERICAN LEGION, 1705 LIBRA, 2010 HUNTER LIGGETT, and HEYWOOD, 2015 BETELGUESE, 2021 NEVILLE, with escorts. 2130 Heavy gunfire on beach.

- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. FREEMAN,  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *Ed*  
Commanding.

December 15, 1942.

SECRET

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Position:

Anchored and beached off Lunga Point, Guadalcanal.

(e) 0108 Heavy gunfire heard on beach which ceased at 0120. The following ships stood in and anchored off Lunga Point, with escorts forming anti-submarine screen; 0525 U.S.S. HUNTER LIGGETT, 0535 NEVILLE, 0600 LIBRA, 0605 MERCURY, 0635 AMERICAN LEGION. Continued with salvage operations. 0955 Royal New Zealand Naval Patrol Craft T102 and T233 stood in and anchored, and at 1015 the S.S. MATAI (N.Z.). 1152 NEVILLE and one destroyer escort got underway and departed from this area. The following ships got underway and stood out toward Tulagi with their escorts, 1220 S.S. MATAI, 1240 T102, 1246 T233. 1614 Plane dropped depth bomb about five miles off Cape Esperance. 1516 BETELGUESE stood in and anchored. The following ships got underway and departed from this area with three destroyers as escorts, 1530 AMERICAN LEGION, 1535 HUNTER LIGGETT. 1655 Friendly seaplane down at sea about twenty miles to the West. Planes and destroyers standing by.

The following ships got underway with their escorts and stood out toward Tulagi; 1657 MERCURY, 1745 LIBRA, 1805 BETELGUESE. 2110 Air raid alert. One plane heard overhead. 2210 All clear. 2250 Air raid alert. 2350 All clear.

- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J. S. FREEMAN,  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *ES*  
Commanding.

December 16, 1942.

SECRET

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Position:

Anchored and beached off Lunga Point, Guadalcanal.

(e) 0020 Air raid alert. 0030 All clear. The following ships stood in and anchored off Lunga Point with escorts forming anti-submarine screen: C550 U.S.S. BETELGUESE, O555 LIBRA, O640 S.S. ROGER WILLIAMS.

Continued salvage operations. 1230 Patrol plane dropped two smoke bombs off the port beam distant 1400 yards, and one more at 1240. 1235 Plane dropped four depth bombs. All ships present got underway. Destroyers screen searched for submarine. 1437 All ships returned to anchorage.

The following ships got underway and stood out toward Tulagi with their escorts; 1712 ROGER WILLIAMS, 1730 LIBRA, 1743 BETELGUESE. 1758 Plane dropped smoke bomb off Port beam, distant 1000 yards. 1801 PC 476 dropped pattern of eight depth charges in area. 2233 Air raid alert. 2350 All clear.

- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

J.S. FREEMAN,  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *Ed*  
Commanding.

No.....

## U. S. S. ALCHIBA (AK23)

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF  
FLAG OFFICE  
RECEIVED

December 17, 1942.

1943 JAN 20 10 29

SECRET

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Position:

Anchored and beached off Lunga Point, Guadalcanal.

(e) The following ships stood in and anchored; 0535 U.S.S. LIBRA off Lunga Point, off Koli Point, 0630 S.S. NOORDAM, PRESIDENT JOHNSON, and ERNEST HINDS, with destroyer escort of six forming anti-submarine screen.

Continued salvage operations. 1300 Commander J.S. FREEMAN, U.S. Navy, detached from duty as commanding officer, U.S.S. ALCHIBA, in accordance with COMSOPAC's dispatch 150901 December. Commander H.R. SHAW, U.S. Navy, assumed duties as commanding officer.

1338 LIBRA and two destroyers as escort got underway and stood out. 1402 U.S.S. FRAZIER dropped one depth charge bearing 327° True distant 4 miles. 1708 PRESIDENT JOHNSON, and NOORDAM got underway and stood out with escort, toward Tulagi. ERNEST HINDS and escort to sea. 2040 Ortolan underway to assist stranded ERNEST HINDS.

- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

*H. R. Shaw*

H. R. SHAW,  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *ES*  
Commanding.

45318

U. S. S. ALCHIBA (AK23)

December 18, 1942.

SECRET

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Position:

Anchored and beached off Lunga Point, Guadalcanal.

(e) 0635 S.S. PRESIDENT JOHNSON AND NOORDAM stood in and anchored off Koli Point; 0640 U.S.S. BETELGUESE stood in and anchored off Lunga Point, with escort destroyers forming anti-submarine screen.

Continued salvage operations. 1535 S.S. ERNEST HINDS sighted being towed by two tugs toward Tulagi with escort of 1 destroyer and 1 PC boat. The following ships got underway and stood out; 1735 BETELGUESE, 1745 PRESIDENT JOHNSON, 1750 NOORDAM, with escorts toward Tulagi.

(f) Received COMSOPAC's dispatch 170431 December confirming Commander H. R. SHAW, U.S. Navy's, assumption of duties as Commanding Officer U.S.S. ALCHIBA.

(g) No remarks.

*H. R. Shaw*

H. R. SHAW,  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

*ES*



No.....

U. S. S. ALCHIBA (AK23)

December 19, 1942.

SECRET

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Position:

Anchored and beached off Lunga Point, Guadalcanal.

(e) The following ships stood in and anchored off Lunga Point with escort destroyers forming anti-submarine screen; 0614 NOORDAM, and PRESIDENT JOHNSON, 2 destroyers; 0616 BETELGUESE, 1 destroyer; 0655 ROGER WILLIAMS, 1 destroyer.

Continued salvage operations. 1400 Plane dropped depth charge bomb bearing 295° True, distant 8 miles. The following ships got underway and stood out toward Tulagi with escorts; 1658 ROGER WILLIAMS, 1800 PRESIDENT JOHNSON and NOORDAM; 1950 BETELGUESE departed from this area. 2345 White flares dropped by plane over enemy positions on shore. Our planes bombed and strafed area, continuing at intervals during night ceasing at 0200.

- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

*H. R. Shaw*

H. R. SHAW,  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *Ed*  
Commanding.



No.....

U. S. S. ALCHIBA (AK23)

December 20, 1942.

SECRET

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Position:

Anchored and beached off Lunga Point, Guadalcanal.

(e) The following ships stood in and anchored with their escorts forming anti-submarine screen off Lunga Point; 0539 S.S. PRESIDENT JOHNSON and NOORDAM, 0555 ROGER WILLIAMS. 0730 ORTOLAN moored alongside.

Continued salvage operations. The following ships got underway and stood out toward Tulagi with their escorts; 1620 ROGER WILLIAMS 1735 PRESIDENT JOHNSON, 1740 NOORDAM. 2335 Air raid alert.

- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

*H. R. Shaw*

H. R. SHAW,  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *ES*  
Commanding.

No.....

U. S. S. ALCHIBA (AK23)

December 21, 1942.

SECRET

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Position:

Anchored and beached off Lunga Point, Guadalcanal.

(e) 0005 All clear from Air Raid alert. The following ships stood in and anchored off Lunga Point with their escorts forming anti-submarine screen; 0600 S.S. PRESIDENT JOHNSON, 0605 NOORDAM, 0620 ROGER WILLIAMS.

Continued salvage operations. Following ships got underway and stood out toward Tulagi with their escorts; 1709 ROGER WILLIAMS, 1738 PRESIDENT JOHNSON, 1750 NOORDAM. 1830 1 vessel sighted departing from Tulagi with 1 destroyer escort.

- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

*H. R. Shaw*

H. R. SHAW,  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *ES*  
Commanding.

No.....

U. S. S. ALCHIBA (AK23)

December 22, 1942.

SECRET

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Position:

Anchored and beached off Lunga Point, Guadalcanal.

(e) 0300 Air raid alert. 0333 All clear. The following ships stood in and anchored off Lunga Point with escort of six destroyers forming anti-submarine screen; 0605 S.S. ROGER WILLIAMS, 0608 NOORDAM, 0625 DEL BRAZIL and PRESIDENT JOHNSON.

Continued salvage operations, the following ships got underway and stood out with their escorts, toward Tulagi. 1655 ROGER WILLIAMS, 1717 DEL BRAZIL, 1930 NOORDAM and PRESIDENT JOHNSON departed from this area.

- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

*H. R. Shaw*

H. R. SHAW,  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

*Ed*

U. S. S. ALCHIBA (AK23)

December 23, 1942.

SECRET

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Position:

Anchored and beached off Lunga Point, Guadalcanal.

(e) 0030 Air raid alert. 0040 All clear. The following ships stood in and anchored with their escorts forming anti-submarine screens; off Lunga Point, 0545 S.S. ROGER WILLIAMS, 0555 DEL BRAZIL, 0610 U.S.S. KOPARA; off Koli Point, 0700 U.S.S. FOMALHAUT. 0630 NAVAJO with additional salvage gear alongside.

Continued salvage operations. The following ships got underway and stood out toward Tulagi with their escorts; 1705 KOPARA, 1750 DEL BRAZIL, 1755 ROGER WILLIAMS. 2235 Air raid alert. 2311 All clear.

- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

*H. R. Shaw*

H. R. SHAW,  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

*ES*

No.....

U. S. S. ALCHIBA (AK23)

December 24, 1942.

SECRET

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Position:

Anchored and beached off Lunga Point, Guadalcanal.

(e) The following ships stood in and anchored off Lunga Point, with their escorts forming anti-submarine screen: 0537 S.S. DEL BRAZIL, 0542 S.S. ROGER WILLIAMS, 0615 U.S.S. KOPARA.

Continued salvage operations. The following ships got underway and stood out toward Tulagi with their escorts; 1701 ROGER WILLIAMS, 1705 KOPARA, 1710 DEL BRAZIL.

- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

*H. R. Shaw*

H. R. SHAW,  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *Ed*  
Commanding.

No.....

U. S. S. ALCHIBA (AK23)

December 25, 1942.

SECRET

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Position:

Anchored and beached off Lunga Point, Guadalcanal.

(e) The following ships stood in and anchored off Lunga Point, with their escorts forming anti-submarine screen; 0624 S.S. DEL BRAZIL, 0823 ROGER WILLIAMS, 1327 U.S.S. KOPARA.

At 0801 U.S.S. MUSTIN, and at 0813 U.S.S. PERKINS commenced shelling enemy shore positions in vicinity of Cape Esperance, and ceased at 0852. Ship floated at 0900.

Continued salvage operations. 1620 ROGER WILLIAMS and KOPARA with two destroyers as escort got underway and departed from this area. 1715 Air raid alert. 1730 All clear. 1720 DEL BRAZIL got underway with escort of two destroyers and stood out toward Tulagi.

- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

*H. R. Shaw*

H. R. SHAW,  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *ES*  
Commanding.



No.....

U. S. S. ALCHIBA (AK23)

December 26, 1942.

SECRET

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Position:

Anchored and beached off Lunga Point, Guadalcanal.

(e) The following ships stood in and anchored with their destroyer escorts forming anti-submarine screens: off Lunga Point, 0550 S.S. DEL BRAZIL, 0758 S.S. MONTGOMERY CITY; off Koli Point, 0610 U.S.S. HEYWOOD.

Continued salvage operations. 1645 HEYWOOD shifted berths and anchored off Lunga Point. The following ships got underway and stood out toward Tulagi with their escorts; 1707 MONTGOMERY CITY, 1740 DEL BRAZIL, 1800 HEYWOOD.

- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

*H. R. Shaw.*  
H. R. SHAW,  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *ES*  
Commanding.



No.....

U. S. S. ALCHIBA (AK23)

December 27, 1942.

SECRET

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Positions:

- 0800- Anchored off Lunga Point, Guadalcanal.
- 1200- Enroute to Tulagi.
- 2000- Anchored in Tulagi Harbor.

(e) The following ships stood in and anchored off Lunga Point with their destroyer escort forming anti-submarine screen; 0700 S.S. MONTGOMERY CITY, 0605 U.S.S. HEYWOOD, 0540 DEL BRAZIL. 0733 MONTGOMERY CITY fired 50 cal. machine gun at object in water bearing 330° True. 0735 All ships present got underway. 0828 PC 476 dropped 3 depth charges on the starboard quarter, distant 1500 yards. 0900 All ships returned and anchored.

Continued salvage operations. 1012 ALCHIBA got underway and stood out toward Tulagi, being towed by U.S.S. NAVAJO alongside to starboard, and U.S.S. ORTOLAN alongside to port. Escort composed of PC 476, PC 477; H.M.N.Z.S. MATAI, T102, T233. 1614 Anchored in Tulagi Harbor, Solomon Islands. 1830 S.S. DEL BRAZIL stood in and anchored.

- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

*H. R. Shaw.*

H. R. SHAW,  
Commander, U.S. Navy, *ES*  
Commanding.

No.....

U. S. S. ALCHIBA (AK23)

December 28, 1942.

SECRET

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Position:

Anchored in Tulagi Harbor.

- (e) 0409 S.S. DEL BRAZIL got underway and stood out.  
Continued salvage operations.  
1905 S.S. DEL BRAZIL stood in and anchored.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

*H. R. Shaw*

H. R. Shaw  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

*ES*

No.....

U. S. S. ALCHIBA (AK23)

December 29, 1942.

SECRET

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Position:

Anchored in Tulagi Harbor.

- (e) 0402 S.S. DEL BRAZIL stood out of harbor. Continued salvage work.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

*H. R. Shaw*

H. R. Shaw  
Commander, U. S. Navy,  
Commanding.

*ES*

No.....

U. S. S. ALCHIBA (AK23)

December 30, 1942.

SECRET

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Position:

Anchored in Tulagi Harbor.

- (e) 1837 U.S.A.T. WILLARD S. HOLBROOK stood in and anchored. Continued salvage operations.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

*H. R. Shaw*

H. R. Shaw  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

*ES*

U. S. S. ALCHIBA (AK23)

December 31, 1942.

SECRET

- (a) Task Force 62.
- (b) Same as before.
- (c) None.
- (d) Position:

Anchored in Tulagi Harbor.

- (e) Continued salvage operations.
- (f) No remarks.
- (g) No remarks.

*H. R. Shaw*

H. R. SHAW,  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Commanding.

UNITED STATES SHIP Alchiba Friday, 1 January, 1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11 REMARKS. CONFIDENTIAL

Anchored and moored in Tulagi Harbor, Beech Ringbalt, Solomon Islands, close off shore, on the following bearings; Shipway, north end of Makambo Island 082.5 T and Center of small island 004.5 T. Ships head 060 T. Depth of water, 10 fathoms Port anchor is down, with 60 fathoms of chain. Starboard anchor is down with 20 fathoms of chain. Steam anchor out on port quarter, with 170 fathoms of towing cable attached. Wire forward secured to rocks on shore. Wire midships and aft, secured to trees on shore. Hatches 1, 2, 3 and engine room are flooded. Two 10" and two 6" pumps are rigged in #1 hold. One 10" and one 6" pump rigged in #3 hold. 6" pump rigged in #5 hold. 10" pump in #1 hold, and 6" pump in #3 hold, used as required, to keep water down, leaking in through temporary patches in bulkheads. Emergency generator is in working condition. Gasoline generator used for required current. Routine inspection of accessible parts of vessel. Tug Otolan moored along port side, furnishing sanitary water and steam. Ships present in area: Army Transports Willard A. Halbrook and President Grant. US Naufley, Mavejo, Jamestown, Babaliki, HMNZS Matai, T-102, T-233, T-234 and various small craft.

0535 Willard A. Halbrook, got underway and stood out  
 0508 Tug Mavejo, got underway and stood out. 0645 Ship company working party, 85 men, D.F. HURLEY BMC in charge, came aboard to continue ships work. 0831 T-233 got underway and stood out. 0832 T-234 got underway and stood out. 0855 T-102 got underway and stood out. 0935 Commenced unloading debris from #2 hold. 0947 Matai got underway and stood out. 1800 Ship company working party left the ship. 1856 Willard A. Halbrook, stood in and anchored. 2046 Air raid alert signal on beach. 2051 All clear signal on beach.

Work done

- |   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| 1.- Tank Force 63   | 5.- None           |
| 2.- Painted as before   | 6.- None           |
| 3.- Moored, Tulagi Harbor.  | 7.- Same as before |
| 4.- Discharging salvaged cargo;<br>re-conditioning living spaces. | 8.- None.          |

Approved:  
*[Signature]*  
 Cmdr. U.S.N.

Examined:  
*[Signature]*  
 Lieut. U.S.N. Inspector.



UNITED STATES SHIP

*Alhiba**Saturday 7**January*

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

REMARKS.

CONFIDENTIAL

0515 Willard R. Hallock got underway, and stood out.  
0630 Ships company working party, 37 men, D.F. HURLEY, ONC  
in charge, came aboard, to continue ship work.

0900 Commenced to discharge gasoline from #2 port deep  
tank. 0915 Commenced diving operations in #2 hold. Divers  
D.E. MATANIA Con, USN and J.C. ROE SP1c, USN alternating in going  
down. 1100 Resumed diving operations in #2 hold.

1815 Ships company working party, left the ship. 1825  
YP 517 stood in and anchored. 1945 YP 511 shifted berth,  
and moved alongside YP 239.

2030 Squadron of PT boats, underway, standing out. 2248  
Conditions yellow on the beach. 2326 All clear signal  
on the beach.

war diary

- 1.- Task Force 62.
- 2.- Same as before.
- 3.- Moved. Palaja Harbor.
- 4.- Discharging salvaged cargo; reconditioning living spaces
- 5.- None.
- 6.- None.
- 7.- Same as before
- 8.- None.

Approved:

*W. P. Shaw*

Comdr. U. S. N.

Examined:

*H. X. Burke*  
Lieut. U. S. N.



UNITED STATES SHIP

Albatross

Sunday  
(Day)3  
(Date)January, 1943  
(Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

REMARKS.

CONFIDENTIAL

Ships present in area. Old Mavajo, Jamestown, Bobolink and various small craft. 0630 Ships company working party, 84 men, D.F. HURLEY BM/C in charge, came aboard to continue ships work.

0815 Commenced diving operations in #2 hold. Diver G.E. SNEEMAN BM/C USN, went down. 0930 Commenced discharging gasoline from #2 hold. 0912 PC 479 stood in and anchored. 0950 Commenced occupying living compartment in #3 hold. 1125 Barge loaded with gasoline, passed to YP 130, and towed away.

1210 Crews mess hall put in commission. 1300 Divers H.H. JUHL SF/C USN and W.C. KIRBY BM/C USN, attempting to go down in #2 hold. 1423 Continued unloading gasoline into ramp boat. 1440 Diver came to surface. Resumed diving operations in #2 hold. 1446 Ramp boat, loaded with gasoline, left the ship. 1536 Commenced welding operations in #1 hold.

1637 Tug Mavajo, stood in and anchored. 1808 Ships company working party left the ship. 1916 YAG 26 stood in and anchored. 1931 YP 518 stood in and anchored. 1945 Dehozel generator brought aboard.

2130 Squadron of PT boats stood out.

#### Man Liang

1. Task Force 62
2. Same as before.
3. Moored, Tulagi Harbor
4. Discharging salvaged cargo; living spaces occupied.
5. None
6. None
7. Same as before
8. None

Approved:

*A. R. Shaw*  
Comdr., U.S.N.

Examined:

*Lieut. G. B. ...*  
Lieut. G. B. ...

UNITED STATES SHIP

Albina

Monday

4

January 1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

REMARKS.

CONFIDENTIAL

0555 Mavajo got underway and stood out. 0606 YPS18 got underway and stood out. 0617 YAG 26 got underway and stood out. 0623 Ships company working party, 36 men, D.F. HULLBY, BMC in charge, came aboard, to continue ship's work. 0652 US Libra stood in and anchored. 0706 US Genesee stood in and moored alongside Libra for refueling. Y049 stood in.

0810 Commenced unloading gasoline from #2 hold. 0920 Commenced welding operations in #1 hold. 0902 Fire in #2 hold, caused by gas fumes and welding operations. 0909 Fire extinguished. Hoses secured. 0920 Resumed unloading gasoline from #2 hold. 1016 Fire broke out in #2 hold. Same cause as before. 1021 Fire extinguished. Hoses secured. 1045 Resumed welding operations in #1 hold.

1310 Commenced unloading debris from #1 hold.

1625 Mavajo stood in and anchored. 1820 T102 anchored after refueling alongside Libra. 1821 Y049 returned to anchorage. 1855 US Manley stood in and moored alongside Libra for refueling. 1900 US Hovey stood in and anchored. Ships company working party left the ship.

#### Work Diary.

- 1.- Task Force 62.
- 2.- Same as before.
- 3.- Moved, Tulagie Harbor.
- 4.- Discharging salvaged cargo; damaged cargo overboard; re-inforced welded patch, bulkhead between holds 1 & 2.
- 5.- None.
- 6.- None.
- 7.- Same as before.
- 8.- None.

Approved:

*V. R. Shaw*  
Comdr. U.S.N.

Examined:

*G. J. Burke*  
Lieut. U.S.N. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP

Alchiba

Tuesday 5 January 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

REMARKS.

CONFIDENTIAL

Ships present in area. USS Libra, Manley, Hovey, Mavajo, Jametown, Babolink, YO-49, HMNZS T-102 and various small craft. 0540 USS Hovey, got underway and stood out. 0555 Mavajo got underway and stood out. 0600 Babolink got underway and stood out. 0630 Ships company working party, 46 men, S.F. Hurley BMC, in charge, came aboard to continue ship's work. 0630 Commenced diving operations in #2 hold. Divers J.J. FENTON, GMC, G.E. SHERMAN BMC, H.E. McCORTLE SF, and D.E. MATHIAS COX, alternating in going down. 0745 Commenced welding operations in #4 crew compartment. 0747 Commenced unloading gasoline from #2 hold.

1140 Secured diving operations in #2 hold. 1155 Secured welding operations in #4 crew compartment.

1200 Resumed diving operations in #2 hold. D.E. MATHIAS COX, went down. 1257 YO-49 got underway and stood out.

1530 Secured diving operations in #2 hold, for the day.

1602 Babolink stood in and anchored. 1628 Mavajo stood in and moored alongside Libra. 1800 Ships company working party left the ship.

## War Diary.

- 1.- Task Force 62
- 2.- No change.
- 3.- Moored - TULAGI Harbor.
- 4.- Discharging salvage cargo; debris overboard.  
Welding continued on minor holes.
- 5.- None.
- 6.- None
- 7.- Same as before.
- 8.- None.

Approved:

W. R. Shaw,  
Comdr. U.S.S.

Examined:

G. J. Beck  
Lieut. U.S.S. Navigator.



UNITED STATES SHIP

Albatross

Wednesday 6

January 1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

REMARKS.

CONFIDENTIAL

Ships present in area; USS Libra, Jamestown, Navajo, Bobaluk, HANES T-102 and various small craft. 0418 Libra got underway and stood out. 0505 Division of PT boats stood in and moved. 0700 Commenced diving operations in #2 hold. Divers J.R. LOR SF $\frac{1}{2}$ , W.A. PETERS BM $\frac{1}{2}$ , W.E. KIRBY BM $\frac{1}{2}$  and J.J. FENTON GM $\frac{1}{2}$ , alternating in going down. 0712 Ship's company working party, 14 men, came aboard to continue ship's work.

0805 Resumed unloading gearline from #2 hold 1100 Commenced patching holes in #4 crew compartment. 1120 Resumed diving operations in #2 hold.

1251 Bobaluk stood in and anchored. 1300 T-224 stood in and anchored. 1305 Resumed diving operations in #2 hold. 1525 HANES Matai stood in and anchored. 1530 Divers came to surface. Resumed diving operations in #2 hold, for the day.

1628 Navajo stood in and anchored. 1700 At about 1400, this date, parts of a human body were noticed floating amid debris in #4 hold, of this vessel. All parts were recovered and brought on to main deck for examination. Examination revealed no parts of sufficient size or nature to make definite identification. All parts were wrapped in cloth, weighted and lowered over the side of ship. 1820 Two 10" and two 6" pumps with hoses and fittings, were loaded aboard Navajo.

Max diary

1. Task Force 62.
2. Same as before.
3. Moved, TULAGI Harbor.
4. No change.
5. None.
6. None.
7. Same as before.
8. None.

Approved:

W.P. Shaw  
Comdr., U.S.N.

Examined:

L.S. Burke  
Lieut. U.S.N. (Ret.)

UNITED STATES SHIP AlehibasThursday 7 January 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION - //

REMARKS.

CONFIDENTIAL

Ships present in area: Old Jamestown, Marajo, Bobalink, HANES Matai, T-102, T-222, T-224, PC 479 and various small craft.

0558 Marajo got underway and stood out. 0615 Resumed unloading debris from #1 hold. 0735 Commenced diving operations in #2 hold. Diver G. E. SHERMAN GN $\frac{1}{2}$ , went down. 0740 Resumed repair work in #4 crew compartment.

1035 YAG 26 got underway and stood out.

1300 Secured diving operations in #2 hold, for the day.

1638 Marajo stood in and anchored. 1830 T-222 got underway and stood out. 1844 T-224 got underway and stood out. 1855 T-102 got underway and stood out. 1859 Matai got underway and stood out.

Man diary.

- 1.- Task Force 62.
- 2.- Same as before.
- 3.- Moved at TUHAGI.
- 4.- No change.
- 5.- None.
- 6.- None.
- 7.- Same as before.
- 8.- None.

Approved:

D. P. Shaw,  
Comdr. U. S. N.

Examined:

G. J. Burke  
Lieut. U. S. N. (Aviation)

UNITED STATES SHIP

*Alchita**Friday**8**January*

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

REMARKS.

CONFIDENTIAL

Ships present in area; Old Jamestown, Mavajo, Babelink, MATAI and various small craft.

0730 Resumed repair work in #4 crew compartment

1520 Babelink stood in and anchored. 1545 Mavajo stood in, with Majebe in tow, YP130 assisting in tow.

1606 Portable evaporator loaded aboard, abseil #4 hatch port side. 1830 Matai and T-234 stood in and anchored. 1855 T-102 stood in and anchored. 1902 T-238 stood in and anchored. 1905 Libra stood in and anchored. 1908 Frederick Funston stood in and anchored.

War diary.

- 1.- Task Force 62
- 2.- Same as before.
- 3.- Moved at TULAGI.
- 4.- No change
- 5.- None.
- 6.- None.
- 7.- Same as before
- 8.- None.

Approved:

*V. R. Shaw*

Comd. U.S.S.

Examined:

*G. J. Burke*  
Lieut. U.S.N. Navigator.



UNITED STATES SHIP AlakitaSaturday 9 January 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

REMARKS.

CONFIDENTIAL

Ships present in area: Libra, Belletrik, Mawajo, Jamestown, Bobalink, HMMZS Mater, T-102, T-233, T-234, Frederick Hunton and various small craft.

0550 T-234 got underway and stood out. 0551 T-203 got underway and stood out. 0555 T-102 got underway and stood out. 0600 Libra got underway and stood out. 0605 Frederick Hunton got underway and stood out. 0614 A-416 stood in and anchored. 0620 Performed work in #2 hold. Securing deuptanks etc. 0652 YAG-24 got underway and stood out. 0655 Performed unloading debris from #4 hold.

0830 Commenced unloading empty gasoline drums from barge, to be used as ballast #1 Hatch. 1004 Mater got underway and stood out. 1100 The Alakita Camp was paliked and turned over to Commanding Officer, Ringbalt. All hands quartered aboard.

1300 Commenced to pump contaminated water from after peak tank, over the side. 1320 Mawajo got underway and stood out.

1852 Frederick Hunton stood in and anchored. 1855 T-102 stood in and anchored. 1930 After peak tank empty.

2205 Squadron of PT boats stood out from base.

## War diary

1. - Task Force 62
2. - Same as before.
3. - Moored at TULAGI.
4. - No change.
5. - None.
6. - None.
7. - Same as before.
8. - None.

Approved:

A. V. Shaw  
Comdr., U.S.N.

Examined:

G. B. Burke  
Lieut. J. G. [unclear]



UNITED STATES SHIP *Albatross**Sunday**10**January**1943*

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

REMARKS.

CONFIDENTIAL

Ships present in area; *SS Bellatrix, Jernestown, Bobalink, Navajo, Magala, Frederick Funston, T-102* and various small craft.

0545 Squadron of PT boats stood in. 0550 *Frederick Funston* got underway and stood out. 0612 *Navajo* stood in and anchored. 0734 Resumed loading empty gasoline drums aboard. 0755 Commenced welding operation in #2 hold.

0812 One 10" pump, hose and fittings transferred to *Outlook*.

1345 Leak reported in manhole cover, inner bottom #1 port tank. 1455 *PC 479* stood in.

1745 *T-102* stood in. 1900 *Frederick Funston* stood in and anchored.

War diary:

1. - Task Force 62.
2. - Same as before.
3. - Moored at TUAGI.
4. - No change.
5. - None.
6. - None.
7. - Same as before.
8. - None.

Approved:

*W. P. Shaw,*  
Comd. U. S. S.

Examined:

*G. Y. Burke*  
Lieut. U. S. N. (R) *Navigator*

UNITED STATES SHIP

*Alchiba**Monday**11**January, 1943*

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

REMARKS.

CONFIDENTIAL

Ships present in area; Old Bellatrix, Jamestown, Bobalink, Majaba, PC 479, Frederick Funston, T-102 and various small craft.

0520 PT boats stood in to base. 0543 Frederick Funston got underway, and stood out. 0745 T-102 got underway and stood out.

1020 Bobalink got underway, and stood out. 1029 YAG26 stood in. 1140 YAG26 moved along port side forward for refueling. 1145 3" pump rigged in #1 hold.

1340 YAG26 cut off all lines and stood up the river, after taking on 850 gals. of fuel. 1400 Bobalink stood in and anchored.

1740 T-234 stood in and anchored. 1830 T-102 stood in and anchored.

#### War Diary.

1. Tank Force 62.
2. Same as before.
3. Arrived at T-102.
4. No change.
5. None.
6. Reported expected readiness for tow to BUTTON on January 16, 1943 to Comopac and C.T.F. 62.
7. Same as before.
8. None.

Approved:

*H. R. Shaw*  
Comdr. U.S.N.

Examined:

*G. J. Burke*  
Lieut. U.S.N. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP *Alchiba**Tuesday 12 January, 1943*  
(1943) (1943) (1943)

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

REMARKS.

CONFIDENTIAL

*Ships present in area; USS Jamestown, Mavajo, Mojaba, Bobchik, T-102, T-234 and various small craft.*

*0510 T-102 got underway and stood out. 0554 Bobchik got underway and stood out. 0620 YAG 24 stood in and anchored. 0650 T-234 got underway and stood out.*

*1814 Bobchik stood in and anchored. 1906 Destroyer Case stood in. 1908 Destroyer Case stood out.*

*2025 Two parachute flares off port beam. 2145 Air raid alert. 2146 One parachute flare, dead ahead. 2227 Condition yellow.*

*War diary:*

- 1. - Task Force 62.*
- 2. - Same as before.*
- 3. - Moored at TULAGI.*
- 4. - No change.*
- 5. - None.*
- 6. - None.*
- 7. - Same as before.*
- 8. - None.*

Approved:

*H. R. Shaw*  
Comdr, U. S. N.

Examined:

*L. Y. Burke*  
Lieut. U. S. N. (R) Surgeon

UNITED STATES SHIP Albatross Wednesday 13 January, 1943  
(Day) (Month) (Year)

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

REMARKS.

CONFIDENTIAL

Ships present in area; Old Jamestown, Mingo, Bobalinks  
 Mazaba, T-234 and various small craft.

0557 T-234 got underway and stood out. 0757 Commenced  
 diving operations astern of Otolan. Diver PETERS, W.M.  
 B.M.C. went down to pick up anchors.

0810 Commenced welding porthole hatch covers on  
 #2 hatch. 1135 Leak in manhole cover inner  
 bottom #1 port tank, reported sealed.

1525 Welders completed securing porthole hatch  
 covers on #2 hatch. 1620 YT150 stood in and  
 lay off port bow. 1633 YT120 stood away with  
 empty barge in tow.

## War diary.

- 1.- Task Force 62.
- 2.- Same as before.
- 3.- Moved at TULAGI.
- 4.- Same as before.
- 5.- None.
- 6.- None.
- 7.- No change.
- 8.- None.

Approved:

*St. W. Shaw*  
 Commander U.S.N.

Examined:

*G. B. Burke*  
 Lieut. U.S.N. Navigator.



UNITED STATES SHIP *Alhiba**Thursday 14 January 1943*  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

REMARKS.

CONFIDENTIAL

*Ships present in area; Old Jamestown, Manajo, Mojiba, Babalink and various small craft.*

*0722 Babalink got underway and stood out.*

*0830 Resumed diving operations eastern of Oxtalah. Diver ROE J.C. SF4c went down. 0940 Oxtalah moved along port side, bow to stern, barge with salvaged anchor chain between tug and ship, abreast #3 hatch. 1017 Diver ROE J.C. SF4c went down outboard #2 hatch. 1028 Diver came up. Suspend diving operations for the day.*

*1200 Commenced loading 15 shots of chain into #3 hold. 1215 Temporary steering engine tested and found satisfactory. 1318 YAG 24 stood in and anchored. 1520 Completed loading chain into #3 hold.*

*1826 Babalink stood in and anchored.*

*Mano diary:*

- 1. - Tack Force 62.*
- 2. - Same as before.*
- 3. - Moved at TULAGI.*
- 4. - Same as before.*
- 5. - None.*
- 6. - None.*
- 7. - No change.*
- 8. - None.*

Approved:

*W. R. Shaw,*  
*Comdr. U.S.N.*

Examined:

*L. J. Burke*  
*Senior S. R. Navigator.*

UNITED STATES SHIP *Alchiba*Friday 15 January 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

REMARKS.

CONFIDENTIAL

Ships present in area: USS Jamestown, Mavajo, Mojaba, Babalink and various small craft.

0740 Ostalan cast off all lines and stood out.

0838 Babalink moored along port side, about #2 hatch, bow to stern. Furnishing sanitary water and steam. 1100 #2 hatch reported sprung for sea.

1503 PC 477 stood in.

1608 Babalink cast off all lines and stood out. 1700 Ships galley in commission. 1730 PC 477 stood out. 1745 Ostalan moored alongside to port, bow to stern. 1848 Matai stood in. 1930 T-102 stood in and anchored. 1947 Babalink stood in and anchored.

2115 Air raid alert signal on beach. 2144 Anti-aircraft fire on beach off starboard quarter. 2145 General Quarters. 2217 Scanned from General Quarters.

## War Diary

- 1.- Task Force 62; Task Unit 62.4.1, Commander Shaw in Alchiba.
- 2.- CTF 62-140252 of January, 1943, designating task unit as above.
- 3.- Moved at TULAGI.
- 4.- Same as before.
- 5.- None.
- 6.- ATF 62-140252, January, 1943; Task unit 62.4.1, Alchiba towed by Mavajo to BUTON on or about January 15, 1943 - Recan PC 477, PC 479.
- 7.- No change.
- 8.- None.

Approved:

W. R. Shaw,  
Comdr. U. S. N.

Examined:

L. J. Burke  
Lieut. U. S. N. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP

Alchiba

Saturday 16 January, 1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

REMARKS.

CONFIDENTIAL

Ships present in area; USS Jamestown, Navajo, Mojito, Babolink, HMN23 Matai, T-102 and various small craft.

0830 Alchiba's port anchor shifted from Otolan to Navajo. 0900 Completed ballasting #1 hatch with empty gas drums. Approximately 1700 Drums used. 0905 Navajo moved along port side about #1 hatch. 1000 Starboard anchor hove up and hoisted.

1245 Air raid alert on beach. 1246 General Quarters. 1247 All clear signal on beach. 1248 Secured from General Quarters. 1256 Air raid alert signal. 1257 General Quarters. 1311 Secured from General Quarters. 1313 Harbor Pilot, Lieutenant M.B. Harper, RANCS came aboard. 1315 Made all preparations for getting underway. Draft of ship. Forward 18'00" aft 33'03". 1336 Port anchor awigh. 1357 Steam anchor awigh. Underway to shift berths, assisted by tugs Navajo and Otolan on port side and YT 130 on starboard side. Lieutenant Harper at the conn, assisted by Captain Hallink of the Otolan. Captain and Navigator on the bridge. 1404 Set go. Starboard anchor. Anchored in Tulagi Harbor, in 27 fathoms of water, with 75 fathoms of chain out to starboard anchor, on the following bearings; Left tangent of Makambo Island, 119° T and Center of small island, 335° T. Ships head 331° T. 1444 Otolan cast off all lines and stood out. 1445 Lieutenant Harper left the ship. 1505 Port anchor walked out to water's edge, unhooked. 30 fathoms of Alchiba's salvaged anchor chain shackled on. 1516 PC 479 stood in. 1541 PC 477 stood in and anchored.

1816 Matai stood in. 1825 Navajo cast off all lines and stood away. 1829 Destroyer Case stood in and anchored. 1839 USS Mc Crawby stood in and anchored. 1844 Destroyer Maury stood in and anchored.

2147 Condition yellow on beach. 2230 All clear signal on beach.

Approved:

D. P. Brown  
Comdr. U.S.N.

Examined:

G. J. Burke  
Lieut. U.S.N. Navigator



UNITED STATES SHIP Alchiba Saturday 16 January 1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

REMARKS.

CONFIDENTIAL

War diary

1. Track limit 62.4.1.
2. C.T.P. 62 - 140252 of January 1943
3. Moved at TULAGI. Shifted berth to stream - anchored at TULAGI.
4. Same as before.
5. None.
6. None. departure decided for 1400 local, eighteen January.
7. None.
8. None.

Approved:

*W. R. Shaw*  
Comdr. U.S. Navy.

Examined:

*H. Y. Burke*  
Lieut. U.S. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP *Alchiba**Sunday 17 January 1943*  
(Day) (Mo.) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION - //

REMARKS.

CONFIDENTIAL

Ships present in area; USS *McCarley*, *Jupiter*, *Destroyer Case*, *Perkins* and *Manny*, *Jamestown*, *Majaba*, *Mavajo*, *Ostalan*, *Batabank*, PC 477, PC 479, *HANES Matai*, *T-102* and various small craft.

03:5 *Matai* got underway and stood out. 0528 *Destroyer Case* got underway and stood out. 0540 *Destroyer Manny* got underway and stood out. 0545 *McCarley* got underway and stood out. 0640 *Perkins* stood in and moved along port side of *Jupiter*. 0701 YAG 24 got underway and stood out.

0802 *Mavajo* moved along starboard side abreast #4 hatch. 0820 #1 hatch reported secured for sea. 1012 *SS Japura* and *Jane Adams*, one *destroyer* stood in and anchored. 1020 *Carleton* yellow on beach. 1034 All clear signal on beach. 1150 *Ostalan* stood in and anchored off PT base.

1327 Commenced rallying ship. 1330 Completed rallying ship. 1455 PC 477 stood in. 1555 *Destroyer Perkins* underway standing out.

1750 USS *Accent City*, *Alhara* and *Lang* stood in and anchored. 1813 *Mavajo* cast off all lines and stood away. 1816 *Destroyer Reid* stood in and anchored. 1819 *T-102* stood in and anchored. 1820 *Destroyer Ellet* stood in and anchored. 1827 *Destroyer De Haven* stood in and anchored. 1820 *Destroyer Rodford* stood in and anchored. 1834 *Destroyer O'Bannon* stood in and anchored. 1843 PC 479 stood in and anchored.

2025 *Ostalan* got underway and stood out.

Man. Diary

- 1.- Task Unit 62.4.1.
- 2.- Same as before.
- 3.- Anchored at TULAGI.
- 4.- Same as before.
- 5.- None.
- 6.- None.
- 7.- None.
- 8.- None.

Approved:

*H. P. Shaw*  
Comdr. U.S.N.

Examined:

*H. J. Burke*  
Lieut. U.S. Navy

UNITED STATES SHIP

Alchiba

Monday 18 January 1943  
(DAY) (MONTH) (YEAR)

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

REMARKS.

CONFIDENTIAL

Ships present in area; USS Current City, Jupiter, Adhara, Destroyer Aid, Lang, Ellet, De Haven, Radford, O'Brien and Perkins. USS Jamestown, Mavajo, Magiba, Babalik, Octalan, PC 477, PC 479, HANZ3 T-102, T-233 and various small craft.

0543 T-233 got underway and stood out. 0545 Perkins got underway and stood out. 0550 SS Japura got underway and stood out. 0555 SS Jane Adams got underway and stood out. 0607 Adhara got underway and stood out. 0610 YAG 26 got underway and stood out. 0630 Current City got underway and stood out. 0635 T-102 got underway and stood out. 0700 YAG 24 got underway and stood out. 0752 Mavajo moved along starboard side abreast #5 hatch.

0900 Babalik underway standing out. 1010 Perkins stood in and anchored. 1030 Mavajo cast off all lines and shifted mooring to port side abreast #1 hatch, bow to stern. 1043 Alchiba's port anchor chain shackled to towing cable on stern of Mavajo.

1321 PC 479 got underway and stood out. 1335 Destroyer Perkins stood in and anchored. Draft of ship. Forward 18'-09" aft 33'-07". 1414 Anchors awigh. Got underway pursuant to Commander Task Force 62 despatch 140255, in tow of Mavajo, assisted by Octalan on port quarter. Forwarding Base Button. 1420 Mavajo cut off power connection. Port anchor chain on brake. 1424 Mavajo cast off all lines, standing away, swinging bow to starboard. Maneuvering on various courses and at various speeds, conforming with harbor. Captain at the con, navigator on the bridge. 1441 75 fathoms of port anchor chain slipped out and stopped off. Brake set, with preventers on chain. 1453 Makamba Island abeam to port, 150 yards distant. 1506 Sylvia Reef Bury abeam to starboard, 150 yards distant. 1511 Savutu Island abeam to port, 1500 yards distant. 1513 Steaded on course 195° T, 205° Pw, 200° Pto. 1515 Octalan cast off all lines and stood away. 1523 set course 185° T, 195° Pw, 190° Pto. 1533 PC 477 and PC 479 assumed screening stations. PC 479 ahead and PC 477 on starboard quarter. 1546 Bungana Island lighthouse abeam to

Approved:

*W. R. Shaw*  
Comdr. U.S.N.

Examined:

*G. J. Burke*  
Lieut. U.S.N. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP

*Alchiba**Monday 18**(Day)**January**1943*

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

REMARKS.

CONFIDENTIAL

port, 2500 yards distant.

1635 Changed course to  $175^{\circ}T$ ,  $186^{\circ}A$ ,  $190^{\circ}A$ . Speed 6 knots. 1738 Changed course to  $090^{\circ}T$ ,  $050^{\circ}A$ ,  $062^{\circ}A$ .  
1830 PC 479 assumed screening position astern. 1901 Paris Isle abeam to port, 4 miles distant. 1929 Mugu Island abeam to port, 4.5 miles distant.

2100 Mavajo completed reeling out approximately 200 fathoms of towing cable. 2240 Gua Sura Island abeam to starboard, 6 miles distant.

War Diary.

1. Task Unit 62.4.1 Alchiba in tow of Mavajo; PC 479 & PC 477 for escort.
2. C.T.F. 62 departed 19025208 January 1943.
3. At anchor;  $2000 - 9^{\circ}28'N$ ;  $160^{\circ}29'E$ .
4. As noted above.
5. None.
6. None.
7. Same as before.
8. None.

Approved:

*W. G. Shaw*  
Comdr. U.S.N.

Examined:

*Lt. J. J. Burke*  
U. S. N. Navigator.



UNITED STATES SHIP *Alchiba*Tuesday 19 January, 1943  
(Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

REMARKS.

CONFIDENTIAL

Underway in tow of *Mavajo*, proceeding Base Button on course  $105^{\circ}T$ ,  $073^{\circ}P$ ,  $088^{\circ}P$ . Speed 6 knots, in company with task unit 62.4.1. Commander of Task Unit in *Alchiba*. PC 477 ahead and PC 479 astern, disposed as anti-submarine screen. Ship is darkened and in condition of readiness II. Pumps rigged in #1, 3 and 5 holds used as required. Auxiliary boiler used for necessary steam. Portable waterheater used for necessary fresh water. 3" pump used for pumping sanitary and fire main water. Emergency generator is in working condition. Gasoline generators used for required current. Routine inspections of accessible parts of vessel. 0010 *Muru Island* abeam to starboard, 5 miles distant. 0015 Changed course to  $128^{\circ}T$ ,  $103^{\circ}P$ ,  $113^{\circ}P$ .

0615 PC 479 assumed screening position on port beam. 0745 Changed course to  $115^{\circ}T$ ,  $091^{\circ}P$ ,  $102^{\circ}P$ .

0932 *Klawa Island*, left tangent abeam to port, 19 miles distant. 0955 Changed course to  $130^{\circ}T$ ,  $117^{\circ}P$ ,  $123^{\circ}P$ .

1227 Submarine contact by sound, made by PC 477. PC 477 dropped patterns of two depth charges bearing  $210^{\circ}T$ , 2000 yards distant. 1228 Changed course to  $090^{\circ}T$ ,  $050^{\circ}P$ ,  $062^{\circ}P$ . 1228 General Quarters. 1240 PC 477 reported contact doubtful. Secured from General Quarters. resumed conditions of readiness II. 1248 Summed base course  $115^{\circ}T$ ,  $091^{\circ}P$ ,  $102^{\circ}P$ . 1305 sighted unidentified plane bearing  $140^{\circ}T$ . 1307 Plane sighted at 1305 identified as friendly, PB4. 1309 sighted unidentified plane bearing  $240^{\circ}T$ . 1311 Plane sighted at 1309 identified as friendly, B-17.

1850 PC 479 assumed screening position ahead, PC 477 astern. 1900 Changed course to  $090^{\circ}T$ ,  $051^{\circ}P$ ,  $063^{\circ}P$ .

2100 Changed course to  $128^{\circ}T$ ,  $108^{\circ}P$ ,  $116^{\circ}P$ .

Approved:

*W. V. Shaw*  
Comdr., U.S.N.

Examined:

*J. J. Burt*  
Lieut. U.S.N. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP

*Alchiba**Tuesday 19*

(Day)

*January 1943*

(Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

REMARKS.

CONFIDENTIAL

*war diary*

1.- Task unit 62.4.2

2.- Same as before.

3.- 0800,  $9^{\circ}57'S$ ,  $161^{\circ}40'E$ ; 1200,  $10^{\circ}09'S$ ,  $162^{\circ}05'E$ ;  
2000,  $10^{\circ}23'S$ ,  $163^{\circ}01'E$ .4.- Day screen - either bow to quarter; night  
screen, ahead and astern.

5.- None.

6.- None.

7.- None.

8.- None.

Approved:

*W. R. Shaw,*  
*Comdr. U.S.N.*

Examined:

*L. G. Burke*  
*Lieut. U.S. Navigator.*

UNITED STATES SHIP *Albatross* *Wednesday 20 January, 1943*  
(Year) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

REMARKS.

CONFIDENTIAL

Underway as before.

0601 Changed course to  $146^{\circ}T$ ,  $135^{\circ}Pw$ ,  $143^{\circ}Pct$ .0800 Sighted plane bearing,  $092^{\circ}T$ , identified as friendly, PBY. 0806 Second plane sighted, bearing  $042^{\circ}T$ , identified as friendly, PBY.1323 Sighted PBY, flying low, bearing  $280^{\circ}T$ .1900 Changed course to  $120^{\circ}T$ ,  $096^{\circ}Pw$ ,  $102^{\circ}Pct$ .2100 Changed course to  $150^{\circ}T$ ,  $138^{\circ}Pw$ ,  $140^{\circ}Pct$ .

War diary:

1.- T.U. 62.4.1

2.- Same as before.

3.- 0800,  $11^{\circ}15'S$ ;  $164^{\circ}07'E$ ; 1800,  $11^{\circ}37'S$ ,  $164^{\circ}80'E$ ;  
2000,  $12^{\circ}21'S$ ,  $164^{\circ}56'E$ .

4.- Receiving disposition same as yesterday

5.- None.

6.- None.

7.- None.

8.- None.

Approved:

*H. R. Shaw*  
 Cmdr. U.S.N.

Examined:

*J. B. Beck*  
 Lieut. J. R. [unclear]



UNITED STATES SHIP

Albatross

Thursday 21 January, 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

REMARKS.

CONFIDENTIAL

Underway as before.

0623 Sighted plane bearing  $130^{\circ}T$ , identified as friendly. 0624 Second plane sighted bearing  $138^{\circ}T$ , identified as friendly. 0730 Two planes sighted bearing  $130^{\circ}T$ , identified as friendly.

0800 Changed course to  $137^{\circ}T$ ,  $119^{\circ}P$ ,  $125^{\circ}P$ . 0926 Sighted three planes bearing  $245^{\circ}T$ . Identified as two friendly bombers and one fighter escort.

1218 Changed course to  $125^{\circ}T$ ,  $103^{\circ}P$ ,  $112^{\circ}P$ . 1436 Unidentified plane sighted bearing  $324^{\circ}T$ . 1438 Plane sighted at 1436 challenged and identified as friendly PBX. 1534 Sighted plane bearing  $245^{\circ}T$ , identified as friendly PBX.

1627 Sighted Cape Cumberland bearing  $145^{\circ}T$ . 1848 PC 474 assumed screening position ahead, PC 477 astern.

Was okay.

1. Task Unit 62.4.1.

2. Same as before.

3. 0800,  $13^{\circ}32'S$ ;  $165^{\circ}25'E$ ; 1200,  $13^{\circ}41'S$ ,  $165^{\circ}40'E$ ;  
2000,  $14^{\circ}10'S$ ;  $166^{\circ}17'E$ .

4. Screening disposition same as yesterday.

5. None.

6. None.

7. None.

8. None.

Approved:

D. W. Shaw  
Comd. U.S.N.

Examined:

L. J. Burke  
Lieut. U.S. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP *Alchiba*Friday 22 January 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

REMARKS.

CONFIDENTIAL

Underway as before.

0224 Cape Quiroe sighted, bearing  $148^{\circ}T$ , 20 miles distant. 0237 Lighted plane bearing  $159^{\circ}T$ , identified as friendly. 0246 Challenged by and exchanged calls with U.S.S. *Stringham*.

0742 Changed course to  $172^{\circ}T$ ,  $176^{\circ}P$ ,  $172^{\circ}P$ .

0811 Left tangent of Sakaia Island, abeam to starboard, 3 miles distant. 0835 Dolphin Island abeam to starboard, 7 miles distant. 0914 Elephant Island abeam to starboard, 5 miles distant. 1045 Pilot Island abeam to starboard, 4 miles distant. 1056 Pilotina Island abeam to starboard, 2 miles distant. 1141 Mafua Island abeam to starboard, 3 miles distant.

1203 Aesii Island abeam to starboard, 4 miles distant.

1308 Changed course to  $220^{\circ}T$ ,  $227^{\circ}P$ ,  $224^{\circ}P$ . 1324

Mavajo decreased speed to shorten tow to 75 fathoms. 1412

Trying to off channel entrance. 1510 Pilot Lieutenant H.F.

Westroff and Ensign O.C. Piper came aboard. 1525 Pro-

ceeded toward channel entrance. Pilot H.F. Westroff at

the Conn. Captain and navigator on the bridge.

1610 Boguis Island abeam to port, 50 yards distant. Tutubara Island abeam to

starboard, 500 yards distant.

1614 YMS47 made fast at port quarter. 1706 Cut adrift

yellow buoy outside anti-submarine net, with towing

cable. 1723 Passed through net gate. 1724 PC479

made fast on starboard bow. 1744 Set go starboard

anchor. Anchored in Berth #1, Second Channel,

Spiritus Santo Island, New Hebrides, in 25 fathoms

of water, with 90 fathoms of chain out to starboard

anchor, on the following bearings: Bearing "A"  $015^{\circ}T$ ,

Bearing "B"  $127^{\circ}T$ , Bearing "C"  $344^{\circ}T$ , Bearing "D"  $190^{\circ}T$ .

Ships head,  $090^{\circ}T$ . 1750 YMS47 cast off all lines and

stood away. 1753 U.S.S. *Copake* and *Mustin* got

underway and stood out. 1757 Set condition of readiness

1804 Mavajo let go towing cable and stood away.

1810 Pilot Lieutenant H.F. Westroff and Ensign Piper left

the ship. 1815 PC479 cast off all lines and stood away.

1830 Destroyer *Wilson* stood in and anchored.

Approved:

W. R. Shaw

Comdr. U.S.N.

Examined:

G. J. Burke  
Lieut. U.S.N. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP

*Alchiba**Friday**22**January 1943*

ZONE DESCRIPTION -//

REMARKS.

CONFIDENTIAL

2330 Air raid alert signal on beach. 2356  
General Quarters.

From diary:

1. Deck Unit 6241.
2. Same as before.
3. 0800,  $14^{\circ}59'18''$ ,  $167^{\circ}18'E$ ; 1200,  $15^{\circ}25'S$ ,  $167^{\circ}18'SE$ ;  
2000, At Anchor, Berth 14, Base Button.
4. En route and at BUTTON.
5. None.
6. None.
7. None.
8. None.

Approved:

*D. P. Shaw*  
Comdr. U.S.N.

Examined:

*F. G. Burke*  
Lieut. C. S. N. Navigator.



UNITED STATES SHIP

Alchiba

Saturday 23

January 1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

REMARKS.

CONFIDENTIAL

Anchored in Bueth 14, Second Channel, Espiritu Santo Island, New Hebrides in 25 fathoms of water with 90 fathoms of chain out to starboard anchor, on the following bearings: Beacon "A" 015° T, Beacon "D" 127° T, Beacon "E" 344° T, Beacon "F" 199° T. Ship's head 090° T. Hatches 2, 4 and engine room, all flooded. Pumps rigged in #1, #3 and #5 holds used as required. Airpiping boiler used for necessary steam. Emergency generator is in working condition. Machine generator used for required current. Portable evaporator used for necessary fresh water. 3" pump used for pumping sanitary and fire main water. Routine inspections of accessible parts of vessel. Ship is darkened and in condition of Readiness I. Ships present in area: USS Curtiss, Vestal, Dyer, Luce, P-40, Platte, Mescho, Kitty Hawk, Minnycap, San Diego, Elliot, Anderson, Inrell, Morris, Wilson, Martin, Enterprise, Mavajo, PC 477, PC 479, various merchant vessels and small craft. Senior officers present afloat in the Curtiss. 0001 Heavy anti-aircraft fire in direction of airfield. 0002 Heavy anti-aircraft fire on beach, bearing 050° T. 0027 Ceased from General Quarters, set condition of Readiness II. 0106 All clear from air raid alert.

0645 Set condition of Readiness III. 0738 PC 477 got underway and stood out. 0740 Mavajo moved along starboard side abreast #3 hatch. 0759 PC 479 got underway and stood out.

0959 Mavajo cast off all lines and shifted moving to port side, abreast #3 hatch.

1300 Port anchor shackled on to port anchor chain, hove up and hoisted. 1312 Mavajo cast off all lines and stood away. 1320 USS Luce stood in and anchored. 1330 USS Salme stood in and anchored. 1455 USS Anderson, Inrell and Ballard got underway and stood out. 1555 USS Hopkins got underway and stood out.

1735 Mavajo got underway and stood out. 1750 USS Luce moved alongside Elliot.

Approved:

W. R. Shaw

Comdr. U.S.N.

Examined:

J. Y. Burke  
Lieut. J. R. [unclear]

UNITED STATES SHIP *Alchiba* *Saturday 23 January 1943*

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

REMARKS.

CONFIDENTIAL

*Log diary.*

- 1.- Task Unit 62.4.1.
- 2.- Same as before.
- 3.- At anchor, Base BUTON.
- 4.- Preliminary survey of proposed salvage operations by personnel from VESTAL. Ripped two 110 Volt. generators in series for 220 Volt. circuits to galley & refrigerator. Riced thirty tons steel plates and three ten-inch salvage pumps with suction and discharge hose.
- 5.- None.
- 6.- None.
- 7.- None.
- 8.- None.

Approved:

Examined:

*H. P. Shaw*  
 Comd. U.S.N.

*L. H. Burke*  
 Lieut. J. G. Votzstar.

UNITED STATES SHIP Alchiba Sunday 24 January, 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

REMARKS.

CONFIDENTIAL

Anchored as before.  
Ships present in area: U.S.S. Curtiss, Vestal, Dixie, Pyro, Platte, Mescha, Kitty Hawk, Minneapolis, San Diego, Ellet, Russell, Mohr, Wilson, Mastic, Gardner, AK-73, Enterprise, PC 477, PC 479, Solace, Hopkins, various merchant ships and small craft. Senior Officer Present Afloat in the Curtiss.

0516 U.S.S. Solace got underway and stood out. 0650 PC 479 got underway to shift belts.

0820 AK-73 got underway and stood out. 1000 U.S.S. Gardner got underway and stood out.

Deck diary:

1. - Same as before.
2. - None.
3. - At anchor. Base Button.
4. - Preliminary conference with Comairon Super. Sub command and C.O. VESTAL, relative to salvage operations.
5. - None.
6. - None.
7. - None.
8. - None.

Approved:

Examined:

H. P. Shaw  
Comdr. U.S.N.

Lt. G. Y. Burke  
U.S.N. Investigator.



UNITED STATES SHIP

Alchiba

Monday 25

(Date)

January, 1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

REMARKS.

CONFIDENTIAL

Anchored as before.

Ships present in area; U.S. Curtiss, Vestal, Dixie, Fogo, Platte, March, Crater, American Legion, Minneapolis, San Diego, Elliot, Russell, Morris, Anderson, Martin, Hopkins, Mackinac, Critchfield, Frazier, PC 477, PC 479, various merchant ships and small craft. Senior Officer Present Afloat in the Curtiss.

1250 Motor launch from U.S. Vestal, along port side about #4 hatch, with divers and diving equipment.  
1316 Commenced diving operations in #4 hold. Divers ABELNATHY, B.J. 3F7c and BEADLE, W.E. 7M7c, went down.

1620 Ceased diving operations for the day. 1720 U.S. Mackinac stood in and anchored. 1735 U.S. Honolulu, Helena and St. Louis stood in and anchored. 1757 U.S. Lamson, Grayton and Hughes stood in and anchored.

Dive diary:

- 1.- Same as before
- 2.- None.
- 3.- At anchor, Back Button.
- 4.- Commenced diving operations #4 hold to inspect engine room after port bulkheads.
- 5.- None.
- 6.- None.
- 7.- None.
- 8.- None.

Approved:

*W. P. Shaw*  
Comd. U.S.S.

Examined:

*G. J. Burke*  
Lieut. U.S.N. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP

*Alchiba*Tuesday 26 January 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

REMARKS.

CONFIDENTIAL

Anchored as before.  
Ships present in area; USS Curtiss, Vestal, Dilie, Enterprise, Nashville, Honolulu, St. Louis, Helena, San Diego, Minneapolis, Russell, Elliot, Morris, Drayton, Hughes, Lamson, Tangier, Mackinac, Meeko, American Legion, Pyro, Patel, USS Achilles, various merchant ships and small craft. Senior Officer Present Afloat, in the Curtiss.

0620 USS Lamson got underway and stood out. 0645 USS Drayton got underway and stood out. 0715 USS Algorab, Humphrey and John Penn stood in and anchored.

0830 Commenced diving operations in #4 ball. Divers HOUGHTON, A.E. CM<sup>2</sup>/<sub>2</sub>, ABERNATHY, B.J. SF<sup>2</sup>/<sub>2</sub>, BEADLE, W.C. TM<sup>2</sup>/<sub>2</sub> and DEAN H.M. SY<sup>2</sup>/<sub>2</sub> alternating in going down. 0850 USS Reich and one Liberty ship stood in and anchored.

1450 Secured diving operations for the day.

1602 U.S.S. Mustin stood in and anchored.

Man diary:

1. - Same as before.
2. - None.
3. - At anchor.
4. - Continued diving operations.
5. - None.
6. - None.
7. - None.
8. - None.

Approved:

*W. P. Shaw*  
Comdr. U.S.N.

Examined:

*L. G. Burke*  
Lieut. U.S.N. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP

Alchiba

Wednesday 27

January 1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

REMARKS.

CONFIDENTIAL

Anchored as before.  
Ships present in area; USS Anties, Cutepria, Vestal, Dixie, Nashville, St. Louis, Helena, Honolulu, San Diego, Minneapolis, Ellet, Russell, Mania, Tanager, Mackinac, Neosho, Platte, Pyro, Crater, American Legion, USMS Achilles, various merchant ships and small craft. Senior Officer Present Afloat, in the Anties. 0040 Air raid alert signal on beach. 0125 All clear signal on beach.

0835 USMS Achilles underway. 0835 Resumed diving operations in #4 hold. Divers KEANE, H.M. SF 1/2 and DEADLE, W.G. TM 1/2 went down. 1155 USS Lamson stood in and moved alongside USS Reid.

1305 USS Sumner and YO 49 stood in. 1336 USS Humphrey got underway and stood out. 1400 USS Pyro shifted berth, and moved alongside USS Minneapolis. 1427 Vestal cast off all lines from Minneapolis and stood away. 1520 Vestal moved along starboard side, bow to bow. 1530 Secured diving operations for the day.

1643 Anchor awigh. Underway to shift berth, assisted by Vestal, three motor launches bearing on port quarter. 1652 Vestal let go port anchor. Alchiba moved starboard side to port side of Vestal, with 18 manila parts, in 27 fathoms of water on the following bearings: Beacon D" 119°T, Beacon E" 336°T and Beacon F" 207°T. Ships head 254°T. 1726 Commenced receiving flushing and fire main water from Vestal.

War diary:

- 1.- Same as before.
- 2.- None.
- 3.- At anchor and moored alongside U.S.S. Vestal.
- 4.- Continued diving operations, #4 hold; U.S.S. Vestal alongside better to accomplish repair work.
- 5.- None.
- 6.- None.
- 7.- None.
- 8.- None.

Approved:

*V. R. Shaw*  
Comd. U.S.S.

Examined:

*P. G. Burke*  
Lieut. U.S.N. Inspector



UNITED STATES SHIP *Alchiba**Thursday 28 January 1943*  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

REMARKS.

CONFIDENTIAL

Moved starboard side to port side of U.S.S. Vestal, with 18 faths of manila, in Berth 14, Second Channel, Espiritu Santo Island, New Hebrides in 27 fathoms of water on the following bearings: Beacon "D" 119°T, Beacon "E" 336°T and Beacon "F" 207°T. Ships head 254°T. Hatches 2, 4 and engine room all flooded. Pumps rigged in #1, #3 and #5 holds, used as required. Auxiliary boiler used for necessary steam. Emergency generator is in working condition. Gasoline generator in use for required current. Portable evaporator used for necessary fresh water. Receiving flushing and fire main water from U.S.S. Vestal. Routine inspection of accessible parts of vessel. Ships present in area: U.S.S. Antares, Enterprise, Mackinac, Honolulu, St. Louis, Helena, San Diego, Minneapolis, Reid, Hughes, Mustin, Russell, Morris, Lamson, Humphrey, Dixie, Vestal, Mackinac, Fauquier, Platte, Neosho, Albatross, <sup>HMS Argilla</sup> American Legion, John F. Dun, Whiptail, Sumner, and various merchant ships and small craft. Senior Officer Present Afloat, in the Antares.

0610 U.S.S. O'Bannon stood in and anchored. 0615 U.S.S. Sanddowne stood in and anchored. 0720 U.S.S. Grayson and Liberty ship stood in and anchored.

0836 Resumed diving operations in #4 hold. Divers DEAN H.M. 3F½, BEADLE, W. G. 1M½ and BRADLEY, L.R. 1M½ alternating in going down. 0840 Commenced receiving electrical current from U.S.S. Vestal. 1002 U.S.S. Humphrey got underway to shift berths. 1008 U.S.S. Comfort stood in and anchored. 1039 U.S.S. Sumner and Sanddowne got underway and stood out.

1240 U.S.S. Roamer stood in and anchored. 1355 U.S.S. Morris, Drayton, Ellet, Russell, Mustin, San Diego and Enterprise got underway and stood out. 1400 U.S.S. O'Bannon got underway and stood out.

1710 U.S.S. Helena got underway and stood out. 1715 U.S.S. Mackinac got underway and stood out. 1717 U.S.S. Honolulu and St. Louis got underway and stood out.

Approved:

*W. R. Casso*  
Comdr., U.S.N.

Examined:

*H. J. Burke*  
Lieut. U. S. N. Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP

*Alchiba**Thursday 28*

(Date)

*January*

1943

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

REMARKS.

CONFIDENTIAL

*Dredging*

1. - Same as before.

2. - None.

3. - Moored alongside VESTAL.

4. - Continued diving operation. Underwater inspections indicate hits by two torpedoes on Dec. 7, 1942.

5. - None.

6. - None.

7. - None.

8. - None.

Approved:

*W. R. Shaw*  
Comdr. U.S.N.

Examined:

*G. J. Burke*  
Lieut. U.S.N. (Submarine)

UNITED STATES SHIP

*Alchiba**Friday**29**January, 1943*

ZONE DESCRIPTION - 11

REMARKS.

CONFIDENTIAL

Moored as before.  
 Ships present in area; USS Curtiss, Minneapolis, Vestal, Dixie, Humphrey, Mackinac, Frazier, Flatts, Nechko, Algolab, Crater, American Legion, Trigon, Whiptail, John Penn, Rouser, USS Achilles, various merchant ships and small craft. Senior Officer Present Afloat, in the Curtiss.

0827 Resumed diving operations in #4 hold. Divers BERGLE, W.B. TMC and ZIMMER, C.E. MMC went down.

1555 Secured diving operations for the day.

1600 USS Pawnee, with floating drydock, ARDS in tow, escorted by PC 485 and USS Skylark, stood in.

Wardroom:

- 1.- Same as before.
- 2.- None.
- 3.- Moored alongside YESTAL.
- 4.- Operation continued as before.
- 5.- None.
- 6.- None.
- 7.- None.
- 8.- None.

Approved:

*D. R. Shaw*  
 Cmdr. U.S.N.

Examined:

*G. J. Burke*  
 Lieut. J. G. Navigator.



UNITED STATES SHIP Alchiba

Saturday 30 January 1943  
(Day) (Date) (Month)

ZONE DESCRIPTION -11

REMARKS.

CONFIDENTIAL

Moved as before.  
Ships present in area: USS Curtiss, Minneapolis, Vestal, Dixie, Grayson, Lansdowne, Humphrey, Flatt, Neesho, Tanjiv, Mackinac, Algona, Astel, Poaner, Fryon, American Legion, Pawnee, Skyhawk, PC 485, USS Achilles, ALC-5, John Penn, Whigstock, various merchant ships and small craft. Senior Officer Present Afloat, in the Curtiss.

0809 Resumed diving operations in #4 hold. 0810 USS Vestal with Alchiba alongside, underway to shift position in Berth 14. 0814 USS Vestal let go port anchor. Moved as before, starboard side to port side of USS Vestal, in Berth 14 on the following bearings: Beacon "E" 340° T, Beacon "B" 280° 30' T and Beacon "H" 218° 30' T. Ships head 330° T.

0930 USS Kofura stood in and anchored. 1025 USS Jupiter and Lang stood in and anchored. 1045 USS Perkins stood in and anchored. 1115 USS Buchanan stood in and anchored. 1125 USS Claymer stood in and anchored.

1326 USS Meigs and five PT boats stood in.

1601 Secured diving operations for the day. 1740 Tug Pawnee came along port side, forward with barge YC 827. 1752 USS Hunter Liggett stood in and anchored. 1754 USS Fryon got underway and stood out. 1803 USS Manly stood in and anchored.

Man diary

- 1.- Same as before
- 2.- None
- 3.- Moored alongside VESTAL.
- 4.- None
- 5.- None
- 6.- None
- 7.- None
- 8.- None

Approved:

H. P. Shaw  
Comdr. U.S.N.

Examined:

L. J. Burke  
Lieut. J. G. Westgard

UNITED STATES SHIP *Alchiba* *Sunday 31 January, 1943*  
(1897) (11605) (14465)
ZONE DESCRIPTION *- 11*

REMARKS.

CONFIDENTIAL

*Moored as before.*  
*Ships present in area; USS Curtiss, Minneapolis, Pope, Grayson, Lansdowne, Lang, Perkins, Buchanan, Humphrey, Dixie, Vestal, Markins, Frazier, Meech, Platte, Misga, Algorab, Pawnee, Roemer, Clymer, Crater, Whigstock, Skyhawk, Jupiter, John Penn, American Legion, USS Achilles and various merchant ships and small craft. Senior Officer Present Afloat, in the Curtiss.*

*0630 USS Henry T. Allen, Titania and Skulldrake stood in.*

*0900 Resumed diving operations in #4 hold.*

*1307 USS Pawnee and Skyhawk got underway and stood out. 1425 Resumed diving operations for the day. 1505 Barge with diving equipment secured along port side, forward of #4 hatch. 1508 USS Platte got underway and stood out. 1513 USS Lansdowne got underway and stood out.*

*1648 USS Platte and Lansdowne stood in and anchored. 1649 USS Skulldrake got underway and stood out.*

*War diary:*

- 1. - Same as before.*
- 2. - None.*
- 3. - Moored alongside VESTAL.*
- 4. - Continued diving operations.*
- 5. - None.*
- 6. - None.*
- 7. - None.*
- 8. - None.*

Approved:

*H. P. Shaw*  
*Comdr. U.S.N.*

Examined:

*H. Y. Burke*  
*Lieut. U.S.N. Navigator.*